

# United In Christ Lutheran Church



*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

April 28, 2024

*The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter*

# ***Welcome to our church!***

*We hope the service is meaningful, and uplifting,  
and that you will experience God's presence here.*

*May God bless you during worship today.*

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## **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS**

*Please see a greeter.*

## **ELEVATOR**

*Please see a greeter.*

## **REST ROOMS**

*Downstairs across from the church office.*

## **DIAPER CHANGING TABLE**

*In fellowship hall family restroom.*

*Visit us at [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net)*

### **UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

**The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter: Senior Pastor**

**Vicar Katy Moran: Pastor Elect**

**Terri Cromwell: Office Administrator and OAKS Director**

Office: 570-568-2254

Email: [office@unitedinchristlutheran.net](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net)

**Marilyn Gresh: Music Director**

### ***United In Christ's Mission Statement:***

*Led by the Spirit, we follow Christ's call to honor  
God and neighbor through worship, learning, service,  
prayer, stewardship and invitation.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## PRELUDE

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

*Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!*



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!  
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter  
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;  
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:  
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;  
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:  
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,  
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!  
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

*Refrain*



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

<sup>26</sup>Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." <sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## GOSPEL READING

## JOHN 15:1-8

This is the Holy Gospel according to John, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

# CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 359

#### *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;  
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;  
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;  
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.  
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,

brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

## APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith using the Apostle's Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,**



**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*Prayers continue with each petition ending:*

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The minister and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord. Please share the peace at whatever level of physical contact with which you are comfortable.*

***Please fill out an Attendance Card,  
and place the card in an offering plate.***

## OFFERING

*You are invited to place your offering in one of the plates as they are passed or to make use of our online offering plate through [tithely](https://tithely.com) by scanning the QR code to the right. You may also place your offering at [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving](https://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving) by clicking on the green “Give Now” button.*



## OFFERTORY HYMN

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Risen one, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us saying:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

### Thanks be to God!



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## COMMUNION

*Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord, and all people are invited to his table. Those who do not wish to receive communion are invited to receive a blessing.*

The body of Christ, given for you.

*The communicant may say: **Amen***

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: **Amen***

*Music will accompany the distribution of communion.*


## TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.


**Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

*Refrain*



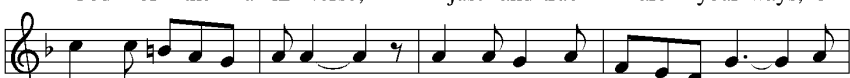
Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for -



ev - er and ev - er. 1 Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O



God of the u - ni - verse; just and true are your ways, O

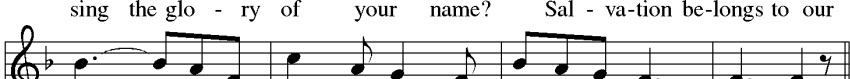


Rul - er of all the na - tions. Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and

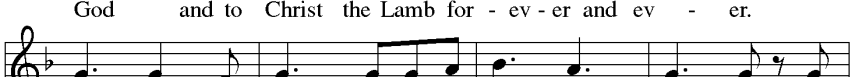
*Refrain*



sing the glo - ry of your name? Sal - va - tion be - longs to our



God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

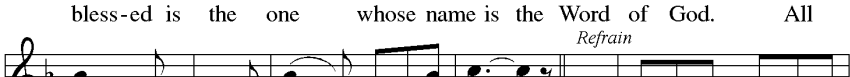


2 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, and

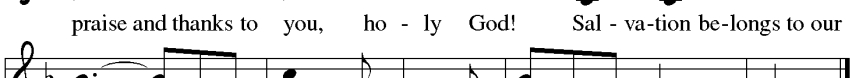


bles - ed is the one whose name is the Word of God. All

*Refrain*



praise and thanks to you, ho - ly God! Sal - va - tion be - longs to our



God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

Alleluia Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

**ELW 452**

### *Awake, O Sleeper, Rise From Death*



- 1 A - wake, O sleep-er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
- 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
- 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
- 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
- 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con- quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.  
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.  
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.  
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.  
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

*The rose bud on the altar is placed in loving memory  
of little Sweet Bean and all babies born sleeping.*



*Today's altar flowers are given  
to the Glory of God  
in memory of our Sweet Bean  
by the Heckman Clan.*

*After worship please join us in the fellowship hall  
for coffee and refreshments.*

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# What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Apr. 28      Worship, 10:00am  
                      Social Hour, 11:15am  
                      Faith and Fun, 11:15am
- Mon, Apr. 29     Grief Support Group, 6:30pm  
                      Cub Scouts, 6:30pm  
                      Boy Scouts, 7:00pm
- Tue, Apr. 30     Council Meeting, 6:30pm
- Fri, May 3        Office Closed  
                      Senior Express Food Box Delivery
- Sat, May 4        3 Church Trivia Night, 5:00pm
- Sun, May 5        Worship, 10:00am  
                      Social Hour, 11:15am  
                      Faith and Fun, 11:15am  
                      Outreach Committee Mtg., 11:15am  
                      Youth Group, 1:00pm

# UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

**Please pray for:** Donna Corazza, family and friends of Janet Pursel, family and friends of Bob Furman, Linda Mertz, Carol Troxell, Eleanor Baker, Doris Frederick, Terri Cromwell, Gail Watkins, Diane Gottlieb, Russ Weiser, Sheri Kush, Desiree Starks, Spencer Bowens, Kerin and Ken, McKenzie Baker, Ken Criswell, Megan Darzanoff, Ken Baker, Annette Baker, Rosemary Fernsler, Ryan Hunter, Patrick Mosley, Mark Rabuck, Shirley Russell, Bob Keifer, Viv Marsh.



**Are you or a loved one in need of prayer?**

Submit your prayer request by calling 570-568-2254  
or emailing it to [office@unitedinchristlutheran.net](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net)



## HAPPY *Anniversary*

*Mike and Annette Baker 4/28/84*  
*Scott and Jodie Danowsky 4/29/95*  
*Elwood and Sandra Brown 5/1/04*  
*Dave and Karen Baker 5/2/81*



## Happy Birthday

*McKenzie Baker 4/28*  
*Marianne Murray 4/28*  
*Shirley McPherrin 5/2*  
*Jeff Byerly 5/3*



*If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the church office with these dates.*

# YOUTH GATHERING FUNDRAISER

We are selling Beignets! (*ben-yays*) These delicious donuts are inspired by the beignets that you can find in New Orleans, LA. They are covered in powdered sugar and oh so delicious!

All proceeds will benefit the UIC, MLC, and Salem group of teens and adults going to the ELCA National Youth Gathering this summer.



**Pre-Orders  
Encouraged**

## (BEN-YAYS)

Pickup and pay for your order on  
Saturday, May 11th between 8am-12pm  
at MLC, 1125 Mahoning St., Milton.

**Order Deadline**     **\$6 for 6 beignets**  
**May 9th**             **\$10 for 12 beignets**

Please see signup sheet  
in the fellowship hall or  
use your cell phone  
camera on the QR code  
below to signup online!



# PENTECOST GERANIUMS

ORDER DEADLINE MAY 5

\$4.50  
EACH



# Pasta Dinner

and Silent Auction

Support the CELC Youth Trip to the ELCA  
Youth Gathering in NOLA

**Sunday, April 28, 2024**  
**11:45 am – 2:00 pm**

Serving Starts at Noon    Auction closes @1:30 pm.

**MENU:** Tossed Salad, Homemade Bread,  
Ziti, Assorted Desserts & Beverages

Service with a smile included at no extra charge!

**TICKETS:** Suggested Donation – 2 & under FREE  
\$5.00 children (3-10)    \$10.00 adult (over 10)

# Blessings Abound!

**Katy Moran has been called as Pastor of Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lewisburg, PA!**

We rejoice with Katy and the members of Christ's Evangelical as she begins her ministry with them. Katy's ordination will take place at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Saturday, April 27. A time for the service will be announced in the coming days. Everyone is invited to this festival worship service!



UNITED IN CHRIST  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
INVITES YOU TO

## *Theology on Tap*

JOIN US AT  
RUSTY RAIL  
6:00 PM ON APRIL 10TH  
AND 24TH



# TRIVIA NIGHT

PRIZES | FUN GAME | DINNER

**4**  
MAY

**Start at 5:00pm**

1125 Mahoning St. Milton, PA  
17847



## ALTAR FLOWERS



Altar flowers are a beautiful gift to our Lord and a wonderful expression of our love for God. It honors loved ones and gives thanks for special people and events in our lives.

The cost is \$35.

You may take your flowers home with you after service.

**Flower Chart is located in the Fellowship Hall.**

# WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	April 28
Social Hour	A - D
Bread/Wine	S. Noll
Altar Guild	K. Guffey
Digital Host	M. Shearer
Front Door Greeter	ML Keifer R. Kling
Side Door Greeter	K. Noll
Lector	E. Hausmann
Ushers	K. Baker K. Criswell S. Brown G. Heckman
Communion Asst.	M. Hausmann A. Stark
Guest Relations	K. Noll
Offering Counter	P. Hauck M. Rabuck

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled day, please try to trade with someone on the schedule and then notify the office of the change. If you are unable to trade with someone, please call Terri Cromwell at the church, 570-568-2254, and she will find a replacement for you.



## **Lutheran Church**

**1875 Churches Rd. Lewisburg, PA 17837  
570-568-2254**

**WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION**  
Sundays at 10am

**THE REV. JUSTIN G. LINGENFELTER**

### **CHURCH OFFICE**

Open Mon. - Thur. 8:00am - 2:00pm  
Email: [office@unitedinchristlutheran.net](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net)

### **VISIT US AT**

Website: [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC](http://www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC)