

United In Christ Lutheran Church



WEEK THREE: REIMAGINE

January 26, 2025

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.*

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

UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter: UIC Pastor

The Rev. Katy Moran: CELC Pastor

Terri Cromwell: Parish Administrator and OAKS Senior Center Director

Office: 570-568-2254

Email: 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

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Imagine a kingdom of unfettered love;

Free and bold, wild and true, the kind of love that changes you.

Imagine a home—safe and bright,

With impromptu dancing, meals around table, and laughter late into the night.

Imagine faith like a compass

That guides the way we shop and vote, the way we love and hope; That asks questions and yet still believes, even despite uncertainty.

Imagine a world where trees, bees, and all living things grow wild and free.

Where peace is the narrative and hope the currency.

Trusting that God receives our words and the imagination of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

God of Grace,

You invite us to dream of a better world, But instead we bury our heads in the sand. We are afraid to recognize how much must change. We are afraid of the truth that calls us to action.

So instead, more often than not, we maintain the status quo. We passively allow things to stay the same. We don't speak out; we don't imagine a new day. We don't dream of a world without racism, sexism, bigotry, or shame.

Instead we allow ourselves to believe that some things will never change. Forgive us. Show us your way. Teach us to reimagine your world. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

ELW 800

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
 4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,

wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:

stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;
 I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
 the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,

and make me love you as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

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



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Ⓑ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you call your people to reimagine the economies of the world in light of the jubilee of your kingdom. Inspire us by the joy of your abundance that we may more fully embrace such a jubilee for the sake of the neighbors held in bondage around us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever
Amen.

FIRST READING

LEVITICUS 19:9-10, 25:8-12

⁹When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest. ¹⁰You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the LORD your God.

⁸You shall count off seven weeks of years, seven times seven years, so that the period of seven weeks of years gives forty-nine years. ⁹Then you shall have the trumpet sounded loud; on the tenth day of the seventh month—on the day of atonement—you shall have the trumpet sounded throughout all your land. ¹⁰And you shall hallow the fiftieth year and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you: you shall return, every one of you, to your property and every one of you to your family. ¹¹That fiftieth year shall be a jubilee for you: you shall not sow, or reap the aftergrowth, or harvest the unpruned vines. ¹²For it is a jubilee; it shall be holy to you: you shall eat only what the field itself produces.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING

MARK 12:38-44

This is the Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 12th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸As he taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! ⁴⁰They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

⁴¹He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴²A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

Take My Life, That I May Be

1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Prayers continue with each petition ending:

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

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.

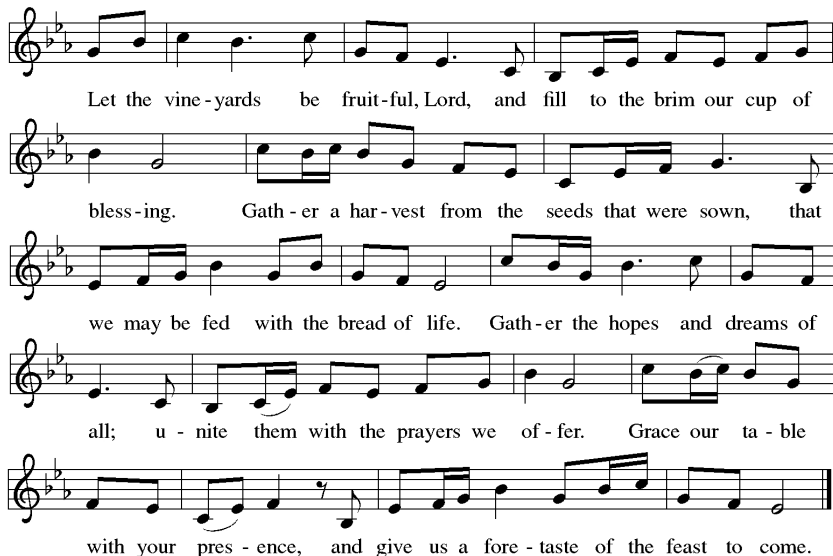
***Please fill out an Attendance Card,
and place the card in an offering plate.***

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 tithe.ly by scanning the QR code to the right. You may also place your offering at www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving by clicking on the green “Give Now” button.



OFFERTORY HYMN



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

The musical notation is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,

As the widow gave her last coins away, you drew attention to her, not to say, “Go and do likewise,” but to help us see the injustice that led to her suffering. For her, for you, and for all who have nothing remaining to give, we offer our gifts that you would use them for your good.

Right what is wrong. Balance the systems of injustice. Use these gifts to build the world that we can only imagine, but you can bring forth through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,". The second staff continues: "heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry." The third staff continues: "Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes". The fourth staff concludes: "in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some notes beamed together. There are also rests and dynamic markings like accents.

Jesus was always the guest. In the homes of Peter and Jairus, Martha and Mary, Joanna and Susanna, he was always the guest. At the meal tables of the wealthy where he pled the case of the poor, he was always the guest. Upsetting polite company, befriending isolated people, welcoming the stranger, he was always the guest.

But here, at this table, he is the host. Those who wish to serve him must first be served by him. Those who want to follow him must first be fed by him. For this is the table where God intends us to be nourished. This is the table where we who are broken are made whole. So, come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world. Jesus Christ, who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at his.

On the night in which he was betrayed, and as they were sitting at a meal, Jesus gave thanks, took a piece of bread and broke it. He gave it to the disciples saying, *This is my body. It is broken for you. Do this to remember me.*

Later, after they had eaten, he took a cup of wine, gave thanks and said, *"This cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Drink this all of you, to remember me."*

So now we do as Jesus did. We take this bread and wine, the produce of the earth and fruit of human labor. In these, Jesus has promised to be present; through these, Christ can make us whole. We ask, merciful God, that you send, in kindness, your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus. Let that same Spirit rest on us, call us from the folly of this world, until in wisdom, we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share.

All this we ask through your son, Jesus Christ. By him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, All honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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

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

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Creative God,

We give you thanks that, in this meal, you have provided more than we could imagine for ourselves: the sight of mercy beyond measure; the touch of forgiveness beyond counting; the sound grace beyond bounds; the taste of faith beyond understanding. Nourished by your very self, embolden us to step toward the fulfillment of your kingdom and reimagine our world bent in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

The God of Love, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always.

Amen.



I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo-ry
to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. See God's world reimaged!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Jan. 26 Money Story, Week 3: Reimagine
Worship, 10:00am
Social Hour, 11:15am
- Mon, Jan. 27 Cub Scouts, 6:30pm
Boy Scouts, 6:45pm
- Fri, Jan. 31 Office Closed
- Sun, Feb. 2 Money Story, Week 4: Restore
Worship, 10:00am
Social Hour, 11:15am



**Please remember to pickup
your February
Newsletter today!**

**Additional copies are
on the Welcome Table
in the Narthex**



HAPPY
Anniversary

Jack and Cheryl Stiber 2/26/65



UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: Family and friends of Joy Lynn Zimmerman, Karen Baker, Oscar Trewitz, Leroy Baker, Kylee Fawcett, Mary Baker, Annette Baker, Aaron Murray, Delroy Caris, Rachel Lynn, Desiree Starks, Carol Troxell, Rosemary Fernsler, Ryan Hunter, Patrick Mosley, Mark Rabuck, Shirley Russell, Bob Keifer.



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.

Scripture instructs us to lift one another up in prayer. The prayer chain takes two forms: telephone or email. If you would like to be a part of the prayer chain, please let Terri Cromwell know. Make sure you tell her if you would like a phone call or an email.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Cost is \$35.

Flower Chart is in the Fellowship Hall. You may take your flowers home after worship.



SCOUT SUNDAY



Join us on Sunday, February 9th as we worship with all of the Cub and Boy Scouts that meet here every week. We will have a special blessing for the scouts and their leaders, and they will be serving as lectors, ushers and greeters that day.

We are asking for extra snacks for Social Hour after worship on Sunday, February 9th. There will be lots of hungry kiddos!

If you are able,
please bring something to share!

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Collecting food items for
Milton Panther Packs

We will be collecting individually sized food items for Milton Panther Packs which provides backpacks of food over the weekends, when school meals are not available. Every week there are over 250 children that take home food backpacks.

- Ramen Noodles
- Canned Pasta
- Soup, Stew, Chili
- Canned Chicken, Tuna
- Vacuum Packs of Tuna
- Mac and Cheese Cups
- Microwave Meals
- Micro Chef-Boyardee
- Fruit Cups
- Pudding Cups
- Granola Bars
- Pop Tarts

All can items must have pop-top lids

LET US KNOW



Please let us know when you are in the hospital or have an upcoming surgery. Call the church office at 570-568-2254 to let us know. Please do not assume that if you tell someone in church that the office or pastor will find out. Because of confidentiality issues, it's best if you contact Pastor Justin or the church office directly.

A pink-themed poster for a Valentine's Weekend Wedding Vow Renewal. At the top, there are two gold wedding rings and a string of red hearts. The text is centered and reads: "JOIN US FOR A Valentine's Weekend WEDDING VOW RENEWAL". Below this, it says "February 16 At 5:30 pm" with the number 16 inside a red heart. The location is "Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church" and "Dinner to follow at La Primavera Italiano Ristorante!". It concludes with "RSVP required; sign up today!". The background is decorated with various sizes of red hearts and heart strings.

JOIN US FOR A

Valentine's Weekend

✦ WEDDING VOW RENEWAL ✦

February 16 At 5:30 pm

Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Dinner to follow at
La Primavera Italiano Ristorante!

RSVP required; sign up today!

Please see the signup sheet on the bulletin board
in the fellowship hall.

HAVE YOU SEEN?

**LOST
AND
FOUND**



Did you leave something at church? Check out the LOST AND FOUND bin on the shelf by the restroom in the fellowship hall.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Jan. 26	Feb. 2	Feb. 9
Worship Leader	Pastor Justin	Pastor Katy	Pastor Justin
Social Hour	A - D	E - K	Everyone
Bread/Wine	S. McPherrin	J. Mertz	M. Shearer
Altar Guild	K. Guffey	S. Keifer	ML Keifer
Digital Host	K. Guffey	M. Shearer	T. Cromwell
Front Door Greeter	D. Byerly J. Byerly	M. Ketchem R. Whitesel	Scouts
Side Door Greeter	R. Baker	D. Gottlieb	Scouts
Lector	D. Gottlieb	P. Hauck	Scouts
Ushers	M. Shearer B. Swartz T. Swartz B. Troxell	A. Stark K. Olds L. Olds K. Arndt	Scouts
Communion Asst.	T. Cromwell E. Hausmann	R. Kling C. Robuck	M. Shearer R. Sprenkle (helper ML Keifer)
Guest Relations			B. Troxell
Offering Counter	M. Shearer P. Hauck	M. Shearer C. Shreck	R. Sprenkle K. Guffey

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

VISIT US AT

Website: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net
Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC