United In Christ Lutheran Church



Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025 The Rev. Katy Moran

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

You are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.

We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In + Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN



Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

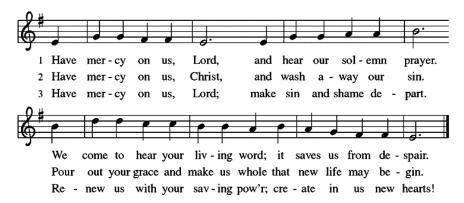
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APOSTOLIC GREETING

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, 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

2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING

PSALM 32

¹Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

²Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

⁴For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah

⁶Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

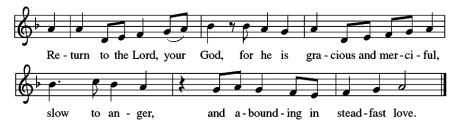
⁷You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. Selah

⁸I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

⁹Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

¹⁰Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. ¹¹Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING

LUKE 15:1-3, 11b-32

This is the Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 15th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³So he told them this parable:

¹¹Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The vounger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before vou; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat

me like one of your hired hands." ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves. 'Quickly. bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field: and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life: he was lost and has been found.""

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 608

Softly and Tenderly



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

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Prayers continue with each petition ending:

God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw fall things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

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



OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Provider,

you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

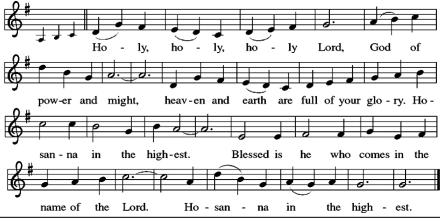
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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.



Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore. You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air; you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water. You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper that the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own. That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called us through the life and death of Jesus.

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.

Together as one body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup, we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.** Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, 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,

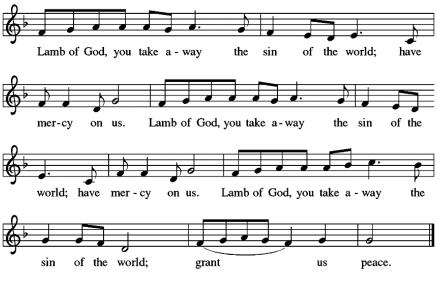
but deliver us from evil.

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Thanks be to God.



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**

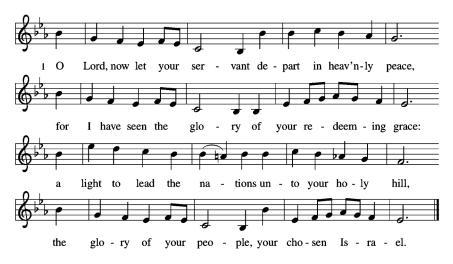
Music will accompany the distribution of communion.

TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Generous Host,

you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, + bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 666

What Wondrous Love Is This



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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What's Happening at UIC

Sun, Mar. 30	FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT Worship,, 10:00am Social Hour, 11:15am DEADLINE TO ORDER EASTER FLOWERS
Mon, Mar. 31	Cub Scouts, 6:30pm Boy Scouts, 6:45pm
Tue, Apr. 1	Worship and Music Committee Mtg, 11:00am Psalms Study, 6:30pm Boy Scouts, 6:45pm
Wed, Apr. 2	Lenten Dinner @ UIC, 6:00pm Holden Prayer Service @ UIC, 7:00pm
Fri, Apr. 4	Office Closed Food Bank Delivery
Sun, Apr. 6	FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT Worship,, 10:00am Social Hour, 11:15am Buffalo Valley Conference @ MLC



UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: Chad Cromwell, Ted McPherrin, Scott Beaver, Bob Troxell, Sonja Noll, Deb Watts, Eugene Bain, Jacob Brown, Courtney Elder, Sue Keifer, Cheryl Stiber, John Oliver, Paul Hilkert, Leroy Baker, Mary Baker, Annette Baker, Rachel Lynn, 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.

appy Birthday

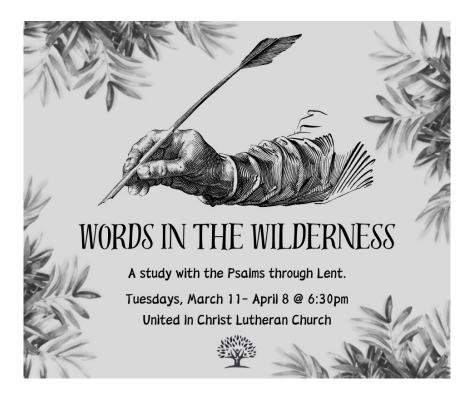
Julie Rowe 3/31 Ben Criswell 4/1 Kathy Loss 4/3 Rosemary Kling 4/5 Cindy Snyder 4/5 Jack Stiber 4/5



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



Christ's is bringing Lenten Supper and Holden Evening Prayer Services to UIC on Wednesday, April 2nd. Come and join us!





Join us for 2 hours of bowling and pizza! There is a signup sheet in the fellowship hall. The cost is \$10 per person.

SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOXES

Food boxes will be delivered to UIC by the Central Pa Food Bank on Friday, April 4th.

Delivery teams, please make plans to deliver your food boxes the following week.





Community Harvest Meal is a free meal served every Monday at St. Andrew's Methodist Church, 102 Lower Market St., Milton We need 6 - 8 people to help with meal prep and serve on Monday, April 14th from 1pm-5pm. Please see the signup sheet in the fellowship hall.

HAVE YOU SEEN?



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





Filling Eggs: Friday, April 18 @ 9am

We will be filling the eggs on Friday, April 18 at 9am in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to come help!



Tuesday, April 8th

- 10:00 am Doors Open
- 10:30 am Free Bingo with Prizes
- 11:30 am CarFit, by Wellspan Evangelical Hospital

12:00 pm Free Lunch



OAKS Senior Center is free and has no age requirements. Everyone is welcome to join us!

United In Christ Lutheran Church 1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg ~ 570-568-2254

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Lutheran Day in the Capitol

Join Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa) on Tuesday, May 13, for a day of learning, inspiration, advocacy, and celebration!

We'll gather to learn about issues that matter and be grounded in worship before heading to the Capitol to advocate as church together. May 13 is a legislative session day.

A special youth track is available for any youth or groups to come and experience advocacy together!

Find out more and register using the QR Code or go to www.lutheranadvocacypa.org



Teams of 3 or more from a congregation planning to come together can use the promo code CONGREGATION25 for each person. Students can register with a special rate!

Congregation Contact: Terri Cromwell Contact Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	March 30	April 6	April 13
Worship Leader	Pastor Katy	Justin	Katy
Social Hour	A - D	E-K	L-R
Bread/Wine	J. Mertz	M. Shearer	K. Sprenkle
Altar Guild	K. Guffey M. Catherman	S. Keifer M. Catherman	ML Keifer M. Catherman
Digital Host	M. Shearer	B. Guffey	D. Murphy
Front Door Greeter	M. Ketchem	C. Robuck	M. Ketchem
	R. Whitesel	D. Robuck	R. Whitesel
Side Door Greeter	K. Noll	S. Brown	B. Catherman
Lector	R. Baker	D. Gottlieb	M. Shearer
Ushers	L. Olds	K. Criswell	L. Rabuck
	D. Baker	T. Cromwell	M. Rabuck
	K. Baker	R. Kling	B. Swartz
	S. Brown	J. Mertz	T. Swartz
Communion Asst.	R. Kling	D. Murphy	ML Keifer
	D. Davies	D. Baker	R. Kling
Guest Relations	K. Noll	M. Rabuck	M. Mertz
Offering	L. Rabuck	C. Shreck	B. Guffey
Counter	C. Shreck	M. Rabuck	L. 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.

Easter Flowers Order Form

Flowers are a beautiful gift to our Lord and a wonderful expression of our love for God and all he has given us!

Dedicate flowers by submitting an order form, along with payment, **no later than** <u>**TODAY**</u>.

Tulips	x \$10.50 = \$
Daffodils	x \$10.50 = \$
Lilies	x \$12.50 = \$
	Total \$

The following will be printed in the Easter Bulletin. Please write legibly.

NAME:	(from)
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IN MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

You may take your plants home after worship on Easter Sunday. Any plants left at the church will be given away.



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