

United In Christ Lutheran Church



BLESSING OF *Backpacks*



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 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 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

In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we weary in doing what is right. In your mercy forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✚ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.



How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

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



☩ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☩ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☩ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



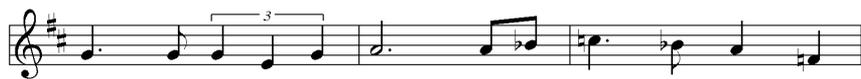
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☩ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



☩ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord
Amen.

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 2:23-29

²³How can you say, “I am not defiled; I have not gone after the Baals”? Look at your way in the valley; know what you have done: a restive young camel interlacing her tracks, ²⁴a wild ass at home in the wilderness in her heat sniffing the wind! Who can restrain her lust? None who seek her need weary themselves; in her month they will find her. ²⁵Keep your feet from going bare and your throat from thirst. But you said, “It is no use, for I have loved strangers, and after them I will go.”

²⁶As a thief is shamed when caught, so the house of Israel shall be shamed: they, their kings, their officials, their priests, and their prophets, ²⁷who say to a tree, “You are my father,” and to a stone, “You gave me birth.” For they have turned their backs to me and not their faces. But in the time of their trouble they say, “Come and save us!” ²⁸But where are your gods that you made for yourself? Let them come, if they can save you, in your time of trouble, for you have as many gods as you have towns, O Judah.

²⁹Why do you complain against me? You have all rebelled against me, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING

PSALMS 82

¹ God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods he holds judgment:

² “How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Selah

³ Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.

⁴ Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”

⁵ They have neither knowledge nor understanding; they walk around in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

⁶ I say, “You are gods, children of the Most High, all of you;

⁷ nevertheless, you shall die like mortals and fall like any prince.”

⁸ Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for all the nations belong to you!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 12:49-56

This is the Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁹“I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵²From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. ⁵⁵And when you see the south wind blowing, you say,

'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. ⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 517

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

and may bring to naught all he has done.
and sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

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

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

Prayers continue with each petition ending:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

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.

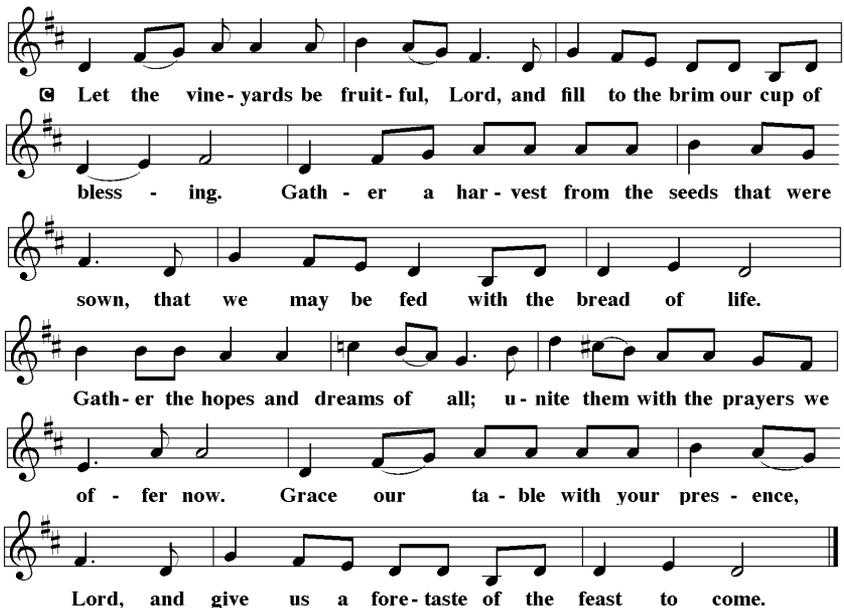
***Please fill out an Attendance Card,
and place the card in an offering plate.***

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.ly](https://tithely.com) 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 now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, heav - en 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.

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.

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.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song: the earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory. 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 kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

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

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 - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

God of Wisdom, we give you thanks for schools and classrooms and for the teachers and students who fill them each day. We thank you for this new beginning, for new books and new ideas. We thank you for sharpened pencils, pointy crayons, and crisp blank pages waiting to be filled. We thank you for the gift of making mistakes and trying again.

Help us to remember that asking the right questions is often as important as giving the right answers. Help us remember to show our thanks for your gifts of learning by doing our best every day.

We ask that you bless our schools, teachers, classmates and friends. We ask that you bless those who prepare our lunches, those who drive us to school, and those who keep our schools clean and safe. We ask your blessing on this new school year, that it may be a time when we appreciate and fully use your gift of learning.

May these backpacks be a sign to those who carry them that they have everything they need to learn and grow this year in school and in Sunday School. May they be guided by your love.

All this we ask in the name of Jesus, who as a child in the temple showed his longing to learn about you, and as an adult taught by story and example your great love for us.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✝ bless you and give you peace.

Amen.



I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



*Today's altar flowers are given
to the Glory of God
in memory Marie Tanner
by Dave and Michelle Davies.*

Portions reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, copyright 2006. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress, license #SBL09796L. Music reprinted from the ELW, by permission of OneLicense, license #A712349. Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.

What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Aug. 17 **BLESSING BACKPACKS SUNDAY**
Worship, 10:00am
- Mon, Aug. 18 Boy Scouts, 6:45pm
- Wed, Aug. 20 Theology on Tap, 6:00pm
- Thu, Aug. 21 Council Meeting, 6:30pm
- Fri, Aug. 22 Office Closed
- Sun, Aug. 24 Worship, 10:00am
September Newsletter Deadline

Happy Birthday

Bob Troxell 8/19

Bonnie Katherman 8/19

Terry Snyder 8/21

Sonja Noll 8/23



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

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

Please pray for: Diane Gottlieb, family and friends of Rodney Neilson, Joyce Tuttle, Ungard Family, family and friends of Millie Noll, family and friends of Jeff Watts, family and friends of Terry Young, Nelson Swanger, Millie Noll, family and friends of Rosemary Fernsler, Dolly Bittner, Tina Snyder, Patrick Moseley, Gigi Pray, Ted McPherrin, Bob Troxell, Eugene Bain, Annette Baker, Carol Troxell, 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



ALTAR FLOWERS

Cost is \$35.

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



UNITED IN CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO

Theology on Tap

JOIN US AT RUSTY RAIL
6:00 PM ON
AUG. 6TH AND AUG. 20TH



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE SUNDAY, AUGUST 24TH

Any articles, events, photos, or thank you notes you'd like to have in the September Newsletter need to be in to the office by Sunday, August 24th.

Worship Volunteers, please give the office any dates in September which you will not be available.



Please email Terri in the office at
office@unitedinchristlutheran.net or
call her at 570-568-2254

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Aug. 17	Aug. 24	Aug. 31
Worship Leader	Justin	Justin	Michelle
Social Hour			
Bread/Wine	M. Catherman	R. Baker	D. Byerly
Altar Guild	B. Guffey	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey
Digital Host	M. Shearer	T. Cromwell	B. Guffey
Front Door Greeter	Catherman Family	D. Byerly J. Byerly	D. Gottlieb G. Glathar
Side Door Greeter	R. Kling	K. Noll	ML. Keifer
Lector	T. McPherrin	R. Sprenkle	B. Swartz
Ushers	T. McPherrin J. Mertz T. Cromwell TBD	M. Shearer B. Swartz T. Swartz D. Baker	K. Baker S. Brown K. Criswell R. Kling
Communion Asst.	M. Shearer S. Weiser	B. Catherman D. Davies	D. Murphy D. Baker
Guest Relations	M. Mertz	K. Noll	M. Rabuck
Offering Counter	M. Shearer C. Shreck	P. Hauck M. Rabuck	C. Shreck 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.



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