

# United In Christ Lutheran Church



*The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter*

November 23, 2025

# ***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: UIC Pastor**

**The Rev. Katy Moran: CELC Pastor**

**Terri Cromwell: Parish 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

## PRELUDE

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our maker, our helper,  
and our keeper.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of  
God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful and loving God,

**We are your stiff necked people. We trample on the  
needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn  
away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our  
sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been  
found.**

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ  
came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have  
been found. In the name of † Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

**Amen.**

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,  
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,  
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave  
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
 whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;  
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.  
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,  
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.  
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

**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. A - bove the hills the an - gel hosts  
 2. In heav'n, on earth reigns God Most High,  
 3. Sing jus - tice, mer - cy, joy and peace,  
 4. We wor - ship you, our thanks we bring,  
 5. To Je - sus Christ, God's Son, our Lord,



*Sing glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry!* God's Love is come to  
 Yet ten - der - ly God  
 God's own good will grants  
 We bow be - fore you  
 The Lamb of God, E -



seek the lost. *Give Glo - ry to God in the High - est!* \_\_\_\_  
 hears our cry.  
 sin's re - lease.  
 as we sing,  
 ter - nal Word,

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, 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

## COLOSSIANS 1:11-20

<sup>11</sup>May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, <sup>16</sup>for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSIVE READING

## PSALM 46

<sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**<sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,**

<sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Selah

**<sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

<sup>6</sup> **The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice; the earth melts.**

<sup>7</sup> The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

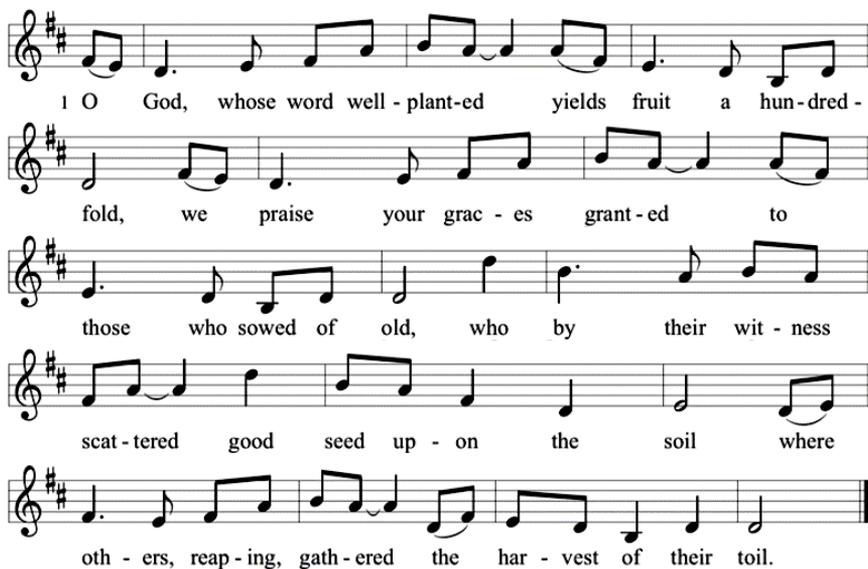
<sup>8</sup> **Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.**

<sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

<sup>10</sup> **“Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth.”**

<sup>11</sup> The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



I O God, whose word well-plant-ed yields fruit a hun-dred -  
fold, we praise your grac - es grant - ed to  
those who sowed of old, who by their wit - ness  
scat - tered good seed up - on the soil where  
oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of their toil.

## GOSPEL READING

**LUKE 23:33-43**

This is the Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 23<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>33</sup>When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[<sup>34</sup>Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup>And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup>and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup>And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup>Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." <sup>43</sup>He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## SERMON

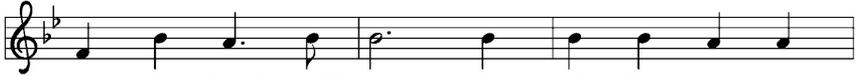
*O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us*



1 O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our  
2 You came, the im - age of our God, to heal and to for -  
3 Though some would make their great - ness felt and lord it o - ver  
4 You chose a hum - ble hu - man form and shunned the world's re -



king? What roy - al face have you re - vealed whose  
give, to shed your blood for sin - ners' sake that  
all, you said the first must be the last and  
nown; you died for us up - on a cross with



praise the church would sing? As - pir - ing not to  
we might rise and live. To break the law of  
ser - vice be our call. O Christ, in work - place,  
thorns your on - ly crown. But still, be - yond the



glo - ry's height, to pow - er, wealth, and fame, you  
death you came, the law of love to bring; a  
church, and home, let none to pow - er cling; for  
span of years, our glad ho - san - nas ring, for



walked a dif - f'rent, low - ly way, an - oth - er's will your aim.  
dif - f'rent rule of righ - teous - ness, a dif - f'rent kind of king.  
still, through us, you come to serve, a dif - f'rent kind of king.  
now at God's right hand you reign, a dif - f'rent kind of king!

**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**

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church,  
the world, and all who are in need.

*Prayers continue with each petition ending:*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in  
your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our 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 [tithe.ly](http://tithe.ly) by scanning the QR code to the right. You may also place your offering at [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving) by clicking on the green “Give Now” button.



## OFFERTORY HYMN

1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to  
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They  
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we

place up - on your ta - ble. We do not wor - ship  
grew in your good plea - sure. What once was com - mon,  
lift in prayer be - fore you. Lord, by your grace now

as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.  
dai - ly food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.  
come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our 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; 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:

1 Long, long a - go in Je - ru - sa - lem, as the  
2 High on a throne sat the might - y Lord, robes  
3 Oh, what a sight it was to see and

scrip - tures do re - cord, I - sa - iah to the  
flow - ing through the hall, while six - wing - ed an - gels  
oh, what a sound to hear! The tem - ple door - posts

tem - ple came to see the ho - ly Lord.  
flew a - bove. I - sa - iah heard them call.  
shook and quaked. and smoke was in the air.

*Refrain*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, God's  
glo - ry fills all heav'n and earth, God of pow - er and might.

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

**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.**

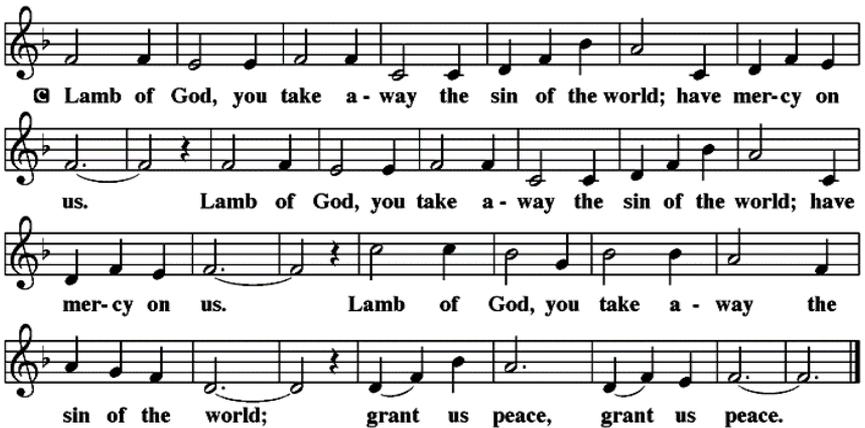
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

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

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

**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.

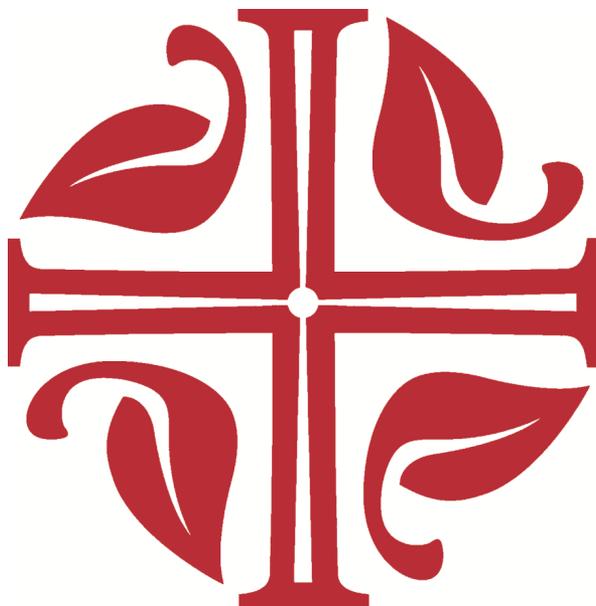
*The communicant may say: **Amen***

*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



1 O Lord of the blos-som, O God of the seed, O gra-cious pro -  
2 O Lord of the har - vest, O God of the feast, where sor - rows are

vi - der for all hu-man need, you have nour-ished our faith at your  
van-ished and joys are in - creased, where the tree of life grows in your

ta - ble of grace, and nur - tured new life in the light of your  
or-chards a - bove, we'll join in the cho-rus in praise of your

face. O Lord of the grain - field, O God of the  
love. Sing praise to the Fa - ther, sing praise to the

vine, you've fed us your pres - ence in bread and in  
Son, sing praise to the Spir - it. Praise God, Three in

wine. In com - mun - ion you've blest to us ar - bor and  
One! You have made us one peo - ple you've fed by the

plow, and shown us the gos - pel, your word for us now.  
hand, O Lord of the heav-ens, O God of the land.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

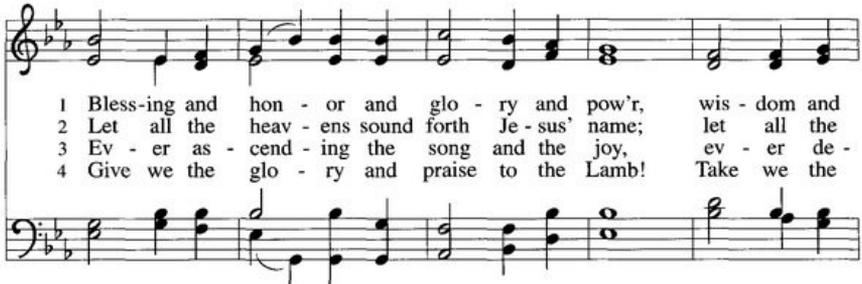
Let us pray.

**O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever.

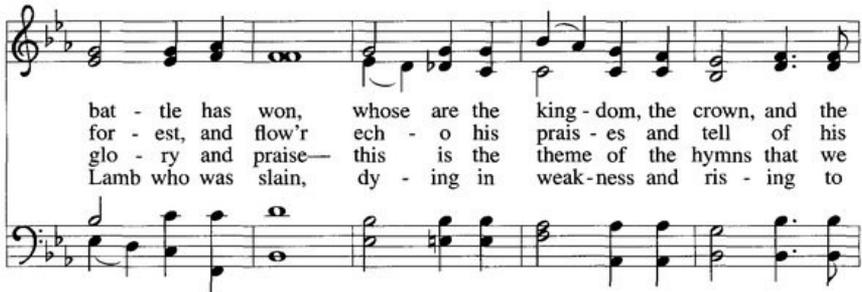
**Amen.**

*Blessing and Honor*


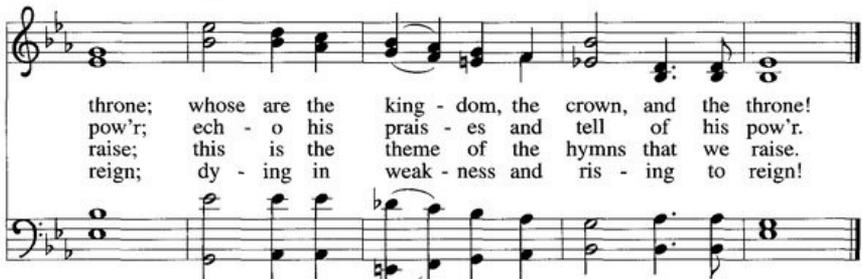
1 Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and pow'r, wis - dom and  
 2 Let all the heav - ens sound forth Je - sus' name; let all the  
 3 Ev - er as - cend - ing the song and the joy, ev - er de -  
 4 Give we the glo - ry and praise to the Lamb! Take we the



rich - es and strength ev - er - more, be to the Lamb who our  
 earth sing his glo - ry and fame. O - cean and moun - tain, stream,  
 scend - ing the love from on high; bless - ing and hon - or and  
 robe and the harp and the palm; sing we the song of the



bat - tle has won, whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the  
 for - est, and flow'r ech - o his prais - es and tell of his  
 glo - ry and praise— this is the theme of the hymns that we  
 Lamb who was slain, dy - ing in weak - ness and ris - ing to



throne; whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the throne!  
 pow'r; ech - o his prais - es and tell of his pow'r.  
 raise; this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.  
 reign; dy - ing in weak - ness and ris - ing to reign!

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE



*Today's altar flowers are given  
to the Glory of God in honor of  
Bob and Sue Keifer's anniversary.*

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

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# What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Nov. 23    Worship, 10:00am  
Social Hour, 11:15am  
December Newsletter Deadline
- Mon, Nov. 24    Cub Scouts, 6:30pm  
Boy Scouts, 6:45pm
- Thu, Nov. 27    **THANKSGIVING DAY**  
Office Closed
- Fri, Nov. 28    Office Closed
- Sun, Nov. 30    **ADVENT 1**  
Worship, 10:00am  
Social Hour, 11:15am  
Assembling Blessing Bags, 11:15am  
Fellowship Hall Reserved, 3:00pm-6:00pm



HAPPY  
*Anniversary*

*Bob and Sue Keifer 11/25/61*

*Mike and Jane Mertz 11/28/81*



Happy Birthday

*Woody Warren 11/28*

*Danielle Murphy 11/30*

*John Russell 11/30*



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

# UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** family and friends of Shirley Russell, Daniel Danowsky, Melissa, Emma, Dan McDavitt, Rick Diamond, Connie Shreck, Vicki Bowersox, family and friends of Rick Guffey, Bertie Danowsky, Patrick Moseley, Gigi Pray, Ted McPherrin, Bob Troxell, Eugene Bain, Annette Baker, 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](mailto: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.

## **CONGREGATION MEETING**

We are currently accepting nominations for council members. If you would like to nominate someone, or yourself, you may do so by either contacting a current member of council or Pastor Justin.

On **Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>** we will hold our annual congregational meeting. At the meeting we will vote on the 2026 spending plan proposal and elect council members. The meeting will take place immediately following worship service. All members are encouraged to attend.

The 2026 spending plan proposal can be found in the fellowship hall on the bulletin board.

# NEWSLETTER DEADLINE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Any articles, events, photos, or thank you notes you'd like to have in the December Newsletter need to be in the office by Sunday, November 23rd.

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



Please email Terri in the office at [office@unitedinchristlutheran.net](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net) or call her at 570-568-2254



YOU'RE INVITED!

## CHRISTMAS CRAFT WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, December 6 | 3:00PM

United In Christ Lutheran Church  
1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg, PA



Sponsored by:



Crafts! Cocoa! Cookies! Carols!





Fri., Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>  
7pm -7:45 pm

Meet at the  
Lewisburg Post Office  
on the corner of  
Third & Market St.

Enjoy cookies at Christ's Lutheran Church afterward

If you are planning on attending, please add your name and how many are coming to the signup sheet on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall or contact Terri in the office at 570-568-2254.

**RUSTY RAIL BREWING**

**BEERS & CAROLS**

JOIN THIS HOLIDAY PUB SING ON  
**DECEMBER 3 | 6:00PM**  
AT  
**RUSTY RAIL  
BREWING COMPANY**  
5 NORTH 8TH ST.  
MIFFLINBURG, PA

COORDINATED WITH:

# WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Nov. 23	Nov. 30
Worship Leader	Justin	Justin
Social Hour	E - K	L - R
Bread/Wine	D. Byerly	K. Criswell
Altar Guild	K. Guffey	S. Keifer
Digital Host	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey
Front Door Greeter	D. Byerly J. Byerly	K. Baker S. Brown
Side Door Greeter	K. Guffey	ML Keifer
Lector	B. Guffey	J. Rutt
Ushers	D. Baker K. Baker S. Brown K. Criswell	B. Guffey R. Kling S. McPherrin T. McPherrin
Communion Asst.	D. Murphy T. McPherrin	C. Robuck M. Shearer
Guest Relations	K. Noll	M. Rabuck
Offering Counter	P. Hauck T. Stitzel	M. Rabuck B. 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](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)