

United In Christ Lutheran Church



the good news is..

great love for
God & neighbor

Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

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

Family of faith,
we long to love others as God loves us, but that work is easier
said than done.

We lose our way.
We become distracted.
We grow fearful.
We need God's grace.

Fortunately for us, God's grace is freely and abundantly given.
Together, let us be transformed.

Silence is kept for self-reflection.

Merciful God,

**did we see you hungry and give you something to eat?
Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink?
Did we see you alone and offer you compassion?
Or did we cross the street? Did we avert our eyes?
Did we come up with every excuse in the book? God, we
long to be people who love our neighbors with the same
overwhelming love that you have for them. But we must
admit, we have a long way to go. Forgive us for the times
when we let bias, scarcity, or fear get in the way of love.
Wash us clean and give us the courage to try again. With
hope for a better tomorrow, we pray. Amen.**

Even when we act with judgment, even when we are guided by
fear, even when we turn our back on a neighbor in need, God
does not turn God's back on us. In the name of † Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

We are seen. We are forgiven. We are called to try again.
Amen.

O Christ, Our Hope

1 O Christ, our hope, our heart's de - sire, cre - a - tion's might - y
 2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den of our
 3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som has been
 4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us of our
 5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry ev - er

4

Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by
 sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to
 paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in
 pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by
 be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through

7

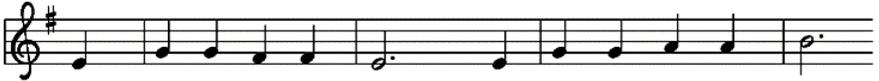
ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:
 make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.
 robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.
 mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.
 all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

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 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of good news, speak louder than the news updates. Speak louder than our mental distractions. Speak louder than our anger and louder than our fear. God, speak loudly to us today, because we long to hear your good news once more through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

MATTHEW 25:31-46

³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand,

‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world,³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink?’³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing?’³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’⁴¹ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels,⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?’⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
 slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 7:36-50

This is the Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 7th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁶One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and when he went into the Pharisee's house he reclined to dine. ³⁷And a woman in the city who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. ³⁸She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair, kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. ³⁹Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him, that she is a sinner." ⁴⁰Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak." ⁴¹"A certain moneylender had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴²When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly." ⁴⁴Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. ⁴⁵You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven loves little." ⁴⁸Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰But he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 712

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

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

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

Prayers continue with each petition ending:

Hear us, O God,
Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

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

Refrain



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true. *End*

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray. *Refrain*

OFFERING PRAYER

Together, let us pray.

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to the good news of his saving work. We ask this in Jesus’ name. 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

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.

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 Good News has been set at the table. Come! Feast on God's goodness and 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***

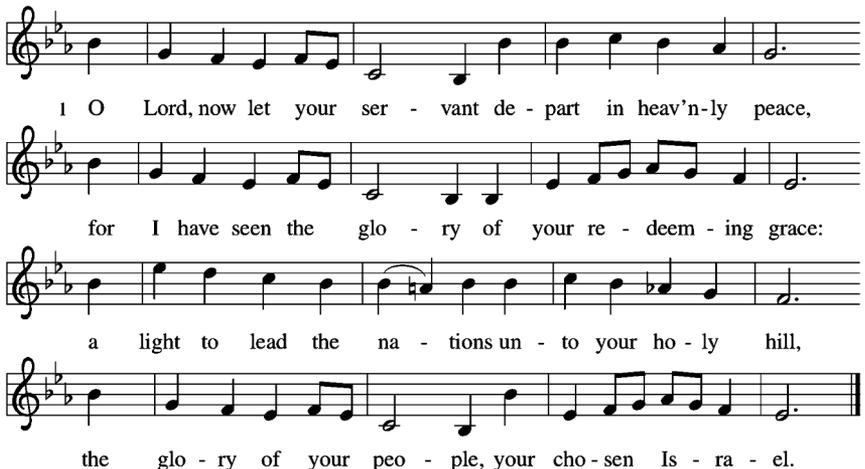
Music will accompany the distribution of communion.

TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



I O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,
for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

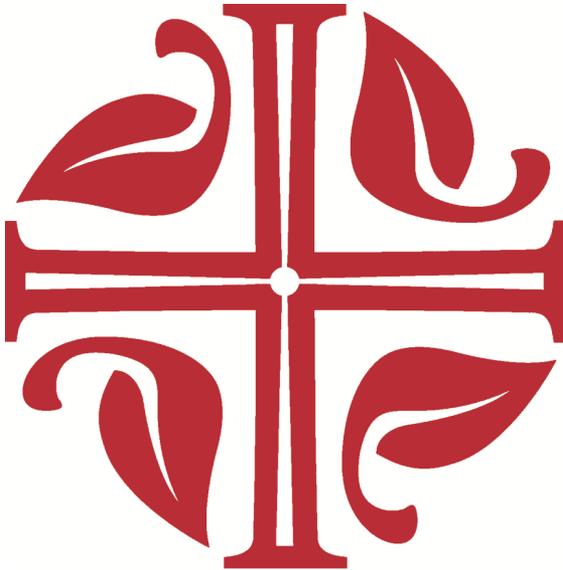
Together, let us pray.

God of salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your good news for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

As you leave this place, when you meet anger, speak with love. When you meet fear, speak with hope. When you meet pain, speak with gentleness. But no matter what, speak this good news. May almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.



What Wondrous Love Is This

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace! Tell the world something good!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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

What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Mar. 1 **SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**
Worship, 10:00am
Social Hour, 11:15am
Faith Lab @ CELC, 4:30pm
Deadline to signup for Sight & Sound trip
- Mon, Mar. 2 Cub Scouts, 6:30pm
Boy Scouts, 6:45pm
- Tue, Mar. 3 Worship and Music Mtg., 11:00am
Lenten Study, 6:30pm
Boy Scouts, 6:45pm
- Wed, Mar. 4 Soup Dinner @ CELC, 6:00pm
Holden Evening Prayer Service, 7:00pm
- Thu, Mar. 5 Office Closed
Lenten Brunch Group, 11:00am
Silver Moon Restaurant
- Fr, Mar. 6 Delivery from Food Bank
- Sun, Mar. 8 **CAMP MOUNT LUTHER SUNDAY**
Worship, 10:00am
Social Hour, 11:15am
Outreach and Fellowship Mtg., 11:15am

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UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: Mark Rabuck, Ron Baker, family and friends of Brenda Bowser, family and friends of Harold Danowsky Sr., Rose Stitzel, Jayne, Patrick Moseley, Bob Troxell, Eugene Bain, Annette Baker, 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.

Happy Birthday

Krista Wirth 3/2



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

UIC LENTEN OFFERING

Lenten offerings will go to UIC's Pastor's Discretionary Fund. The fund is managed by Pastor Justin and is used for aid requests from members of the church and the community.



March 1

Queen Size Sheets/Pillow Cases

March 15

Queen Size Mattress Covers

March 8

Bed Pillows

March 22

Queen Size Blankets

*Bring new or gently used items to worship each Sunday!
All donations will go to support the mission of DIG Furniture Bank in Milton!*



the good news is...
a queen-sized bed

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.

Easter Flowers

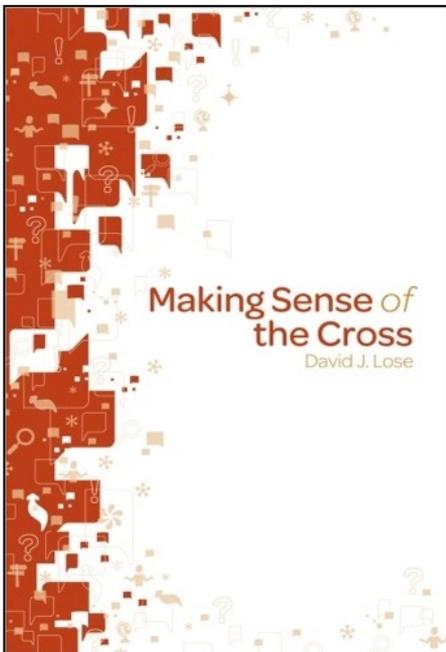
Flowers are a beautiful gift to our Lord and a wonderful expression of our love for God and all he has given us!



- \$3.50 Pansies, 4" pot
- \$11.25 Tulips, 6" pot
- \$11.25 Mini Daffodils, 6" pot
- \$14.50 Daffodils, 8" pot
- \$14.50 Lilies, 6" pot

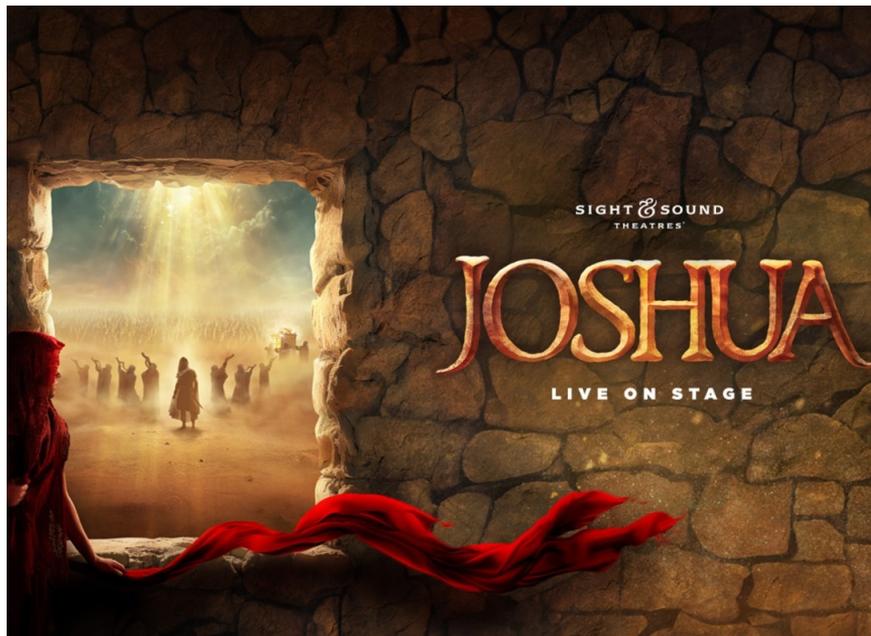
Order Deadline: March 15th

Order forms are on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.



LENTEN STUDY

Join us for the start of a new Lenten study series: *Making Sense of the Cross!* Beginning on **Tuesday, February 24th at 6:30pm**, we will gather weekly with neighbors from CELC and MLC here at UIC for a video series that explores how the cross has been understood over time and how we might understand it as Christians today!



JOSHUA BUS TRIP

Signup Deadline: TODAY!!

Joshua Bus Trip will be on Wednesday, April 15th. Ticket price is \$150 per person. This includes cost of the bus, the show, and lunch after.

We will be stopping at Shady Maple on the way home for a late lunch. We hope you choose to join us!

We will be meeting at Milton Lutheran Church, 1125 Mahoning St. in Milton, at 7:15am.

Sign-ups are due March 2nd. You can signup at UIC on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall or you can contact Terri in the office to signup.

Payment is due by March 16th. Please make check out to Milton Lutheran Church, mem line "Sight and Sound" and mail to : Milton Lutheran Church: 1125 Mahoning St., Milton PA 17847

Spaghetti

SATURDAY, MARCH 21
4PM-6PM

United In Christ Lutheran Church
1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg

Boy Scout
Troop 600
Annual Fundraiser



\$10.00
Takeout Only

BUFFALO VALLEY

FAITH LAB



Scan to sign up!

1st and 3rd Sundays of the Month
4:30pm-6:30pm
September-May
Grades K-6
Free family dinner!

1st Sunday @ Christ's Lutheran
100 S. 3rd Street
Lewisburg, PA 17837



3rd Sunday @ United In Christ
1875 Churches Rd.
Lewisburg, PA 17837



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	March 1	March 8	March 15
Worship Leader	Justin	Justin	Justin
Social Hour	L - R	S - Z	A - D
Bread/Wine	R. Baker	M. Catherman	K. Criswell
Altar Guild	B. Guffey	S. Keifer	ML Keifer
Digital Host	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	B. Guffey
Front Door Greeter	K. Baker ML Keifer	K. Guffey S. Danowsky	C. Robuck D. Robuck
Side Door Greeter	K. Noll	B. Keifer	K. Guffey
Lector	V. Tyrell	H. Allegar	R. Baker
Ushers	K. Criswell R. Kling J. Mertz M. Shearer	D. Baker K. Baker T. Cromwell B. Guffey	K. Baker D. Baker B. Swartz T. Swartz
Communion Asst.	R. Sprenkle S. Weiser	M. Shearer B. Swartz	D. Baker B. Catherman
Guest Relations	B. Troxell	G. Weiser	M. Mertz
Offering Counter	M. Shearer R. Baker	K. Guffey P. Hauck	B. Guffey TBD

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