

United In Christ Lutheran Church



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 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

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, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

Compassionate God,

We confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

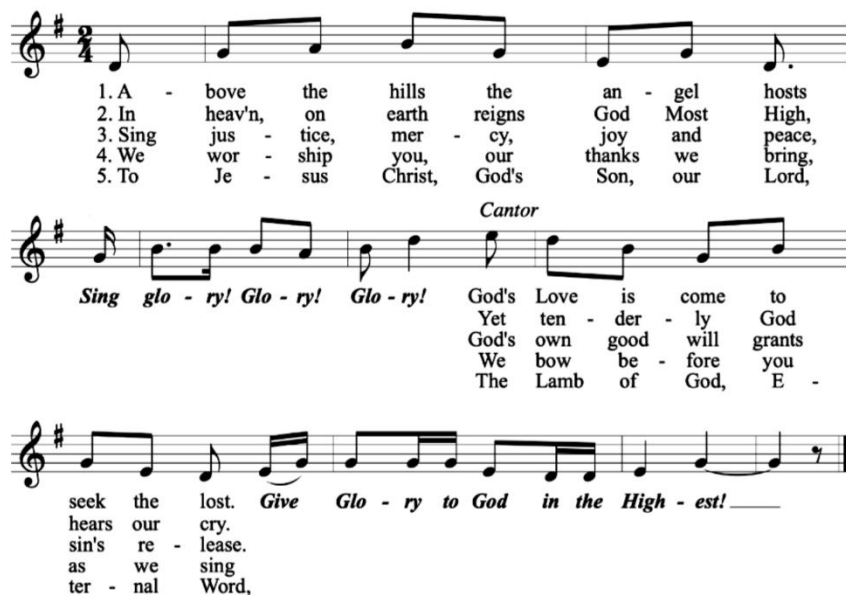
APOSTOLIC GREETING

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 and we bring,
 5. To Je - sus Christ, God's Son, our Lord,

Cantor
 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

God of knowledge, we gather together with questions, hopes, and dreams – some of which we name while others we struggle to put to words. Join us on the road to understanding and guide our steps ever closer towards a deeper faith and trust in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING

JOHN 20:24-31

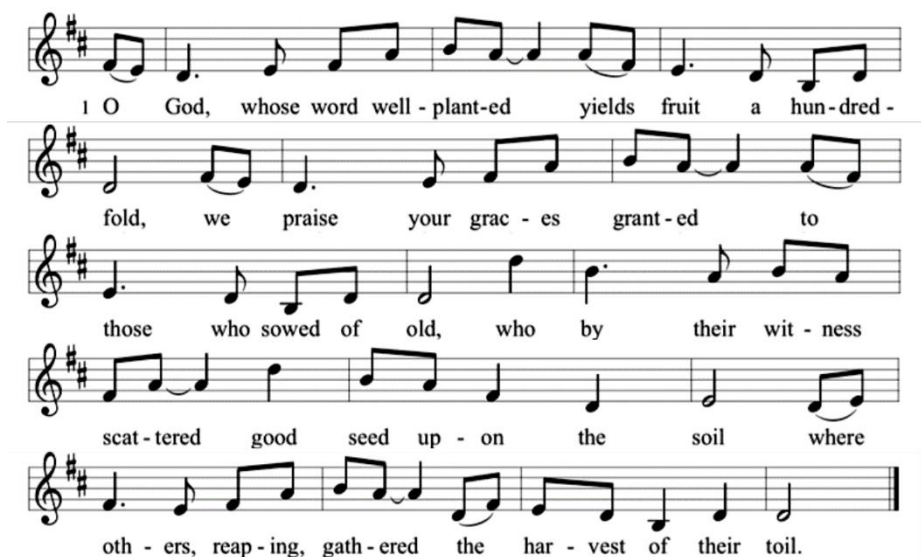
²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



1 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.

This is the Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again." ⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

¹³Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the

people,²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.”²⁵ Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?”²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them.³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight.³² They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?”³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.³⁴ They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!”³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Because He Lives, by David Crowder Band

*God sent His Son they called Him Jesus
He came to love heal and forgive
He lived and died to buy my pardon
An empty grave is there to prove
My Savior lives*

*Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living
Just because He lives*

*And then one day I'll cross that river
I'll fight life's final war with pain
And then as death gives way to vict'ry
I'll see the lights of glory
And I'll know He lives*

*Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living
Just because He lives*

*And life is worth the living
Just because He lives*

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

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

Prayers continue with each petition ending:

Hear us, O God,
your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask,
and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving) by scanning the QR code to the right. You may also place your offering at <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

Together, let us pray.

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you: make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. 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, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, 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.**

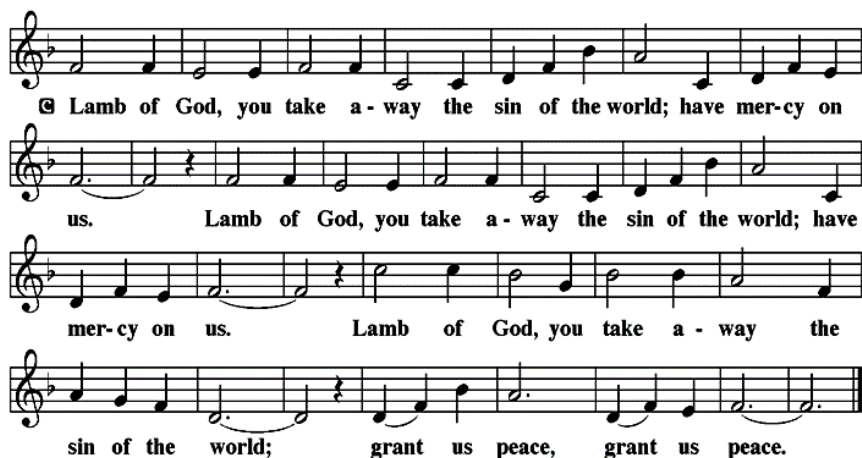
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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

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-quished 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

Together, let us pray.

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

BENEDICTION

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

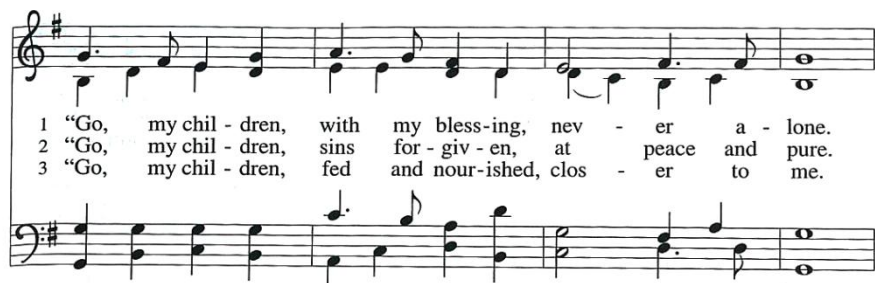
The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace, ✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

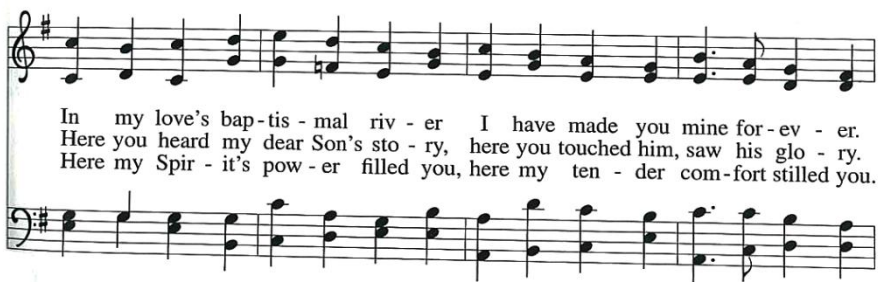


Go, My Child, with My Blessing


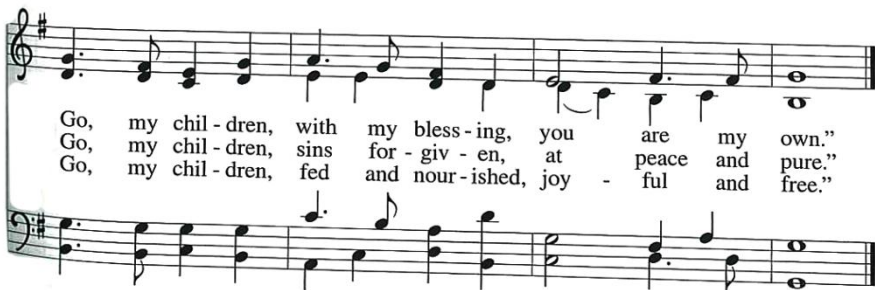
1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



*Today's altar flowers are given
to the glory of God
in honor of Timmy Ungard III
and Jane Guffey's birthdays.*

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What's Happening at UIC

Sun, Sept. 13 Small Group: Catherman, 8:00am
Worship, 10:00am
Outreach/Fellowship Mtg., 11:30am
Social Hour, 11:30am
Faith Lab and Meal @ UIC, 4:30pm

Mon, Sept. 14 Boy Scouts, 6:45pm

Wed, Sept. 16 Small Group: Guffey/Swartz, ??pm

Thu, Sept. 17 Small Group: Baker, 6:00pm

Fri, Sept. 18 Office Closed

Sat, Sept. 19 HARVEST FESTIVAL
UIC Booth, 9:00am-4:00pm

Sun, Sept. 20 Small Group: Catherman, 8:00am
Worship, 10:00am
Social Hour, 11:30am
Faith Lab and Meal @ UIC, 4:30pm

Happy Birthday

Sue Keifer 9/17

Willow Lebaron 9/17

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: Dave Wall, Katarina Beavor, Natalie Patterson, Delroy Caris, Nikk Wintersteen, Ken Baker and Family, family and friends of Dan McDavit, Michelle Davies, Diane Powers, Elwood Brown, Mark Rabuck, Jayne, Gigi Pray, 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 emailing
office@unitedinchristlutheran.net or calling 570-568-2254.

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.

LET US KNOW



Please let us know when you are in the hospital or have an upcoming surgery. Call the church office at 570-568-2254 to let us know. Please do not assume that if you tell someone in church that the office or pastor will find out.

Because of confidentiality issues, it's best if you contact Pastor Justin or the church office directly.

Saturday, September 19
MILTON HARVEST FESTIVAL

**3 for
\$3**

Pierogie Sale



100% of proceeds will go to God's Chuckwagon
a mobile soup kitchen in our area.

Volunteers are needed from 9am – 4pm. Please see the signup sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall, or contact the office, at our booth.

SOCIAL HOUR RESUMES

September 13th



Social Hour is a time for us to stay connected with each other while enjoying a light snack. If your last name begins with one of the letters listed for that Sunday's Social Hour, please bring a snack to share and help to clean up afterwards.



FAITH LAB IS BACK!

Faith Lab returns on **Sunday, September 13th at 4:30pm** here at **United In Christ!** Faith Lab serves as our collaborative faith formation programming with Christ's Lutheran that is designed for the whole family! Each time we gather, our students hear a story from scripture then see it come to life in a craft or activity together. During that time, parents (or any adults who want to join) are invited to stick around for a Bible study on the same story. Each gathering then concludes with free a family style meal for everyone in attendance!



UIC SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Connecting the body of Christ

Programming begins this September!

Sign up for your group today!



This September UIC is launching a cohort of intentional small group ministries within the congregation! This is a new format of ministry where around five households will regularly gather together for a time of community building, fellowship, and mutual support. We will begin this Fall with five host groups taking place at different times with different hosts throughout the week, so sign up for the group that works best for you!

With this ministry, you are especially encouraged to sign up for a group with folks whom you have not gotten a chance to know well within the congregation! Part of our desire with this ministry is to get to know one another a little bit better so that there are fewer “less familiar” faces to us when we gather on a Sunday morning!



Goals for UIC Small Groups

Create Belonging

“You are welcome here.”

Build Relationships

“You are known here.”

Extend Support

“You are cared for here.”

Communicate Value

“You are vital here.”

Bonus: It's scriptural! 1 Corinthians 12:14-31



To get us started, each group will begin by gathering around a six-week study series titled Understanding the Christian Faith. This series will be tied to a Sunday morning preaching series from Pr. Justin and will include both a book and video component as follow up during the small group gatherings later in the week. Copies of the book are already available at the church office. If you'd like, you can make a \$13 donation to help offset those costs!

In the meantime, we hope you will prayerfully consider which group you'd like to join! We'd love to see as many folks as possible get connected through this new ministry! Check out the signup sheets in the fellowship hall to sign up today! See Pastor Justin if you have any additional questions!



Why Small Groups for UIC?

New needs/challenges at UIC

- Shifting composition post-pandemic
- New “normal” in participation
- “Pastor, I look around and don’t recognize people!”



The Importance of Community

“In other words, we live into our humanity as made in the image of God more fully in community. Not only that, but in small groups, we work out our humanity, and our mission, as we seek to follow Jesus together.”

Fuller Institute Video



HAVE YOU SEEN?



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

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Sept. 13	Sept. 20	Sept. 27
Worship Leader	Justin	Michelle	Justin
Social Hour	A – D	E – K	L – R
Bread/Wine	Ken C.	Megan C.	Sue K.
Altar Guild	Terri C.	Beth G.	Sue K.
Digital Host	Michelle S.	Terri C.	Kathy G.
Greeter Front Door	Donna B. Jeff B.	Mary Lou K. Ted M.	Cheryl R. Dale R.
Greeter Side Door	Kathy G.	Ken N.	George W.
Lector	TBD	Celeste C.	Brad C.
Usher	Terri C. Beth G. Rosemary K. Jane M.	Shirley M. Ted M. Dave B. Kathy A.	Bob S. Trudy S. Michelle S. Karen B.
Comm. Assist.	Rosemary K. Sharon W.	Cheryl R. Jay H.	Ted M. Celeste C.
Guest Relations	Mike M.	Ken N.	George W.
Offering Counter	Connie S. TBD	Jared R. Tim S.	Jay H. Kathy G.

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.



1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg PA 17837
570-568-2254

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION
Sundays at 10:00am

THE REV. JUSTIN G. LINGENFELTER

CHURCH OFFICE
Open Monday – Thursday
8:00am – 2:00pm

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