

United In Christ Lutheran Church



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026

Michelle Shearer

Authorized Lay Worship Leader

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.

Lord of Light



1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and
 2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -
 3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may
 4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom
 ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance
 low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,
 day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing



as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -
 of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -
 with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions
 peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that



fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.
 ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:
 from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:
 pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

Refrain



Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

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,

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 the cosmos, you have created the heavens and the earth and all that is in them, and you have created us to be stewards of your creation. Grant us wisdom to see how you would have us care fort his world and for each other, and give us the courage to do so, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no vegetation of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground, ⁶but a stream would rise from the earth and water the whole face of the ground— ⁷then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. ⁸And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁰A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. ¹¹The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold, ¹²and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. ¹³The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. ¹⁴The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

¹⁸Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” ¹⁹So out of the

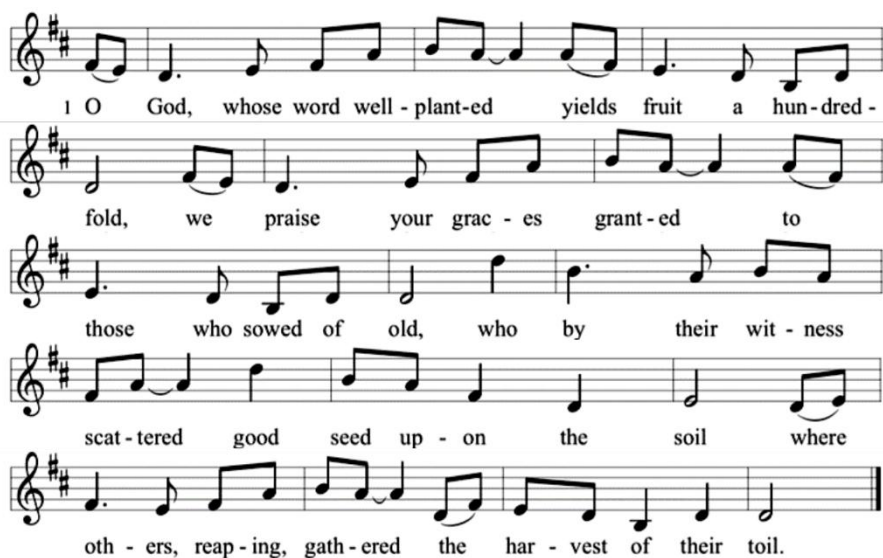
ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air and brought them to the man to see what he would call them, and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle and to the birds of the air and to every animal of the field, but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken."

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. ²⁵And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

This is the Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 10th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” ²⁷He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.” ²⁸And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

²⁹But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” ³⁷He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 695

As Saints of Old

1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field
2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;
3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day

to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.
to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.

so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,
The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:
O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,

of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.
teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

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 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.**

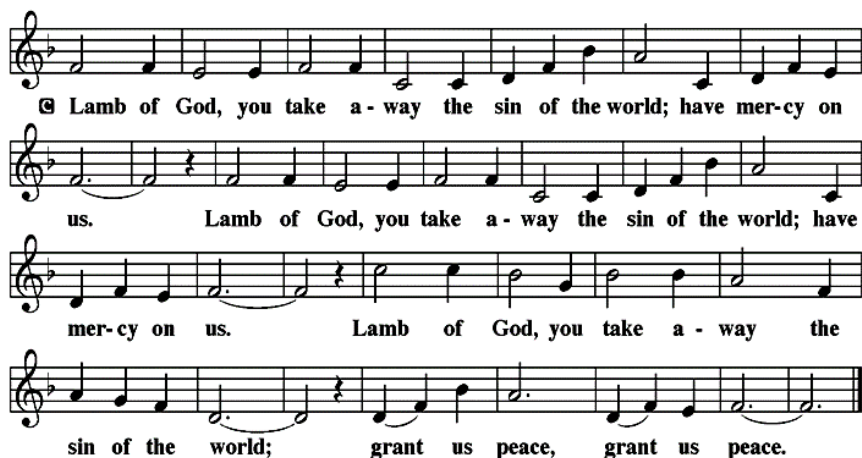
**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

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.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 765

Lord of All Hopefulness

1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,

your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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

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What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Sept. 20 Small Group: Catherman, 8:00am
Worship, 10:00am
Social Hour, 11:30am
Faith Lab and Meal @ UIC, 4:30pm
October Newsletter Deadline
- Mon, Sept. 21 God's Monsters Bible Study @ CELC, 6:00pm
Boy Scouts, 6:45pm
- Tue, Sept. 22 Small Group: Criswell/Guffey, 5:30pm
- Wed, Sept. 23 Small Group: Guffey/Swartz, 6:00pm
- Thu, Sept. 24 Small Group: Baker, 6:00pm
- Fri, Sept. 25 Office Closed
- Sun, Sept. 27 Small Group: Catherman, 8:00am
Worship, 10:00am
Social Hour, 11:30am
Fellowship Hall Reserved, 1:00pm
Faith Lab and Meal @ UIC, 4:30pm

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.

Happy Birthday

Dale Robuck 9/22

Karen Baker 9/23

Dawn Warren 9/23

Jane Guffey 9/24

Curtis Zimmerman 9/25

Kim Criswell 9/26

Cami Zimmerman 9/26

Happy Anniversary

Justin and Nicole Cooley 9/20/14

Terri and Chad Cromwell 9/22/01

A purple rectangular background with a white border. Inside, a yellow rectangular box with a black border contains the text. Two yellow sticky notes are placed on the right and bottom-left corners of the yellow box. A megaphone icon is located below the text.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

Any articles, events, photos, or thank you notes you'd like to have in the October Newsletter need to be in to the office by Sunday, September 20.

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

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

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.

SOCIAL HOUR RESUMES



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

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!

We will meet at UIC in September and October.



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



FALL HAYRIDE

St. John's Lutheran Church
70 S. Mill Road, Milton

Sunday, October 11
Hayride begins at 5:00pm

Please signup at UIC
or contact
Terri in the office.

Food & Fun!!

Annual Pet Blessing

**ALL PETS
WELCOME!**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH
1:00P.M.**

JOIN US ON THE 3RD
STREET SIDE OF THE
BUILDING!

**CHRIST'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
100 S. 3RD STREET
LEWISBURG, PA 17837**

DONATIONS OF PET FOOD
AND SUPPLIES ARE BEING
COLLECTED FOR MILTON
LUTHERAN'S PET PANTRY!



FREE!

**TRUNK
or
TREAT**

**Saturday, October 17th
3pm - 5pm
Milton Lutheran Church
1125 Mahoning Street
Milton, PA 17847**

The background is a dark purple field filled with various Halloween-themed illustrations: jack-o'-lanterns with different expressions, wrapped candies in various shapes and colors, and lollipops. In the center, the text 'FREE! TRUNK or TREAT' is prominently displayed. Below the text, the event details are listed. To the right of the text, there are three circular logos: the Milton Lutheran Church logo (a cross and tree), the United In Christ Lutheran Church logo (a tree and cross), and the Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church logo (a cross and globe).

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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