

Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church

*A community of disciples for Jesus Christ, dedicated to glorifying God
through worship, spiritual growth and service to others.*

Sunday, January 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Service of the Word

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: **Amen**

*GATHERING SONG

Rise Up, O Saints of God!

ELW 669

*APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

***KYRIE**

213

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

Glory to God

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***PRAYER OF THE DAY** (*in unison, see insert*)

WORD

READINGS (*See Insert*)

FIRST LESSON: Micah 6:1-8

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 15 (*read responsively*)

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 5th chapter

C: **Glory to you, Oh Lord.**

***GOSPEL READING: Matthew 5:1-12**

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you O Christ.**

MESSAGE

Video Sermon

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Blest Are They

ELW 728

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*in unison*)

P: People of God, do you believe in God the creator of all things, the giver of life and breath?

C: **Yes, we believe.**

P: People of God, do you believe in Jesus Christ, born Emmanuel, God with us,
who was baptized and revealed as the beloved Son of God, who sought to heal humanity,
who took our brokenness upon himself, who suffered, died, and rose for us,
who ascended to heaven and one day will come again?

C: **Yes, we believe.**

P: People of God, do you believe in the Holy Spirit,
who continually refreshes our lives and leads us every day,
who gathers the church, the body of Christ in the world,
who gifts us with faith and promise of eternal life?

C: **Yes, we believe.**

P: Thanks be to God!

C: **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(See insert)*

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG

Salvation Belongs to Our God

219

***THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

220

P: O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: **Amen.**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(in unison)*

221

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.

SENDING

***BLESSING**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

***SENDING SONG**

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

ELW 551

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the Good News!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

***POSTLUDE**

*Congregation Stands
Congregational Responses are **in bold**

Serving Today, January 29, 2023

Lay Leader: Ruie Jones

Lay Reader: Bea Isenhour

Serving Next Sunday, February 5, 2023

Minister: Deacon Deborah Johnson

Lay Reader: Ruie Jones

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS. “THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE...” We will rejoice and be glad in it.” Thank you for choosing Unity as your place to worship this morning. If you would like more information concerning the ministries and outreach of Unity church in the community please speak to one of our members.

VIDEO SERMON: Jim Somerville, A Sermon for Every Sunday

ALTAR FLOWERS: given in memory of Karen Louthian by Deborah Johnson

THE 2023 FLOWER CHART is posted on the bulletin board in the hall. We are only receiving fresh flowers 2 times per month so your donation of altar flowers will cover 2 consecutive Sundays. The cost for two Sundays is \$50. Next open dates are February (5/12).

INCLEMENT WEATHER: In the event that there is any accumulation of snow, ice or freezing rain on the ground & roadways, Unity will not have church services. If you are not sure you can check Unity’s website at www.unitylutheran.net, Facebook page (Unity Lutheran), or call Adrian Jones @ 256-7676. A video sermon will be shared to our Facebook page.

PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS WITH SPECIAL CONCERNS: Peggy Bolick, Ralph Adcock, Mary Lou Huffman, Shirley Shannon, Bob Raby, Glenn and Peggy Davis, Bill & Farrell Gibbs, Dave Shannon, Kathy Whisnant, Sue Heavner

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: Dave Shannon, Candyce Webb, Kenneth Webb.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Billie Detter, Michael Alan Lane, Glenda Thornton, Katherine Jones, Brenda Durst, Glenda Martin, Brian Childers, Terry Jenkins, Michael Fox (Farrell Gibbs’ grandson), Judy Houser, Lesa Fox, Dan Drinkard, Diane Futrelle, Gay Apple, Cort Hollar, all public safety personnel and military personnel.

PRAYERS FOR PEACE: People of Ukraine and Russia

UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A.

3025 Falling Creek Rd., NE, Hickory, North Carolina, 28601
828-324-1533

Website: <http://www.unitylutheran.net>

Email address: unitylutheranoffice@gmail.com

Facebook(Unity Lutheran)

Sunday School

Worship 10:30am

Pastoral Care

Deacon Deborah Johnson – (828) 291-4129 or madeline5393@gmail.com