

Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Sunday, September 10, 2023
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Setting 3

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

Earth and All Stars!

ELW 731

*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.**

*KYRIE	138
*CANTICLE OF PRAISE	140
*PRAYER OF THE DAY (in unison, see insert)	

WORD

READINGS (See Insert)

FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 33:7-11

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 119:33-40 (*read responsively*)

SECOND LESSON: Romans 13:8-14

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

142

C: **Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 18th chapter

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

***GOSPEL READING: Matthew 18:15-20**

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

MESSAGE

Deacon Deborah Johnson

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

ELW 656

***STATEMENT OF FAITH (Apostles' Creed)** (*read in unison*)

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 *(See insert)*

MEAL

OFFERING

***OFFERING SONG** *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful* **ELW 182**

***OFFERING PRAYER**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING** **144**

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER** **145**

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

(All are welcome at the table of God. Please stand a safe distance apart as you come forward for communion. Discard your empty cup in the waste can as you return to your seat)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS *Lamb of God* **ELW 146**

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

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 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* **ELW 836**

***DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

***POSTLUDE**

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

Serving Today, September 10, 2023

Minister: Deacon Deborah Johnson **Lay Assistant:** Ruie Jones

Serving Next Sunday, September 17, 2023

Lay Leader: Ruie Jones

Lay Reader: Tinita Stoker

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 the Ushers.

WELCOME: **Deborah Johnson** to lead us in worship today.

ALTAR FLOWERS: given in loving memory of Jeffery Shephard by Joy Burns

THE 2023 FLOWER CHART is posted on the bulletin board in the hall. The cost is \$50 which will cover two Sundays of the month. Next open dates are October 15, 22, 29

Today we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the ELCA’s **God’s Work Our Hands Sunday**. Thanks to all who contributed to the Personal Hygiene Kits for the CCM Homeless Shower Ministry. Everyone is asked to sign the greeting cards which will be sent to our homebound and members in assisted living facilities.

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: Candyce Webb, Kenneth Webb.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Sue Rpwland (Deb Johnson’s sister), Bishop Tim Smith, Billie Detter, Charley Coulter, Denise Little, Katherine Jones, Brian Childers, Glenda Martin, 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 OF COMFORT AND RECOVERY: People effected by Hurricane Idalia and the fires in Maui, Hawaii

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

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Sunday School

Worship 10:30am

Pastoral Care

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