



Christ,
Be Our
Light!

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,

Light for the world to see.

ELW Hymn #715

~ WE GATHER ~

PRELUDE

Yen Lee Loh

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please stand if
you are able.*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

C: Amen.

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who know us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Mighty God, lover of justice,

C: you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interest at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

P: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in + Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

All: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!

ELW Hymn #315

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.

Prayer of the Day:

The main thoughts of the day are collected, or summarized in this short prayer. The prayers for the season of the church year have come to us from the rich treasury of the church's heritage.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

All: O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

MINISTRY THROUGH MUSIC

For God So Loved the World

Cathedral Choir

Michael Marcotte, director and Yen Lee Loh, piano

~ WORD ~

FIRST READING

Exodus 24:12-18

First Reading

At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The "glory of the Lord" settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.

¹² The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction."¹³ So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God.¹⁴ To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

¹⁵ Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.¹⁶ The

glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud.¹⁷ Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites.¹⁸ Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 2

¹ Why are the nations in an uproar?
Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?
² **Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the LORD and against the LORD's anointed?**
³ "Let us break their yoke," they say;
"let us cast off their bonds from us."
⁴ **God whose throne is in heaven is laughing; the LORD holds them in derision.**
⁵ Then in wrath God speaks to them, and in rage fills them with terror.
⁶ **"As for me, I have anointed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain."**
⁷ Let me announce the decree of the LORD,

who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I begotten you."
⁸ **Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.**
⁹ You shall crush them with an iron rod and shatter them like a piece of pottery."
¹⁰ **And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.**
¹¹ Submit to the LORD with fear, and with trembling bow in worship;
¹² **lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath. Happy are all who take refuge in God!**

SECOND READING

2 Peter 1:16-21

¹⁶ We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."
¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.
¹⁹ So we have the prophetic message

more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹ because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

P: Word of God, word of life.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Interim Pastor Rich Kramer

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*

from ELW Hymn #174

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Please stand if you are able.*

GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 17th Chapter.
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.
² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes

became bright as light. ³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, →

Gospel

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!”⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.”⁸ And when they raised their

eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

P : The gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Interim Pastor Rich Kramer

HYMN OF THE DAY *You, Lord, are Both Lamb and Shepherd* from ACS Hymn #954

Hymn of the Day:

This hymn follows the theme of the readings and reflects the message of the sermon.

1. **You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd.**
You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
You, peacemaker and sword-bringer of the way you took and gave.
You, the everlasting instant; you, whom we both scorn and crave.
2. **Clothed in light upon the mountain, stripped of might upon the cross,**
shining in eternal glory, beggared by a soldier's toss,
you, the everlasting instant; you, who are both gift and cost.
3. **You, who walk each day beside us, sit in power at God's side.**
You, who preach a way that's narrow, have a love that reaches wide.
You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our pilgrim guide.
4. **Worthy is our earthly Jesus! Worthy is our cosmic Christ!**
Worthy your defeat and vict'ry; worthy still your peace and strife.
You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our death and life.

**Please stand if you are able.*

Creed:

We respond to God's word together when we say the Creed. Creed comes from the Latin word "credo" which means "I believe". In our worship we use either the Apostles' or Nicene Creed. These Creeds were written over 1700 years ago so the world would know what Christians believe.

Prayers of Intercession

These prayers in the service follows the directive of the Apostle Paul to young Timothy, a pastor: "I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone - for Kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness".

The Offering

Another way of responding to God's Word is by giving ourselves and our money for the work of Christ's Church throughout the world.

APOSTLES' CREED*

ELW Page #127

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

P: Merciful God...

C: **receive our prayer.**

SHARING THE PEACE

~ MEAL ~

GATHERING OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY* *Jesus, the Light of the World* [verse 1 & refrain] ACS Hymn #914

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je-sus, the Light of the world;



“Glo - ry to the new-born king,” Je-sus, the Light of the world.

Refrain



We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.



Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **All: Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SHARING THE MEAL

LAMB OF GOD

from Unfailing Light



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us.



world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The Great Thanksgiving

The opening dialogue between pastor and people that begins the Holy Communion part of the service. These words, dating from the second century, are likely the most ancient part of the Great Thanksgiving.

The Words of Institution

Jesus' words (from the Last Supper, Matthew 26:26-28) used with the bread and wine, makes this sacrament a 'means of grace' or way that God brings His love and forgiveness to us.

Communion Distribution

The ushers will direct you forward. All bread is gluten free. Grape juice is available. If you would like grape juice, please indicate that to the server.

The Lamb of God

This is our way of saying to God and to each other that it was Jesus who died for our sins as that perfect sacrifice, that perfect lamb that was slain for our life. It also focuses our attention on what we are about to receive in Holy Communion, which is Christ's true body and blood 'given and shed for the forgiveness of sins'. "The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.

~ SENDING ~

The Blessing:

This prayer asking for God's blessing upon the assembly as we go out into the world doing God's will.

BLESSING

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise + bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

ELW Hymn #318

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Yen Lee Loh

ELW Hymn #315, How Good, Lord, to be Here, ACS #954, You, Lord, are Both Lamb and Shepherd, ELW #318, Alleluia, Song of Gladness, Gospel Acclamation #174, #814 from All Creation Sings, Jesus, the Light of the World, Lamb of God from Unfailing Light Liturgy, Words © 2004 Augsburg Fortress, Music © 2004 GIA Publications, Inc. Offertory: ELW #726 Light Dawns on a Weary World. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under: Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #22289, A-800051, CCLI License # 1621695. One License: Annual License, A-707938

Fat Tuesday Community Night

Mike's Pizza & Pub - 411 2nd St NW, EGF
Tuesday, February 17th 7:00pm - 9:00pm



Join us in hearing about ...

Molly's Egypt Experience!

Next Sunday Feb. 22
During Coffee Hour | Lounge



Craft beer & sodas. Ice Cream. Games. Connection.

The news has been heavy. The world feels loud, divided, and exhausting—and it's been a long winter season. Before Lent begins, we're creating space to pause, breathe, and be together.

Join us for **Fat Tuesday at Mike's Pizza & Pub** for a laid-back evening of drinks, food, and conversation. All ages are welcome - we'll get food to share. There is ice cream and games for kids! This is a night for United folks and friends —one where grief, stress, uncertainty, and hope all exist at the same time. There will be no sermons and no pressure—just honest connection and the reminder that we don't have to carry everything alone as we head into the Lenten season. Come as you are!

United **IN SERVING**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volunteers Needed for Sundays!

Please sign up in the binder at the United in Serving stand located down the office hallway, or scan the QR code!



Ash Wednesday Worship

Wednesday, February 18 | 7pm | Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday Worship includes the Imposition of Ashes and Communion

UNBOUND  LENT 2026
Longing for Wholeness *United Lutheran Church*

Wednesdays in Lent, Beginning February 25

5:15pm - Lenten Meals - free-will offering | Fellowship Hall

Served by groups from United: Cathedral Choir (2/25), Confirmation Families (3/4), Pizza Night (3/11), Community Outreach Ministry (3/18), and ULCW (3/25)

5:30pm - Sing & Ring Rehearsal | Choir Room

6:15pm - Midweek Lenten Worship | Sanctuary

7:00pm - Cathedral Choir, Confirmation, and Faith Friends

Sundays in Lent will focus on that for which humans long: *wholeness, community, relationship, authenticity*, etc. We will encounter and reflect on these within the scope of our Scripture readings and our life together as church.

Wednesdays during Lent will acknowledge ways that humans can be bound, such as *jealousy, violence, guilt*, etc. and how we can be released from those. We plan to read and hear parts of the Joseph story in Genesis as starting places for messages and our reflections.

Lenten Resource: *Contemplative Practices for Lent* booklets are available on the ushers tables.

LENTEN BOOK STUDY

Mondays 7-8pm

ULC Lounge

Starting Feb. 23

During Feb. and March, United will be participating in a community-wide book study of *Red State Christians*, by ELCA pastor Angela Denker. The plan is to conclude the study with a visit from the author. Books are provided. Please join us!

Sign-up using the QR code or call the church office.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW for Sunday, March 8th for our Bluegrass and BBQ Open House featuring:



Pre-Worship music begins at 10am

Bluegrass Worship at 10:15am

BBQ Meal at 11:15am with Free-will Offering

Please help us spread the word and invite your friends and neighbors! Volunteer at the QR code provided! All are welcome!



Welcome visitors to UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH



Welcome to worship at United Lutheran Church, we are glad you are here.

Our Vision: The vision of United Lutheran is to be an embracing community of joy and hope, nurturing life transforming relationships with Jesus Christ, one another, and the world.

Our Mission: The mission statement of United Lutheran Church: We are United, proclaiming God's salvation by welcoming all to LIVE, LEARN, and SHARE the LOVE of Jesus Christ.

Our Welcome: United Lutheran Church embraces the gift of God's love for all creation. We rejoice in the way diversity informs, nurtures, and enriches the life and ministry we share. In a world that is often unloving, we are called by the Gospel to be workers for justice, peace, and healing. Wherever you are on your faith journey, we welcome all ages, races, nationalities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, physical and mental abilities, educational levels, family configurations, and economic realities. We commit to the ongoing work of Jesus' welcome for all.

Please take a moment to fill out a visitor card in the pew and place it in the offering plate. Restrooms are located in the Fellowship Hall directly below the Sanctuary at the bottom of the stairs from the narthex.

Check out the calendar below for what's happening at United in the week ahead.

WORSHIP LEADERS

President

Interim Pastor Rich Kramer

Director of Youth and Family Ministries

Molly Haagenon

Worship Accompanist

Yen Lee Loh

Special Music

Cathedral Choir

Michael Marcotte, director

Yen Lee Loh, piano

Song Leader

Michael Marcotte

Lector

Cathy Williams

Ushers

Brian Strom

Darlene Moritz

Katie Bratvold

Cobi DeLong

Dawn Marcotte

Communion Server

Cathy Williams

Kimberly Strom

Laurie Bakke

Technical Team

Mackenzie Brown

Darren Lee

Jayson and Jonah Helseth

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

NO BREAKFAST CLUB

- 10:15am - Worship/Communion (SA)
- 11:15am - Coffee Fellowship (FH)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- 1:00pm - PEO (LG)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- 9:00am - Quilting (FH)
- 11:00am - Staff Meeting (RM 106)
- 5:30pm - ULC Council Meeting (LG)
- 7:00pm - Fat Tuesday at Mike's Pizza

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- 7:00pm - Ash Wednesday Worship with Communion (SA)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

OFFICE CLOSED

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

- 9:00am - Breakfast Club (LG)
- 10:15am - Worship/Communion (SA)
- 11:15am - Coffee Fellowship (FH)
- 11:15am - Molly's Egyptian Experience (LG)



We are a
Reconciling in Christ
Congregation

United Lutheran Church

324 Chestnut Street

Grand Forks, ND

PH: 701-775-4279

www.unitedgf.org

Office hours:

M-TH: 8am - 4pm

ULC is Home to

United Day Nursery:

701-772-3773



DONATE ONLINE TO UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH!



If you would like to make a secure, online donation to United Lutheran Church now, please scan the QR code provided.