

# University Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

September 8, 2019



## **Who We Are:**

- We are a progressive congregation with a history of taking action on peace and justice concerns;
- We support people of all sexual orientations and gender identities;
- We are passionate about our worship, and we cherish our music;
- We are poised on a threshold ready and eager to creatively try new and innovative ways for mission and ministry in the University District.
- We do not know where this will lead us, but we trust with all our being that God is already there and is drawing us to join in the parade. We do so with excitement and joy because . .

**We Choose Love! ✦**

*(Wording taken from ULC 2017 Ministry Site Profile)*



**WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH** during this season of Pentecost when we pray for the Holy Spirit to inspire and motivate us in our mission to strive for justice and peace in all the Earth. As a reminder that we have brothers and sisters in other cultures on this Earth, we change our liturgy from time to time to reflect the music of those cultures. For the next six weeks we will celebrate the presence of the Spirit with our **Latino Liturgy**.

**WE WELCOME EVERYONE TO THE LORD'S TABLE** to receive God's gift of forgiveness and the powerful freedom of a new life in Christ. Please come down the center aisle, proceed to the communion rail, and kneel or stand at the first open space. Hold out your hand to receive the bread. **Gluten-free wafers are available.** Please indicate your desire for a wafer at the time you are offered the bread. You may drink either from an individual glass, which will be served first, or from the chalice. The individual glasses in the center of the tray contain grape juice (golden color). The outside glasses contain red wine. An acolyte will pass by to pick up your individual glass. In the spirit of continuous communion, please return to your seat via the side aisles after you have drunk from the glass or chalice. After everyone has been served at the communion rail, the ministers will serve anyone in the pew that is unable to come forward. Please indicate your desire in this regard to the pastor. Parents who desire that their children not receive communion may bring them forward for a blessing.

**PLEASE INDICATE YOUR ATTENDANCE** at worship today and your participation at Holy Communion by completing the enclosed Worship Registration form and placing it in the offering plate. Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the lounge after the service.

**THERE ARE BABY CHANGING TABLES** available in both the men's & women's restrooms (across from the church office). There is also one in the Narthex.

**THERE IS A CHILDREN'S AREA** in the back of the sanctuary with quiet activities for young children. An adult must also be present when a child is there.

**CHILD CARE** is available in the Nursery for children of any age. Ask the usher for directions.

**OUR PRAYERS** are with Martie Hamro, Susan Cook, Mary Denny, Jan Orlando, John Wott, & John Knutson (former member) who is in hospice.

**TEXTS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:** *Exodus 32:7-14; Psalm 51:1-10; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10*

*Prelude*

Improvisation on “Argentine Santo”

*Tune #474*

*Welcome & Announcements*

*(Please rise in body or spirit)*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal, the builder of the city that is to come.

**C: Amen.**

P: If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

P: God our helper,

**C: we confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn**

**“Oh, Sing to God Above”**

**#555**

(Face the cross as it is carried forward)

**Greeting**

**P:** The grace of our risen Savior, the boundless love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**Hymn of Praise**

**“Oh Sing to the Lord”**

**#822**

**V. 1-2, 4-5**

**Prayer of the Day**

A: Let us pray together:

**C: Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**First Lesson**

**Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

*Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the Lord; or choose death by following other gods.*

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of your God that I am commanding you today, by loving your God, walking in God's ways, and observing God's commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving your God, obeying God, and holding fast to God; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that God swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

L: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm #1**

*(Please read responsively. Pulpit side, odd #'s; Organ side even #'s)*

*They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)*

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup>**Their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves  
that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup>**It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup>**For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

**Second Lesson**

**Philemon 1-21**

*While Paul was in prison, he was aided by a runaway slave named Onesimus. The slave's master, Philemon, was a Christian friend of Paul. Paul told Onesimus to return to his master and encouraged Philemon to receive Onesimus back as a Christian brother.*

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,  
To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow  
soldier, and to the church in your house:  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

L: Holy Wisdom! Holy Word!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**Gospel Acclamation**

**“Halle, Halle”**

**#172**

**Gospel**

**Luke 14:25-33**

*Jesus speaks frankly about the fearsome costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.*

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when

he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

P: The Gospel of the risen Christ.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*(Please be seated)*

*Sermon*

**“Choose Life”**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

*Hymn of the Day*

**“Take My Life that I May Be”**

**#583**

*Affirmations of Faith*

**We believe in a bold God, Creator of splendor, spinning stars into night skies, warming the planet with life-giving sunshine, filling the earth with all creatures great and small.**

**We believe in a big God, Creator of 150 billion galaxies, who is big enough to receive our praise and loving enough to answer our prayers.**

**We believe in the risen Christ, who meets us in the brokenness of life, accompanies us on all our wanderings and forever seeks to welcome us home with open arms.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, guide and companion, who fills the church with windy hope and fiery compassion.**

**We believe in the church, where we can taste some of the heavenly banquet and live as a renewed people for the world. Amen.**

*Reception of New Members*

*Prayers of the People*

A: Hear us, O God,

**C: Your mercy is great.**

*Exchange of Peace*

P: The peace of God be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*(Please be seated)*

*Children’s Message*

Become to us the living bread  
By which the Christian life is fed.  
Renewed, and greatly comforted,  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Become the neverfailing wine,  
The spring of joy that shall incline  
Our hearts to bear the covenant sign,  
Alleluia, alleluia!

May Christians all with one accord  
Unite around the sacred board  
To praise your holy name, O Lord,  
Alleluia, alleluia!

*(Please stand as you are able)*

*Offertory Hymn*

**“God Extends the Invitation”**

**#5486**

*Offertory Prayer*

A: Let us pray together:

**C: God our provider, we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it. Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table, and with them the offering of our lives. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Offertory Hymn*

**“Santo, Santo, Santo”**

**#172**

*The Great Thanksgiving*

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**C: Amen, amen. Amen, amen.**

*Lord's Prayer*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

*Communion Distribution*

**“Bread of Life from Heaven”**

**#474**

**“In the Singing”**

**#466**

*(Please rise in body or spirit)*

*Post Communion Blessing and Prayer*

A: God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. Almighty God bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Sending Hymn*

**“Light Dawns on a Weary World”**

**#726**

*Dismissal*

A: Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Preacher	Pastor Sue Schneider
Assisting Minister	Sue Tong
Minister of Music	Brian Higham
Organist	Logan Hamilton
Acolytes	
Lectors	Mary Denny Van Hutton
Communion Assistants	Brad Anderson Theresa Lehan-Anderson Merle Overland Kathy Lachata-Oakley
Children's Message	Sheryl Lundahl
Greeters	Mary Hillman Aslaug Haraldsdottir
Ushers	Linda Maschhoff Craig Perkins
Fellowship	Phil & Sheryl Lundahl
Altar Guild	Bev Stevenson Margoan Hunter
Counters	John Massman M. Hillman
Courtesy Driver	Gary Marshall

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS****SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

- 9:30 AM Service of Holy Communion  
 10:30 AM Fellowship in the lounge  
 11:00 AM Quilters in room 208

**THE SPECIAL OFFERING FOR SEPTEMBER IS ELIZABETH GREGORY HOME.**

Founded by ULC in 2001, today EGH operates a transitional home for 8 women in the Maple Leaf neighborhood and a Day Center at ULC for homeless women. Women who visit the Day Center can access a hot meal, laundry facilities, computers, food, clothing, and life-skill classes. The staff and volunteers form a compassionate Care Team that responds to each woman individually and ascertains what goals each woman might take on to move forward in this life. If you would like to contribute to EGH you may do so by using a special offering envelope in the pew, making your check out to ULC, earmarking it for EGH, and putting your gift in the offering plate, or bringing it to the church office. Thank you for your generous offering.

**THERE IS NO PARKING** available at Hillel **TODAY**. They have an event going on 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please make note of this if you normally park there on Sunday mornings.

**THIS AFTERNOON ULC WILL BE PARTICIPATING WITH THE REST OF THE ELCA IN “GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS”** with a day of service. We’ll leave ULC by 11:00 to cook a taco bar lunch at Compass Broadview (147 N 132nd St), a Compass House Alliance location. We are serving the lunch at 12:30 and are invited to eat with residents. This is a new facility and we are asking members to help with kitchen items for their community kitchen (mixing bowls, measuring cups & spoons, pans, etc). The kitchen supplies will stock their community kitchen and help with the UW cooking class that they will be having throughout the year. Come and join the fun!

**HELP PLAN THE FUTURE OF UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH.** Come and participate in a Visioning Workshop next Saturday, September 14, 8:45 a.m. (light breakfast & lunch) to 2:00 p.m. Rev. Rick Rouse & Beth A. Lewis will guide us in envisioning what the next 5 years will look like. How is God calling us? Who do we want to be? What do you want to do? Everyone is encouraged to attend to listen, discuss and discern our next steps. On Sunday September 15, at the Adult Forum, we will discuss the ideas brought forth. These two days are the first step in a 9 month process that Rev. Rouse and Ms. Lewis will walk through with us. **If you plan to attend, please sign up on the Worship Registration form. We need a good count of attendees to plan the food for lunch. Please also indicate if you can contribute a breakfast treat for 6 people.**

**ALTAR GUILD** will have their next meeting on Sunday, September 15 after worship. They will meet in Pastor Sue’s office.

**THE COMMON INTEREST GROUP** for a book club is starting! There are two books to read - *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.* by Lenny Duncan, and *Overstory* by Richard Powers. Duncan is a formerly homeless, incarcerated, and unchurched African American who is now a pastor in the ELCA. Power’s book is a novel that intersects environmentalism and the human story. We will set up dates in October for discussions about these books, so stay tuned.

**THERE IS AN INTEREST IN HAVING A WEEKDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY.** A Bible Study has been scheduled for Tuesday mornings, at **10:00 a.m.** beginning on **September 17**, and it will be led by Maynard Atik. The focus of the study will be a “Text Study”, where we will read and study the Scripture readings posted for the upcoming Sunday. The goal is for the participants to have a better understanding of the Bible readings presented at worship and how they connect with our daily lives. Come join us for good in-depth study and worthwhile fellowship!

**A CONVERSATION WITH SISTER HELEN PREJEAN.** Sister Helen is the author of *Dead Man Walking*, and now has a new book out, *River of Fire: My Spiritual Journey*. Sister Prejean shares the story of her growth as a spiritual leader, speaks out about the challenges of the Catholic Church and shows that joy and religion are not mutually exclusive. Come hear her speak on **Monday, September 9, 7:00 p.m.** at the Seattle University Campion Ballroom (914 E Jefferson St.). Tickets are \$35 (and include a book) and are available at [www.eventbrite.com/e/a-conversation-with-sister-helen-prejean-tickets-31883804214](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-conversation-with-sister-helen-prejean-tickets-31883804214). Or you can go to [www.fanwa.org](http://www.fanwa.org), click on Events, then calendar, and click on the event. On the bottom left of the screen you will see the above link.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO A “HOMECOMING Sunday Block Party”** on Sunday September 15 at University Congregational UCC (4515 16<sup>th</sup> Ave NE). From 11:30 – 1:00 there will be a BBQ of hamburgers, & hotdogs, fruit & beverages, pony rides, games, and fellowship with our sisters and brothers. The street will be closed to traffic and tables will be set up on the street. Come join in the community fellowship!

**COME HEAR HOW THE SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES** stand on human services and social justice in our city. The Seattle Human Services Coalition will be hosting a debate on **Thursday, September 19, 5:00 -7:30 p.m.** at Seattle World School (1700 E Union St.) This is free and open to the public. Voter registration will be available on site. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Jerry Peerson at 206-325-7105, or [jpeerson@shscoalition.org](mailto:jpeerson@shscoalition.org)

**ELIZABETH GREGORY HOME (EGH)** is hosting a special breakfast for several local faith communities who have been so important to the women served by EGH. As our founder and partner, we would like to invite all ULC members to join us in the Day Center on Saturday, **September 28, at 9:00 a.m.** to update you about their plans for 2020 and to thank you for your ongoing support. Please RSVP to Elizabeth Stevenson at (206) 729-0262 ext. 1006 or via email [estevenson@eghseattle.org](mailto:estevenson@eghseattle.org) by September 20<sup>th</sup> if you plan to attend. Thank you!

**ON SATURDAY, OCT. 5, ULC WILL HOST** a District 4 City Council debate between Shaun Scott and Alex Pederson. This debate starts at 12:30 p.m. and is put on by the Seattle City Club. It will be moderated by a journalist from KCTS-9/Crosscut with additional questions by reporters with KING-5 and The Seattle Times. Doors open at 12:00 p.m. This is a free event but registration is strongly encouraged in order to reserve a seat. To register go to [www.eventbrite.com/e/seattle-city-council-district-4-debate-tickets-67295682197](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/seattle-city-council-district-4-debate-tickets-67295682197). **Volunteers are needed to check people in. If you interested in volunteering, please sign up on the Worship Registration form or contact Mari in the church office.**

**THE LUTHERAN COMMUNITY SERVICES NW LUNCHEON** is coming up on Sunday, October 13. It will be held at the Lynnwood Convention Center. Social Hour is 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. with the lunch and program from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. The lunch is free, and there will be a “ask” during the program. If you are interested in coordinating a table from ULC, please contact Mari in the church office.

**OUR CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR, MARI**, will be out of the office on Wednesday, September 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., attending an Armed Intruder workshop sponsored by our insurance company, Church Mutual.

**ULC MEETINGS NEXT WEEK, September 9-13:**

Monday, September 9 – 9:00 a.m., Monday Morning Maintenance, whole church

Tuesday, September 10 – 12:00 p.m., Tenants Meeting, library

6:30 p.m., ULC Council, library

Thursday, September 12 – 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal, Room B7

Friday, September 13– 3:30 p.m., Quilters, Room 208

**ATTENDANCE** was 69 last Sunday. The total weekly income was \$12,993.35 of which \$12,708.35 was from pledges and loose offering for operating expenses. The balance was from designated gifts and facility usage.

**NEXT SUNDAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS ARE:** **Altar Guild** – Dan & Stacy Crowner; **Acolytes** –; **Asst. Minister** – Maynard Atik; **Communion Assts.** – Clint & Maggie Pehrson, Janice & Larry Gockel; **Children's Message** – Maggie Pehrson; **Lectors** – Bob & Yolanda Houze; **Ushers** – Mark & Mary Hillman, Merle Overland; **Greeters** – Phil & Sheryl Lundahl; **Fellowship Hour:** Bob & Yolanda Houze; **Counters** – Rick Reuter, Twig Mills; **Courtesy Driver** – Tom Swenson.