

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 16, 2026

WELCOME

*A warm welcome to visitors who join us today to worship our Risen Lord!
We invite you to pick up a Visitor's Packet as you leave worship today.
Thank you for joining us this morning! We are blessed by your presence.*

Children are always welcome at worship.

*If desired, there is an unstaffed nursery available for parents and their children
on the second floor in the education wing. Take the first left down the hallway, and
the nursery is the first door on your right.*

*Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices
for today's worship are available.
Please feel free to ask an usher if interested.*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST August 16 - 23

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion Blessing of Students, Teachers, and Backpacks
Wednesday	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Ladies Breakfast at Family Table LWR Quilters
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Worship Orchestra Sunday

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you are able.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

Earth and All Stars!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b.

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson



1	Earth	and	all	stars!	Loud	rush - ing	plan - ets!
2	Trum - pet	and	pipes!	Loud	clash - ing	cym - bals!	
3	En - gines	and	steel!	Loud	pound - ing	ham - mers!	
4	Class - rooms	and	labs!	Loud	boil - ing	test tubes!	
5	Knowl - edge	and	truth!	Loud	sound - ing	wis - dom!	



Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!



Hail, wind, and rain!	Loud	blow - ing	snow - storm!
Harp, lute, and lyre!	Loud	hum - ming	cel - los!
Lime - stone and beams!	Loud	build - ing	work - ers!
Ath - lete and band!	Loud	cheer - ing	peo - ple!
Daugh - ter and son!	Loud	pray - ing	mem - bers!



Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!



God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

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 Come, let us join our cheer - ful songs with an - gels round the throne;
- 2 “Wor - thy the Lamb that died,” they cry, “to be ex - alt - ed thus!”
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re - ceive hon - or and pow’r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.
“Wor - thy the Lamb,” our lips re - ply, “for he was slain for us!”
and bless-ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray. **God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS, STUDENTS, AND TEACHERS

As we begin a new school year, we gather to ask God's blessing upon all who learn, teach, serve, and support our schools and communities.

**We give thanks to God for the gift of learning
and for all who help us grow in wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.**

We bless the students among us.

May God give you courage when you face something difficult,
patience when learning takes time, kindness toward others,
and joy in discovering new things.

May God bless our students and guide them in all they do.

We bless our teachers, professors, administrators, counselors, and school staff.

May God give you wisdom to teach, compassion to listen,
strength for demanding days,
and grace to see the gifts and potential in every student.

May God bless our teachers and all who serve in our schools.

We bless parents, grandparents, guardians,

and families who encourage and support those who learn and teach.

May God bless our families and all who support our students and educators.

Gracious God, bless these backpacks and all they carry.

Bless the books, tools, and treasures within them.

Bless the journeys they will make from home to school and back again.

When we are anxious, give us peace.

When we are discouraged, give us hope.

When we struggle, give us perseverance.

When we succeed, give us humility and gratitude.

Help us to be people of kindness, courage, and love.

Remembering that God's love goes with us. Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹ Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,

all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 67

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Paul writes: ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 15th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.”

²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Silence is kept to reflect upon God’s message.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Text: Ray Palmer Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are as follows:

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -

guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

APOSTLES' 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

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

We greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

***** Please note that the offering is being collected in a slightly different pattern today and into the future. We are trying different options to see what will work best. Thank you for your flexibility. *****

MEAL

OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church,
including the care of those in need. Online giving is
available at felcc.org or by scanning this QR code.*



SPECIAL MUSIC

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

DIALOG

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.

PREFACE

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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

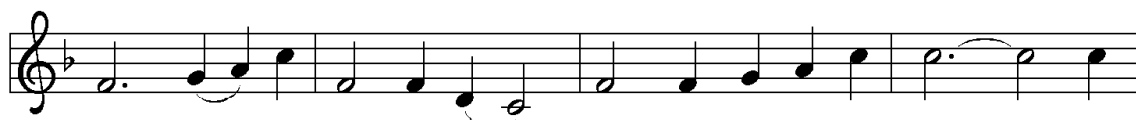
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
in the harmonious world of your creation
the plants and animals, the seas and stars
were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills
and to form us again into one.

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 acts of healing
his body given up, and his victory over death,
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!
Thanks be to God.

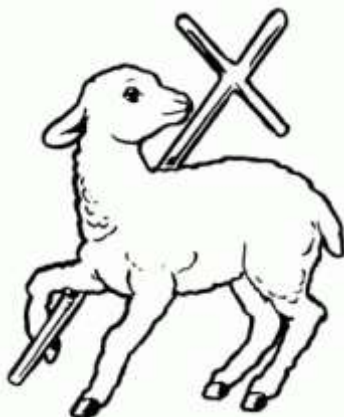
Please be seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Communion: *All Christians who believe that Jesus is truly present in the bread (body of Christ) and in the wine (blood of Christ) are welcome at the Lord's table. To receive Holy Communion, please come down the center aisle, take a glass (the prefilled glasses contain grape juice), and gather at the altar. Non-communing children and adults may come forward for a blessing.*

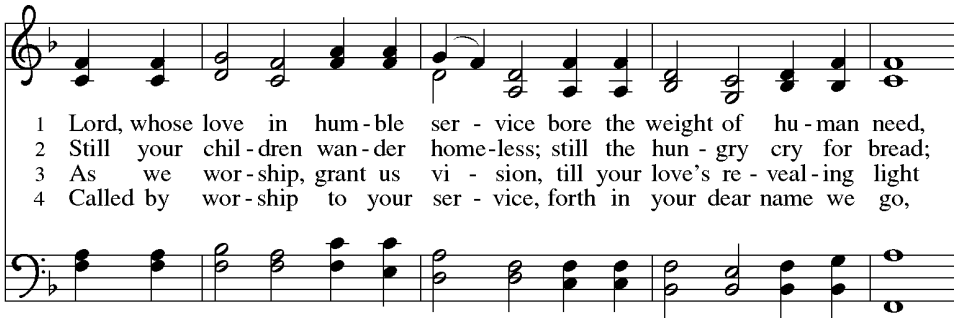
LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

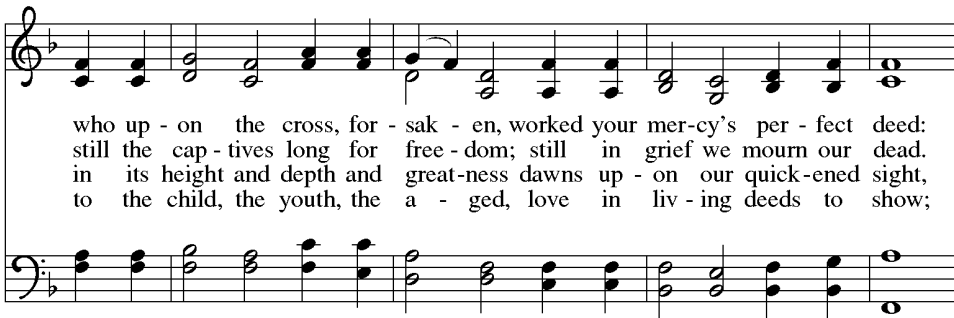


Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

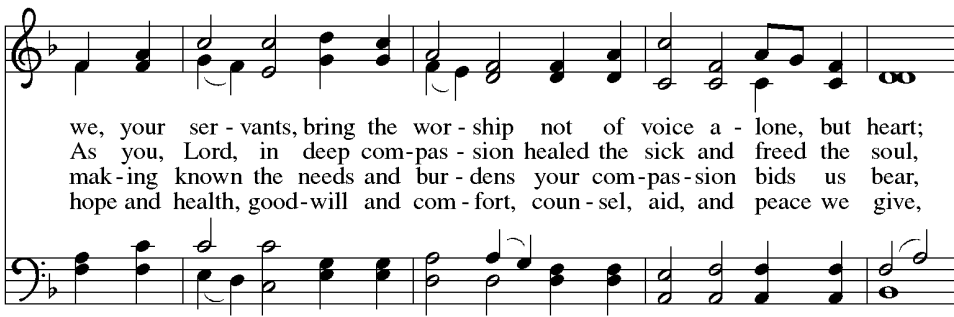
Text: Albert F. Bayly Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, *Selected Hymns*



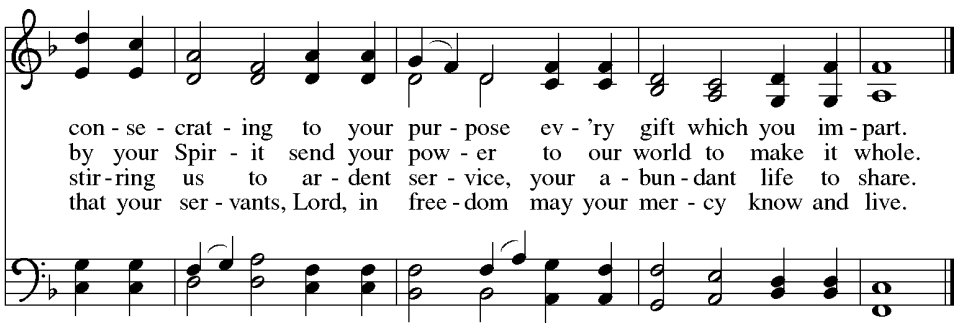
1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed;
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

TABLE BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we,
through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with
us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Amen.**

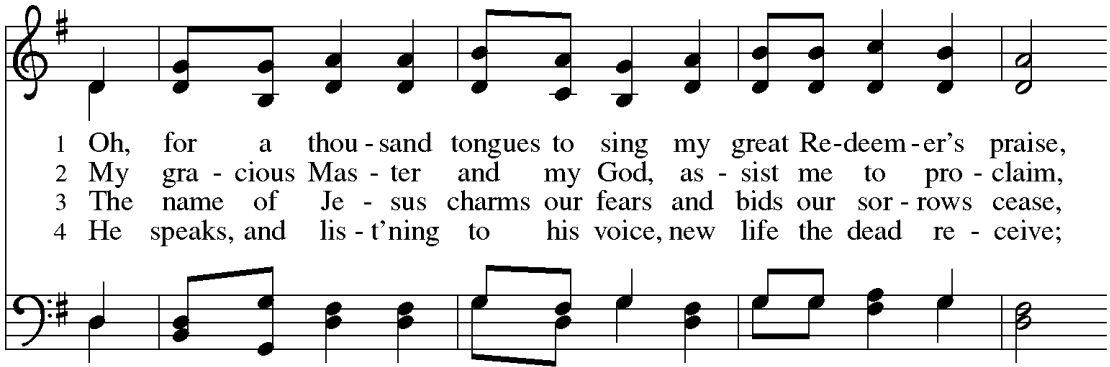
BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and always.

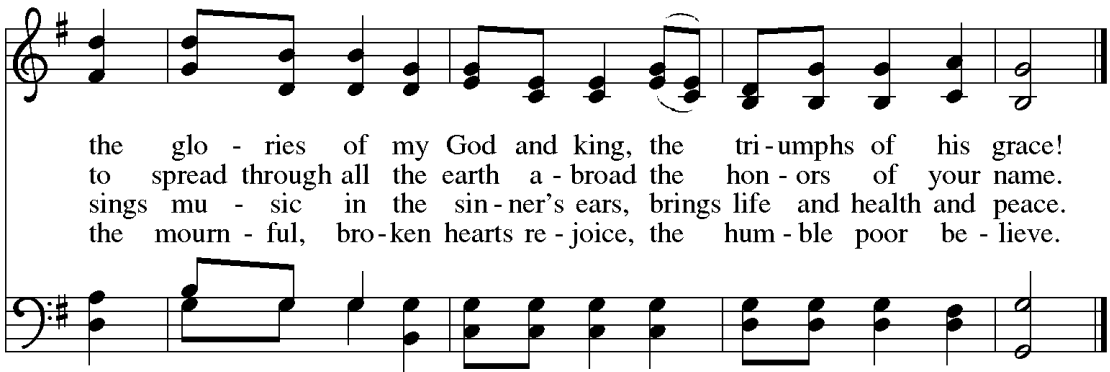
Amen.

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Text: Charles Wesley Music: AZMON, Carl G. Glaser; arr. Lowell Mason



1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of our Mom and Grandma, Esther Beaver. We also give grateful thanks to all who use their musical talents to praise God in our worship.
by Jeff and Freda Dorand.

Please remember in your prayers ...

Healing: **Bill Nienstedt** (8/30), **Kristy Nienstedt** (8/30).



Continuing Prayers: Madeline Artman, **Joanne Caskey, June Diehl, Harold Forrester, Marcia Hunt, Charles Kampmeyer, Don Mayer, Dalton Paul, Julie Paul**

Military: Tawny & Brad Arnold, **Hunter Boock**, Derek Haugh

ATTENDANCE August 9 41 in person 20 online

LADIES BREAKFAST is on Wednesday, August 19 at 8:30 a.m. at Family Table. ALL LADIES WELCOME!

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS It's the time of year to gather items for our school kits and layettes. The following are needed: crayons (boxes of 16/24), blue or black ink pens (no gel), blunt scissors, and notebooks (sheets of 70). A list of items and a collection box is outside the office. Items need to be collected by October 1.

BIBLE STUDY **The Book of Romans** describes the good news of God's powerful salvation for all humanity. Through Christ, God is reclaiming the world from the power of sin and death. Paul's letter to the Romans declares that, in the end, absolutely nothing can separate us from God's love! This study of Romans is at 1:00 p.m. each Monday from September 14 through October 12. Sign-up sheet is on the board by the main office. You are welcome to attend as few or as many sessions as you are able. If you miss one or two, the next session will still make sense. Facilitator: Pastor Nicholson.

STAINED GLASS GIVING Work is completed on the stained glass windows. Gifts to help cover the cost are still appreciated. Thank you to those who have given generously.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT

September 25-27



Come and join the ALIVE retreat in which our youth from across the synod gather at Nawakwa for an incredible weekend. We are hoping to bring a group from First Lutheran. Please indicate your interest to Pastor Nicholson by Tuesday, September 1 if possible. Registration forms and non-refundable \$50 deposit are due to church by Tuesday, September 8. The church budget and the youth savings account will cover the rest of the cost of the retreat for each youth. We are also in need of someone to attend as an adult chaperone. You will need to have clearances to serve in this volunteer position. The cost for our chaperone will be covered by the church.



GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS Our WELCA members put together Personal Care Kits to send to LWR each year. With the help of an Action Team Grant from Thrivent our goal this year is to put 100 health kits together. A health kit consists of a bath towel, sturdy comb, nail clipper, two bars of soap and an adult toothbrush. We are asking members of First to contribute 4 oz. bars of soap and toothbrushes. On Sunday, September 13 our youth and church members will assemble these health kits in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. We are hoping everyone can help with this project.

GRIEF SHARE is a weekly grief support group on Mondays from August 31-November 30 from 6-8 p.m. at Christian Life Church located at 1400 Warm Spring Rd. Chambersburg. A 'Loss of Spouse' session will also be held on September 12 from 10 a.m. – noon. A 'Surviving the Holidays' seminar is offered on November 14 from 10am – noon. The group classes and one-day seminars are free of charge and include all the materials a participant will need. Please feel free to contact Lisa Fidler at 717-404-3599 if you have any questions or would like more information. Our website for registering for GriefShare classes: <https://christianlifechambersburg.churchcenter.com/registrations/events>

SCAN (Student Clothing Assistance Network) Working with the social workers of the school district, SCAN volunteers fill emergency requests for clothing and school supplies. When a request is received, it is assigned to volunteers to acquire the necessary items, either through purchase or donation. When requests are received the need is urgent. The children involved are in crisis situations—domestic upheaval, homelessness, unexpected relocations. Please contact Tim or Mary: 717-264-4759, 717-491-0611, tim@gotwald.org, mary@gotwald.org
Thank you for considering.



	<u>August 16</u>	<u>August 23</u>	<u>August 30</u>
Lector:	Ralph Burdick	Gerry Wilson	Becky Hoover
Communion	Karen Sloan		
Assistants:	Gerry Wilson Rose Wilson		
Greeters:	Becky Hoover	Becky Hoover	Becky Hoover
Altar Guild:	Barb Evans	Barb Evans	Barb Evans
Ushers:	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers



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717-264-2015

Pastor
Pastoral Assistant
Director of Church Music
Parish Administrator
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Technical Lead
Custodian

The Rev. Jane Nicholson
The Rev. Charles Kampmeyer
Freda J. Dorand, Deacon
Ashley Hessong
Sally Herritt
Carol McCoy
Daniel Worcester
Jennifer Flores

Church Office Hours – Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

We welcome visitors this morning.

Please pick up a **visitor's packet**. They are located at the top of the steps.
at the rear of the church or on the table at the elevator entrance.

Our Mission

The mission of First Lutheran Church is to be the light of Jesus,
burning brightly and vigorously in our community.

Worship Schedule

Worship at 9:30 a.m.

also on Facebook at First Evangelical Lutheran Church
and on our webpage at www.FELCC.org

ALL are invited to hear and receive God's blessing in Jesus,
and to worship with us.