

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 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 30 – September 6

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Worship
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Property Committee
	1:00 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Scouts
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	LWR Quilters
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion

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.

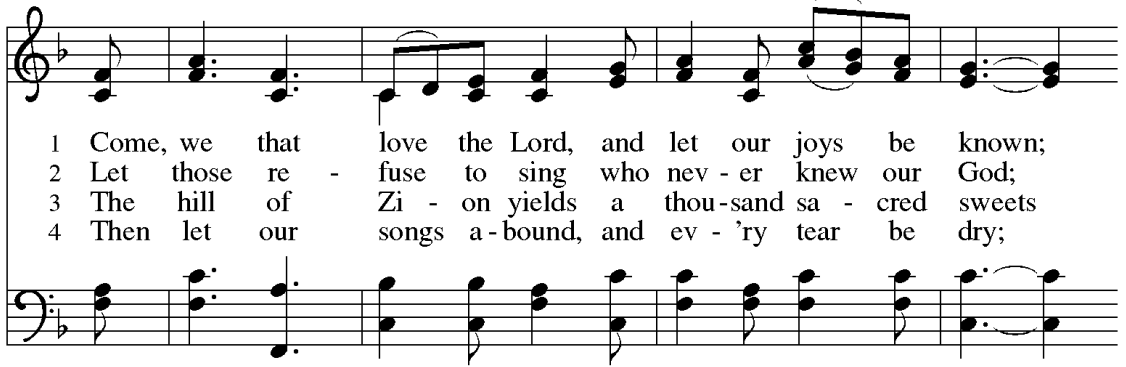
Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

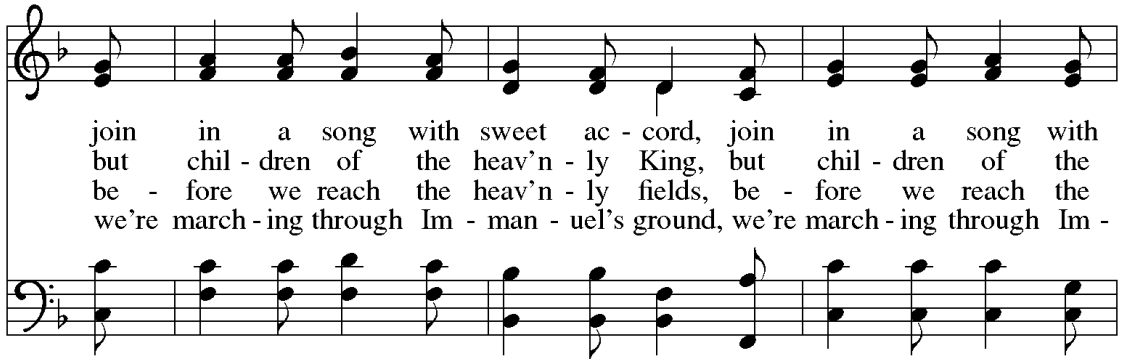
Come, We That Love the Lord

Text: Isaac Watts

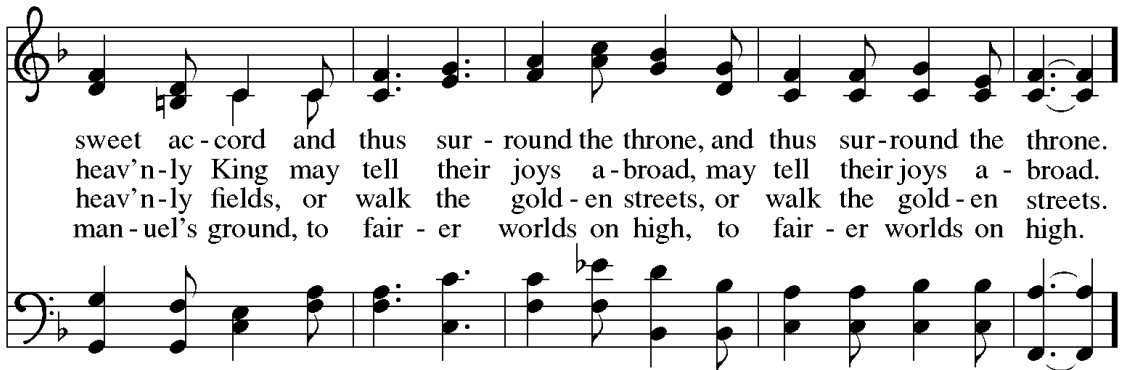
Music: MARCHING TO ZION, Robert Lowry



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;
3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou-sand sa - cred sweets
4 Then let our songs a-bound, and ev - 'ry tear be dry;



join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with
but chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, but chil - dren of the
be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, be - fore we reach the
we're march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Im -



sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur-round the throne.
heav'n-ly King may tell their joys a-broad, may tell their joys a - broad.
heav'n-ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en streets.
man - uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.

Refrain

We're march-ing to Zi - on, beau - ti-ful, beau - ti-ful Zi - on:

we're march-ing up-ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti-ful cit-y of God.

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

1 Have mer-cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol-emn prayer.

2 Have mer-cy on us, Christ, and wash a-way our sin.

3 Have mer-cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de-part.

We come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de-spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be-gin.
Re-new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre-ate in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray. **O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 15:15-21

- ¹⁵ O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
- ¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.
- ¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
- ¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.
- ¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them.
- ²⁰ And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD.
- ²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 26:1-8

¹ Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

² **Test me, O LORD, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.**

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴ **I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸ **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

SECOND READING

Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰ Instead, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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.

[illegible]

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 16:21-28

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 16th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹ From that time on, after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Following the sermon, silence is kept to reflect upon God’s message.

Please stand as you are able.

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson

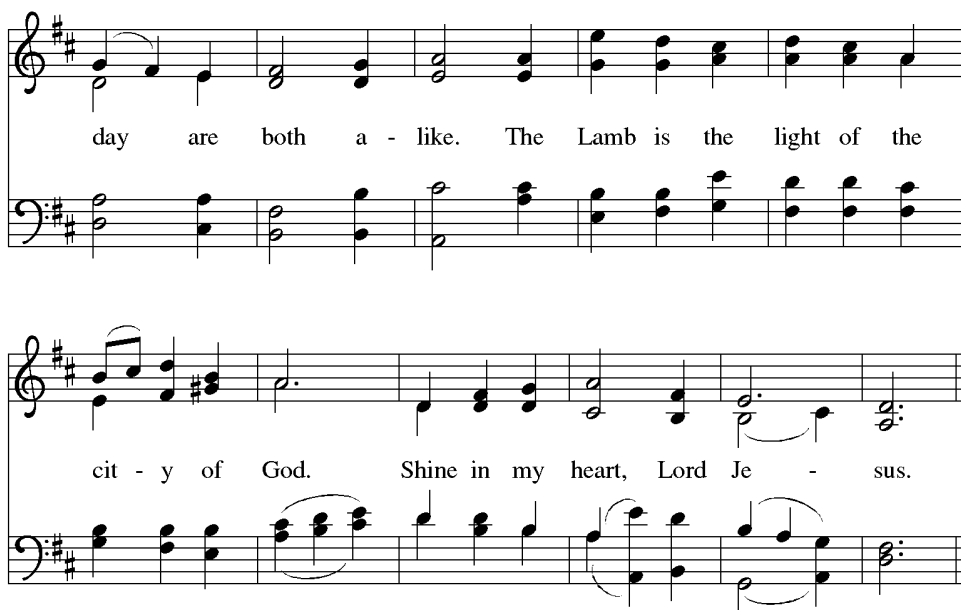
1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



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.

OUR RESPONSE

GATHERING OF GIFTS

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

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

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 see your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit
abiding with us now and forever. Amen.**

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.

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.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever more.

Amen.

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

Text and Music: Les Petites Soeurs de Jesus and L'Arche Community; tr. Stephen Somerville, b.

1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*
 1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;
 2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,
 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;

Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an-non-cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,
 I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:
 May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.
 to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.
 but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:
 you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
 For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.
 And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,

Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.
 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.
 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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Please remember in your prayers ...



Healing: Albert Sloan (9/16)

Continuing Prayers: **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 23 53 in person 8 online

Welcome The Rev. Angela Zimmann who serves as Vice President of Church Relations & International Programming at Mosaic, which is a Healthcare Services company based in Omaha, Nebraska. We are blessed to have Pastor Zimmann with us this morning to preach the gospel message.

WORSHIP and SUNDAY SCHOOL Worship will be at 10:45 on Sunday, September 13. Children's Sunday School will also begin that morning at 9:30. Adult Sunday School will convene on September 20.

PASTORAL CARE Pastor Nicholson will be out of the office through August 31. If you are in need of pastoral care during this time, you may contact Pastor Denise or Martin Horn at 717-496-5372.

BIBLE PRESENTATION Bibles will be presented to our third graders during worship on September 13. If you have a third grader who would like to receive a Bible, please contact the church office.

BIBLE STUDY Written in the first century, **The Book of Romans** describes the good news of God's powerful salvation for all humanity, for all creation, for all time. Through Christ, God is reclaiming the world from the power of sin. He is justifying and saving us from sin and death. Paul's letter to the Romans declares that, in the end, absolutely nothing can separate us from God's love! Bible Study on the Book 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.



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.

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.

GRIEF SHARE is a weekly grief support group meeting each Monday from August 31-November 30 from 6-8 p.m. at Christian Life Church located at 1400 Warm Spring Rd. Chambersburg. On September 12 from 10 a.m. – noon, a “Loss of a Spouse” seminar will be held. On November 14 from 10am – noon, a “Surviving the Holidays” seminar will be offered. Classes are free of charge. Register: <https://christianlifechambersburg.churchcenter.com/registrations/events> Contact Lisa Fidler at 717-404-3599 with questions. Or for more information.

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.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>August 30</u>	<u>September 6</u>	<u>September 13</u>
Lector:	Becky Hoover	Jane Love	Gary Fleegal
Communion Assistants:		Jim Brown Rose Wilson	
Greeters:	Becky Hoover	Bob Hammer Dot Hammer	Bob Hammer Dot Hammer
Altar Guild:	Barb Evans	Barb Evans	Barb Evans
Ushers:	Volunteers	Jim Brown Rose Wilson	Jim Brown Rose Wilson



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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.