

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 2, 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 2 – August 9

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday	6:00 p.m.	Worship and Music
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Property Meeting
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	LWR Quilters
Saturday	8:30 a.m.	Back to School Event
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Worship



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.**

Gather Us In

Text: Marty Haugen, b.

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

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. Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:1-5

- ¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts;
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
- ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
- ³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
- ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
- ⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 145:14-21

⁸ The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ **LORD, you are good to all,
and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

¹⁵ **The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,
and you give them their food in due season.**

¹⁶ You open wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷ **You are righteous in all your ways
and loving in all your works.**

¹⁸ You are near to all who call upon you,
to all who call upon you faithfully.

¹⁹ **You fulfill the desire of those who fear you;
you hear their cry and save them.**

²⁰ You watch over all those who love you,
but all the wicked you shall destroy.

²¹ **My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

SECOND READING

Romans 9:1-5

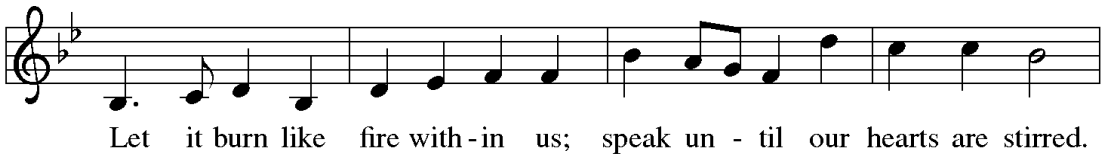
¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Matthew 14:13-21

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus heard about the beheading of John the Baptist, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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.

Come to the Water of Life

Text: Ray Makeever, b. Music: WATER OF LIFE, Ray Makeever



1	All	who	are	thirst - y	for	mer - cy,		all	who	are	thirst - y	for
2	All	who	are	thirst - y	for	heal - ing,		all	who	are	thirst - y	for
3	All	who	are	thirst - y	for	beau - ty,		all	who	are	thirst - y	for
4	All	who	are	thirst - y	for	jus - tice,		all	who	are	thirst - y	for



love;	all	who	are	thirst - y	for	love,	for	mer - cy,
touch;	all	who	are	thirst - y	for	touch,	for	heal - ing,
truth;	all	who	are	thirst - y	for	truth,	for	beau - ty,
peace;	all	who	are	thirst - y	for	peace,	for	jus - tice,



come:	come	to	the	Wa - ter	of	life.
come:	come	to	the	Wa - ter	of	life.
come:	come	to	the	Wa - ter	of	life.
come:	come	to	the	Wa - ter	of	life.

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.

MEAL

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. *****

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

A musical score for a hymn, written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with some phrases repeated or extended for emphasis.

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.

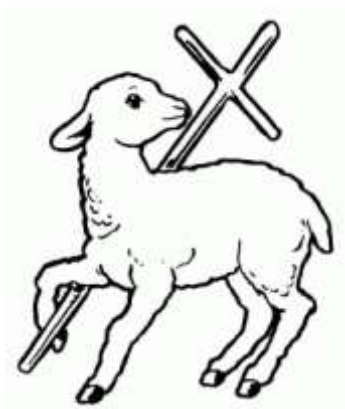
Please be seated.

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.



Break Now the Bread of Life

Text: Mary A. Lathbury Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each with four lines of text corresponding to the four parts of the choir. The first system contains three lines of text, the second system contains two lines, and the third system contains two lines. The music concludes with a final double bar line.

1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly

broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live

I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

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, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Gracious God, in this season after Pentecost, as we sense the working of the Holy Spirit among us, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick or homebound*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament. Give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

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

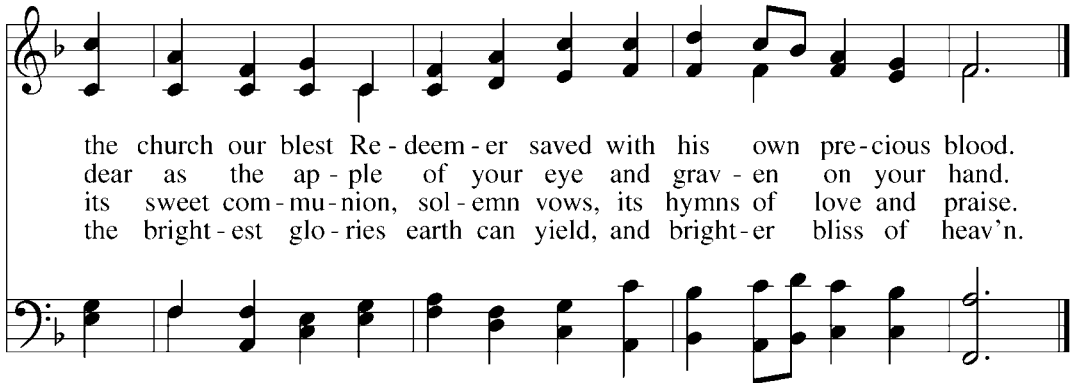
Amen.

I Love Your Kingdom, Lord

Text: Timothy Dwight Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams



1 I love your king - dom, Lord, the place of your a - bode;
2 I love your church, O God! Its walls be - fore you stand,
3 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize its heav'n - ly ways,
4 Sure as your truth shall last, to Zi - on shall be giv'n



the church our blest Re - deem - er saved with his own pre - cious blood.
dear as the ap - ple of your eye and grav - en on your hand.
its sweet com - mu - nion, sol - emn vows, its hymns of love and praise.
the bright - est glo - ries earth can yield, and bright - er bliss of heav'n.

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: Cathy Beam (8/15), **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 July 26 44 in person 23 online

BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT HELP If you are helping with the Back to School event, please meet at 1:00 p.m. on August 7 in the Fellowship Hall to help set up.

BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT Join us on Saturday, August 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. as we distribute socks and underwear to elementary age young people in our community. Please contact Mary Beth Warne McGraw at 717-372-8282 to let her know of your interest.



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.



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.

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.

STREET CLOSURE Washington Street will be closed between First Lutheran Parking Lot entrance and Southgate traffic light for an extended period.



VENEZUELA HELP Two powerful earthquakes have struck Venezuela. Countless families are without shelter, safety or access to necessities. Lutheran Disaster Response is responding through long-standing partners in the region including the Lutheran World Federation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Venezuela. These partners are working to identify urgent needs, and coordinate a plan for long-term assistance. To contribute financially to these efforts, make a check payable to First Lutheran and write Venezuela on the memo line or the envelope and place in the offering plate. Or you are welcome to send the check directly so it arrives sooner. In that case make checks payable to: Lutheran Disaster Response; P.O. Box 1809; Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. Thank you for your care.

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



MINI GOLF SCRAMBLE Join Christians in central PA to support Hogar Miguel Orphanage in Guatemala. (Associated with Tree-4-Hope). The scramble will be fun for all ages and abilities including children. It is being held on Saturday, August 29 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Challenge Family Fun Center located at 366 Middletown Rd. Hummelstown, PA. This family-friendly event is a fun twist on the traditional golf scramble and is designed for everyone. Participants will enjoy a day of mini golf, fellowship, lunch, and a chance to win some great prizes. Scan the QR code to register.



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.

BLESSING OF THE STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND BACKPACKS



School will be starting in August and we will have a Blessing of the Students, Teachers, and Backpacks on Sunday, August 16 at worship. We look forward to God’s blessing on our new school year. Invite your friends or young families that have moved into your neighborhood during the summer.



	<u>August 2</u>	<u>August 9</u>	<u>August 16</u>
Lector:	Joyce Ray	Rose Wilson	Ralph Burdick
Communion	Karen Sloan		Karen Sloan
Assistants:	Gerry Wilson Rose Wilson		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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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.