

*Easter Sunday*  
*April 5, 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** **April 5 – April 12**

<b>Sunday</b>	9-10 a.m.	Easter Breakfast
	10:00 a.m.	Egg Hunt
	10:45 a.m.	Easter Worship w/Communion
<b>Monday</b>	7:00 p.m.	Scouts OFFICE CLOSED
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Property Meeting
	6:30 a.m.	Scouts
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30 a.m.	LWR Quilters
<b>Thursday</b>	1:00 p.m.	The Women of ELCA Meeting
	6:15 p.m.	Rose Ringers
	7:15 p.m.	Choir
<b>Sunday</b>	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship

# GATHERING

## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

Trumpet: Henry Hooper

*As you are able, please stand and face the rear entrance to the sanctuary.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 118

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
God's mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let Israel now declare, "God's mercy endures forever."**

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:  
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"**

<sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

<sup>17</sup>**I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.**

<sup>19</sup>Open for me the gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

<sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, O Lord, for you have answered me  
and you have become my salvation.**

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made;  
**let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

*Please face the cross during the procession.*

# Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Text: Latin carol, J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, Charles Wesley Music: EASTER HYMN

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

## 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.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of



all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.



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

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. **O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **WORD**

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

#### **FIRST READING**

**Acts 10:34-43**

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to Cornelius and his household: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

Colossians 3:1-4

<sup>1</sup> If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

*Arranged by John Ferguson*

*Please stand and face the cross for the procession.*

**Choir sings:**

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Congregation sings:**      *Tune: "O Morning Star"*

Our Lord is risen from the dead,  
and rays of glory crown his head,  
new hope has come to mortals.  
He rose in pow'r to smite his foes;  
he lives to free us from our woes  
and open heaven's portals. O hear, what cheer!  
Christ is risen! Come and listen to the story,  
Christ the Lord is ris'n in glory!

## GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 28<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” <sup>8</sup> So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

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

### *Congregation sings:*

Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!  
Our joy be all with music crowned,  
Our voices gaily blending!  
For Christ goes with us all the way  
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!  
His love is never ending! Sing out! Ring out!  
Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the story!  
Great is he, the King of Glory!

**Choir sings:** Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

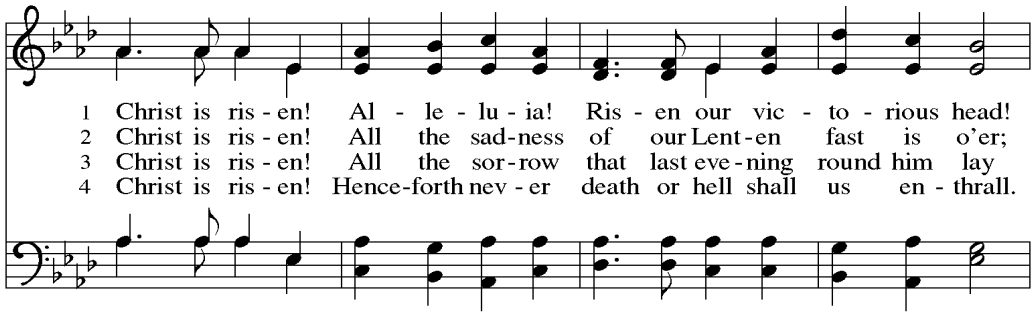
*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

*Please stand as you are able.*

# Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!

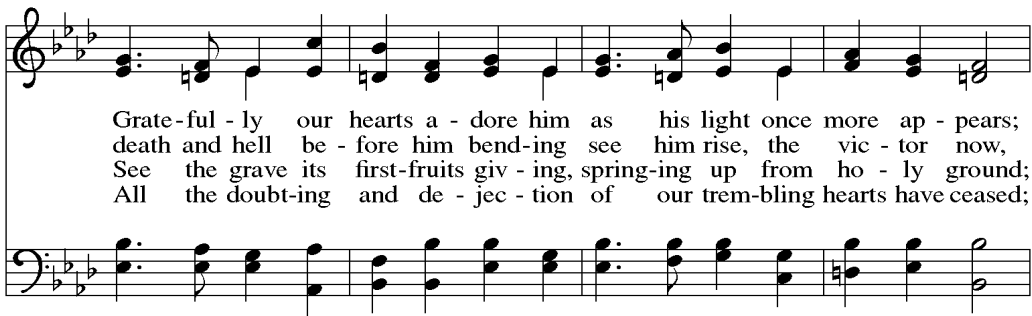
Text: John S. B. Monsell Music: MORGENLIED, Frederick C. Maker



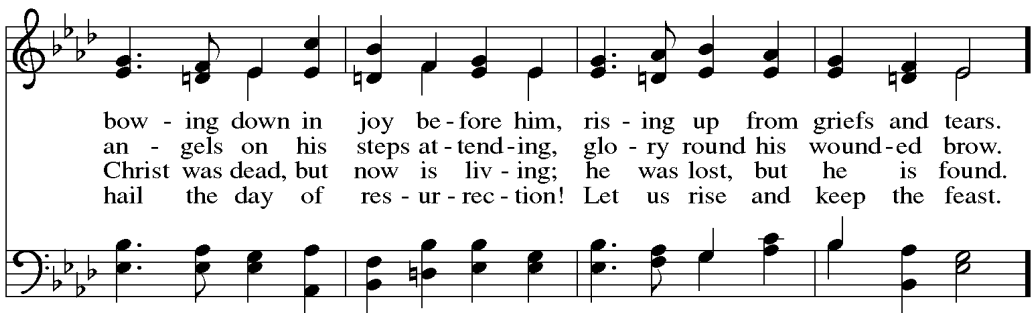
1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!  
2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness of our Lent - en fast is o'er;  
3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor - row that last eve - ning round him lay  
4 Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!  
through the o - pen gates of glad - ness he re - turns to life once more;  
now has found a glo - rious mor - row in the ris - ing of to - day.  
We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri - umphed o - ver all.



Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;  
death and hell be - fore him bend - ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,  
See the grave its first - fruits giv - ing, spring - ing up from ho - ly ground;  
All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion of our trem - bling hearts have ceased;



bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.  
an - gels on his steps at - tend - ing, glo - ry round his wound - ed brow.  
Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.  
hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

*Refrain*

Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!

Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!



## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**Merciful God, receive our prayer.**

*The assembly is seated.*

# MEAL

## 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](http://felcc.org) or by scanning this QR code.*

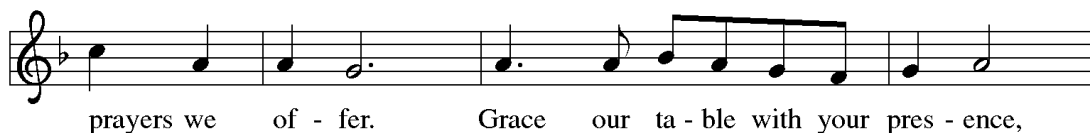
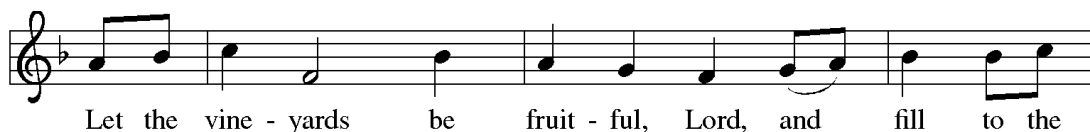


## ANTHEM

*Because He Lives*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## OFFERTORY



## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.**

**You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day  
when we will hunger and thirst no more.**

**Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love.**

**In the name of Jesus, 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,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter  
and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
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-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high-est, 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, living, and loving God,  
we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,  
for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,  
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

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. **Amen**

Remembering therefore,  
his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,  
we await your promised life for all this dying world,

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:  
carry us in your arms from death to life,  
that we may live as your chosen ones,  
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

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

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**



# Now the Green Blade Rises

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum Music: NOEL NOUVELET, French carol



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep us in his grace! **Amen.**

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

**Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

## SENDING

## **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Gracious God, in this season of Easter, as we celebrate the resurrection of your Son, 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**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

# Thine Is the Glory

Text: Edmond Budry, tr.R. Birch Hoyle Music: JUDAS MACCABEUS, George Frideric Handel

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he  
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

*Refrain*  
where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

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The altar flowers are placed in  
Celebration of The Resurrection of Jesus Christ  
by Gary and Marianne Kennedy

*Please remember in your prayers ...*

Healing: Cathy Beam (4/25), **Ralph Burdick** (4/7)

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

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

**ATTENDANCE**    March 29            74 in person            15 online

**HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE SERVICE** takes place on April 12 at 2 p.m. at Congregation Sons of Israel located at 209 E. King St. Chambersburg.

**“SOCK IT TO ME” SUNDAYS** have begun in preparation for the August 8, 2026 Back to School Event. NTT is collecting low cut socks for elementary boys and girls from **Kindergarten through 5th grade**. Our goal is to have **5 pair of socks** for each child who attends the event. You may place socks in the collection sites in the back of the sanctuary, at the elevator entrance to the sanctuary, or in the NTT box in Memorial Hall. Cash and check donations are also accepted. You may use the envelopes that are available in Memorial Hall or use your own. Please make checks payable to First Lutheran with socks in the memo line.

## **SYNOD ASSEMBLY VOTING MEMBERS NEEDED**

We are looking for two persons to attend synod assembly in York, PA on June 5 and 6. There is a Conference meeting on April 19 at 2 pm in Greencastle. If you have an interest in serving in this capacity, please speak with Pastor Nicholson.

**ST. SERAPHIM** Soup Kitchen needs your help. Since they provide soup, hotdogs, sandwiches, crackers, drinks and a sweet bite for folks who need a meal on Thursdays and Saturdays, the Orthodox Church is asking for donations of canned soups. No tomato please. There is a bin in Memorial Hall for donations.

**NETwork Ministries Fundraising Banquet** is on Thursday, April 16th, 6 PM, at World Harvest Outreach. Doors open at 5 PM, and the evening includes a catered dinner, artwork, testimonies, and performances from NETwork's youth, and guest speaker Tommy Nixon. The cost is \$30. Please contact NETwork at [networkchambersburg@gmail.com](mailto:networkchambersburg@gmail.com) or 717-264-4640 by April 6th to make reservations. Don't miss this year's celebration!



**BIRTHDAY BAGS** for Little Daisy's Closet are needed. The needs are: large birthday bags, plates, napkins, candles, balloons, small gifts, snack items, cakes, icings, and cake pans. Thank you for your contributions to make up the bags!

**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](mailto:tim@gotwald.org), [mary@gotwald.org](mailto:mary@gotwald.org) Thank you for considering.



**AMERICA 250PA PARADE** will be on Saturday, April 18 at 1:00 p.m. Zion Reformed, Falling Spring Presbyterian, and First Lutheran are all Rose Rent Congregations and are working together to have an exhibit in the parade. If you would like to participate in creating a float, or being in the parade, please speak with Pastor Nicholson.

**THE WOMEN OF ELCA** are gathering on Thursday, April 9 at 1:00 p.m. in Meeting Room 1.

## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

	<b><u>April 5</u></b>	<b><u>April 12</u></b>	<b><u>April 19</u></b>
Lector:	Jane Love	Dia Schumacher	Gary Fleegal
Communion Assistants:	Jim Brown Gerry Wilson Rose Wilson	Jim Brown Gerry Wilson Rose Wilson	Jim Brown Gerry Wilson Rose Wilson
Greeters:	Bob Wildeson Nancy Wildeson	Bob Wildeson Nancy Wildeson	Bob Wildeson Nancy Wildeson
Altar Guild:	Barb Evans	Barb Evans	Barb Evans
Ushers:	Gary Fleegal Gary Kennedy Marianne Kennedy Mark Nicholson		Gary Fleegal Gary Kennedy Marianne Kennedy Mark Nicholson



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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.

### **Sunday Schedule**

Donuts and Coffee at 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School for All Ages at 9:30 a.m.

Worship at 10:45 a.m.

also on Facebook at First Evangelical Lutheran Church  
and on our webpage at [www.FELCC.org](http://www.FELCC.org)

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