

*Ninth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*August 10, 2025*

## **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.*

# GATHERING

## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Please stand as you are able.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

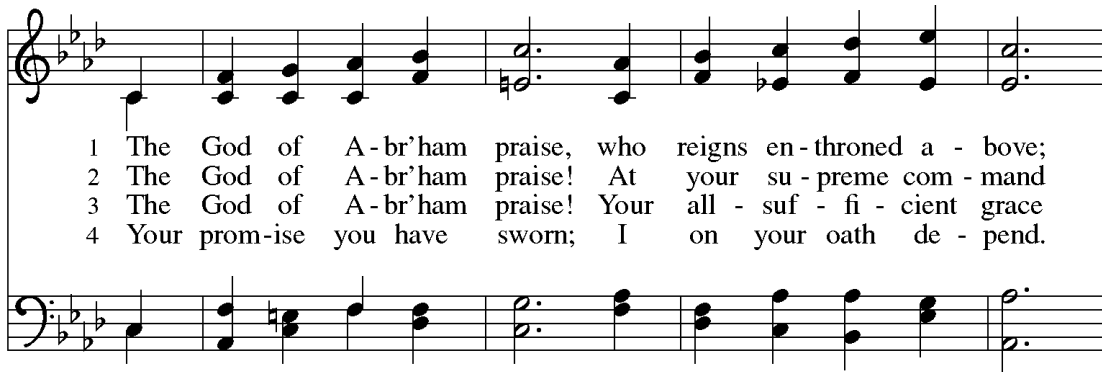
*Silence is kept for confession.*

Merciful God,  
**you free us to love others,  
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.  
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,  
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.  
You surround us with patience, kindness,  
and generosity,  
but we grow weary in doing what is right.  
In your mercy, forgive us.  
Do not give up on us.  
Heal us, break our bonds,  
and show us the path of life. Amen.**

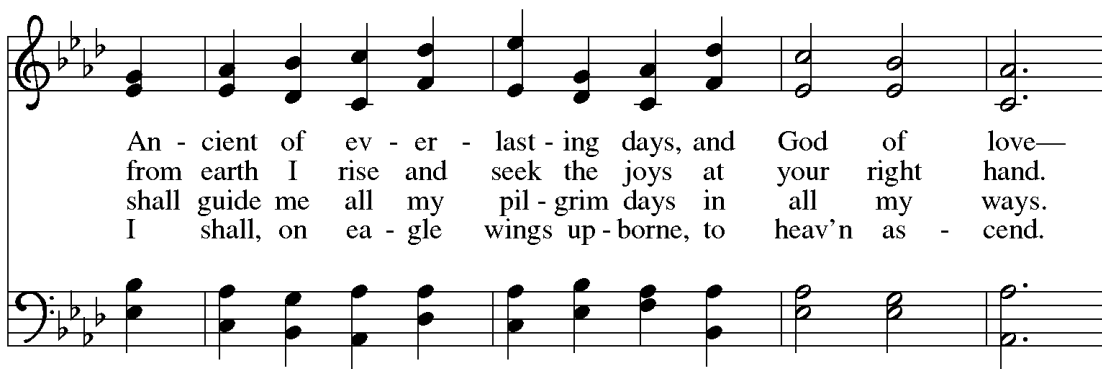
You belong to Christ Jesus  
and you are God's children through faith.  
In the cross of ✠ Christ,  
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.  
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

# The God of Abraham Praise


Text: Thomas Olivers Music: YIGDAL, Jewish medoldy; arr. Meyer, Lyon



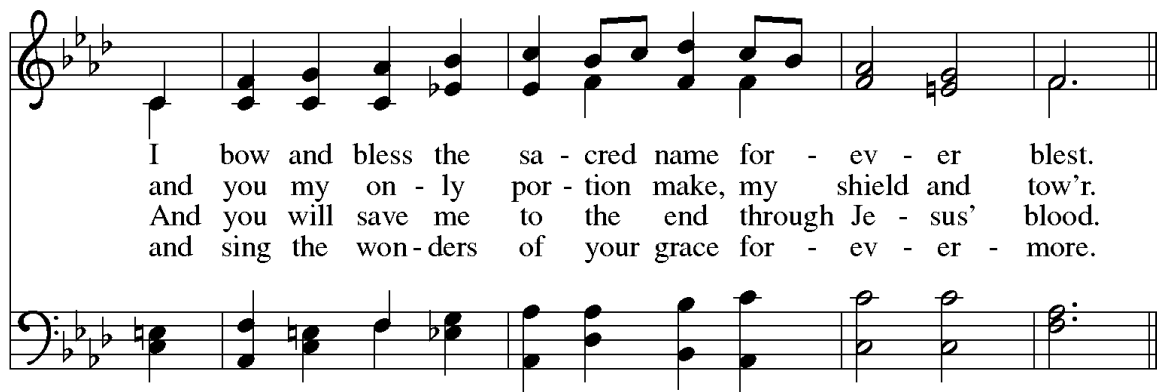
1 The God of A-br'ham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove;  
2 The God of A-br'ham praise! At your su - preme com - mand  
3 The God of A-br'ham praise! Your all - suf - fi - cient grace  
4 Your prom-ise you have sworn; I on your oath de - pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love—  
from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.  
shall guide me all my pil - grim days in all my ways.  
I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, to heav'n as - cend.



“I Am the One I Am”—by earth and heav'n con - fessed;  
I all on earth for - sake—its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r—  
You deign to call me friend; you call your - self my God!  
I shall be - hold your face; I shall your pow'r a - dore,



I bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.  
 and you my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.  
 And you will save me to the end through Je - sus' blood.  
 and sing the won - ders of your grace for - ev - er - more.

5 The whole triumphant host  
 Give thanks to God on high.  
 "Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"  
 they ever cry.  
 Hail, Abr'ham's God and mine!  
 I join the heav'nly lays:  
 to you be glory, might divine,  
 and endless praise!

## 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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



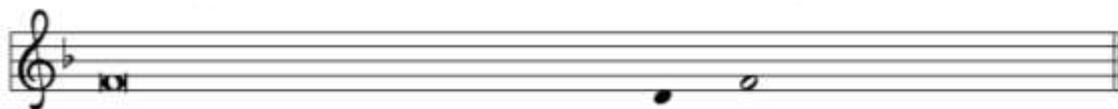
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



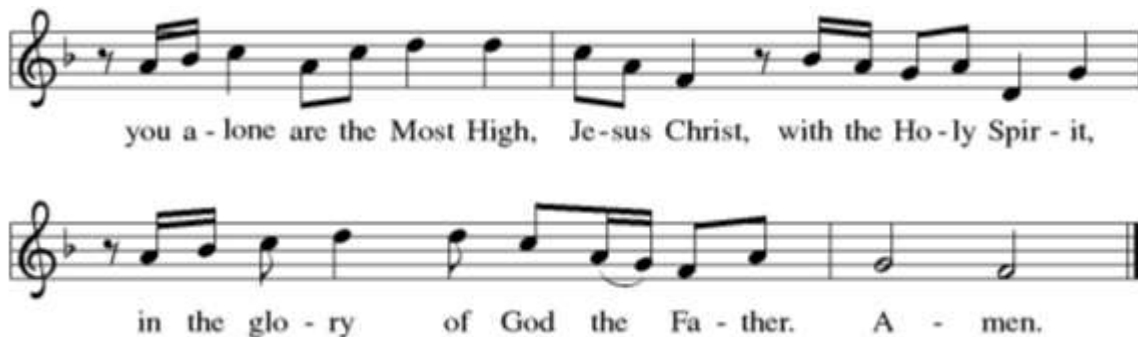
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. **Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

### FIRST READING

**Genesis 15:1-6**

<sup>1</sup> After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” <sup>4</sup> But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup> He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” <sup>6</sup> And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## PSALM

## Psalm 33:12-22

<sup>12</sup> Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!  
Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

<sup>13</sup> **The Lord looks down from heaven,  
and sees all humankind.**

<sup>14</sup> God sits firmly enthroned and watches  
all who dwell on the earth.

<sup>15</sup> **God fashions all their hearts  
and observes all their deeds.**

<sup>16</sup> A king is not saved by the size of the army,  
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

<sup>17</sup> **The horse gives vain hope for victory;  
despite its great strength it cannot save.**

<sup>18</sup> Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O Lord,  
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

<sup>19</sup> **to deliver their lives from death,  
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**

<sup>20</sup> Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord,  
our helper and our shield.

<sup>21</sup> **Surely, our heart rejoices in you,  
for in your holy name we put our trust.**

<sup>22</sup> Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,  
even as we place our hope in you.

## SECOND READING

## Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

<sup>1</sup> Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup> For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup> By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

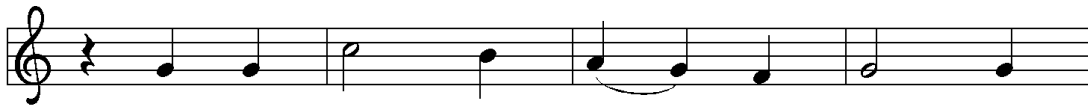
<sup>13</sup> All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup> for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

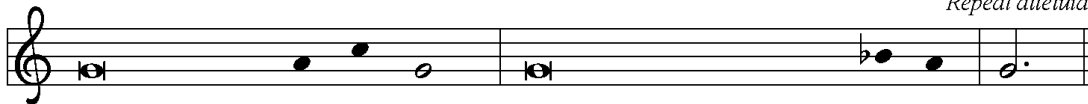


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



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

*Repeat alleluia*



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

## GOSPEL

**Luke 12:32-40**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: <sup>32</sup> “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup> “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup> be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup> “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

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

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

*Silence is kept to reflect upon God's message to us.*

## PASTORAL PRAYER

*Please stand as you are able.*

### Have No Fear, Little Flock

Text: Luke 12:32, Marjorie Jillson Music: LITTLE FLOCK, Heinz Werner Zimmerman



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle  
2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle  
3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -  
4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to  
flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in  
bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -  
God, for he stays close be - side you, in



give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!  
his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!  
lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!  
all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

## PEACE

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

*We greet one another with Christ's peace and then are 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](http://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 to me the joy of



your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us-ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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**

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

## **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.**

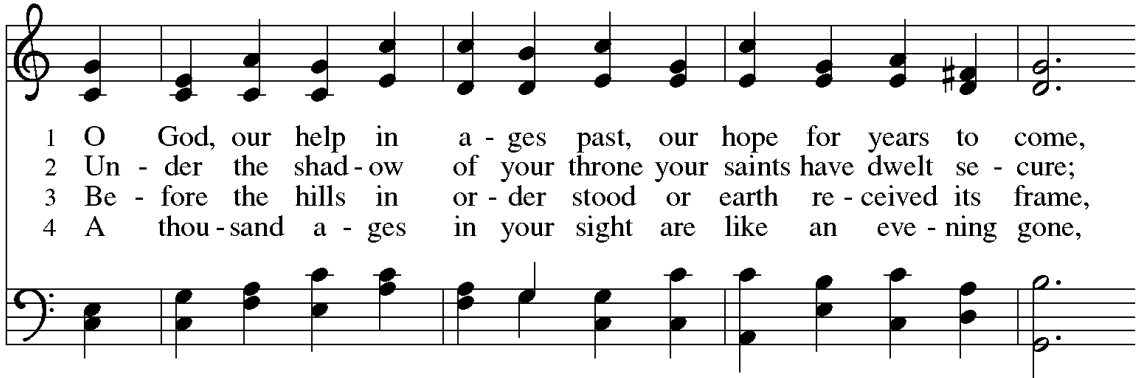
## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

The love of God abound in you;  
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;  
and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

# O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Text: Isaac Watts Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
we fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last  
and our eternal home!

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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***Please remember in your prayers ...***

Healing: Liz Gouak (9/4), **Connie Wilkins (8/21)**

Continuing Prayers: **Joanne Caskey**, Linus Christman, **Pat Dent**, **June Diehl**, Mark Hammer, **Charles Kampmeyer**, Joe Pine, **Garry Shatzer**, **Faye Ulrich**, **Karin Woods**.

Military: Tawny & Brad Arnold and Parker Brown

**ATTENDANCE**      August 3                      59 in person                      9 on-line

**BASEBALL –HAGERSTOWN** TODAY! Sunday, August 10 at 5:00 p.m.

**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 17 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.

**KICK OFF TO THE FALL SEASON FOR MUSIC!**

Our Sanctuary Choir, Rose Ringers, our youth choir (and parents) and any past members of any of these groups are invited to the Shoop Estate on August 28 for a picnic. New members are also invited to join us for an evening of fun as we start our fall music groups. Provided will be barbecue, rolls, chicken nuggets, drinks, and potato chips. There is a sign-up in the choir room to bring A food item to share and number count of those attending. Festivities begin around 5pm. Questions? Ask Nancy or Freda.



**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 Lutheran to contribute 4 oz. bars of soap and toothbrushes. We are in need of a total of 200 bars of soap. On Sunday, September 14 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. You may place these in marked boxes outside of the church office.

**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, notebooks (sheets of 70), hand towels, and baby socks. A list of items and a collection box is outside the office. Items need to be collected by October 1.

**LADIES BREAKFAST** is on Wednesday, August 20 at 8:30 a.m. at Johnnie's Restaurant. All ladies welcome!

## **THIS WEEK AT FIRST**

### **August 10 - 17**

|                  |           |                                               |
|------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | 9:30 a.m. | Worship                                       |
|                  | 5:00 p.m. | Hagerstown Baseball                           |
| <b>Monday</b>    | 7:00 p.m. | Council Meeting                               |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | 9:30 a.m. | LWR Quilters                                  |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | 9:30 a.m. | Worship with Holy Communion                   |
|                  |           | Blessing of Students, Teachers, and Backpacks |



|                          | <u><b>August 10</b></u>          | <u><b>August 17</b></u>                    | <u><b>August 24</b></u>          |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Lector:                  | Jane Love                        | Gary Fleegal                               | Nancy Fricke                     |
| Soundboard:              | Scott Carbaugh                   | Scott Carbaugh                             | Scott Carbaugh                   |
| Communion<br>Assistants: |                                  | Karen Sloan<br>Gerry Wilson<br>Rose Wilson |                                  |
| Greeters:                | Gary Kennedy<br>Marianne Kennedy | Gary Kennedy<br>Marianne Kennedy           | Gary Kennedy<br>Marianne Kennedy |
| Altar Guild:             | Bob Wildeson<br>Nancy Wildeson   | Bob Wildeson<br>Nancy Wildeson             | Bob Wildeson<br>Nancy Wildeson   |
| Ushers:                  | Volunteers                       | Volunteers                                 | Volunteers                       |



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[FELCCoffice@gmail.com](mailto:FELCCoffice@gmail.com)  
717-264-2015

Pastor

The Rev. Jane Nicholson

Pastoral Assistant

The Rev. Charles Kampmeyer

Director of Church Music

Freda J. Dorand, Deacon

Parish Administrator

Ashley Hessong

Treasurer

Sally Herritt

Financial Secretary

Carol McCoy

Custodian

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](http://www.FELCC.org)

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