

Pentecost Season
Lower Susquehanna Synod Worship
September 27, 2020

WELCOME

It is a joy to have you here at worship with us today. We especially remember those who are not able to be with us this morning and keep them in our prayers.

For the safety of all, we ask throughout the worship service that you please wear your face mask. If it becomes troublesome to breathe, please excuse yourself and go to the hallway (if possible) prior to removing your mask. We understand that breathing may be challenging for several of us, feel free to leave if you need to.

If you are in need of a mask, please let our ushers know.

The Coronavirus spreads easily through singing, so we are not having congregational singing for a while. As you may have anticipated, projecting our voices also extends the distance of the virus spreading, so it is recommended that you use your library voice as you speak responses in our worship service today.

Following worship today, please let us know if you have suggestions for future services. We are all learning new ways together.

Visitors are invited 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 in church.

Large print bulletins for today's worship are available. Feel free to ask an usher if interested.

When leaving, please take your bulletin with you so others do not need to touch the same paper.

Pastor Nicholson will be available outside following worship to talk with you. You are encouraged to exit the building and talk with persons outdoors as well.

If by chance you contract the virus in the next couple of days, please let the church know so we can try to contact those who sat near you.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Freda Dorand

WORSHIP WITH THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen. *Please be seated.*

GATHERING SONG

Gather Us In

(ELW 532)

(You are invited to hum along with the music and reflect upon the words.)

1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away--
but here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
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.

Please be seated.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Blessed Be Your Name

FaithX

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

FIRST READING:

Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING:

Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL:

Matthew 18:15-20

Please stand as you are able.

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *All Are Welcome* (ELW 641)

Because of the Coronavirus, we ask that you please listen to the music and meditate on the words. You may hum along if you choose.

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: **Refrain**

3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: **Refrain** (*cont. on next page*)

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: **Refrain**

5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: **Refrain**

Our Response

CREED *Please stand as you are able.*

**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 mercy,
hear our prayer.

PEACE

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

THANKSGIVING

Let us pray. O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory 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.**

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Remember in your prayers...

Linus Christman (10/23)	Sandy Curfman	Aloma Dawkins
Ernie Fricke	Nancy Jacobs	Elva Kroeger
Dia Schumacher (10/23)	John Newcomer	Evelyn Scott
John Shearer (10/9)	James Warne	Grace Williams (10/17)
Jim Woods (9/28)	Private Parker Brown	



Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God in memory of our parents
by Joe and Marcia Hunt.

Soundboard: Justin Holoviak

Holy Communion Servers for October 4: Sanctuary –Deb Fleegle
Chapel – Jim Sloan

September 20 Attendance: In person: 45
On line: 51 views x 2 = 102(ELCA formula)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	LWR Quilters
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPETS

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. – Philippians 2:3-4

When we consider the interests of others something beautiful happens: Our own interests seem less important, our wants fewer, and relationships flourish. Only by aligning our wills and lives with Christ may we grow into the fullness of life God desires and intends for us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY Theo Camara



has accepted the position of part-time Director of Faith Formation and Technology at First Lutheran. He will begin his position with First Lutheran on Monday, October 5. Theo and his wife live in Mont Alto. Please take a moment to greet him when you are here.

KEYCARDS The church is moving to using keycards rather than keys to enter the exterior of the building. The doors will be automatically unlocked during office hours and on Sunday mornings until the start of worship. If you plan to attend a meeting or rehearsal at church in the afternoon or evening or if you might be delayed for worship, you will need a keycard. Please stop by the church office to acquire a keycard on Sunday, September 27 either before or after worship or Mon. to Thurs. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES On October 4 we will be honoring the ordination anniversaries of Pastor Charles Kampmeyer (65 years) and Pastor Warren Heintzelman (35 years.) Pastor Heintzelman is the interim pastor in Mercersburg and is unable to join us on that day. Please express to them your appreciation of their ministry.

JESUS: The God Who Knows Your Name Pastor Nicholson will be leading a Zoom (on-line) Bible Study Group beginning Tuesday, September 27 – November 10 at 6:30. The study is based on Max Lucado’s book, “Jesus: The God Who Knows your Name.” We will watch together a DVD during the hour-long study. Let pastor know of your interest so you have the zoom information to connect to the study. If you lack confidence in zoom, but would like to participate, please speak with Pastor Nicholson and she will work with you. Looking forward to engaging in God’s word in this new way. Join us!

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BLESSING OF QUILTS and KITS The blessing of Lutheran World Relief kits and quilts will take place during worship on Sunday, October 11. The layettes, school kits, health kits and quilts have already been transported to Church World Services so that they may be shipped as quickly as possible. The place that was storing and distributing these items in Baghdad had a fire, so our items were greatly needed and have been sent. The items will be blessed in abstention.



NEW MEMBERS First Lutheran will be receiving new members in November. If you are considering membership, please contact Pastor Nicholson at flcpastor@outlook.com or 717-264-2015.

COLLECTION OF CLOTHING AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS SUSPENDED Due to Covid 19 the Neighborhood Task Team will not be distributing coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, towels, etc. at our “Mega Event” this year. **Please do not bring any more of these items to the church at this time.** We thank all of you who have been so generous with your gifts for our neighbors in need and we hope to begin collecting again in 2021 for an event next year. Beginning in October we will be hanging cold weather items that we have already received on the fence along Washington St. We plan to take towels and blankets to the Laundromat on the day we hand out quarters and detergent.

BACK PACK PROGRAM September suggested items are: graham crackers, light popcorn, whole grain cereal, granola bars, and individual cereal boxes.

THE GIVE AND TAKE BOX If you are able, please pick up a few items to share. Remember this box supplies personal care items. Needed items include shampoo, deodorant, tissues, toothpaste and brushes, hand soap, body soap, laundry detergent, dish detergent, band aids, toilet paper. Thank you for your care and concern for those who need our support.



SPIRITRUST LUTHERAN CHAMBERSBURG AUXILIARY You may make a contribution to the programs the auxiliary supports at Luther Ridge for 2020. Please send your donation to Marjorie Dale, Auxiliary President, 235 Woodvale Drive, Chambersburg, PA 17201 or Mary Jane Lindsey, Auxiliary Treasurer, 273 Cherry Lane Dr., Chambersburg, PA 17202. Any questions please call Marjorie at 717-860-7544.

NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD TASK TEAM-NTT It is exciting to be back in action to help our neighbors and let them know First Lutheran cares about them. The Give and Take Box has been on going through the Covid Crisis. We are still accepting donations of personal care items for that project. You may place your donations in the crate in Memorial Hall. The NTT has scheduled an outdoor event at the Scottee Coin Wash which is located on the corner of South Second Street and Garfield Street. On October 10, 2020 from 11-3 we will offer to our neighbors at the laundromat \$5.00 worth of quarters that our congregation has donated along with detergent and dryer sheets. We will also offer some t-shirts, pens and towel sets. Hopefully, we will see some of our old friends from Nana's Wash House. The owner of the laundromat is very supportive of this outreach to the neighborhood. He plans to stop by that day to meet us. We are dividing the day into two 2 hour shifts, 11-1 and 1-3. We still need a few more volunteers. If this excites your heart, please call and volunteer. Phone # 717-264-4759 (Mary Gotwald) If you are unable to volunteer, please pray for our interactions with our neighbors and Brian Cordell, the owner of the laundromat. With thankfulness for all of your contributions and prayers of support.



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www.felcc.org
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717-264-2015

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

The Rev. Jane Nicholson
The Rev. Charles Kampmeyer
Freda J. Dorand, Deacon
Cheryl Christman
Sally Herritt
Carol McCoy
Jim Forbes

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

Sundays at 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.
also on facebook at FirstEvangelicalLutheranChurch
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.