

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 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

PRELUDE / WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Faithful God, have **mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another
before examining ourselves.**

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,
and turn us again to life in you
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

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

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18:15-20

The Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. 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.

SERMON

Silence for reflection.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

MEAL

OFFERING *Returning our thanks to God with our offering is a regular part of our worship service. To reduce the odds of spreading the coronavirus, we have placed the offering plates at the entrances to our worship service. You are encouraged to present your gifts to God as you leave worship today.*

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray: **God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

DIALOGUE

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.

THANKSGIVING

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thank; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying:

Take and eat; this is my body given for you.

Do this in 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.

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

Friends of Jesus, at long last, come to the table.
Receive nourishment for your journey. **Thanks be to God.**

You may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD (*Hum along and meditate on the words.*)

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world. Grant us peace.**

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.*

UPSTAIRS

To receive Holy Communion, with the usher's direction,

- *with your mask on, please come down the center aisle, keeping 6 foot distance between you and the household in front of you.*
- *When you reach the pastor, please leave on your face mask.*
- *The pastor will gently drop a wafer of bread in your hand and say the words "The body and blood of Christ given and shed for you."*
- *Then proceed to the altar rail where the communion assistant has placed a prefilled wine cup on the rail. These cups will be 6 ft apart.*
- *If you are needing to receive grape juice rather than wine, go to the far end of the communion rail by the piano.*
- *When you arrive at the rail you may take off your mask and consume both the bread and the wine.*
- *Please put your mask back on before leaving the communion rail.*
- *You may dispose of your cup in the trash can on the way back to your seat.*

If you would like the Pastor to bring communion to you in your seat, please indicate that to the usher.

We ask that children or adults who would prefer to receive a spoken blessing rather than communion come down the center aisle and make the sign of the cross on your own or on your child's forehead. The pastor will speak a word of blessing.

If you prefer to stay in your seat and not receive a blessing or communion yet, you are welcome to do so. God understands.

DOWNSTAIRS

Small individual tables have been placed at each of the far ends of the communion rail on both sides (so the TV can still be seen in the middle). On the table is a plate with a prefilled cup and a wafer. This is covered with a piece of plastic. The communion server will come down and speak the words "The body and blood of Christ, given and shed for you." The person receiving communion will then remove the plastic, consume the elements and throw away the cup, plate, and piece of plastic in the trash can provided.

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

- 1 Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name
two or three are met together, you are in the midst of them.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now your garment's hem.
- 2 As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the giver break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia! so now bind our friendship up.
- 3 All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of you,
that by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve with faith anew.

Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936, alt.

Text from *Songs of Praise* Enlarged Edition © Oxford University Press 1931.

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
- 2 Order my footsteps by your word and make my heart sincere;
let sin have no dominion, Lord, but keep my conscience clear.
- 3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray, a stricter watch to keep;
and should I e'er forget your way, restore your wand'ring sheep.
- 4 Make me to walk in your commands, 'tis a delightful road;
nor let my head or heart or hands offend against my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

TABLE 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. **We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Remember in your prayers...

Tom Cover (9/24)

Ernie Fricke

Nancy Jacobs

Dalton Paul (9/13)

Evelyn Scott

Private Parker Brown

Sandy Curfman

Bob Hammer (9/10)

Elva Kroeger

Dia Schumacher (9/23)

James Warne

Aloma Dawkins

Karen Hockensmith (9/24)

Susan Llabres (9/13)

John Newcomer

Jim Woods (9/28)

Prayers:

Holy Communion Servers:

Nancy Fricke

Jane Love - sanctuary

Soundboard: Rose Wilson

Mary Gotwald - chapel

August 30 Attendance:

In person: 41

On line 46 views x 2 = 92 (ELCA formula)

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPETS

Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. - Romans 13:10

Striving to keep the twin commandments to love God with all our being and love our neighbors as ourselves, we naturally care for the common good.

We learn that what affects one really affects us all.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FALL SCHEDULE Beginning September 13 our worship time will be at 10:45 a.m. on Sundays. (The service will continue to be available on-line.) Sunday School will be from 10:00 to 10:30. (Please wear masks.) Because of the coronavirus we are unable to have donut and coffee time in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to have outdoor conversations, you are encouraged to do so.



DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY First Lutheran is seeking a part-time Director of Faith Formation and Technology with primary responsibilities to develop in person and online ministry opportunities for persons of all ages. The candidate will have a solid Christian faith with appropriate educational background; strong relational abilities with both young people and adults; the skill to work within a team and be a team leader; and the flexibility of scheduling to be available to work days, nights, and weekends. The position is for 20 hours per week on a salary basis of approximately \$20,000 per year. Full job description available at www.felcc.org. Resumes need to be received by Monday, September 14.

SUNDAY SCHOOL begins on Sunday September 13 from 10:00 to 10:30. We ask that you please wear a mask and keep a 6 ft distance when you attend.

| AGE | TOPIC | TEACHER | LOCATION |
|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Adults | Study of Psalms | Tim Gotwald | Parlor |
| Elementary and Younger | Stories of the Bible | Mary Gotwald and Nicki Johnson | Second Floor Classroom |
| Youth | God and Life | Gerry Wilson | Second Floor |

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!

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.

SPIRITRUST LUTHERAN CHAMBERSBURG AUXILIARY is sponsoring **Smith’s BBQ Chicken on Sunday, September 13th starting at 11:00am. Drive through service will be provided until sold out.** Each dinner includes ½ chicken, baked potato, baked beans, choice of applesauce or macaroni salad, roll and butter. Cost is **\$12.00/dinner**. The event will take place in front of Franklin Hardware & Pet Store, 1975 Philadelphia Ave, Chambersburg. Please call Marjorie Dale @ 717-860-7544 for additional information.

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.



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



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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 9:30 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.