

*Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
In Gathering of Quilts and Kits
October 11, 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

BLESSING OF QUILTS AND KITS

32 Layettees, 76 School Bags, 40 Health Kits, 92 Quilts, and 13 Fabric Kits have been made/assembled throughout the last year and delivered to Lutheran World Relief. There was an immediate need for these items, so most of them were delivered earlier this fall. We bless all of these items today and thank all who contributed to their making and assembling. God's work is being done – especially in the midst of a pandemic! God's work. Our hands.

Let us pray: The eyes of all look to you, O God,
And you give them their food in due season.

You open your hand,

Satisfying the desire of every living thing.

Anywhere your children suffer from heat and cold,

Their eyes, dear God, are lifted to you.

Where life is war-torn and brims with strife and stress,

Their eyes, dear God, are lifted to you.

In lands parched with drought and abounding in hunger,

Their eyes, dear God, are lifted to you.

Where the earth is broken with quakes or wrecked with wind and wave,

Their eyes, dear God, are lifted to you.

Where poverty is a prison and survival fills the daily hours,

Their eyes, dear God, are lifted to you.

Here too, where lives are filled with bounty,

Our eyes, dear God, are lifted to you.

You open your hand,

Satisfying the desire of every living thing.

You open your hand and tie tops to quilts
for relief from sun and shield against cold;

God, take our hands in yours.

You open your hand and coins clatter buying toothbrushes for healthy lives lived;

God, take our hands in yours.

You open your hand and gather pencils, pens and tools for a child's learning;

God, take our hands in yours.

You open your hand to sew baby-sized blankets

for wrapping little ones in warmth and love,

God, take our hands in yours.

As this is the season of their need, Lord God,

By grace it's the season due for our serving.

So bless these quilts and kits, Gracious God,

as you have blessed our eyes, our hands and our hearts in their making,

And bless those who receive them with secure and sustainable life. Amen.

Please be seated.

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

With your mask on, you are invited to hum along as you reflect upon the words.

- 1 Sing to the Lord of harvest your songs of love and praise;
with joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise;
by him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move;
sing to the Lord of harvest a joyous song of love.
- 2 God makes the clouds drop fatness, the deserts bloom and spring,
the hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing.
God fills them with his fullness, all things with large increase
and crowns the year with goodness, with plenty and with peace.
- 3 Bring to this sacred altar the gifts his goodness gave,
the golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.
Your hearts lay down before him when at his feet you fall,
and with your lives adore him who gave his life for all.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

GREETING

Please stand as you are able.

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE WORD

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 22:1-14

Please stand as you are able.

The Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them.

⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Silence for reflection.

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

With your mask on, you are invited to hum along as you reflect upon the words.

- 1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

- 2 With voice as full and strong as ocean's surging praise,
send forth the sturdy hymns of old, the psalms of ancient days. *Refrain*
- 3 Praise God who reigns on high, the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest, one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821-1891, alt.

OUR RESPONSE

OFFERING *Returning our thanks to God with our offering is a regular part of our worship service. To reduce the risk 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: Merciful God, **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

Let us confess our faith using the words of the 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

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

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.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you now and always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

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Remember in your prayers...

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

October 4 Attendance: In person: 54
 On line 71 x 2 = 142 (ELCA formula)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting via Zoom
Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	LWR Quilters
	7:00 p.m.	Finance Committee via Zoom
Saturday	9:30-1:00p.m.	Apple Festival with Winter items on fence
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship

Worship Assistants

Lector and Prayers
Sound Board

Joyce Ray
Bob Lawyer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTICIPATED GIVING CARDS You are invited to place your anticipated giving card in the offering plate as you enter or exit worship today and next Sunday. Extras are on the table by the elevator on the first floor. These are helpful as we calculate our spending plan for next year. We are grateful to those who have already returned theirs. Dedication of giving cards will be October 18.

HARVEST HOME Sunday October 18. We are collecting food and financial contributions for the Meals on Wheels Program. Donations may be brought to the sanctuary. Please place monetary contributions in an envelope marked for Meals on Wheels. The following food items are needed: Medium Noodles, Macaroni, spaghetti & Spaghetti Sauce, 5 lb. bag of sugar, brown sugar, canned fruit, cake mixes, cake frosting, ketchup, canned vegetables, instant white rice, low salt chicken broth, cookies, and grapenut cereal.

ALL SAINTS On November 1 we will be remembering those who have entered the church triumphant between November 1, 2019 and October 31, 2020. If you have a loved one whom you would like to have remembered by name, please contact the church office and include the spelling of the name and the date of death if available. felccoffice@gmail.com

COUNCIL NOMINEES First Lutheran is in need of persons who are willing and able to serve on the Congregation Council for the years 2021 through 2023. Please pray about serving in this leadership capacity. If you are feeling called to serve on our governing body, please speak with Gertrude Kampmeyer, Tom Kriner, or Tim Gotwald. Please encourage others who have gifts needed for this to apply as well. The congregation Meeting to elect council members will be held Sunday, November 15 following worship.

REFORMATION SUNDAY is October 25. You are invited to wear red, as it is the color of the movement of the Holy Spirit who continues to reform us. There will be Holy Communion on Reformation Sunday, October 25 in place of having Holy Communion on October 18.

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. We will be hanging cold weather items 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.

CROPWALK will not be held this year because of Covid 19. However, we would appreciate your help in fighting World Hunger. You may make checks payable to CWS/CROP and send them to: Solomon’s UCC. 1594 Swamp Fox Road; Chambersburg, PA 17202.

BACK PACK PROGRAM October suggested items are: Spaghetti and Meatballs, Ravioli, Beefaroni and Lasagna.

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.

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.



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Pastor
Pastoral Assistant
Director of Church Music
Director of Faith Formation and Technology
Parish Administrator
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Custodian

The Rev. Jane Nicholson
The Rev. Charles Kampmeyer
Freda J. Dorand, Deacon
Theo Camara
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.

also on facebook at FirstEvangelicalLutheranChurch

and on our webpage at www.FELCC.org

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

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