

*Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Ordination Anniversaries - World Communion
October 4, 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. Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:33-46

The Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the people: ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord’s doing,

and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Silence for reflection.

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

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.

This Is My Father's World

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 This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

- 2 This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world; he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev'rywhere.

- 3 This is my Father's world; oh, let me not forget
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let heaven ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901

The Church's One Foundation

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 The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.
- 3 Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.
- 4 Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.
- 5 Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

Go, My Children, With My Blessing

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 “Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”

- 2 “Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son’s story, here you touched him,
saw his glory. Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”

- 3 “Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

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...

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		

Prayers: Gerry Wilson

Soundboard: Rose Wilson

Holy Communion Servers: Deb Fleegal-sanctuary
Karen Sloan-chapel

September 27 Attendance: In person: 29
On line: 52 views x 2 = 104 (ELCA formula)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Property Committee
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	LWR Quilters
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	LARC Meeting
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPETS

“Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom.” – Matthew 21:43

Ouch! Jesus’ words, directed at the Pharisees who constantly test him, point to the importance of bearing fruit. God promises an abundant harvest with more than enough to share, but we must do our part to cultivate, nurture, and bring to fullness all the bountiful gifts of God, both in our own lives and in the Body of Christ.

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.



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.



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 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.



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Pastor
Pastoral Assistant
Director of Church Music
Director of Technology & Faith Formation
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.
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.