

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

New Members

November 8, 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

CALL TO WORSHIP

God has set this day before us,
A day set apart, a day of rest and praise.

God has set our lives before us,
A span of years in which we love, and learn, and serve.

God has set God's seal upon our hearts,
So that we might live fully in deep love.
Come, let us worship the Lord.

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

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 Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:
his truth is marching on.

Refrain

Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

2 He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
he is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat.
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on. *Refrain*

3 In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me.
As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free,
while God is marching on. *Refrain*

Please stand as you are able.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC "My Country Tis of Thee"

Flute duet: Tim Gotwald and Freda Dorand, Connie Wilkins, Piano

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25:1-13

The Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.

⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'

¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹²But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.'

¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

Please be seated.

SERMON *Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

Let Streams of Living Justice

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 streams of living justice
flow down upon the earth;
give freedom's light to captives,
let all the poor have worth.
The hungry's hands are pleading,
the workers claim their rights,
the mourners long for laughter,
the blinded seek for sight.
Make liberty a beacon,
strike down the iron pow'r;
abolish ancient vengeance:
proclaim your people's hour. | on your loom of time enroll us
till our thread of life is run.
O great weaver of our fabric,
bind church and world in one;
dye our texture with your radiance,
light our colors with your sun. | |
| 2 | For healing of the nations,
for peace that will not end,
for love that makes us lovers,
God grant us grace to mend.
Weave our varied gifts together;
knit our lives as they are spun; | 3 | Your city's built to music;
we are the stones you seek;
your harmony is language;
we are the words you speak.
Our faith we find in service,
our hope in others' dreams,
our love in hand of neighbor;
our homeland brightly gleams.
Inscribe our hearts with justice;
your way—the path untried;
your truth—the heart of stranger;
your life—the Crucified. |

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934 Text © 1989 William Whitla.

OUR RESPONSE

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

Let us pray: **God of all goodness, generations have turned to you and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that give thanks for your rich blessings and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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.**

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

Each individual responds: **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

People of God,
do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us welcome Marlin and Karen to this community of faith,
as brother and sister with us in the body of Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

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

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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship (receive new members)
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
Tuesday	1:30 p.m.	NTT (F.H.)
	6:30 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	LWR Quilters
	7:00 p.m.	Finance Meeting
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
		Congregation Meeting (Following Worship)

First Lutheran would like to welcome:

Karen and Marlin Maclay
254 Edgewater Drive
Chambersburg, PA 17202
(717) 372-5865
Marlin.Maclay@Thrivent.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING First Lutheran will be having a congregational meeting on Sunday, November 15 following the 10:45 worship service. The purpose of this meeting will be to elect council members to serve a three year term beginning January 1, 2021.



Virtual Attendance for Congregational Meeting The congregational meeting to be held on November 15th **WILL HAVE a virtual option** for those uncomfortable attending in-person who would like to have an input in this meeting. There will be a way for you to speak and listen to the meeting (through a secure & private Zoom meeting), and there will also be a secure way for you to place your vote remotely.

You must pre-register to attend the meeting virtually. Please contact Theo through email if you would like to register to attend this meeting virtually. Make your subject line: “*Congregational Meeting*” when you email Theo. The deadline to register for this meeting is **November 9th at Midnight**. Theo’s email is:

Theo.FELCC@gmail.com

BACK PACK PROGRAM November suggested items are: Canned fruit or fruit cups in light syrup; dried fruit such as raisins, plums and cranberries; and applesauce. Thank you for your continued support of this much-needed program.



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 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.