

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 10, 2023



WELCOME VISITORS

*We invite you to pick up a Visitor's Packet as you leave the service today.
Thank you for joining us this morning! We are blessed by your presence.*

*Children are always welcome in church,
If desired, there is an unstaffed nursery for those age 4 and younger
located downstairs past the elevator, across the hall from the bulletin board.*

*Large print bulletins for today's worship are available,
please feel free to ask an usher if interested.*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST **September 10 – September 17**

Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Donuts and Coffee
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship
	11:45 a.m.	Stewardship
Monday	1:30 p.m.	NTT
	7:00 p.m.	Council
	7:00 p.m.	Scouts
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Finance
	7:00 p.m.	Scouts
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	LWR Quilters
Thursday	1:30 p.m.	WELCA
Friday		FNF Deadline
Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Donuts and Coffee
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Gods Work Our Hands Project
	10:45 a.m.	Worship w/ Holy Communion

Gathering

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are called to proclaim the good news:

God is at work!

This good news is not left in some history long ago or a place far away:

God is at work in the world still today!

In us and through us,

God is glorified in our work.

When we offer a helping hand,

God is praised.

When we share of our abundance,

God is known in the world and God is at work in us!

In our daily lives, let us live out and fulfill our baptismal calling.

God's Work. Our Hands.

God ☩ bless your hands and your work,

that through you, God's love may be known. **Amen.**

Come, let us worship the Lord with thanksgiving in our hearts!

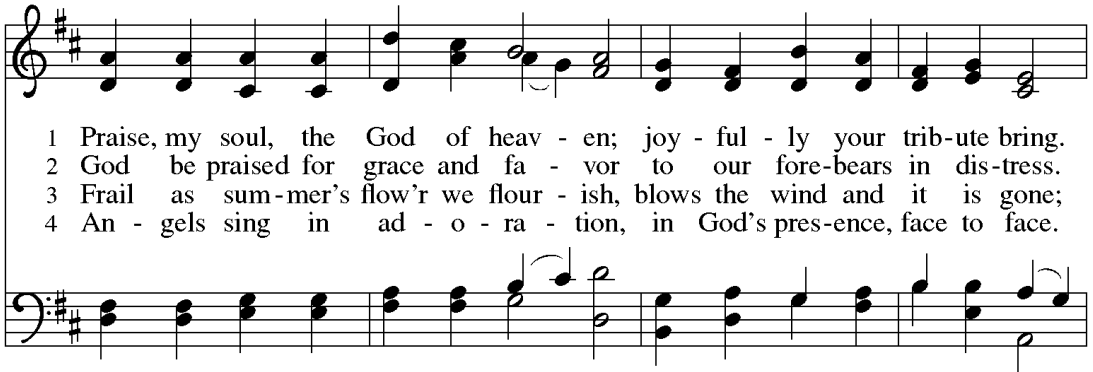
PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

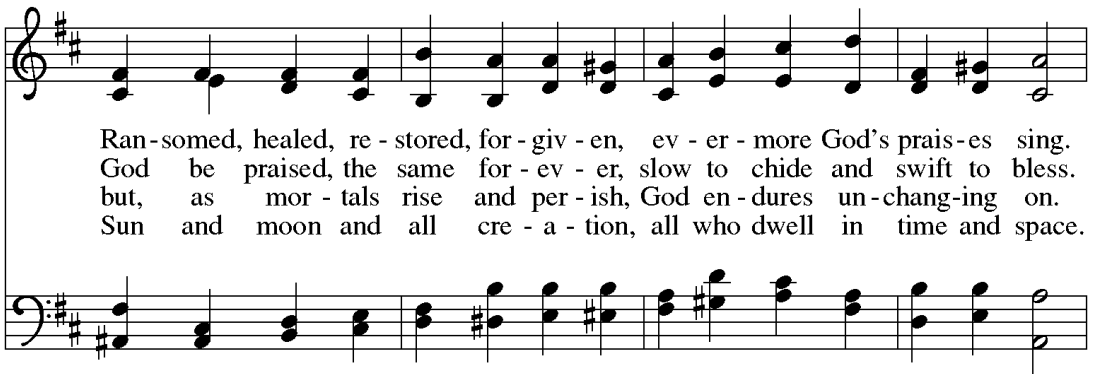
And also with you.

Please share the peace of the Lord with those around you.

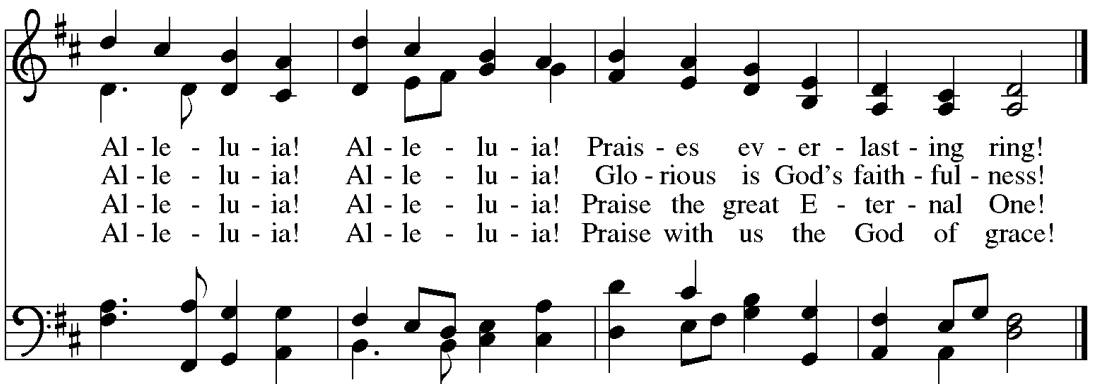
Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven



1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
 2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
 3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
 4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
 God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
 but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
 Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



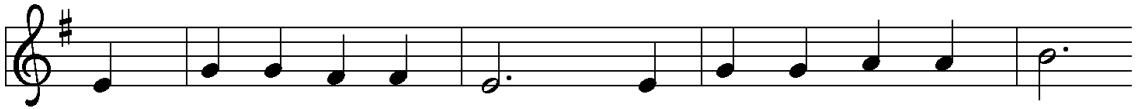
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847; alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927–2005
 Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

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.**

KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. We
mortals will fail without your help. Remove everything that is harmful, and lead
us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES & CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*Emery Ryan Coy
Lenora Erinn Craven
John Martin Sekel*

WORD

PSALM

Psalm 149

- ¹Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD a new song,
God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.
- ²**Let Israel rejoice in their maker;
let the children of Zion be joyful in their ruler.**
- ³Let them praise their maker's name with dancing;
let them sing praise with tambourine and harp.
- ⁴**For the LORD takes pleasure in the people
and adorns the poor with victory.**
- ⁵Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; let them sing for joy on their beds.
- ⁶**Let the praises of God be in their throat
and a two-edged sword in their hand,**
- ⁷to wreak vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,
⁸**to bind their kings in chains and their nobles with links of iron,**
- ⁹to inflict on them the judgment decreed;
this is glory for all God's faithful ones.
- Hallelujah!**

SCRIPTURE 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

The Gospel according to 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 follows the sermon.*

PASTORAL PRAYER *Please stand as you are able following the prayer.*

Where Charity and Love Prevail

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,

brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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OUR RESPONSE

GATHERING OF GIFTS

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church,
including the care of those in need. Online giving is available at www.felcc.org*

SPECIAL MUSIC

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, giver of all good things, receive the gifts we bring, fruit of the earth and the work of human hands, that they may be used to your purposes for life and love in the world. Amen.

APOSTLE 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

God, we pray, open our hands in love.

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.**

BLESSING

**The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. Amen.**

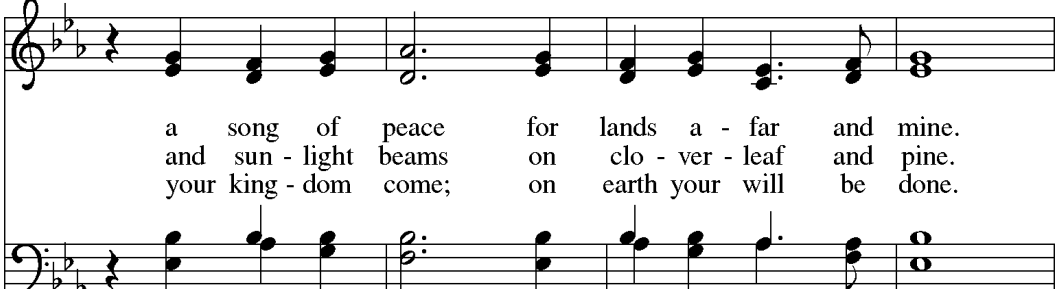
This Is My Song

Text & Music: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993, sts. 1-2; Georgia Harkness 1891-1974, st. 3, Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957

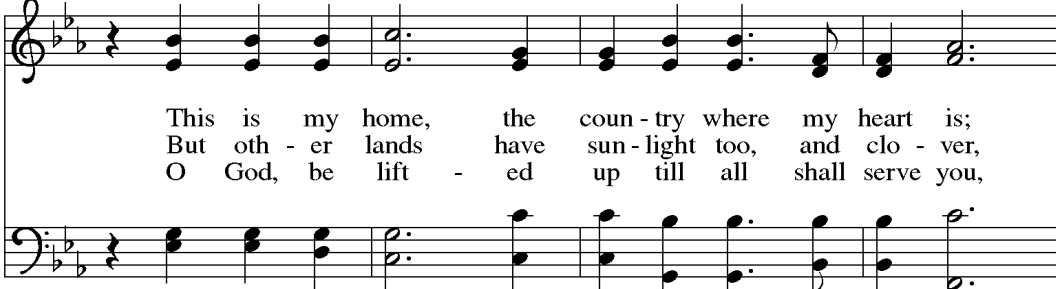


1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,

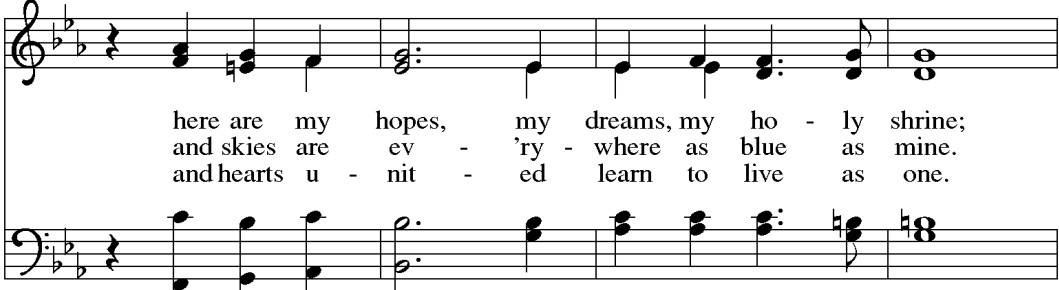
(P)



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;
 with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God in
 honor of the 58th Wedding Anniversary
 of Dalton and Julie Paul.

Please remember in your prayers ...

Healing: Dan Blair (9/23), Vernon Dorseth (9/16), Joanne Fisher (10/4),
 Leslie Gotwald (10/5), Denise Heinbaugh (9/28), Shirley Martin (10/7), Dalton
 Paul, Edison Paul (9/21)

Long Term Care: Pat Dent and Joe Pine

Military: Tawny & Brad Arnold and Paul Whelan (imprisoned in Russia).

ATTENDANCE

September 3

47 in person

11 on line



CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY Please sign up for your photo so we are able to better learn names of our congregational members. Every family photographed for the directory will receive a copy of the directory and an 8x10

portrait at no cost. You may call Cheryl in the church office to make your appointment. 717-264-2015. You may use the link either on our webpage www.felcc.org or on facebook. Pictures will be taken on Monday, September 18, and Tuesday, September 19. Thanks for your support of this project!

THE BIBLE STUDY GATHERING FOR WOMEN OF THE ELCA will be held Thursday, September 14 at 1:30 p.m. in the meeting room. The program title is 'You Did This For Me' and the chosen book is "He Choose The Nails" by Max Lucado. Women of First Lutheran are invited for a time of study and fellowship.

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS SUNDAY First Lutheran assembles Personal Care Kits to send to Lutheran World Relief each year. This year we are making 60 kits. We are still in need of 4 oz bars of soap for each kit. These may be placed outside the Parish Administrator's office. The congregation (all ages) is invited on September 17 to assemble the kits at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Janet Friend with any questions at (717) 360-1977.



HARVEST HOME Sunday October 1. We are collecting food and financial contributions for the Meals on Wheels Program. Donations may be brought to the sanctuary on the first of October or placed outside the office door prior to that. Please place monetary contributions in an envelope marked for Meals on Wheels. Food items are needed: medium noodles, macaroni, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce, small jars of alfredo sauce, sugar free canned fruit, vanilla cake mixes, canned vegetables, low salt chicken broth, sugar free cookies and Grapenut cereal. They are also in need of dark colored dish clothes.



THE PACK & TROOP WILL BE SELLING POPCORN AFTER CHURCH today and September 17th (cash, checks, and credit cards will be accepted). The sales will help the scouts with camping and other activities.

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION Did you know that a Qualified Charitable Distribution allows individuals who are 72 years old or older to donate up to \$ 100,000 total to one or more charities directly from a taxable IRA or 401k instead of taking their Required Minimum Distribution? As a result, the donor may avoid paying federal income tax on the distribution while also possibly avoid being pushed into a higher income tax bracket. Contact your financial advisor and/or your tax advisor for more details and procedures to make it happen.

COUNCIL MEMBERS NEEDED In November we will be electing council members for a three year term to serve from January 2024 through December 2026. If you have an interest in being nominated or finding out more about this opportunity, please talk with Tim Gotwald.



DINE TO DONATE SpiriTrust Lutheran Auxiliary invites you to dine at the Chambersburg Applebee's (1050 Wayne Ave, Chambersburg) on Monday, September 18th from 4 to 8PM. Applebee's donates 20% of your total purchase amount (alcohol not included) to the Auxiliary. All proceeds support SpiriTrust Lutheran, The Village at Luther Ridge and SpiriTrust Lutheran Home Care & Hospice in Franklin County.

DISCOUNT CARDS SpiriTrust Lutheran Auxiliary is selling discount cards. For \$5 each. Money raised will help Hospice, Home Care, and The Inn. The card is active now through 9/1/24 and may be used for discounts at various area businesses. Contact: Tudy Gates (717) 264-6312.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS Bookbag items have all been fulfilled. We are still in need of soap (4 oz. bars) and baby socks for Health and Baby Kits. Thank you for being a part of this Lutheran World Relief Project.



BOOK STUDY RETREAT October 3-5 at Nawakwa, Zinn-Tozer Lodge. A Book Study Retreat on the books: *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson and *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce. Suggested supplemental books can be found on the website. All meals (7) are included in the price and served at the dining hall. This mid-week retreat begins Tuesday morning and ends with lunch on Thursday. Please register by September 22. Registration Fee: \$170

FALL FOLIAGE DAY Sunday, October 22, 1:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m. at Nawakwa. Come for a fall afternoon! An evening meal provided. Register by October 13. \$15 per person (4 & under free).



QUILT AUCTION November 5 (Oct 29-Nov 3 Online Bidding) at Nawakwa 2:00 p.m. Silent Auction, 3:00 p.m. Live Auction. Dinner following Live Auction. All proceeds from the day benefit the Camping Corporation's Endowment Fund, making camping possible for generations to come! Please register for the in-person event by November 1. This is a free event, and includes an evening meal.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>September 10</u>	<u>September 17</u>	<u>September 24</u>
Lector:	Doris Burdick	Ralph Burdick	Dia Schumacher
Soundboard:	Scott Carbaugh	Rose Wilson	Bob Lawyer
Communion Assistants:		Jim Brown Mary Gotwald Becky Hoover	
Greeters:	Dot Hammer Bob Hammer	Dot Hammer Bob Hammer	Dot Hammer Bob Hammer
Altar Guild:	Barb Evans Karin Woods	Barb Evans Karin Woods	Barb Evans Karin Woods
Ushers:	Barb Evans Rick Gates Denny Love Mark Nicholson Rose Wilson	Barb Evans Rick Gates Denny Love Mark Nicholson Rose Wilson	Barb Evans Rick Gates Denny Love Mark Nicholson Rose Wilson



43 West Washington Street
Chambersburg Pa 17201
www.felcc.org
FELCCoffice@gmail.com
717-264-2015

Pastor

The Rev. Jane Nicholson

Pastoral Assistant

The Rev. Charles Kampmeyer

Director of Church Music

Freda J. Dorand, Deacon

Parish Administrator

Cheryl Christman

Treasurer

Sally Herritt

Financial Secretary

Carol McCoy

Custodian

Jennifer Flores

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.

Sunday Schedule

Donuts and Coffee at 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School for All Ages at 9:30 a.m.

Worship at 10:45 a.m.

also on Facebook at First Evangelical Lutheran Church
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.