

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Women of the ELCA Thank Offering
November 12, 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.*



Veterans' Day is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11 for honoring military veterans of the United States Armed Forces. In our worship service today we honor the veterans who are members of our congregation by saying "thank you". (If you are a veteran and your name has been omitted, please let us know so our list can be updated.)

Jim Brown

Ralph Burdick

Scott Carbaugh

Mike Dent

Pam Dent

Gary Fleegal

Rick Gates

Bob Hammer

Denny Love

Marlin Maclay

Amanda Rankin

Don Shoop

Gathering

WELCOME

HONORING VETERANS *With the help of our children*

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, we confess that we are not awake for you.

We are not faithful in using your gifts.

We forget the least of our siblings.

We do not see your beautiful image in one another.

We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.

Open our hearts to your coming.

Open our eyes to see you in our neighbor.

Open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through ✠ Jesus you are forgiven,
by Jesus you are welcome,
in Jesus you are called to rejoice!

Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

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 AND THANKSGIVING

1 Praise and thanks-giv-ing, God, we would of-fer for all things
 2 God, bless the la-bor we bring to serve you, that with our
 3 Fa-ther, pro-vid-ing food for your chil-dren, by Wis-dom's
 4 Then will your bless-ing reach ev-'ry peo-ple, free-ly con-

liv-ing, you have made good: har-vest of sown fields, fruits of the
 neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow-ing or till-ing, we would work
 guid-ing teach us to share one with an-oth-er, so that, re-
 fess-ing your gra-cious hand. Where you are reign-ing, no one will

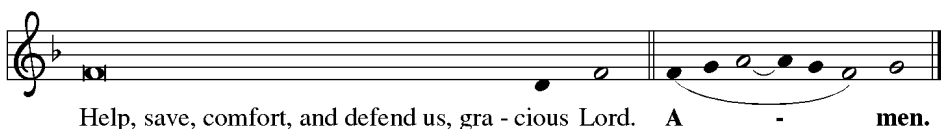
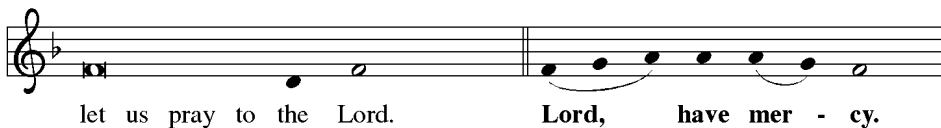
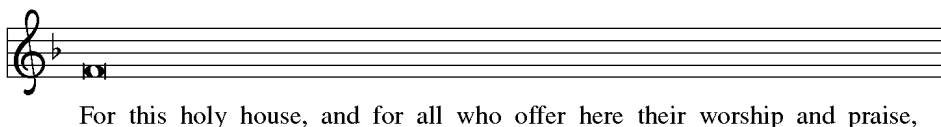
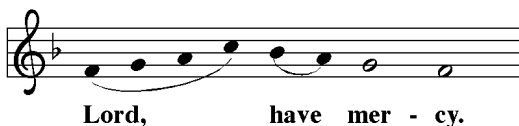
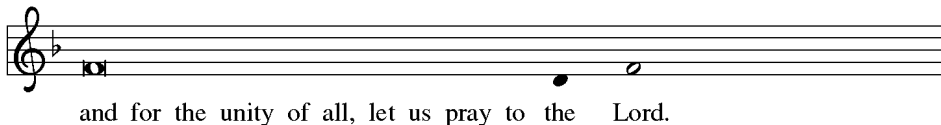
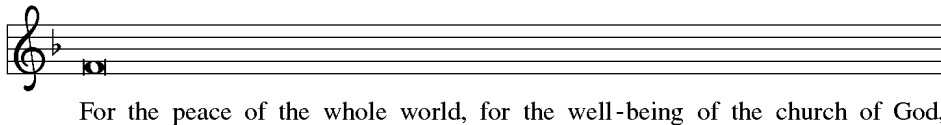
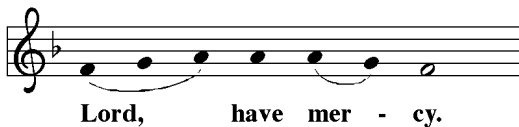
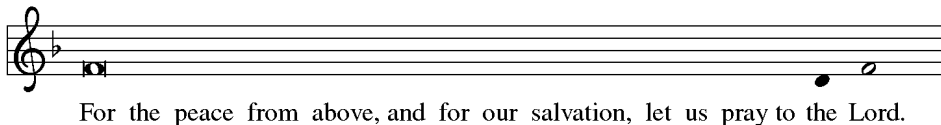
or-chard, hay from the mown fields, blos-som and wood.
 with you, har-vest-ing, mill-ing for dai-ly bread.
 joic-ing with us, all oth-ers may know your care.
 hun-ger; your love sus-tain-ing show-ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune: arr. hymnal version

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.**



HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo -ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

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.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING

Amos 5:18-24

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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

PSALM

Psalm 70

¹Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;
O LORD, make haste to help me.

²**Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and be disgraced.**

³Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat over me
turn back because of their shame.

⁴**Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great is the LORD!”**

⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

SECOND READING

1 John 4:7-12

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13

The Gospel according to 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 *Stephanie Lehman with Women In Need*
Please stand as you are able.

Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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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*



As we give our offerings today, we share in a tradition that goes back at least to the 1800's, when Christian women formed "mite" or "cent" societies to support the mission of the church. When others said there was not enough money to carry out the church's work, the women believed otherwise and acted together. In these societies, each woman collected offerings at home. On occasion, they would gather as we do today to worship and make their offerings with thanks and praise.

When Women of the ELCA was formed in 1987, we committed to continue this tradition of giving in gratitude for blessings. Together we do more than we could ever do apart. In gratitude for all God has given to us, and with hope for all that is to come, you are invited to mail any Thankoffering Gifts to the church office by the end of November. Please make checks payable to "Women of the ELCA."

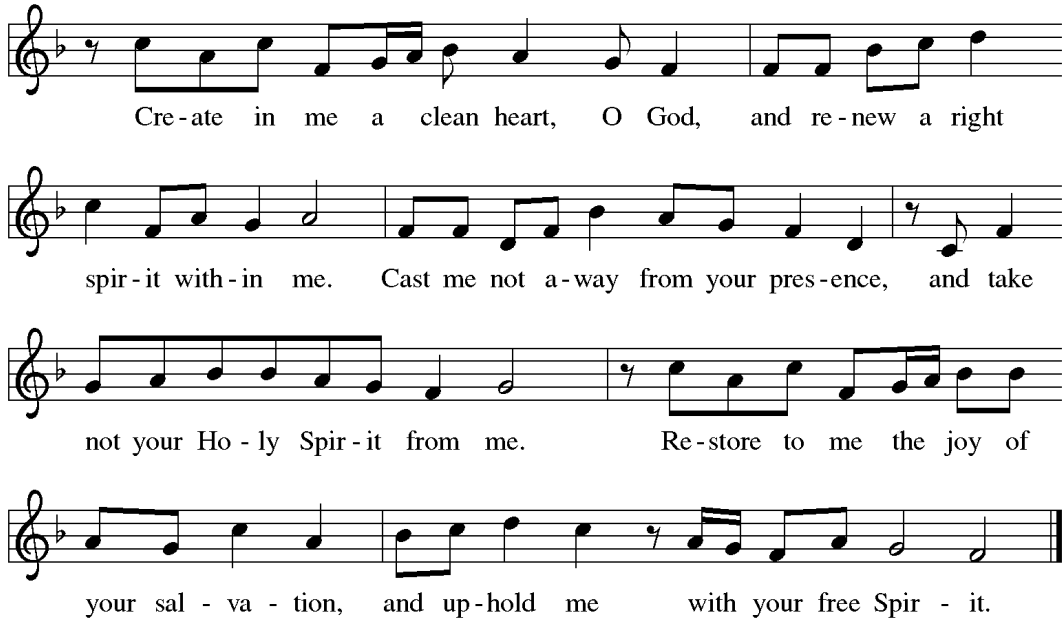
ANTHEM

Pathway of Hope

By Joseph Martin

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.

OFFERING PRAYER

**O Mighty One, you have done great things for us, and holy is your name.
Bless all we offer you—our selves, our time, and our possessions—
that through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the world;
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. 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

Christ, be our light. Shine in your church gathered today.

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.**

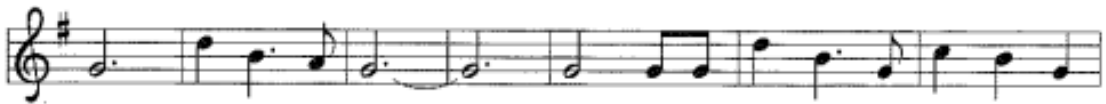
BLESSING

**Our God calls us to do justice.
May you find strength in God's grace. Amen.**

**Christ Jesus calls us to love kindness.
May you find comfort in Christ's gentleness. Amen.
The Holy Spirit calls us to walk humbly with God.
May you always find joy in God's love and justice. Amen.**

We Are Called

Text: David Haas b. 1957 Music: David Haas



1 Come! Live in the light!
2 Come! O - pen your heart!
3 Sing! Sing a new song!

Shine with the joy and the love of the
Show your . . mer - cy to all those in
Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to
fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so
one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God,
ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.
sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Please remember in your prayers ...

Healing: Celena Casseday (11/23), Joanne Fisher (12/4),
Trudy Gearhart (11/28), Tim Gotwald (11/16),
Denise Heinbaugh (11/28), Charles & Gertrude Kampmeyer (12/3),
Kathy McCray (12/6), Sam Mull (11/18), Beverly Parks (11/25),
Paul Stockhousen (12/6)

Long Term Care: Pat Dent and Joe Pine

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

ATTENDANCE November 5 73 in person 13 on line



A special welcome to Stephanie Lehman with Women In Need. We are thankful to have you with us today, sharing God's message of hope.

"WIN Victim Services is a non-profit agency serving victims of domestic and sexual violence in Franklin and Fulton Counties. WIN provides counseling, support groups, emergency shelter, legal advocacy and more. Stephanie Lehman is the Community Relations Manager for WIN and plays a role in serving victims, recruiting volunteers, and providing education and training to the community."

CANTATA PRACTICE FOR CHRISTMAS has begun.

Please come to the rehearsal on Thursdays at 7 p.m. or see Freda for more information. The cantata will be presented on December 17 at our 10:45 a.m. worship service.



LADIES BREAKFAST will be this Wednesday, November 15th at 8:30 a.m. at Johnnie's Restaurant. All Ladies are welcome!

Congregational Meeting



CONGREGATION MEETING will be held November 19 following 10:45 worship. The purpose of this meeting will be to elect council members to serve a three year term beginning January 1, 2024.

COUNCIL NOMINATIONS we are in need of persons who are willing and able to serve on the Congregation Council for the years 2024-2026. Four positions are needing to be filled. Currently Jeff Dorand and Gerry Wilson have agreed to be nominated. Please pray about serving in this leadership capacity. If you are feeling called to serve on our governing body, please speak with Tim Gotwald.



QUILT AUCTION is today 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! This is a free event, and includes an evening meal.



NTT FALL COLLECTION accepting sheets, sleeping bags, blankets and winter coats for men, women and children. New or gently used are welcome. Please lauder used items. Please place donations in bins in Memorial Hall, now through November 19.

NOVEMBER SPECIAL OFFERINGS are designed for Lutheran Disaster Relief. With the current conflict in Israel, there is no question of the need for funding for relief supplies for people on both sides of the Gaza Strip. Thank you for being as generous as you are able.





POINSETTIAS FOR WORSHIP If you would like to donate a red poinsettia for Christmas worship, please return the enclosed form with money to the church office by Sunday, November 26.

BACKPACK PROGRAM is accepting canned fruit/fruit cups in light syrup, dried fruit: raisins, plums and cranberries for the month of November. Thank you for helping to meet the nutritional needs of children for risk of hunger during non-school hours.



WELCA CHRISTMAS TEA will be held December 14 at 1:30 p.m. There will be a gift exchange and singing. All women of the church are invited for an afternoon of socialization.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>November 12</u>	<u>November 19</u>	<u>November 26</u>
Lector:		Rose Wilson	Dia Schumacher
First Reading	Nancy Fricke		
Second Reading	Rose Wilson		
Psalm	Rose Wilson		
Prayers	Joyce Ray		
Soundboard:	Marlin Maclay	Scott Carbaugh	Rose Wilson
Communion Assistants:		Jim Brown Jane Love Karen Sloan	
Greeters:	Janet Friend Marilyn Yaukey	Bev Rebok Peggy Stout	Bev Rebok Peggy Stout
Altar Guild:	Barb Evans Karin Woods	Barb Evans Karin Woods	Barb Evans Karin Woods
Ushers:	Barb Evans Tudy Gates Jean Reed Karin Woods	Rick Gates Gary Kennedy Mary Ann Kennedy Bill McCoy Carol McCoy	Rick Gates Gary Kennedy Mary Ann Kennedy Bill McCoy Carol McCoy



THIS WEEK AT FIRST

November 12 – November 19

Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Donuts and Coffee
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship –Women of the ELCA Thank Offering – Honoring Veterans
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Scouts
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Finance
	7:00 p.m.	Scouts
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	Ladies Breakfast at Johnnie’s Restaurant
	9:30 a.m.	Quilting FNF Deadline
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Rose Ringers
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Donuts and Coffee
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship w/ Holy Communion



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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.