

First Lutheran
relationships that transform



Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024

Welcome to worship at First Lutheran Church.

We worship God using the form of worship which has been used by Christians throughout church history, which is commonly called “liturgical worship.” Liturgy is defined as the “work of the people,” which means that this is a participatory form of worship for all people, whether leading from the front, or singing and responding as a part of the congregation.

In worship, we come out of the chaos of the world to prepare ourselves to meet God, who is revealed to us in Jesus Christ. Through confession/forgiveness, prayer, and proclamation of the Word of God, we are led to the center of our worship which is the celebration of Holy Communion (also called the Lord’s Supper or Eucharist). It is in that act of eating and drinking the true body and blood of Jesus in the forms of bread and wine, that we make a sacred connection with God. As our worship concludes, we are sent back into the world, as people who have been changed by an encounter with God, to be light in the midst of the chaos and confusion of the world.



An assistive listening system is available in our sanctuary.

**You may select a receiver from the basket in the rear of the sanctuary,
near the sound booth; please return it following worship.**

EASTER SUNDAY
MARCH 31, 2024 8:15 am & 10:45 am

**The bulletin cover artwork today is by Miss Kensley Wade,
granddaughter of Cole & Debbie Paschall.**

FLOWERING OF THE CROSS 8:00 am and 10:30 am

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship, we are glad that God has brought us together today! If you are visiting us today, please fill out a card to receive more information about First Lutheran Church. The cards are in the narthex near the bulletins or from an usher or staff member.

NURSERY

Children 3 and under are invited to our staffed nursery.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children up to 5th grade are invited to attend Children's Church. Meet the leader at the back of the sanctuary. The children meet in the chapel and will return to the service just before Holy Communion.

PRELUDE

Eastertide Bells

The Bell Choir

Please stand.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.**

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

*The sharing of the peace is a time for us to be reconciled with one another
through the peace, love, and forgiveness of Christ.*

The Peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The Day of Resurrection!



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,
 the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.
 all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
 and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,

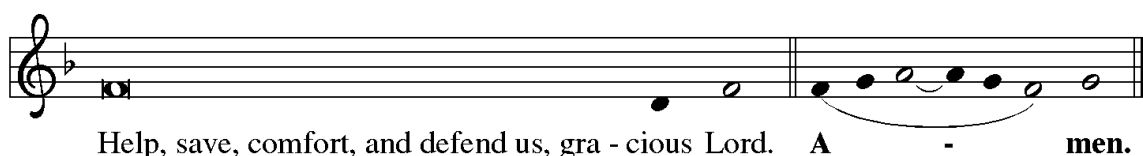
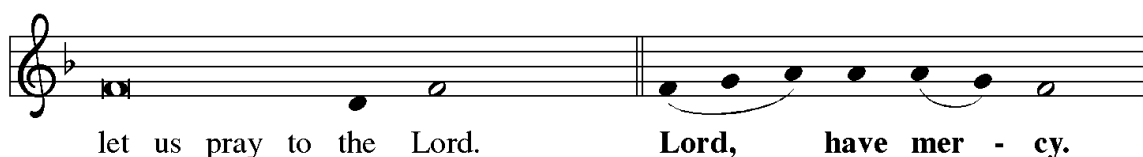
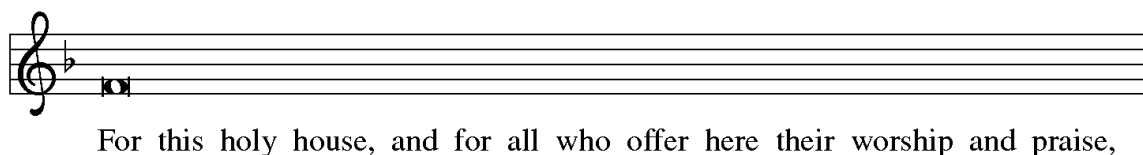
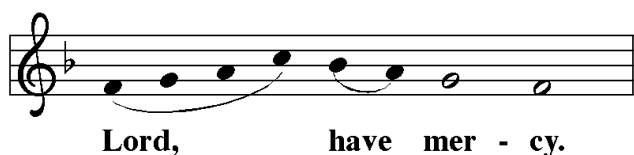
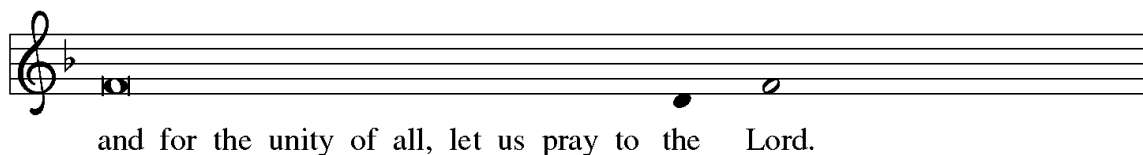
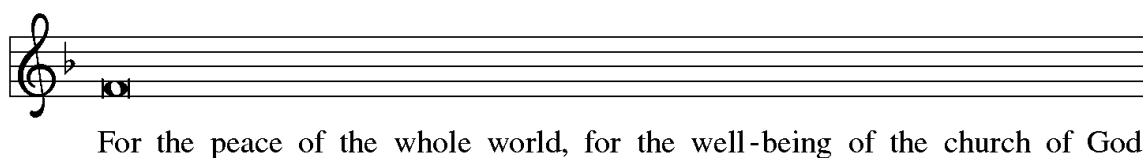
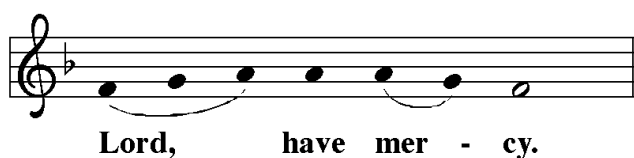
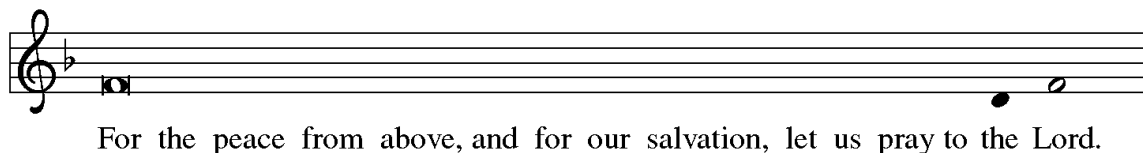


our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.
 for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

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.

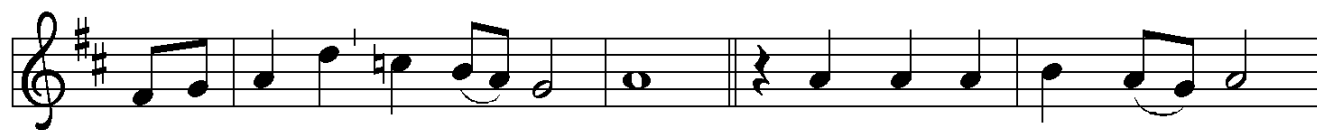
KYRIE



CANTICLE OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



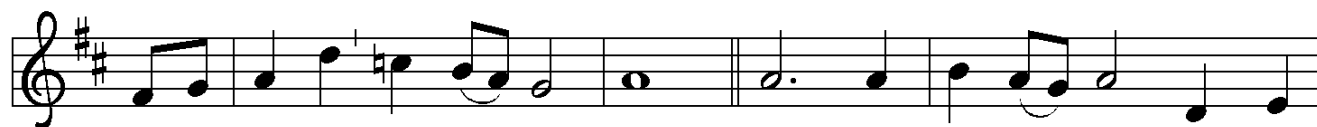
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



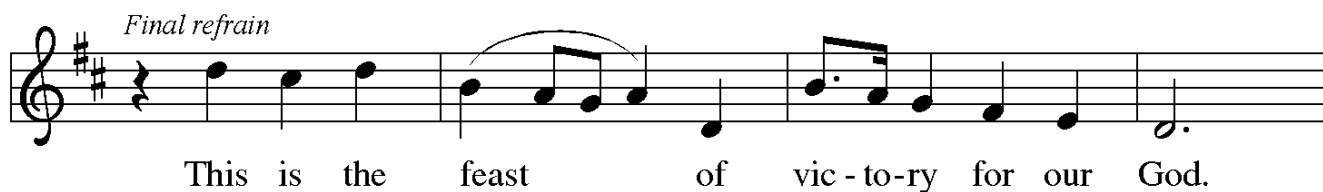
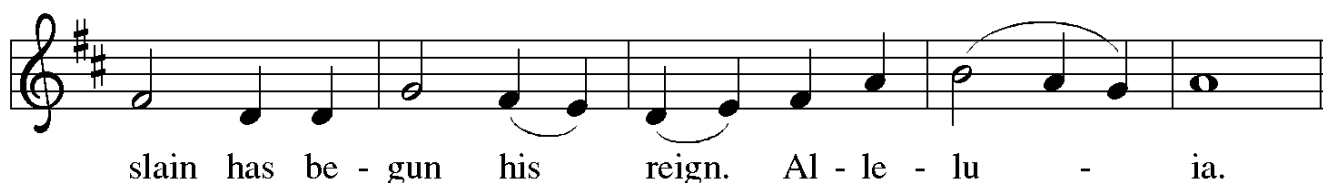
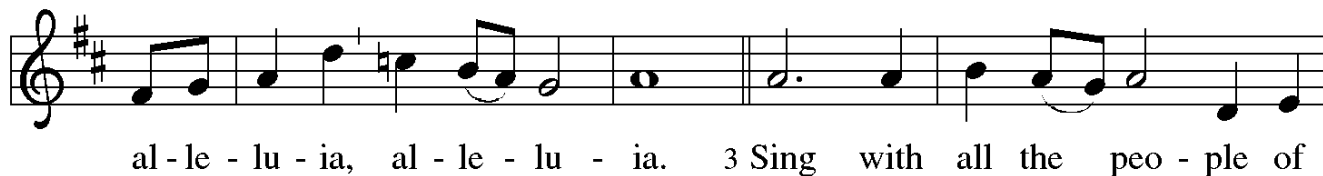
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

BLESSING OF THE LECTOR

Let us pray.

Bless, O Lord, your servant as they read to us the Holy Word. May our hearts burn within us as you open to us the scriptures, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34 – 43

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

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

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1 – 11

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in

accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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

Please stand.

SILENT REFLECTION

Please stand.

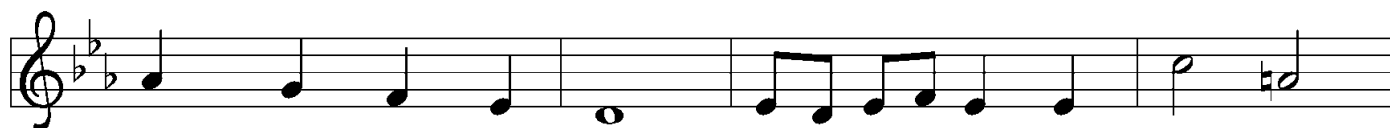
Thine Is the Glory



- 1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain

where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
 to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939
 Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN

ELW 232

232

Let My Prayer Rise Up

Optional introduction
Dm Am⁷ Dm F C Dm

F Gm F/A Gm⁷ Am⁷ Dm

All
Dm Am⁷ Dm F C Dm

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the

F Gm F/A Gm⁷ Am⁷ Dm

lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.

Leader C Am⁷ Dm C Am⁷

O God, I call to you, come to me

Dm F C Dm C Am⁷

now; oh, hear my voice when I cry to

Dm C Am⁷ All Dm Am⁷ Dm

you. Let my prayer rise up like

F C Dm F C Dm

in - cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

Gm⁷ Am⁷ Dm Leader C Am⁷

of-fer-ing to you. Keep watch with -

Dm C Am⁷ Dm C Am⁷

in me, God; deep in my heart may the light of your

Dm C Am⁷ Dm C Am⁷

love be burn - ing bright.

All Dm Am⁷ Dm F C Dm

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the

F C Dm Gm⁷ Am⁷ Dm

lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

Leader C Am⁷ Dm C Am⁷

All praise to the God of all— Cre - a - tor of

Dm F C Dm C Am⁷

life; all praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of

Dm C Am⁷ All Dm Am⁷ Dm

love. Let my prayer rise up like

in - cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

of-fer-ing to you.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with: Lord, in your mercy

Congregational response: Hear our prayer

Receive our prayers...in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Dm C Am⁷ All Dm Am⁷ Dm
 Let my prayer rise up like
 F C Dm F C Dm
 in - cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an
 Gm⁷ Am⁷ Dm
 of-fer-ing to you.

Please be seated.

OFFERING ANTHEM

On The Third Day

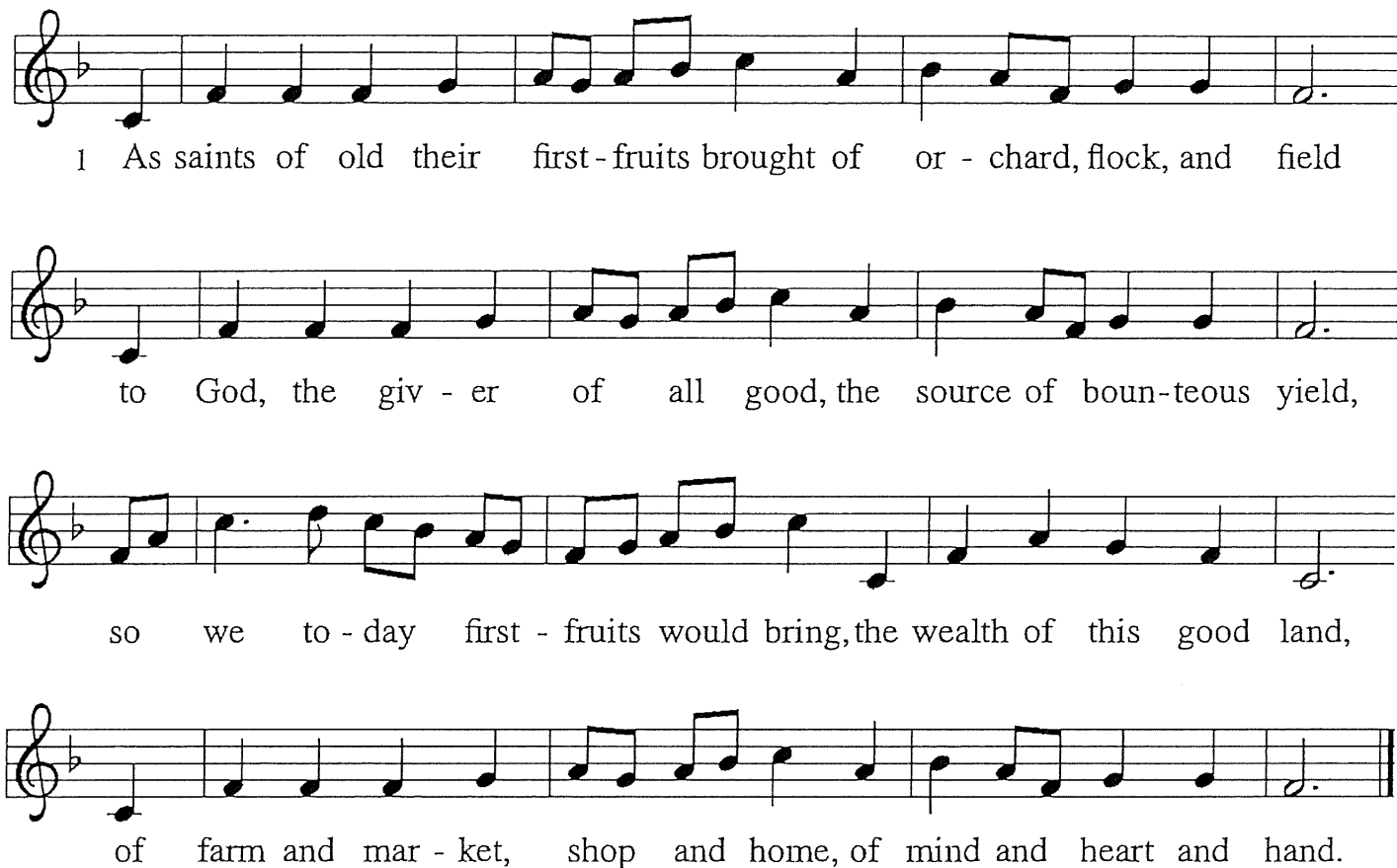
The Chancel Choir

Please stand.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

As the gifts are presented, the congregation sings.

As Saints of Old



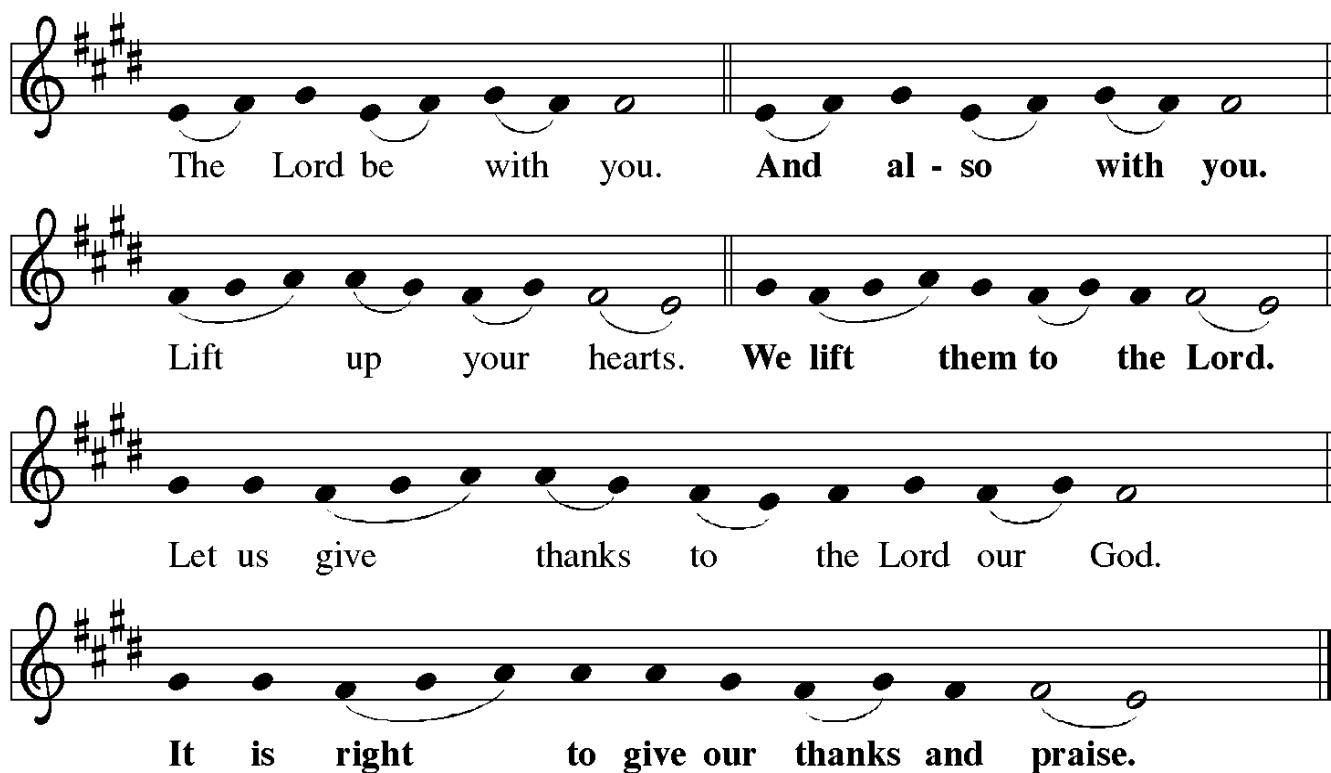
1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of orchard, flock, and field
to God, the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield,
so we to-day first-fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,
of farm and market, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



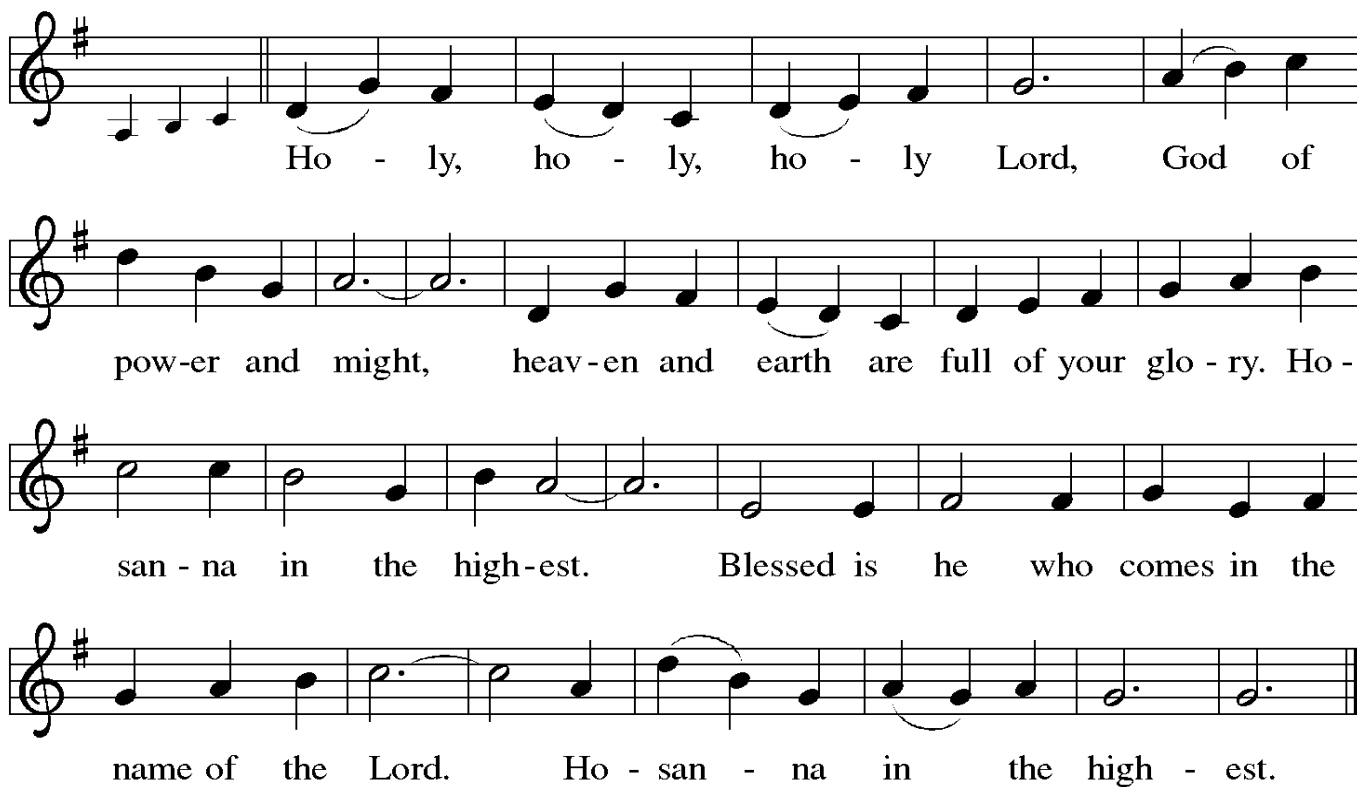
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

It is indeed right...we praise your name and join in their unending hymn.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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 TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. . .

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. We teach that Holy Communion is a celebration of the real presence of Christ under forms of bread and wine. For those who prefer, cups in the center ring of the tray are filled with white grape juice. If you wish to receive a blessing, signal this by crossing your arms against your chest.

COMMUNION SONG

336

Lamb of God *Your Only Son*

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me
in your pre-cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: '1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have'. The second staff continues: 'sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y'. The third staff continues: 'sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of'. The fourth staff continues: 'God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me'. The fifth staff concludes: 'in your pre-cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.' The score ends with a double bar line.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
 God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
 when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
 met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

Jesus, Name Above All Names

D F#m⁷

Je - sus, name a - bove all names, beau - ti - ful

Em⁷ A

Sav - ior, glo - ri - ous Lord, Em -

D F#m⁷

man - u - el, God is with us, bless - ed Re -

Em⁷

Optional repeat
D G/A A

Last time
D

deem - er, liv - ing Word. Word.

Please stand.

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in His grace. **Amen.**

CANTICLE



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus.
Amen.

BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.
May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Go in peace. We are formed and loved by Christ to live!

Thanks be to God!

From SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress.

All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #35821.

POSTLUDE

Additional music reprinted by permission under CCLI License #3104770 and One License A-735793

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Easter Lilies in the Sanctuary

Donna Ashby	in memory of Logan Ashby
Donna Ashby	in memory of David & Caranelle Bodenheimer
Donna Ashby	in memory of Dorinda Harper
Donna Ashby	in honor of Laikyn Ashby
Robert & Gloria Bero	in honor of our family
Ray & Carol Bird	in memory of our loved ones
Ranette Carter	in memory of Katherine Carter
Pat Clark	in memory of Mother & Father
Pat Clark	in memory of siblings
Lynn Crowley	in memory of Randy Crowley
Joe Derry & Allison Derry	in memory of Mary Alice Derry
Joe Derry & Allison Derry	in memory of Hans & Myrle Larson
Joe Derry & Allison Derry	in memory of Walter & Hazel Derry
Teresa DeShazer	in honor of Wanda Muehlbrad
Michael Fuehr	in memory of Carolyn Fuehr
Chris & Kelly Gosnell	in memory of Steven T. Gosnell
Steve Graham	in memory of Linda Graham
Steve Graham	in memory of Hazel Graham
Rachel Grundmann	
Stewart & Leslie Jenkins	in honor of our children & granddaughters
Stewart & Leslie Jenkins	in memory of our loved ones
Larry Kaplan	in memory of Linda Kaplan
The Martin & Kaplan Families	in memory of Zack Thompson
Betty Kirkindoll	in memory of Almon & Faye Lehde
Roger & Nancy Lineberry	in memory of parents
Roger & Nancy Lineberry	in honor of Anne & Allen

Barbara Linthicum	in memory of Bob Linthincum
Vivian McElligott	in honor of the USA
Randi McRae	in memory of Pete & Jane McRae
Jim & Patti Meyer	in memory of Grandma Lynn
Bob & Debbie Moody	in memory of our parents
The Morrow Family	in memory of Jo Morrow
The Morrow Family	in memory of Helen Herrit
Tim & Pam Owens	in memory of our parents & Pam's brother
Kevin & Megan Palmer	in memory of Dee Stirling
Brian & Cathleen Potichko	in memory of Gordon Hacker
Brian & Cathleen Potichko	In memory of Richard Potichko
Carolyn Ramirez	in memory of Joe Ramirez
Carolyn Ramirez	in memory of Charles & Dorothy Berg
Bill & Renee Slegeir	in memory of Parents & Brothers
Tom & Susan Kay Smith	in memory of our parents
Mary Stuart	in memory of Jennifer Brown
Mike & Di Teegardin	in memory of MaryJean Halvorson
The Topel Family	in memory of our parents
Eva Touchstone	in memory of Scott Touchstone
Belinda Walenta	in memory of Don Walenta
Glenn & Judy Weiss	in honor of Pastor Jeff & Diane Borgwardt
Glenn & Judy Weiss	in honor of John Parsons
	In memory of Lou Bass

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK:

Monday, April 1	Tuesday, April 2	Wednesday, April 3
9:30 am Staff Meeting	9:30 am Friendship Circle 1:00 pm Single Ladies Luncheon 3:30 – 5:30 pm Success Center 5:30 pm Fitness Class 6:30 pm Spiritual Journey	10:00 am Quilters 5:00 – 6:00 pm Dinner for everyone! 5:45 pm Bell Choir 5:45 pm Mentoring Plus 6:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir
Thursday, April 4	Friday, April 5	Saturday, April 6
3:30 – 5:30 pm Success Center 5:30 pm Fitness Class		11:00 – 12:30 pm Scouts Blue & Gold Banquet in Fellowship Hall 2:00 pm East Texas Men in Harmony Concert
Sunday, April 7	Volunteer Schedule this week: March 31	Volunteer Schedule next week: April 7
8:15 am Worship with Holy Communion, and Children's Church. 9:30 am Bible Study 9:30 am – 10:00 am Prayer group 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 10:45 am Worship with Holy Communion, and Children's Church. 6:00 pm Bible Study	Lector: 8:15 am: Ed Bero 10:45 am: Belinda Walenta Communion: Set up: Gloria Bero Clean Up: Eva Touchstone Offering Counters: Cole Paschall and Rachel Grundmann	Lector: 8:15 am: Bill Anderson 10:45 am: Jim Meyer Communion: Set up: Gloria Bero Clean Up: Lucy Maxwell Offering Counters: Lakeita Walker and Gayle Poland

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Women's Bible Studies

Friendship Circle

Tuesdays, April 2nd & 16th

At 9:30 am

in the conference room

Dorcas Circle Monday, April 8th

@ 6:00 pm

in the conference room



Concert Saturday April 6th

2:00 pm

FLC Sanctuary



Single Ladies Luncheon

April 2 @

1:00 pm

**Meeting at
Cheddars)**

CAMP COST UPDATE

We are excited that we have a total of **21** going to camp! This includes campers and adults. The cost for camp and transportation is about \$1,000 per person (Yes, that is a lot more than when I went to camp too!)

We are wanting to let everyone know that the need for camperships is great. We are grateful for a church family who gives so generously. Those who want to help, please use the blue envelopes in the hymnal racks in each pew.

A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY



Stepping into God's will and purpose for your life

TUESDAYS
6:30 PM

Join us in taking steps that can help develop a healthy, peaceful, and harmonious relationship with God, with others, and with yourself.

God, grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change, the courage to change the one I can, & the wisdom to know that one is Me. Living one day at a time; Enjoying one moment at a time; Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; Taking, as Jesus Christ did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; Trusting that Jesus will make all things right if I surrender to His will. So, that I may be reasonably happy in this life & supremely happy with Him forever & ever in the next! Amen!

SERENITY PRAYER

First Lutheran Church
3901 Bill Owens Parkway
Longview, Texas 75605
(903) 295-7423



COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Leo & Melba Sparkman Memorial Scholarship

In honor and memory of Leo and Melba Sparkman, an annual college scholarship has been established for members of First Lutheran Church who are high school students planning to attend college upon graduation.

Melba loved to encourage young people to pursue further education after high school, so her memory will be honored in this scholarship through the generosity of friends and family who contributed to the memorial fund. Applications are available through the church office. These must be returned by May 17 with a transcript, teacher recommendation, statement of needs and future aspirations.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please send all prayer requests and updates to the church office at: prayerchain@firstlutheran.us

FLC Members

Kathleen Bullock needs healing in her foot.

Carolyn Ramirez is undergoing cancer treatment.

Larry Graham is recovering from a broken hip.

Carl Landinger has been admitted to hospice care.

Carmen Hohlt is undergoing cancer treatment.

Pray for the children and teens who attend our church.

Pray for church growth, numerically and spiritually.

Pray for wisdom and direction for our church leadership.

Pray for the homebound of our church and their caregivers.

Jane Bailey	Michael Fuehr	Debbie Graham
Mary Ann Gamel	Paula Kaplan	Robert Kohnfelder
Carl Landinger	Patty Lowe	Leta Meyerdirk
Bob Mueller	Johnnie Owens	Jewel Reuther
Bruno Schueler	Durwin Sewell	

Family and Friends of FLC Members

Ken Fabre, Sr and family who is gravely ill. They are friends of Kathleen Bullock.

Alzheimer's patients and their caregivers.

Those who are imprisoned.

The homeless

Members Serving in the Military

Eric Jenkins – Air Force, Seoul, South Korea

Terrina Anderson – Army, Ft. Huachuca, Az

Timothy Martin – Navy

Hannah Perry – Army, San Antonio, Tx

FINANCIAL REPORT

Church Cash Flow Year to Date as of:

03/25/2024

Regular Church Offering: 2024	
Contributions:	88,009
Expenditures:	81,528
Difference:	6,481

Building Maintenance Fund: 2024	
Contributions:	19,950
Expenditures:	17,796

French drain &
alarm sys update

Other Giving:

Lent Offerings	\$2,015.10
Campership	\$4,190.00

The Lent offerings this year will be going to the Campership Fund. We want to ensure all youth who want to go to camp will be able to do so. Please continue to give Lent offerings as well as using the blue envelopes that are in the pews for this purpose.

May everyone have a Blessed Easter!

*Respectfully,
Teresa DeShazer, Bookkeeper*

Teresa DeShazer

Teresa DeShazer

Teresa DeShazer

GOSPEL MESSAGE

March 31, 2024

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

It's Not Over Yet

When you think back over your favorite books, do you remember the endings? If the story leads to a satisfying conclusion, even if the plot twists and turns, the writer keeps our attention. When we commit to a book, we put a lot of faith in the author to tell a good story and to wrap up their tale in a way that makes sense. When the ending is unclear or unbelievable, we wish we hadn't invested so much time in their book.

When Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome brought spices to Jesus' tomb, they thought they knew the ending of his story. Jesus' death on the cross brought his ministry to an abrupt conclusion. There was nothing left to do but show their devotion by anointing him with spices. How surprised the women must have been to hear that Jesus' story hadn't ended after all! He had been raised. He was going ahead of his followers to Galilee. They would see him again!

To us, this story of Jesus' resurrection is familiar, so we hear it as good news. For the women, though, it was terrifying. This wasn't how they expected Jesus' story to turn out. They had seen him die on the cross, and now they were being told he was alive? They didn't know what to make of this twist in Jesus' story. They were so afraid that they fled.

The women ran away because they were shocked when the story didn't turn out the way they expected. But soon they would learn that this was a *happy* ending: Where they had seen death, God made a way for new life! What seemed like the conclusion was actually a beginning. It was the dawn of a new day, a resurrection day. As followers of Jesus, we don't know what our future holds or how our stories will end, but we can trust that Jesus is alive. He goes ahead of us, leading us into a future full of God's love and grace.

Assisting In Worship Today

Celebrant: Jeffrey Borgwardt

Musicians: Donna Ashby, Pat Mueller
and The Chancel Choir

Live Stream: 8:15 am Deb Butts

10:45 am: Diane Borgwardt

Lectors:

8:15 am: Ed Bero

10:45 am: Belinda Walenta

Flowers: Kathleen Bullock & Patti Meyer

Church Staff

Jeffrey E. Borgwardt, Pastor

Donna Ashby, Director of Music

John Parsons, Dir. of Youth and Family Min.

Tina Sewell, Secretary

Teresa DeShazer, Bookkeeper

2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Mike Gentsch (*President*)

Kyle Lybarger (*Vice-President*)

Rachel Grundmann (*Secretary*)

Ranette Carter (*Treasurer*)

Lakeita Walker (*Relationship with God*)

Gayle Poland (*Relationship with Community*)

Peri Topel (*Relationship with One Another*)

3901 Bill Owens Parkway

Longview, Texas 75605

903-295-7423

churchsecretary@firstlutheran.us

www.FirstLutheran.us

***We receive gifts for the mission of the
congregation and the Church in the world.***

*An offering plate is available in the back of the
sanctuary. If you prefer to give by credit card
you may do so at www.firstlutheran.us/donate
or by scanning the QR code below*



*FLC regularly supports the work of the
following ministries of our denomination and
community with financial, volunteer, and food
offerings:*

Longview Community Ministries

Newgate Mission

Living Water International

Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran Disaster Response

*For more information on how to get involved
contact the church office (903)295-7423.*