

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Lewis & Diana Murphy**

Reader: **Marda Kirkwood**

Communion Assistants: **Diane Sheldon, Shawn Cleverly**

Cheryl Swenson

Usher Coordinator: **Gary Holst**

Ushers: **Tom Pilkington, Cal Miller**

Counters: **Paul Bayless & Lisa Swenson**

Altar Guild: **Ginny Conricode, Jan Galbraith**

Collection Specialist: **Andrew Swenson**

Streaming Technician: **Paul Lerum**

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FELC LEADERSHIP

MINISTERS: **All the Members of FELC**

Senior Pastor: Pastor Mike Knauff..... e-mail: pastormike@firstlc.com

Church Administrator: Liisa Mills..... e-mail: office@firstlc.com

Youth & Family Minister: Heather Catanese e-mail: youth@firstlc.com

Bookkeeper: Greg Stultz e-mail: bookkeeper@firstlc.com

Music Director: Michelle Hanson e-mail: musicdirector@firstlc.com

Choir Accompanist: Heidi Bessette

Praise Band Director: Steve Galbraith

Pastor Emeritus: Pastor Larry Cudmore

Preschool Director: Barbara Carlson flpreschoolif@gmail.com

Summer Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, Friday Closed
Web Page: www.firstlc.com • Phone: 208-522-9301



Praising Our GOD...
Loving GOD's People!

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

455 West Sunnyside Road

Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402

Phone # (208) 522-9301

www.firstlc.com

August 31, 2025

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

We pray that all will experience a warm welcome and experience the presence of the Lord in this house of worship. After the service we invite worshipers to enjoy refreshments in our fellowship hall.

WORSHIP NOTES:

- ♦ **Bold printed words** indicate the congregation's responses.
- ♦ For families with young children, you're invited to take advantage of our worship activity bags for children located in the lobby. A nursery for children 4 and younger is located in Room #7.
- ♦ If you have a moment please sign the friendship pad in the pew and pass it to others in your pew.
- ♦ For those with hearing loss, we have hearing devices available at the welcome window; ask an usher for assistance.
- ♦ For those with eyesight issues, we have large print bulletins; ask an usher for one.

WE PREPARE OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Michelle Hanson

Please observe silence in preparation for worship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

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

Amen.

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts

by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination...

Most merciful God...

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

WE LIFT OUR PRAYERS AND PRAISE TO GOD

GATHERING SONG

#532

"Gather Us In"

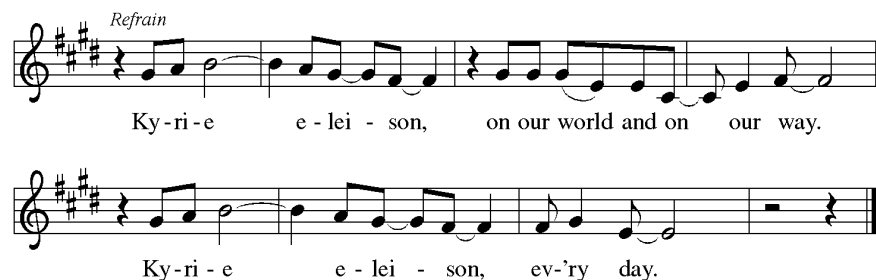
TRINITARIAN GREETING

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 (OPENING PRAYERS)

p. 184



Stephen Ministers are the “after people.” With over 50 hours of training in pastoral caregiving they are ready to come alongside you, your friend, or relative - and provide comfort and support for as long *after* as needed. For more info on FELC’s Stephen Ministry program contact our Stephen Ministry Leaders: Annick Dixon or Pastor Mike.

THE WEDNESDAY LADIES BIBLE STUDY WILL BEGIN AGAIN WITH A NEW NAME:

LADIES BOOK CLUB is starting up again this fall. Beginning Wednesday September 10th from 2:00-3:00 pm in the church library, we will be studying the Good Book beginning with stories in the Old Testament. New story each week and we only meet for one hour with no homework required. Please join us when you can. -Marda Kirkwood & Carole Mason

COME JOIN BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP (BSF) FOR A NEW STUDY.

Encounter God. Build Friendships. There is now literally a study for everyone in Idaho Falls.

Women and children ages 0-17: Wednesdays at 9:30 am at Calvary Baptist

Women: Wednesdays at 6:30 pm at Christ Community

Men: Wednesdays at 6:30 pm at Saint John’s

BSF is an interdenominational, international group that seeks to Magnify God and Mature His People.

For more information, talk to Linda Lerum 208-569-2588 or go to <https://www.bsfindernational.org/> to sign up. First class is September 10th.

FIRST LUTHERAN’S VOLUNTEER-STAFFED NURSERY

Our nursery took a break during the summer since many of our volunteers were enjoying well-deserved vacations. We are currently making plans to open the nursery during worship again this fall. We hope to have enough volunteers for an 8-week rotation, which would mean serving once every other month. However, since we require “two-deep” leadership this will require 16 volunteers. The good news is we’re close!! Every additional volunteer gets us closer to fulfilling the age-old adage “Many hands makes light work!” This is such an important ministry for young families, and especially for our growing congregation that wants to continue welcoming young families. If you can help, please contact our Family Ministry Chair, Steve Hickman or the church office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PENNY POWER:

Penny Power for August will go to Meals on Wheels. This organization delivers approximately 220 hot meals daily during the week and cold meals for the weekend to home-bound seniors and disabled adults in Bonneville County.

END TIMES AND THE BOOK OF REVELATION: A LUTHERAN VIEWPOINT:

Many Christians hear about “rapture” and “tribulation” from popular books of TV preachers, but have never heard the Lutheran perspective clearly explained. Did the “Left Behind” series get it right? Not hardly! This four-week course taught by Pastor Mike will outline the traditional Lutheran biblical viewpoint about the end times. We’ll focus on “myth busting,” discussions for hope in Christ, and connection to current events. The course starts on Rally Day, Sunday, September 7th and goes through Sunday, September 28th.

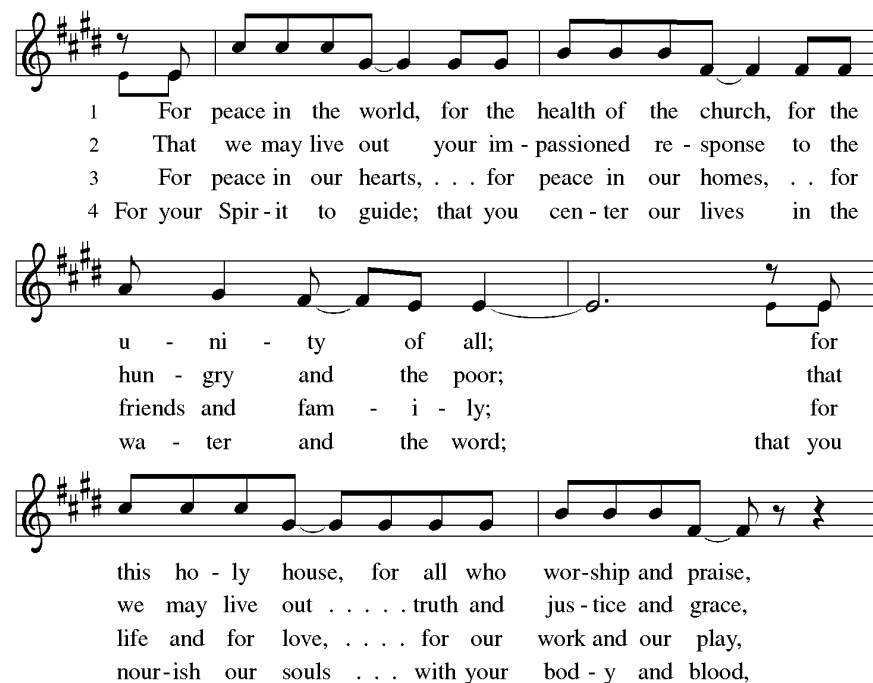
RALLY DAY CELEBRATION SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH AT 9:00 AM

We live in uncertain times and need solid footing in this world. Thankfully Jesus is our rock on which we can take our stand. That is our Sunday School theme for this year, “Jesus is our rock!” and the theme for our Rally Day celebration. We’ll be gathering around “Ebenezer” in the courtyard, painting pavers, playing scissors, paper, rock and maybe even enjoying a little “rock candy.” Haven’t met “Ebenezer” yet? Come Sunday, September 7th and we’ll introduce you to old “Ebenezer!”

STEPHEN MINISTRY at FELC is 20 years old.

Did you know FELC has had an active Stephen Ministry program for the past twenty years? People often ask, “What exactly is Stephen Ministry?” One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the “AFTER PEOPLE.” Stephen Ministers are there:

- ♦ *after the phone call you hoped you’d never get*
- ♦ *after the divorce papers are served and the bottom falls out of your life*
- ♦ *after the doctor says, “I’m sorry, but there’s nothing more we can do”*
- ♦ *After your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.*



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the
u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you
this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

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HYMN OF PRAISE

“Glory to God” p. 213



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - migh - y God and Fa - ther, we
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

I Glo- ry to God, glo- ry to God, glo- ry to God in the high - est;

glo- ry to God, glo- ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.

II 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.

I Glo- ry to God, glo- ry to God, glo- ry to God in the high - est;

glo- ry to God, glo- ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.

I 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.

Again, after supper, he took the cup and 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.

THE 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.

DISTRIBUTION

We invite all who are baptized in Christ, and believe in receiving the bread and wine they receive Christ's body and blood and the forgiveness of sins, to join us. Children not receiving communion may come forward for a blessing. Holy Communion will be served at the altar rail this morning. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. You may choose white grape juice or red wine. The serving station at the center of the altar rail is our hypoallergenic station with gluten-free wafers. Please return to your seats by a side aisle.

SONGS DURING DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

#466 "In the Singing"

#785 "When Peace like a River"

#712 "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may this body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

Almighty God; The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.
Amen.

CLOSING SONG

#589

"All Depends on Our Possessing"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

**THE WORSHIP IS ENDED
LET THE SERVICE BEGIN!**

**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 THE PEOPLE

(Each petition will conclude with "Lord in your mercy;" the congregation responds with "Hear our prayer.")

OFFERING

OFFERTORY



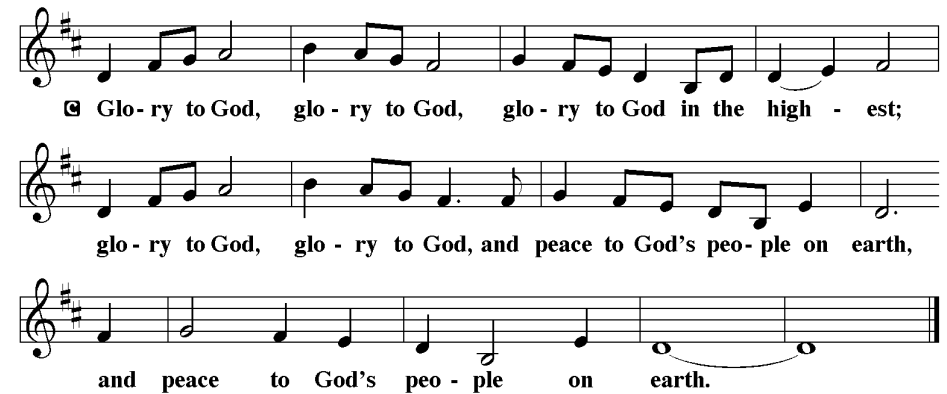
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Your
pres - ence, and take not Your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to
me the joy of Your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with Your Spir - it free.
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O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

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WE CELEBRATE OUR LORD'S SUPPER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,
and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

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WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON (Pew Bible p. 530)

Proverbs 25:6-7a

Our first scripture reading is from the Old Testament, the book of Proverbs, chapter twenty-five, beginning with verse six.

- ⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great;
^{7a} for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

This is God's word.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON (Pew Bible p. 979)

Hebrews 13:1-8,15-16

Our second lesson comes from the New Testament, the letter to the Hebrews, chapter thirteen, beginning with verse one.

- ¹ Let mutual love continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence,
"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.
What can anyone do to me?"

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

This is the word of God.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able, for the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

p. 188



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Lutheran Book of Worship, Robin Cain OneLicense SKU #06829 © 1999, Augsburg Fortress OneLicense #A-736147

THE HOLY GOSPEL (Pew Bible p. 849) Luke 14:1, 7-14
The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, chapter fourteen, beginning with verse one.
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to

a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SONG OF THE DAY

#522

"As We Gather at Your Table"

THE SERMON

Pastor Mike Knauff

"Hard Work...Being Humble"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Gathered as the created, redeemed, and sanctified children of God let us confess our faith...

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.