

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Jan Galbraith, Mary Hanek**

Liturgist: **Deb Nowatzki**

Communion Assistants: **Diane Sheldon, Cathy Abreu**

Elaine Bengston, Debra Holst, Beth Nicholas

Usher Coordinator: **Dave Sheldon**

Ushers: **Phil Forbord, Greg Stultz**

Counters: **Phil & Tessa Forbord**

Altar Guild: **Diana Murphy, Cheryl Swenson**

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 - 4:00 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

September 14, 2025

14th 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

TEMPLE TALK

Lisa Swenson

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

#609

"Chief of Sinners Though I Be"

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.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Today 9/14/2025

9:00 am	Adult Forum - Fellowship Hall
9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am	Sunday School
10:15 am	Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	King's Men Rehearsal
12:00 pm	Executive Council Meeting - Library
4:00 pm	Round About Brass Practice

Monday 9/15/2025

10:00 am	Staff Meeting - Library
7:00 pm	Council Meeting - Classroom #2

Tuesday 9/16/2025

9:00 am	Happy Stitchers
9:00 am	Preschool
12:00 pm	Happy Stitchers' Bible Study
1:00 pm	Preschool
6:00 pm	Girl Scout Troop #930 - Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal

Wednesday 9/17/2025

9:00 am	Preschool
1:00 pm	Preschool
2:00 pm	Ladies Book Club - Library
5:00 pm	Praise Band Rehearsal

Thursday 9/18/2025

9:00 am	Preschool
9:00 am	Men's Bible Study - Library
10:00 am	Kaffeeklatsch - Library
1:00 pm	Preschool
7:00 pm	Stephen Ministry Team Meeting

Friday 9/19/2025

10:00 am	Friends in Stitches - Fellowship Hall
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Saturday 9/20/2025

Sunday 9/21/2025

9:00 am	Adult Forum - Fellowship Hall
9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am	Sunday School
10:15 am	Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	King's Men Rehearsal
4:00 pm	Round About Brass Practice

THE CHOSEN DISCUSSION GROUP CONTINUES

The popular Christian livestream/movie series “The Chosen,” which tries to respectfully and authentically depict the life of Jesus and his disciples, will be releasing its fifth season to live stream and DVD on Sunday, September 28th. That allows us to start up our “watch and talk” discussion group. It will be led by Pr. Mike, and we will meet on **Wednesday nights from 7:00 - 8:30 pm** in the Youth Room. The Chosen- season 5, has eight episodes that are each about 50 minutes in length. To view all 8 episodes, we’ll start on **October 1st and go through November 19th**. The good news is we have comfy chairs, tasty snacks, good discussion, and you don’t have to watch the first few seasons to get something out of it. Folks have reported being inspired and intrigued by just watching a random single episode!

KYRIE (OPENING PRAYERS)

p. 184

Refrain

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-ry day.

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,

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

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Report of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Year to date Income thru August \$216,349; Year to date Expenses thru August \$219,077

Year to date net Cash Flow thru August -\$2,728

Last Week's in Worship Attendance: 167, Live Stream: 65

☐ 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.

① 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.

☐ 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.

② 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.

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.

COMING SOON - OUR INQUIRER'S CLASS

Led by Pastor Mike and scheduled to start on Sunday, October 12th, it lasts six weeks ending on November 16th. We will meet in the church library. If you're interested in finding out more about what a "Lutheran Christian" is... this is your chance. You don't need to commit to joining to be part of the study and questions are highly encouraged. However, if you *are* interested in becoming part of our FELC church family, this is your opportunity. The class is designed to cover at a glance some of the basic foundational parts of Christianity:

- What's so Amazing about Grace?
- What is the authority of ancient scripture in a modern day world?
- What's so important about Baptism and Communion?
- As well as inform folks as to the history and inner workings of FELC.

Those considering membership need to attend at least four of the six classes. Contact Pastor Mike or the church office if you're interested in attending. *Knowing how many are attending, and if there are nursery needs, helps the office staff a nursery, get the right size room to meet in, and have enough materials.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PENNY POWER:

Penny Power funds for September will go to Lutheran World Relief and will purchase farm animals that will make a big difference in the lives of families in countries a long, long way from Idaho.

NEED FRIES? LIKE WAFFLES?

The Fellowship team has a large bag of French fries in the freezer that is FREE to anyone who might need them. Please see Kathy Katainen. Also, Pastor Larry, back from his travels, has asked if anyone in the congregation has a waffle maker from Norway. Please let him know if you have one he may use.

RESULTS OF FIRST ALL TEAM QUARTERLY MEETING:

Our thanks to all who attended the all-ministry team night last Monday, September 8th. With over 25 in attendance, it was a great night for prayer and planning, inspiration and communication, all to the glory of God. Our congregation is blessed because of and through its ministers - who are the ministers at FELC??...check the back of your bulletin (*hint: All the Members of FELC*). Together we make a difference.

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.

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. A 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



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.
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.
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. 69*)

Exodus 32:7-14

Our first scripture reading is from the Old Testament, the book of Exodus, chapter thirty-two, beginning with verse seven.

⁷ The Lord said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I

commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' ”⁹ The Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation.”

¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” ¹⁴ And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

This is God’s word.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM (Pew Bible pg. 452)

Psalm 51:1-10

Our Psalm for today is Psalm fifty-one verses one through ten. I invite the congregation to read it aloud with me.

**Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.**

² **Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

³ **For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.**

⁴ **Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgement.**

⁵ **Indeed, I was born guilty,
a sinner when my mother conceived me.**

⁶ **You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

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

#779

“Amazing Grace”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

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



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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.

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

#685 "Take My Life, That I May Be"

#591 "That Priceless Grace"

#608 "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

- ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.

This is the word of God.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON (Pew Bible p. 963) 1 Timothy 1:12-17
Our second lesson comes from the New Testament, the Apostle Paul's first letter to Timothy, chapter one, beginning with verse twelve.

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

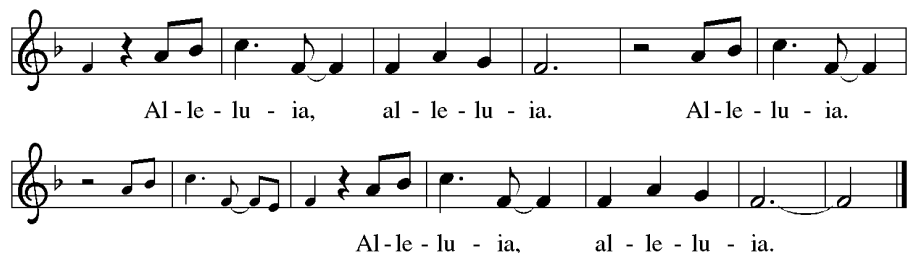
This is the word of God.
Thanks be to God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

p. 188





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

THE HOLY GOSPEL (*Pew Bible p. 350*) Luke 15:1-10
The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, chapter fifteen,
beginning with verse one.
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

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

SONG OF THE DAY #789
“*Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*”

THE SERMON Pastor Mike Knauff
“*The Lost and Found Department*”

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.

**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

