



First Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Worship & Communion

*We welcome all people into
grace through faith as we
belong, behave and believe in
Jesus Christ.*



Welcome! Your presence at worship is a gift. Take a moment to introduce yourself to someone near you. If you are a visitor to First Lutheran, we invite you to fill out the tear off card on the back of the service folder and place it in the offering plate.

18th Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday

October 4, 2020

10:00am

HOLY COMMUNION

Prelude

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please stand as able.

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

All Amen.

Pastor Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Please kneel as able. Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor Faithful God,

All have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Church's One Foundation



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Pastor God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

All Amen.

Gathering Song

ELW #654

The Church's One Foundation

Greeting

Pastor The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

Feast

All This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia

Women Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Men Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor
Blessing and glory are His.

**All This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia**

Prayer of the Day

Pastor Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Word

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "wild grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

¹Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,

and it shall be trampled down.
6 I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

Lector Word of God, word of life.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 80



The vine-yard of the Lord is the house of Is - ra - el.

Cantor A vine from Egypt you transplanted; you drove away the nations and planted it. It put forth its foliage to the sea, its shoots as far as the river. **Antiphon**

Cantor Why have you broken down its walls, so that every passer-by plucks its fruit, the boar from the forest lays its waste and the beasts of the field feed upon it? **Antiphon**

^{Cantor} Once again, O Lord of hosts, look down from heaven and see; take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted the son of man whom you yourself made strong.
Antiphon

^{Cantor} Then we will no more withdraw from you; give us new life and we will call upon your name, O Lord, God of hosts, restore us; if your face shine upon us, then we shall be saved. **Antiphon**

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting

what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Lector Word of God, word of life.

All Thanks be to God.

Please Stand as able.

Pastor The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

Pastor The gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Rev. Richard A. Rhoades

Please Stand as able.

Hymn of the Day

ELW#727

Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth

Creed

Asst With the whole church,
we join in professing the Christian Faith.

**All 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

Asst Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Please kneel as able. Silence is kept for reflection.

Asst Holy God, you call us to work for peace and justice in your vineyard. Refresh the church with your life, that we may bear fruit through work and service. Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Asst Thank you for the abundant harvest of the earth. Bless and care for those whose hands bring the fruits of the earth to the tables of all who hunger. May we be inspired by your servants who cared deeply for your creation including Francis of Assisi, whom the church commemorates today. Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Asst Curb the impulses of greed and pride that lead us to take advantage of others. Grant that world leaders seek the fruits of the kingdom for the good and welfare of all people. Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Asst Sustain all who suffer with the promise of new life. Assured of your presence, heal our pain and suffering, and equip us to embrace all bodies aching for wholeness of mind, body, and soul. We call to mind those who are struggling today including Don, Dana, Donald, Darlene, Kay, those one our sustaining prayer list, and those we name now... . Continue, O Lord, to help the world contend with the COVID-19 Pandemic and thank you for the opportunity of gathering again in person and on-line. Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Asst We pray for all employers in our community and for all who seek employment. Give hope and a future to those who lack meaningful work, those who have been marginalized or abused in the workplace, and those who desire new opportunities. Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Asst Be near our ministry partners near and far. We remember this day Bishops Eaton and Rinehart, Upbring- Lutheran Social Services, Lutheran Immigrant and Refugees Services, and our international partners in the Central African Republic, Peru and the Massai in Tanzania. Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Asst Thank you for the saints who teach us to live faithfully in your vineyard including Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society, whom the church remembers today and Carolyn Chide. May our chorus join theirs until our labor is complete. Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Pastor Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Passing the Peace Beyond church walls

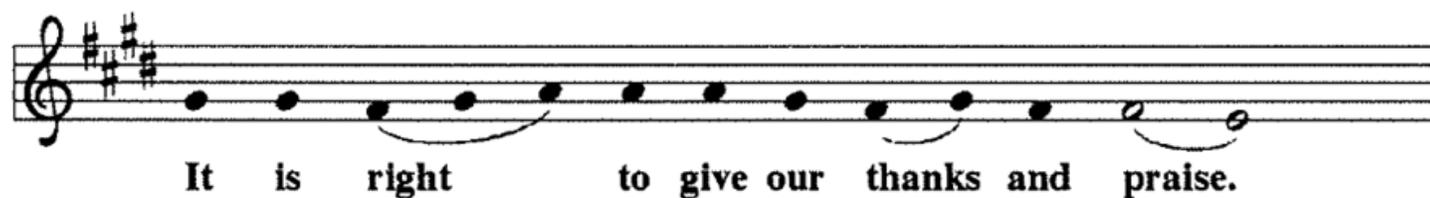
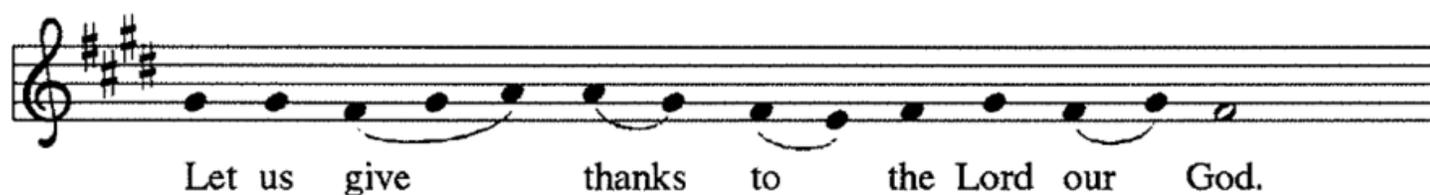
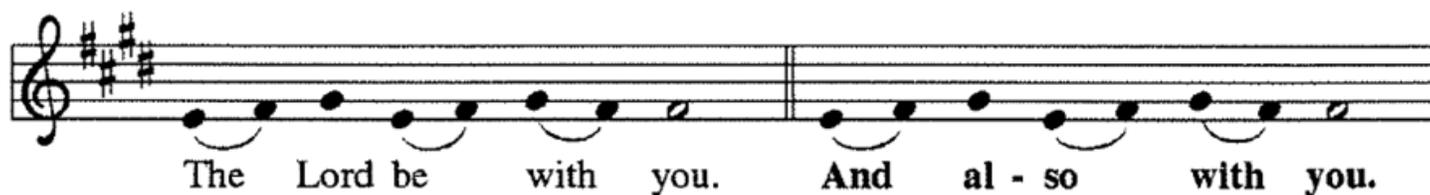
Offering Prayer

Asst Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please stand as able.

Great Thanksgiving

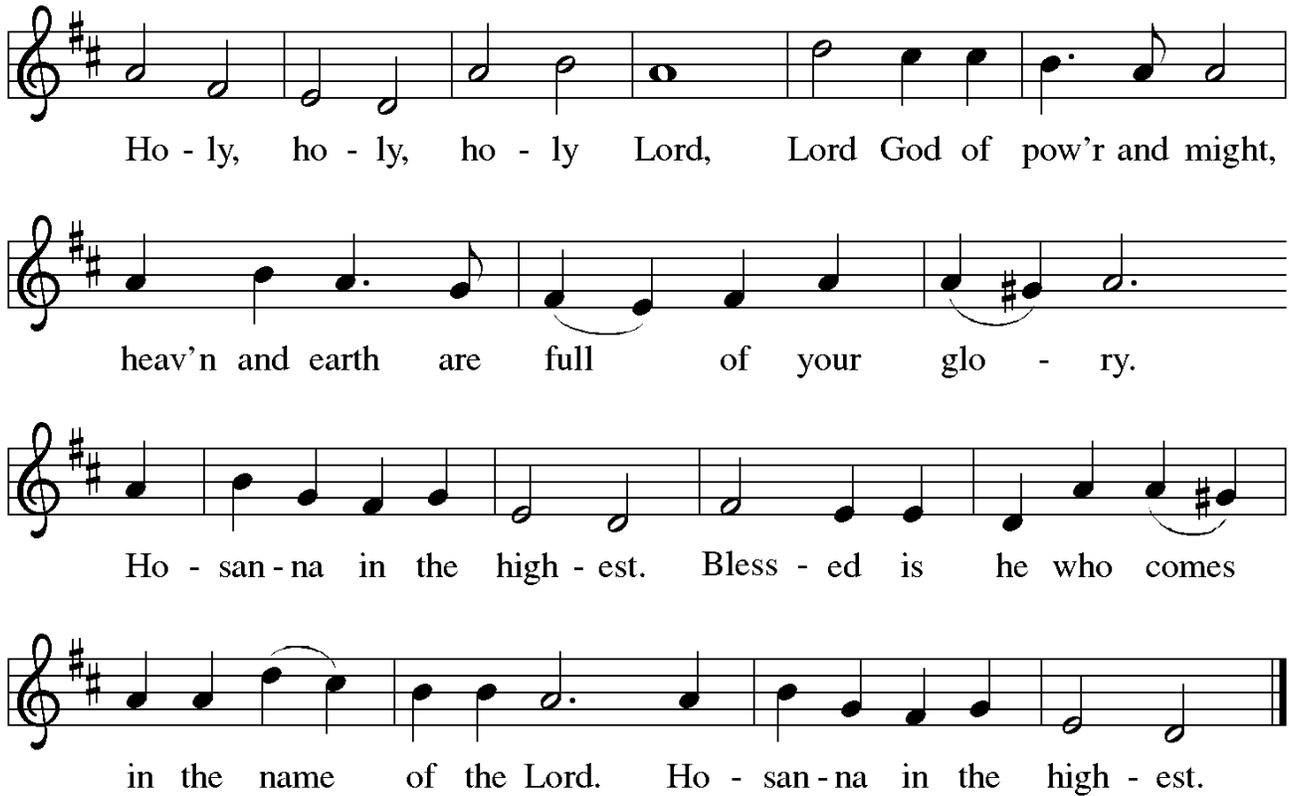


Preface

Pastor It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Please kneel as able.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Pastor Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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, 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and
ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Pastor Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

All 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

Pastor Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

Reception of Holy Communion

Ushers will direct you to follow social distancing as you come forward to receive the promise of God's grace in the bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Christ. As you come forward you will find stationary offering plates in which to place your offering. As you come forward, keep your face mask on. Observe social distancing. Extend your hand toward the celebrant who will place a wafer of bread on your open palm. You may respond with the affirmation, "Amen." Step to the side, lift your mask to eat the wafer and then replace your mask. Step to the communion tray station where an assistant guide you to pick up your own prefilled cup of wine. You may again offer the affirmation, "Amen." Then step to the side, lift your mask to drink the wine, lower your mask, place the used cup in a receptacle and then return to your pew by the side aisle.

Please stand as able.

Reception of Holy Communion

Music during the reception of Holy Communion

Pastor The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ ✝
strengthen and preserve you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Prayer

Asst We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

Pastor The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Song

ELW#796

How Firm a Foundation

Dismissal

Asst Go in peace. Live boldly as the body of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Christians are the light of the world, but the switch has to be turned on.

- The Evangelism Team

This Week at First Lutheran

Sunday – Holy Communion, 10:00am

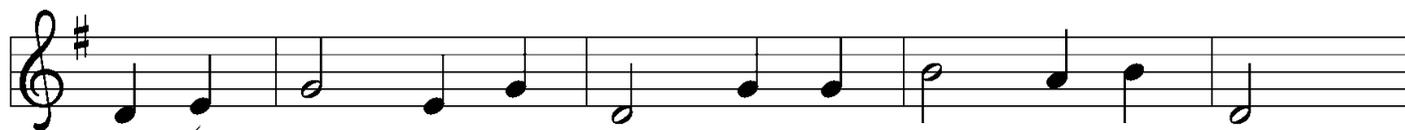
Sunday - Let's Talk, 4:00pm

Sunday- Holy Communion, 5:30pm

Prayer Concerns: Don Hermanson, Dana Connor, Donald Gangl, Darlene Badovinac, Kay Fritz.

Sustaining Prayers: Jeanie Doreck, Herbie Doreck, Pat Henderson, Gene Nelson, Antia Katz, Milton Barnum, John Doreck, Lee King, Susan Schultz, Bernice Klyng, Cheryl Jaynes, JW Snyder, Darrell Brooks, Christina Muehe, Tina Pereboom, Nicole Cheramie, George Badger, Donald Gangl, Earl Gilmore, Ann Reiser, Barbara Austin, Donald Gangl, Kristi Martorell, Patty Geml Goodwin, Christina Muehe, George Badger, Helga Garcia.

How Firm a Foundation



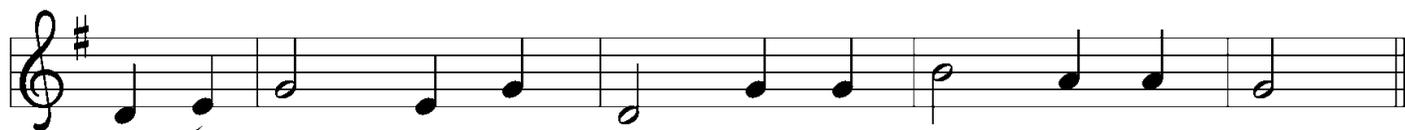
1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Christian Sympathy is expressed for the family of Carolyn Chide who peacefully died on Monday evening, September 28th.

Serving at Worship Today

Lay Minister

Brandi Painter

Cantor

Kelsey Scheuermann

Ushers

Dennis Broughton, Paul Martin

JP Massa

Glori Ana's Thank Offering this year is on November 22nd. Due to the National coin shortage any form of donation is welcome and most appreciated.

Reading Through Philippians is an exciting study of Paul's letter to the Philippians. Sessions will be held Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm virtually. Sign-up by emailing Pastor Rhoades or by calling the church office to request the link.

All Saints Day preparations have begun. Please provide a photo of those who have died in the last year to the church office. Make sure we have the name of the person in the photo. The photos will be displayed in the Narthex reminding of the cloud of witnesses that surround us.

Altar Flowers - There are still some open dates on the altar flowers calendar. Please contact the church office if you would like to fill in one of those dates.

Thank You! To all the volunteers who came in to clean the sanctuary this past Monday. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Upcoming Commemorations

Michael and All Angels

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Michael the archangel, captain of the heavenly hosts, is remembered on this day along with the other angels and archangels. The word "angel" means messenger, and in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, these beings have a fully spiritual nature and no physical body.

Jerome, translator, teacher, died 420

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Jerome was a biblical scholar and translator, but rather than translating the original Hebrew and Greek scriptures into classical Latin, he worked in the commonly-spoken Latin of the day, creating a version called the Vulgate.

Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church, died 1226

Sunday, October 4, 2020

Born into the family of a wealthy merchant, Francis gave up his inheritance to serve poor people. He formed the Order of Friars Minor (called Franciscans), who took on poverty and the task of preaching "using words if necessary." Francis had a spirit of gratitude for all of God's creation.

Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society, died 1864

Sunday, October 4, 2020

Fliedner helped to bring about a revival of the ministry of deaconesses among Lutherans. He was influenced in this by Moravian deaconesses he had met. The motherhouse he founded in Kaiserswerth, Germany, inspired many around the world to take up this ministry.

William Tyndale, translator, martyr, died 1536

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

Tyndale was ordained a priest in England, and wished to translate the Bible into English. He was opposed in this by King Henry VIII, causing him to flee to Germany. He completed the New Testament in 1525, but before he could finish the Old Testament, he was tried for heresy and burned at the stake.

Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, pastor in North America, died 1787

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Divided Lutherans in America asked leaders in Europe to send someone who could take charge and unite their work. Muhlenberg was sent, and was effective in organizing the American Lutherans. Among other accomplishments, his liturgical principles became the basis for the Common Service of 1888.

Massie L. Kennard, renewer of the church, died 1996 (TFF)

Saturday, October 10, 2020

A native of Chicago, Kennard was a major figure in supporting and working toward ethnic and racial inclusiveness in the former Lutheran Church in America. Ordained in 1958, he served in positions including Director for Minority Concerns of the Division for Mission in North America.

