



First Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

10:00am 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.

Second Sunday After Epiphany

Sunday

January 17, 2021

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, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

All Amen.

Pastor Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Please kneel as able. Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor Holy God,

All you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin— our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.

O Zion, Haste



1 O Zi - on, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
2 Pub - lish to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion
3 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere you meet him,



to tell to all the world that God is light;
that God, in whom they live and move, is love;
make known to ev - 'ry heart his sav - ing grace;

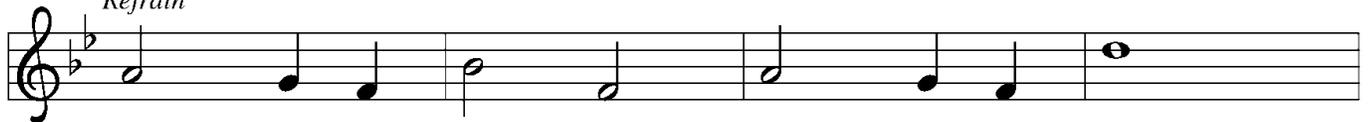


that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion
let none whom he has ran - somed fail to greet him,



one soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.
and died on earth that we might live a - bove.
through your ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

Refrain



Pub - lish glad tid - ings, tid - ings of peace,



tid - ings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion, and re - lease.

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834–1923

Music: ANGELIC SONGS, James Walch, 1837–1901

Pastor How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

ELW#668

O Zion, Haste

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.

Glory

Assisting minister



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

All



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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

Prayer of the Day

Pastor Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Word

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-20

At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the LORD comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond. This marks the beginning of Samuel's prophetic ministry.

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." ¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." ¹⁷Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything

and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."

¹⁹As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

Lector Word of God, word of life.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 139



LORD, you have searched me out and known me.

Cantor Lord you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways. **Antiphon**

Cantor Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O Lord, know it altogether. You press upon me behind and before and lay your hand upon me. **Antiphon**

Cantor Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it. For you yourself created my inmost parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. **Antiphon**

Cantor I will thank you because I am marvelously made; your works are wonderful, and I know it well. My body was not hidden from you, while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth, **Antiphon**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Paul helps the Corinthians understand that God has claimed the entirety of their lives through the death of Christ. Hence Christian relationships and conduct, including areas of human sexuality, are to reflect the reality that we belong to Christ and that the Holy Spirit lives within us.

¹²“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

Lector Word of God, word of life.

All Thanks be to God.

Please Stand as able.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Pastor The holy gospel according to St. John, the 1st chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 1:43-51

In John's gospel, Jesus' ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip's friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to "Come and see."

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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Pastor The gospel of the Lord.

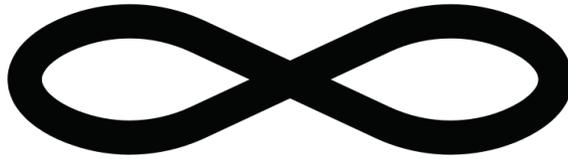
All Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be Seated

Sermon

Rev. Richard A. Rhoades

Follow



Find

Hymn of the Day

ELW#798

Will You Come and Follow Me

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 Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

Please kneel as able. Silence is kept for reflection.

Asst For the body of Christ gathered throughout the world and for all servants of the gospel, that following Jesus, we the church live out our calling every day, let us pray.

All Have mercy, O God.

Asst For the well-being of creation, for plants and animals, and for all that God has marvelously made, that we serve as wise stewards of Earth, our home, let us pray.

All Have mercy, O God.

Asst For police officers and firefighters, for attorneys and paralegals, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people, especially the most vulnerable, let us pray.

All Have mercy, O God.

Asst For our United States of America as we work together for a more united nation, for our elected officials to have wisdom in their serving, for President Trump and Vice President Pence as they end their term and for President Elect Biden And Vice President Elect Harris as they begins their term, for our nation to continue the hard work of democracy, let us pray.

All Have mercy, O God.

Asst For those lacking food or shelter, for those who are sick or grieving, and for those who are imprisoned or homebound, for the ill of mind, body or spirit including Roger, Sluggo, Herbie, Sherry, Pastor Tammy, Shirley, Carl, those one our sustaining prayer list and those we name now... ,that God console all who suffer, let us pray.

All Have mercy, O God.

Asst For our neighborhood, for visitors joining us for the first time or returning, and for those absent from our assembly, that all who seek to know God are nourished by word and sacrament, let us pray.

All Have mercy, O God.

Asst For our ministry partners to be inspired in their faith. We pray for Bishops Eaton and Rinehart, The camps of the church including Lutherhill Ministries and Zion Retreat Center, and our international partners in the Central African Republic, Peru and the Massai in Tanzania, let us pray.

All Have mercy, O God.

Asst In thanksgiving for the saints who have gone before us including Antony and Pachomius, renewers of the church, that their lives give us a vision of the gospel in action, let us pray.

All Have mercy, O God.

Pastor Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

All Amen.

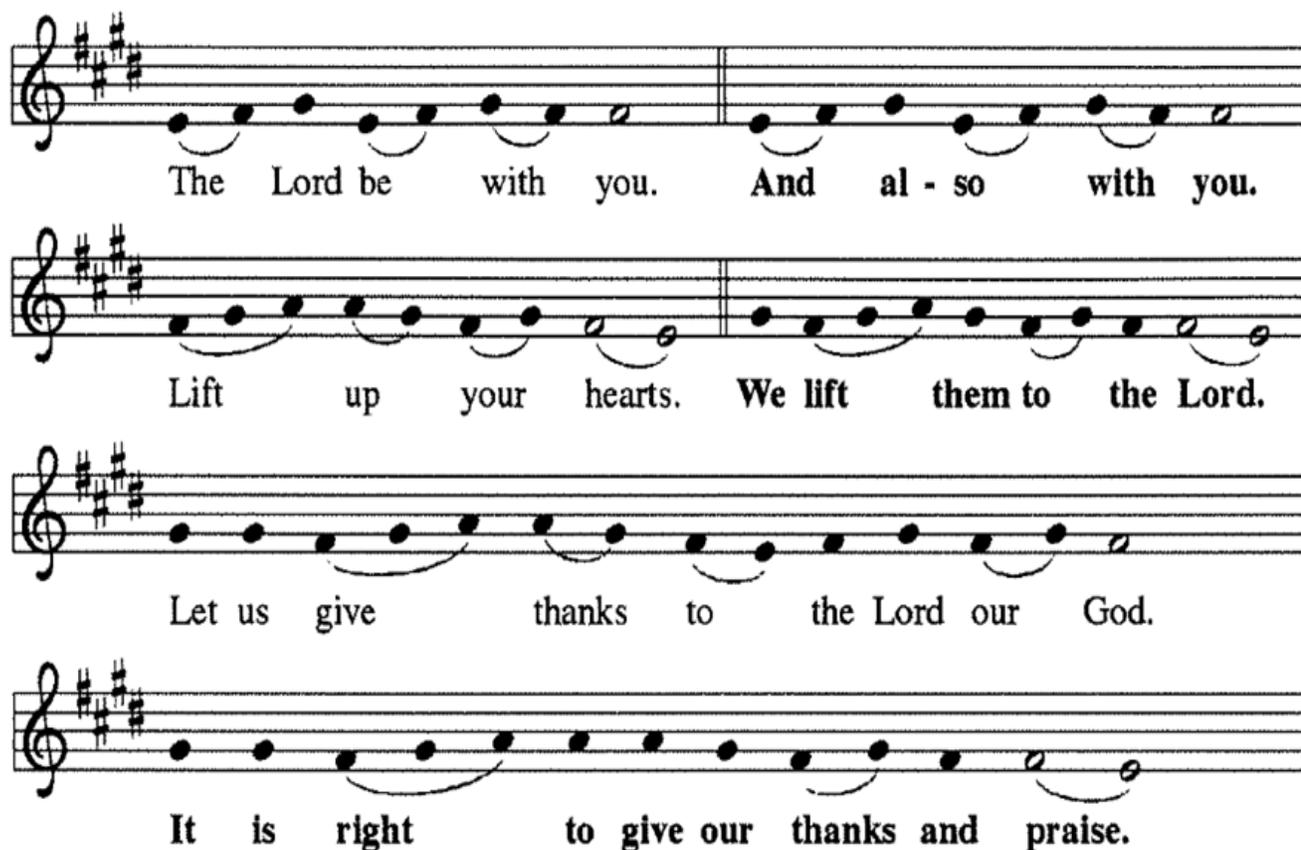
Passing the Peace

Please stand as able.

Offering Prayer

Asst O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving



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

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

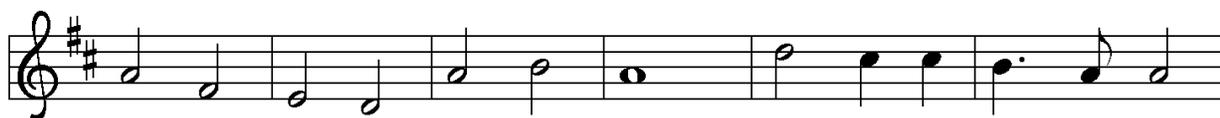
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus. Come and be fed.

Communion Song



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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 Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name.

Amen.

Blessing

Pastor God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ☩ keep you in peace.

Amen.

Sending Song

ELW#310

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Dismissal

Asst Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

Members are encouraged to be seated in preparation for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. We will begin the meeting in a few moments.

Postlude

Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?

- The Evangelism Team

This Week at First Lutheran

Sunday – Holy Communion, 10:00am

Sunday - Annual Church Meeting, Following Worship

Monday - Church Office Closed

Tuesday - Bible Study, 6:30pm Online

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph - et, priest, and king su - preme;
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak - ened bod - y, faint - ing soul;
 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God - head man - i - fest;
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill:
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

Prayer Concerns: Sluggo Thiem, Roger Low, Herbie Doreck, Sherry Moon, Pastor Tammy, Shirley Muraca, Carl Davis

Sustaining Prayers: Jeanie Doreck, Pat Henderson, Gene Nelson, Anita Katz, Milton Barnum, John Doreck, Lee King, Susan Schultz, Cheryl Jaynes, Darrell Brooks, Christina Muehe, Tina Pereboom, Nicole Cheramie, George Badger, Earl Gilmore, Ann Reiser, Barbara Austin, Kristi Martorell, Patty Geml Goodwin, Helga Garcia, Dana Connor, Darlene Badovinac.

Serving at Worship Today

Lay Minister	Anthony Grizzaffi
Cantor	Bethany Grizzaffi
Ushers	Jim Lewis
	JP Massa

The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held today following the 10:00 am worship service in the Sanctuary. During this meeting we will elect a new church council member, approve a budget for 2021, and select voting members for the 2021 TXLA Synod Assembly.

HELP – The Lyceum NEEDS you! Volunteers are needed over the next two weeks to do general indoor cleaning (dusting, washing walls, plexiglass, changing lightbulbs, etc). If you can help, please contact Cynthia at 409-789-4142, cynthiamceldowney@gmail.com.

Family Sunday will be on **Jan 24th at 11am** (right after worship ends). This group is for families with children from Pre-K to 6 grade. It will gather in-person (fellowship hall) and virtually. This month, the group will kick off a new round of virtual Faith Formation lessons: Bible Time Travel. Please RSVP to emily@firstlutherangalveston.com by Jan 17.

Upcoming Commemorations

Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, martyr, died 1968

Friday, January 15, 2021

An American prophet of justice among races and nations, King was an eloquent preacher, a leader of the nonviolent resistance to race-segregated society, and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Born on this date, he was assassinated on April 4, 1968.

Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, died around 356

Sunday, January 17, 2021

One of the earliest of the Egyptian desert fathers, Antony gave away his sizeable inheritance and became a hermit. Later he became leader of a group of monks who devoted themselves to prayer, worship, and labor.

Pachomius, renewer of the church, died 346

Sunday, January 17, 2021

Born in Egypt, Pachomius became a Christian while a soldier. He became a hermit (a solitary monk) and organized others into a religious community. His rule for monasteries influenced later ones in both the Eastern and Western churches.

Confession of Peter

Monday, January 18, 2021

Today the church remembers the apostle Peter's great acknowledgement of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God." This festival serves as a fitting beginning to the week in which we particularly pray that all Christians might be united in faith and witness.

Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

When Erik, King of Sweden, determined to invade Finland for the purpose of converting the people there to Christianity, Henry went with him. Henry is recognized as the patron saint of Finland.

Agnes, martyr, died around 304

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.

