

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

246 South Main Street
Greensburg, Pennsylvania
724-834-1457

Office hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

felchurch.org

 Find us on
Facebook www.facebook.com/felchurch

 @FELchurch

Larry Kemp
Marvin J. Huls

Interim Pastor
Director of Music

WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We gather here every Sunday to experience the life changing and life giving grace of God. In this place we discover the truth of which the Bible speaks, “So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!” (2 Cor. 5:17).

We are thankful for your presence among us, thankful to God for His abiding presence that goes with you this week, and hopeful that you will be among us when we gather again.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

IN THE TIME BEFORE WORSHIP TODAY, please spend a few moments reading the introduction to the scripture readings in preparation for the hearing of God's word.

ALL BAPTIZED worshipers who confess the presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion are invited to commune. Children are invited to come forward for a blessing. Communicants please complete a communion card.

GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION WAFERS are available for those persons with allergies.

WE ARE THANKFUL FOR CHILDREN in our worship service. A nursery, on the second floor of the education building, is available for those moments when children need a quiet area.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS providing activities based on today's scripture readings are available in the narthex.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS are available for children to use during worship. They are located in the Narthex and at the top of the steps in the balcony. Each bag has an age level marked on it so that you can easily find the one you need. After the service, we ask that all contents be placed in the proper bag and returned. Thank you!

PASTOR LARRY KEMP may be reached either at the church office, by email at *pastor125kemp2@verizon.net* or by calling his mobile number at (412) 302-6988. If the concern is of an urgent nature, please call his mobile number.

PLEASE remember to turn your cell phones off before worship.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 14, 2018
8:15 AM & 10:45 AM

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

*The beginning of the organ prelude is a call to silent,
personal preparation for the worship of God.*

GATHERING

Announcements

Installation of Congregation Council Members (10:45 AM)

Confession and Forgiveness

The congregation stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The congregation kneels. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive 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.

Hymn: “Here I Am, Lord”

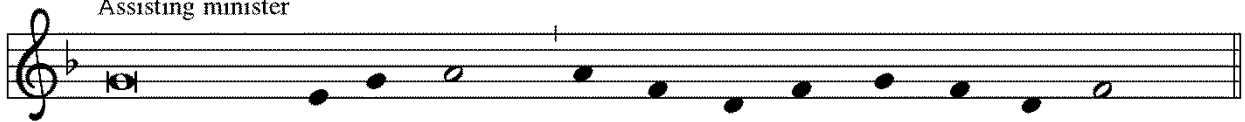
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Greeting

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.**

Hymn of Praise: “Glory to God in the Highest”

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, 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,



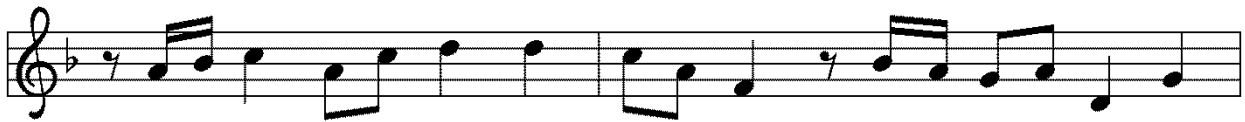
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



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 (Celebrate insert)
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The congregation may be seated.

WORD

First Reading 1 Samuel 3:1-20 (Celebrate insert)

R/Thanks be to God!

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (Celebrate insert)
(Read responsively, 8:15; sung, choir and congregation, 10:45)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 (Celebrate insert)

R/Thanks be to God!

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. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel John 1:43-51 (Celebrate insert)

R/ Glory to you, O Lord. R/ Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day “Open Your Ears, O Faithful People” # 519

Apostles' Creed

**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 the Church

(Celebrate insert)

To stay current with our many continuing prayer needs, we will refresh our prayer list at the beginning of each new month by starting with a clean slate. We understand that many people will continue to need prayer beyond the length of one month. If you wish to continue to have someone listed in the bulletin for public prayer, please call the office by the last Wednesday of the month.

The Peace

THE MEAL

Offering

(Children, please bring your offering to the front of the church and place it in the “Thank You Jesus” Jar.)

Offertory Response “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful” # 182

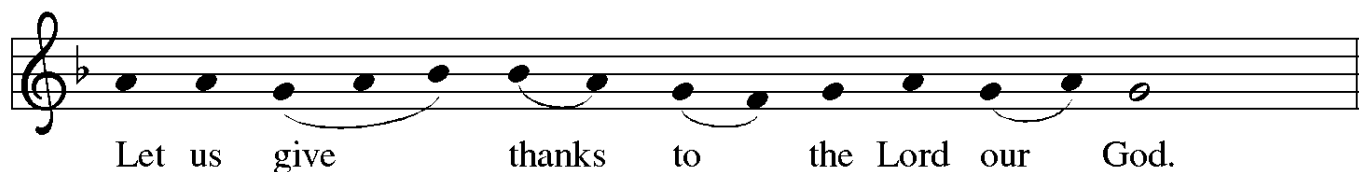
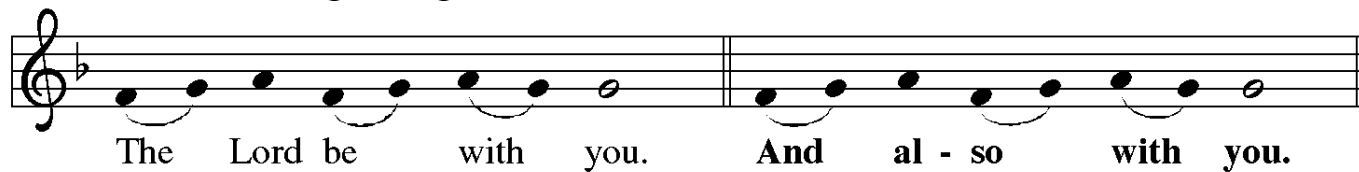
Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer (in unison)

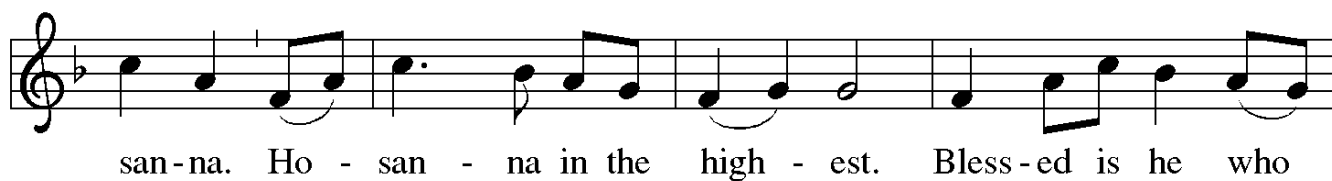
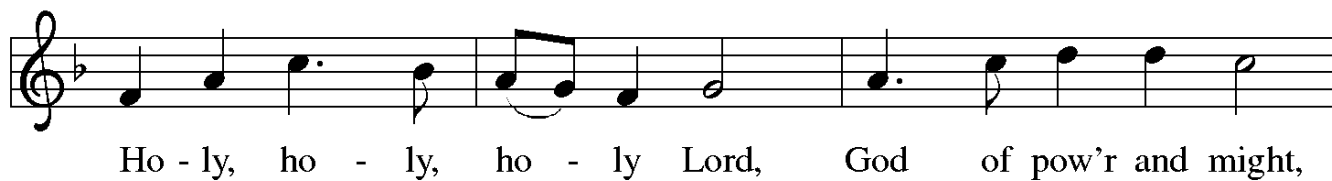
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation...

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup...

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit...

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours...

one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

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.

COMMUNION

Table Blessing

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

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks
that you have set before us this feast,
the body and blood of your Son.
By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need
and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

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.

Hymn “Jesus Calls Us; O’er the Tumult”

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Installation of Congregation Council Members (8:15a)

Dismissal

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

BLESSED TO BLESS

SERVING TODAY:

ACOLTYES are Ailanthus Hanzel, Erik Hanzel and Cade Cavanaugh

LECTORS are Sherry Menz and Bob Errett

WORSHIP ASSISTANT is Rocco Marusko

AUDIO/VISUAL (AV) MINISTRY is provided by Drew Erdman.
CD's will be delivered by Betty Kraus.

GREETERS include at 8:15 Rocco Marusko - north door, Pastor Kemp - center, Amy Erdman - south door; at 10:45 Rocco Marusko - north door, Pastor Kemp - center, Bob Errett - south door.

PRAYER CONCERNS:

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER this week Lisa, Brandie Saraceni, Robert Errett, Bev Todaro, Lynn Hochrein, Dean Cichetti, Shirley, Pat Eidemiller and John Merrill.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of loved ones by Tom and Suzy Flory and family.

PRAYER REQUESTS for First's Prayer Chain may be made at any time by calling the church office or by writing the request on the prayer cards in the pew racks and placing it in the offering plate. **If for whatever reason you do not want your name listed but would like to be on the prayer list, just let us know when you make your request.**

To keep current with those who are in the service, we will refresh our list at the beginning of each new year by starting with a clean slate. Please call the church office to have someone listed in the service prayers in 2018.

EXCELA HEALTH has changed their policy and will no longer notify the church of admissions. Please notify the pastor or call the church office if you or your loved one is hospitalized.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

2018 COUNCIL MEMBERS will be installed today at both services.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST is available today and each Sunday, 9 - 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is Monday, January 15.

FINANCE meets Tuesday 6:30 PM.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION meets Tuesday 7:00 PM.

FOOD FROM THE HEART, our weekday luncheon ministry, continues this Wednesday at noon.

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION is this Thursday. Assistance is needed by 8:00 a.m. to unload the truck and sort groceries (Both unloading and inside help is much needed for FOOD BANK this Thursday at 8:00). If you can lend a hand on Thursday morning your effort will be greatly appreciated.

CHOIRS rehearse Thursday night. Bell Choir meets at 6:15; adult choir meets at 7:00 PM.

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING January 21 after the 10:45 AM service. Join the First Lutheran Family for business and fellowship immediately following the 10:45 AM service. Lunch and fellowship will include a meal with meat, rolls, beverages, and dessert provided. You are asked to bring a covered dish of vegetables or salad and your own place settings.

Following the meal we will conduct annual business. The agenda includes a review of the past year with reports from officers, teams, and the Pastor. A report on the congregation's ministries will be available on our website, felchurch.org, prior to the meeting.

ALTAR GUILD is in dire need of LARGE juice cans. You may drop them off in the office.

HOMEBOUND VISITS: Pastor Larry Kemp and those visiting homebound members are revising the current list of homebound members. If you know of anyone who might need a visit, please contact pastor or the church office.

2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the fellowship hall.

WEEKLY EMAILS: If you are not receiving the weekly email blast, please call the office so we can add your name and email address to the list. We will not add anyone to the weekly email list unless they specifically request it even if we already have your email address.

NEW PROCEDURE: To disarm or arm the security system, enter the security code and then press the **ENT** button located on the bottom right hand corner of the keypad.

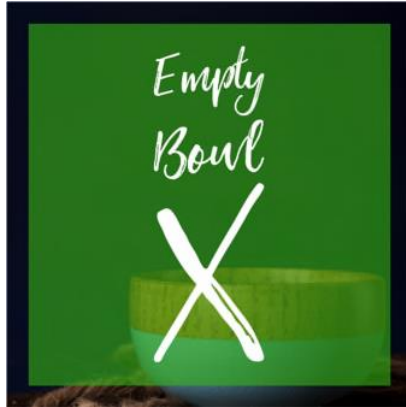
MISSION STATEMENT

“As Servants of Jesus Christ, we strive to impact our families, neighbors and the world by sharing our faith, empowered by God’s Grace”

*Developed by Church Council
October 2016*



Project to Benefit the Westmoreland County Food Bank
info@emptybowlwestmoreland.com



10th Annual Empty Bowl Event:

March 4th, 2018 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Hempfield High School Cafeteria

4345 State Route 136, Greensburg, PA 15601

A \$15.00 donation will get you:

- ✓ Your choice of over 1,000 handcrafted and unique bowls
- ✓ Soup from over 30 local restaurants
- ✓ Freshly baked bread provided by Panera and the CWCTC
- ✓ Entertainment throughout the day
- ✓ Cookies, coffee, water, and tea
- ✓ Chinese Auction
- ✓ Silent Auction
- ✓ 50/50 Raffle

****Special Offer for Students and Teachers: bring your school ID and get a \$5.00 discount on your Empty Bowl Event Ticket!****



Request for Donation of Auction Items

Empty Bowl is a National project that was the brain child of a potter who wanted to help people in need of food. With some assistance from his friend he gathered hand made bowls and created a one day event where he sold the bowls, along with soup and bread from local restaurants. The meager meal served as a reminder of how many families in their community might have empty bowls in their homes.

The project has taken many different forms across the country, but all events have raised money to feed the poor. Over the past nine years our local Empty Bowl project has raised over \$130,000 for the Westmoreland County Foodbank, using funds raised from the various activities held at our annual event.

Empty Bowl would like to request a donation from you to be used in the auctions during the annual event, held this year at Hempfield High School on March 4th, from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The auction baskets are one of the more popular attractions at the event and bring in additional funds for the food bank. All items are welcome and all donors will be acknowledged in the program handed out to teach patron at the event. You are also welcome to create your own auction basket, if you'd like. Charitable donation letters for items valued over \$200.00 will be generated for your tax returns and sent by the Westmoreland County Food Bank after the completion of the Empty Bowl Event.

ALTAR FLOWERS: First is in need of altar flowers for the following dates. If you are able to provide altar flowers for any of these dates, complete the form provided and return it with your flower fund contribution (make checks payable to First Lutheran) as soon as possible. Also, note on your check or envelope “flower fund”. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

April 8,
May 20
June 17

July 1, 29
August 19, 26
September 30

October 28
November 4
December 30

Enclosed is \$40.00 for altar flowers to be given on

(date) _____

in memory / honor of _____

by _____