



**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**



[www.facebook.com/felchurch](http://www.facebook.com/felchurch)

Larry Kemp

Interim Pastor

Marvin J. Huls

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

**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](mailto: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.

# SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 16, 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

Preludes and Silent Prayer

#### **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.**

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

*The assembly kneels. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.*

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.**

*The assembly stands. The service continues with a gathering song.*

**Hymn** “Lift High the Cross”

**# 660**

**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 Be to God"



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



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

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray

**O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen**

*The congregation may be seated.*

## WORD

### **First Reading Isaiah 50:4-9a**

The Lord God has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup> The Lord God has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backwards.

<sup>6</sup> I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord God helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

<sup>8</sup> he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

<sup>9</sup> It is the Lord God who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

### **Psalm 116: 1-9**

*(Read responsively: Lector / **Congregation**)*

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has <sup>1</sup>heard my voice,  
and listened to my <sup>1</sup>supplication,

<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given <sup>1</sup>ear to me**  
**whenev- <sup>1</sup>er I called.**

<sup>3</sup>The cords of death entangled me;  
the anguish of the grave <sup>1</sup>came upon me;  
I came to <sup>1</sup>grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup>**Then I called upon the name <sup>1</sup>of the LORD:**  
**"O LORD, I pray you, <sup>1</sup>save my life."**

<sup>5</sup>Gracious is the <sup>1</sup>LORD and righteous;  
our God is full <sup>1</sup>of compassion.

**<sup>6</sup>The LORD watches over the innocent;**

**I was brought low, and God saved me.**

<sup>7</sup>Turn again to your rest, O my soul.

for the LORD has dealt well with you.

**<sup>8</sup>For you have rescued my life from death,**

**my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;**

<sup>9</sup>I will walk in the presence of the LORD

in the land of the living.

## **Second Reading James 3:1-12**

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.<sup>2</sup>For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle.<sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies.<sup>4</sup>Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.<sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire!<sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell.<sup>7</sup>For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species,<sup>8</sup> but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison.<sup>9</sup>With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God.<sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so.<sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water?<sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: 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.

**Gospel Mark 8: 27-38**

**R/Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?”<sup>28</sup> And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.”<sup>29</sup> He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.”<sup>30</sup> And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup> Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup> But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

The Gospel of the Lord

**R/ Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

**Hymn of the Day:** “Will You Come and Follow Me” # 798

**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

*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.*

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these or similar words:*

. . . let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers with these or similar words.*

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## The Peace

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say Peace be with you or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

# 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)

Let us pray.

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

**Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:  
our selves, 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

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.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: '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.'

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

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.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: '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.'

## **Eucharistic Prayer IX *ELW***

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: ...

... with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness: ...

...into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:...

...with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,...

...we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: ...

... without end.

**Amen.**

## 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.**

## **COMMUNION**

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

*The assembly may be seated.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond Amen.*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### Blessing

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Hymn** “What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

**# 774**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**In the Lord’s Prayer we pray:**

“Forgive us our trespasses as we  
forgive those who trespass against us.”

# BLESSED TO BLESS

## SERVING TODAY:

**ACOLYTES** are Reese Woodley and Christopher Steel.

**LECTORS** are David von Schlichten and Malcolm Sias.

**WORSHIP ASSISTANT** is Pat Yost.

**AUDIO/VISUAL (AV) MINISTRY** is provided by Dwight Miller, Lexi Hahn and Scott Hahn.

**GREETERS** include at 8:15 Pat Yost - north door, Pastor Larry Kemp - center, Joanie Knobloch - south door; at 10:45 Pat Yost - north door, Pastor Larry Kemp - center, Dan Lucas - south door.

## **PRAYER CONCERNS:**

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER** this week Lisa, Brandie, Ed, Pat, Lynn, Babs, Jim, Mary Lou, Dorothy, Diana, Mark, Lori, Denise, Christopher, Jim, Marshall, Debra, Mark, Billy, Autumn, Kathleen, Karen and the family of Sue Baker.

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given in memory of Kip D. Boggs by the Boggs family.

**THE CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given in memory of Tillie Cavanaugh by her husband Don 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.**

**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:**

**CONDOLENCES** are extended to the family of Sue Baker who died September 11, 2018.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Erika and Nick Colonna on the birth of their daughter, Kinsley Elizabeth, September 8, 2018.

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

**FAIR TRADE** begins today between services.

**SOCIAL MINISTRY** will meet today at 9:30 AM.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** for October is Monday, September 17. You may email your articles to [office@felchurch.org](mailto:office@felchurch.org).

**FINANCE** meets Tuesday, 6:30 PM.

**CHRISTIAN ED / YOUTH** meets Tuesday, 7:00 PM.

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

**WORSHIP WORD and SACRAMENT** Wednesday, 6:00 PM

**FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION** is this Thursday. Assistance is needed by 8:00 a.m. to unload the truck and sort groceries. 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.

**ATTENTION RUNNERS:** Please let Pastor Larry Kemp know if you are planning to participate in the City of Pittsburgh Great Race on September 30, 2018.

**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.

**HARVEST SUNDAY** will be celebrated on Sunday, October 21. Please bring canned goods to replenish the Emergency Food supply.

**ECUMENICAL HYMN** festival “And Who is My Neighbor” will be held on Reformation Sunday, October 28 at 4:00 pm in the sanctuary. All are invited.

## **NEW WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY AT FIRST**

We are currently offering a worship service at 6 PM on Wednesday evenings. The service is a spoken worship service with Holy Communion. It is not intended to replace either of the Sunday worship services and is offered either as an additional worship opportunity for those who may not be able to worship with us on Sunday or those who might like an additional opportunity to worship during the middle of the week.



**FIRST LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL  
“BACK TO SCHOOL” BUS  
NEEDS YOUR HELP**

Our Preschool Bus is parked in the sanctuary. It contains red and green apple post-it note suggestions for supplies needed for this year’s preschool classes.

If you are willing to help, please remove a red apple suggestion sticker and purchase the item for the preschool. If you remove a green apple sticker with a financial gift suggestion, you may place your gift in the offering plate or turn it into the office and we will purchase the item.

Our little ones and their teachers appreciate your gifts!

**MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM 2018**

First Lutheran has sponsored a Matching Gifts program since 2002. Members of First Lutheran are invited to make a gift to any non-profit, human service organization whose mission is in accordance with First Lutheran’s mission, as agreed upon by our Social Ministry Activating Team. Such gifts will be matched by a First Lutheran Check and will be sent to the organization. Also, such gifts can be made throughout the year until the total budgeted amount of \$10,000 is met.

Individual organizations are only eligible to receive up to \$2,000 from the matching gifts program until November 11, 2018. If there are any matching funds money remaining after November 12, any size gift will be matched until the program budget is exhausted. The \$10,000 in matching funds is budgeted from our 2018 Trust Fund distribution.

# Opportunities to Serve at Sunday Worship

On Sunday morning, we have a number of opportunities to serve our Lord and the congregation at First. Those opportunities are:

Altar Guild	Assisting Minister
Choir	Communion Assistant
Greeter	Lector
Sound System Operator	Usher

All of these are valuable parts of our time in worship. We have a particular need for ushers and people to run the sound system.

If this sounds like something you might be called to do, please speak with the pastor.

We **URGENTLY** need help recording the weekly service and editing the recording to CD. Training will be provided. Please call the church at 724-834-1457 or email the church office at [office@felchurch.org](mailto:office@felchurch.org), if you would like to volunteer. This is a vital ministry for those unable to attend services and your help would be greatly appreciated.

We are looking for individuals to deliver the CD's from Sunday worship to some of our shut-ins. This would be approximately once per month. If you are interested in this ministry, please call the church office or use the back of the prayer request card and place it in the offering plate.