

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Office hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

office@felchurch.org

**Chris Combs
Marvin J. Huls**

**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.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 21, 2026
9:30 AM

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

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

GATHERING

Prelude **Come Home** (Craig Courtney)
Marc Tourre, baritone

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly 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.

The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.

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 or stands. 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.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.

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 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” #631

**1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
 Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
 Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
 all thy faithful mercies crown.
 Jesus, thou art all compassion,
 pure, unbounded love thou art;
 visit us with thy salvation,
 enter ev'ry trembling heart.**

- 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.**
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.**
- 4 Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!**

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 Is the Feast

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

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

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

First Reading **Jeremiah 20:7-13**

⁷ O Lord, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you were too powerful for me,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.
⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
For the word of the Lord has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
⁹ If I say, "I will not mention the Lord,
or speak any more in the name of the Lord,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.
¹⁰ For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"

All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
“Perhaps Jeremiah can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him,
and take our revenge on him.”
¹¹ But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.
¹² O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous,
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.
¹³ Sing to the Lord;
praise the Lord!
For the Lord has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

The Word of the Lord.

R/Thanks be to God!

Psalms 69:7-18

(Read Responsively)

7 Surely, for your sake I have suf- | fered reproach,
and shame has cov- | ered my face.

**8 I have become a stranger to | my own kindred,
an alien to my | mother's children.**

9 Zeal for your house has eat- | en me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fall- | en upon me.

**10 I humbled my- | self with fasting,
but that was turned to | my reproach.**

[11 I put on | sackcloth also,
and became a by- | word among them.

**12 Those who sit at the gate mur- | mur against me,
and the drunkards make | songs about me.**

13 But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have | set,
O Lord:

“In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your un- | failing help.

14 Save me from the mire; do not | let me sink;

**let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of | the deep
waters.**

15 Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep
swal- | low me up;

do not let the pit shut its | mouth upon me.

] **16 Answer me, O Lord, for your | love is kind;**

in your great compassion, | turn to me.

17 Hide not your face | from your servant;

be swift and answer me, for I am | in distress.

18 Draw near to me | and redeem me;

because of my enemies de- | liver me.

Second Reading **Romans 6:1b-11**

^{1b} Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with Christ in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

R/Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Jesus says, **The Spirit of the Lord will testify on my behalf, and you also are to testify. *Alleluia.***

Gospel

Matthew 10:24-39

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the tenth chapter.

R/ Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁴ “A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of the master’s household!”

²⁶ “So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.”

³² “Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a son against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and in-laws against one another;

³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

P/The Gospel of the Lord. **R/ Praise to you, O Christ.**

Youth Sermon

Sermon

Hymn “Borning Cry” #732

- 1 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."**
- 2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."**
- 3 "In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been,
with just one more surprise."**
- 4 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."**

APOSTLES' Creed

With the whole church we confess our faith.

**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.

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

At each petition,
God of grace,
hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers with these words.
Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus 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

Offerings may be placed in the plates as they are passed. You can utilize your regular envelopes or the gold envelopes in the pews. You can also utilize our new online giving tool through Tithe.ly by visiting felchurch.org or utilize the QR code here:

Checks can also be mailed to: First Lutheran, 246 S. Main Street, Greensburg, PA 15601.

Thank you for your generous support of First's Ministry.

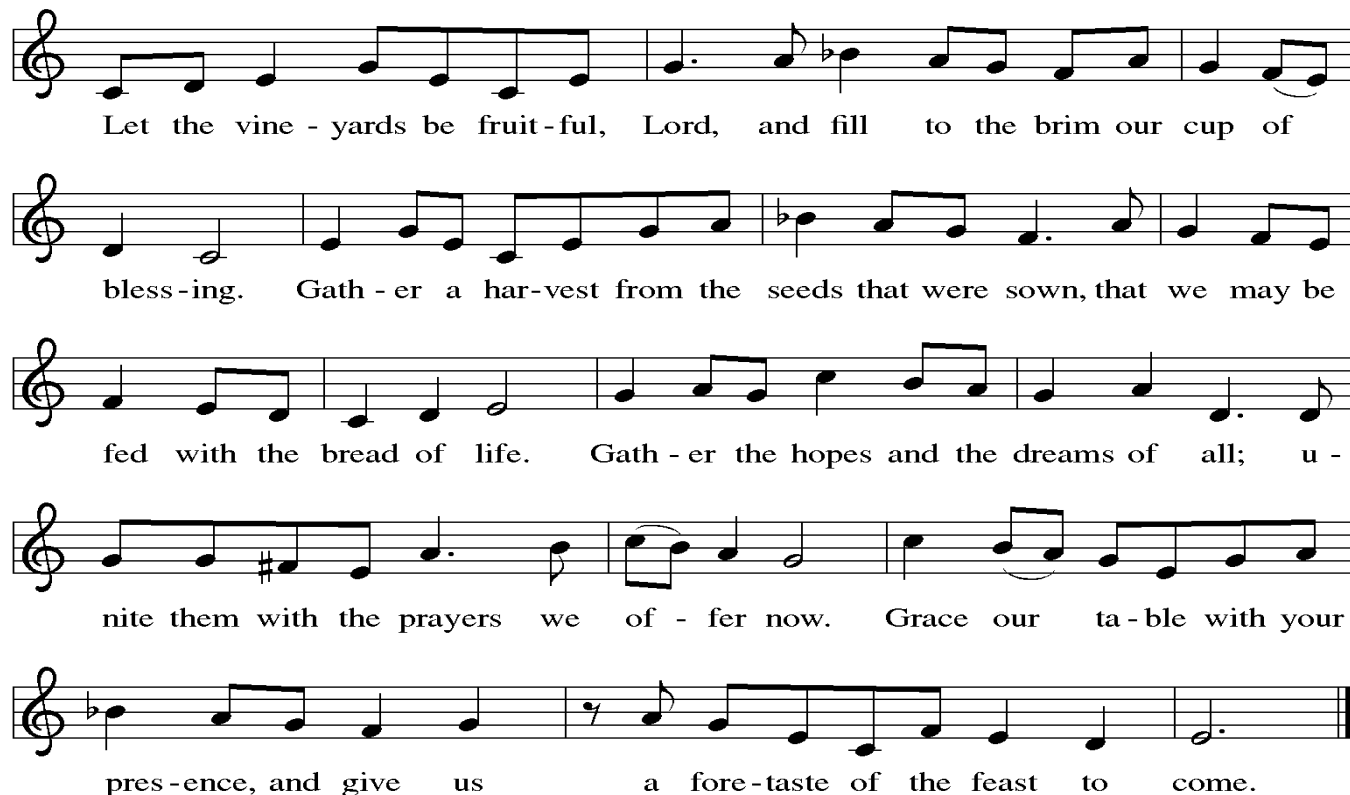


(Children, please bring your offering to the front of the church and place it in the "Thank You Jesus" Jar.)

Offertory God of the Deep (Dan Forrest)
Marc Tourre, baritone

Offertory Response:

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer (in unison)

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

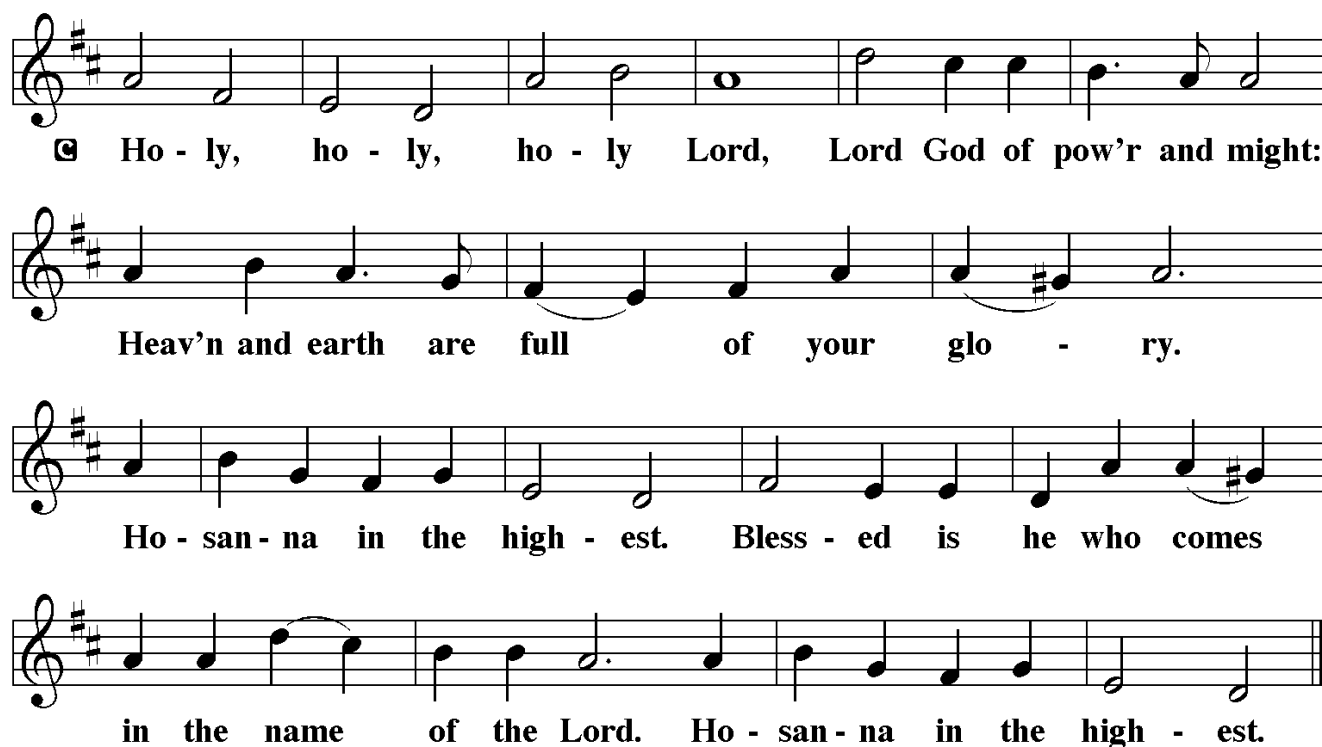
We lift them to the Lord.

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 and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

The presiding minister continues, using one of the following.

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

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

All baptized who wish to receive the body and blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of their sins and the nourishment of their lives are welcome. It is not necessary to be a member of First Lutheran to receive the sacrament.

For those receiving the sacrament please note the following:
Communion is at the rail for those who desire.

- *We encourage everyone to continue using hand sanitizer before coming forward for communion.*
- *As you approach the chancel, take a plastic cup from the tray.*
- *The communion rail will fill from both sides of the congregation.*
- *We encourage everyone to leave added space at the rail, primarily between family units.*
- *For those who need gluten free or grape juice, please tell the Pastor or assistant during the distribution.*
- *Cups can be placed in the trays near each side aisle as you return to your pew.*
- *For those who would like to receive communion, but are not comfortable coming to the rail, please let an Usher know so that the Pastor and Assisting Minister can bring communion to you.*

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.

After all have received,

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

Prayer after Communion

The assisting minister leads a prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The presiding minister proclaims God's 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.**

**1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee;
may I still thy goodness prove.**

**2 Here I raise my Ebenezer:
"Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.**

**3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.**

Dismissal

**Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.**

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BLESSED TO BLESS

SERVING TODAY:

9:30 AM

ACOLYTE

Nathaniel Boggs

LECTOR

Kevin Reilly

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

Kim Woodley

ALTAR GUILD for June includes Dianna Marusko, Carolyn Hanzel, Cindy Bell, and Sue Ross.

PRAYER CONCERNS:

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER this week Brandie, Suzy, Terry, Doug, Dennis, Barry, Marsha, Kris, Ray, Mike, Jill, Bill, Carl, Frank, April, Joanne, Janet, Jocelyn, Rivers, Kevin, Laura, Olivia, Judy, Patty, Hollie, Lisa, Tom, Les, Sue, and the family of Joanne Morgan.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given in honor and memory of our families by Malcolm and Patti Sias.

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.**

INDEPENDENCE HEALTH SYSTEM does not notify the church of member admissions. Please notify the pastor or call the church office if you or your loved one is hospitalized.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

THANKS to Marc Turre for his musical selections today.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE last Saturday evening was 37 and Sunday morning was 66.

A NURSERY is available for children to use on the second floor of the Education Building, down the hall from the Library.

PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION: Pastor Chris Combs may be reached either by calling the church office at 724-834-1457, by email at **PastorChris@felchurch.org** or by calling or texting his cell phone at 412-973-4179. If the concern is of an urgent nature, please call his cell phone.

**Saved by Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit
we share God's love, through word and deed,
in service to all of God's Children.**



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to set up and clean up for our Saturday Evening Worship in the Park. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST:

Sunday – June 21 – Pentecost 4

9:30 – Worship

Tuesday – June 23

Newsletter Folding

Wednesday – June 24

12:00 – Food From the Heart

6:30 – Property

Saturday – June 27

6:00 – Worship in the Park

Sunday – June 28 – Pentecost 5

9:30 – Worship

*“Gracious is the Lord and
righteous; our God is
full of compassion.”*

Psalms 116:5



**Saturday Worship
In the Park**
Weather permitting

Worship in the Park is back!

This summer we will once again have worship in the park. It will be on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays in June, July, and August. These services will be at 6:00 pm.

This is casual worship in the park (or the Fellowship Hall if necessary). Please bring your favorite camp chair and dress for the outdoors. Hope to see you there!

SUMMER FOOD DRIVE

During the summer months, the Christian Outreach Committee will be collecting nonperishable items for our Emergency Food Cupboard. These items will be used to assist many individuals and families in our community.

We have also seen an increased need for personal care items. Anything you are able to provide is greatly appreciated!

June is “Protein Month”: Suggested items are:

Peanut Butter

Canned meats (tuna, chicken, etc.)

Beans



June Personal Care: toilet paper (wrapped single roll or small 4-pack), Kleenex, paper towels (single roll)

July Personal Care: Shampoo, Body Wash or Bar Soap, Deodorant

August is “Canned Food Month”: Items especially needed are:

Soup

Fruit

Canned pasta (SpaghettiOs, etc.)

August Personal Care: Toothpaste, Toothbrush (single or 2-pack), dish liquid, laundry detergent (small size)

A basket is located in the education building foyer for your donations.

Please **check the expiration dates** before donating, as we cannot distribute expired items in the Emergency Food bags. Thank you!



Trex Recycling Challenge **Plastic Patrol**



Everyone is now a part of the Plastic Patrol of First Lutheran Church. Keep bringing in your plastic bags, etc. so we can **keep it out of our landfills** and get a *chance(s) each quarter to win a Trex bench for our park.

Totals to date:

Oct-Dec. 2025	166 pounds
Jan-Mar. 2026	253 pounds
Apr – Jun 2026	252 pounds (as of June 18, 2026)

Grand total to date: 671 POUNDS

LET'S KEEP RECYCLING THAT PLASTIC!!!

**for each 250 pounds of plastic collected per quarter, one entry into a random drawing to win and choose a bench or one of 4 other prizes.*