



First Lutheran Church

Welcome ~ We're glad you are here!

Lead Pastor: Joe Skogmo | Associate Pastor: Matthew Engum | Music Director: Karen Bimberg

Sunday, September 22, 2024 · 8:30 AM · 18th Sunday of Pentecost



Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

GATHERING HYMN

God Is Here!

ELW #526, vs 1 & 4

1. God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.
4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt, keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive; we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P/C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out our offenses. Release us from the guilt and shame we carry, and renew a right spirit within us. Teach us your ways, 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.

MUSICAL MESSAGE

The Lord's My Shepherd - Lloyd Larson

Jubilate Choir

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 11:18-20

It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their deeds. ¹⁹ But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit; let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" ²⁰ But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.



RESPONSIVE PSALM*Psalm 54*

R: Save me, O God, by your name, and vindicate me by your might.

C: Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

R: For the insolent have risen against me; the ruthless seek my life; they do not set God before them.

C: But surely, God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life.

R: He will repay my enemies for their evil. In your faithfulness, put an end to them.

C: With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.

R: For he has delivered me from every trouble, and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

R: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*ELW pg. 205*

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL*Mark 9:30-37*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 9th chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁰ They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it, ³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³² But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. ³³ Then they came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴ But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵ He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶ Then he took a little child and put it among them, and taking it in his arms he said to them, ³⁷ "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON*Pr. Joe Skomo***HYMN OF THE DAY***Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service ELW #712, vs 1, 3, & 4*

1. Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need, who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed: we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart; consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift which you impart.
3. As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight, making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear, stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.
4. Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go, to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show; hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid and peace we give, that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Apostle's Creed

C: 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 PEOPLE

P: Lord in your mercy **C: Hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

NOISY OFFERING

VBS & Future Missions Trips — FLC Youth & Family Ministries

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW #473

1. Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you. My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy God.
(Sing 2x)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P/C: receive this offering for the building up of your kingdom: the proclamation of your word and the loving of our neighbor. Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

I Want to Walk as A Child of the Light

ELW #815

1. I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.
Refrain: In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
2. I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus. Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*
3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

SENDING

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Join us on TODAY at 9:30am, in the church library, for a special presentation by Steve Yestebro of Fix it Forward Auto Care & Ministry.

HIGH SCHOOL HANG OUT: Join us TODAY for a High School Hang Out on at FLC @ 4:30pm. Bring a friend –all are welcome!

WEDNESDAY ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Do you feel like you are rushing from one task to another? Are you always busy with something that just can't wait? Is it difficult to find a space where God can allow "something" new to take place? If so, take a break from the craziness of life for a time of connections and devotions every Wednesday from 6:30 –7:30 pm in the library beginning October 2.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME: We will be welcoming new members to FLC on Wed, Oct 9 at the 6pm worship service and Sun, Oct 13 during the 8:30am and 10:45am worship services. If you would like to become a member of First Lutheran Church, please complete the **Membership Form** located on our website by clicking on 'Membership' under the 'About Us' tab (www.firstlutheranchurch.com). Please note, if you are unable to make those new member dates, you can still become a member at any time! Please call the office and talk to Sarah Nelson for more information (218-847-5656) or email at sarah@firstlutheranchurch.com. >>If you have been considering becoming a member of FLC, but, "just haven't got around to it" - now's the time! >>

THEOLOGY ON TAP: Questions about life? Questions about God? Questions about both? You are invited to come ponder over a cold, local brew with a curious community on the first and third Tuesday of the month at Bucks Mill at 7pm.

HIGH SCHOOL FREE PIZZA LUNCH: High Schoolers - Join the Pastors the 3rd Thursday of each month, for a *FREE lunch*, at Pizza Ranch at 11:30am. The first FREE lunch is September 19.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS: We are in search of volunteer soundboard operators during worship services and other events, who monitors the volume of instruments, microphones, and music. We are also seeking individuals that have interest in managing the worship slides and our live stream. No experience needed - if you are a willing to learn, we will train you. If interested, or for more info. contact: Sarah Nelson, Ministry and Social Assistance Coordinator, ph: 218-847-5656/ sarah@firstlutheranchurch.com or talk to Pr Joe or Pr Matthew.

VISITORS

Thanks for joining us!
Want to know more about FLC ?



GIVE ONLINE

Thank you for your support of FLC's missions & ministries.



TEXT TO GIVE

218-228-3228

Text your donation amount to the number listed above & follow instructions that are texted to you

Prayers for God's People

Brent Blake, Bill Wegschied, Cole Woltjer, Elyda Handegard, Joyce Gilbertson, LeAnn Henson, Jake Netland, Tina Moe, Ryder Schmidt, Norma Smith, Glenette Olson

Prayers of comfort for the families of: Karl Jacobson & Kay Larson.

Names are kept on the prayer list for 3 weeks; please update the office if you wish to remain on the list longer.

CREATION CARE NOTE

For less plastic in the world:

- Refuse paper receipts
- Limit use of vinyl in shower curtains, toys, flooring and clothing—including "vegan leather"

Consumer Reports, February 2024

Opening Doors to Life in Christ!



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JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

RADIO

Sundays at 10AM on KDLM 1340-AM and 93.1-FM

ON-LINE

Live streamed on Facebook and on the FLC YouTube channel.

TELEVISION

Saturday at 9AM on Arvig Cable ch14.