



First Lutheran Church

Welcome ~ We're glad you are here!

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

Sunday, Sept 8, 2024 · 10:45 AM · Rally Sunday!



James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

GATHERING SONG

Open the Eyes of My Heart

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You, I want to see You.
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You, I want to see You.

To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love as we sing, "Holy, holy, holy."
(Repeat from beginning)

Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. I want to see You. *(Repeat)*

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P/C: Merciful God, **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 *To Where You Are - Linda Thompson & Richard Marx* *Rich Johnson, saxophone*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:4-7a

⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; ⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 146

R: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

C: I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

R: Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

C: When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plan perish.

R: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God,

C: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;

R: who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

C: the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

R: The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

C: The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

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

GOSPEL

Mark 7:24-30

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 7th chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁴ From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶ Now the woman was a gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷ He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸ But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹ Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰ And when she went home, she found the child lying on the bed and the demon gone.

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

SERMON

Pr. Joe Skogmo

SONG THE DAY

Jesus Loves Me!

#595

1. Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so; little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

2. Jesus loves me! he who died heaven's gates to open wide; he will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. *Refrain*

3. Jesus, take his heart of mine, Make it pure and wholly Thine; On the cross You died for me, I will try to live for Thee. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

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.**

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
August Noisy Offering Total: \$495.62, raised for Cornerstone

OFFERING & OFFERTORY SONG

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: Loving God, **receive this offering for the building up of your kingdom: the proclamation of your word and the loving of our neighbor. Amen.**

COMMUNION

Words of Institution

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.

Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

C: Gracious God, at this table you have nourished our body and soul with food and drink. As you have been food and drink for us, transform us to be food and drink for one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

What a Friend

Everybody has trials and temptations. Everybody knows heart break, isolation.
But we can lay our burdens down, lay our burdens down.

**Chorus: What a friend we have in Jesus. East to west my sins are gone.
I see grace on every horizon, And forever and ever His heart is my home.**

Everybody has fears. Everybody got worries. Everybody knows sorrow, devastation.
But we can lay our burdens down, lay our burdens down. **Chorus**

Bridge 2 times:

*No more betrayal for He is faithful. He fills me up and my cup runneth over.
No more betrayal for He is faithful. How He has proven it over and over. **Chorus 2 times***

Forever and ever His heart is my home.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE RESUMES THIS WEEK! Wednesday night: Oasis meal 5pm - Worship service 6pm - Wednesday school & Confirmation, 6:30pm. ++*This week we are kicking off a new ministry year with ice cream and blessing of the backpacks.* ++

TAI JI QUAN: A new 12-week session is starting on Sept 17. The class will meet every Tues & Thurs at 1pm. Tai Ji Quan helps with strengthening and improving balance. It also helps to relieve arthritic pain and back issues. Only FIVE spaces available - sign up today, before the class is full! Sign-up sheet is at the volunteer table.

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. *Starting on September 17!*

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Join us on Sunday, September 22 at 9:30am, in the church library, for a special presentation by Steve Yestebro of Fix it Forward Auto Care & Ministry.

REBEKAH CIRCLE: The next meeting will be on Sept 10 at the Cornerstone Café in Frazee. Meet at the church at 8:30am to carpool.

QUILTERS: The FLC Quilters are looking forward to a busy fall of quilt making. We meet every Tuesday morning at 8:30 am. Come join us for a morning of "playing with material." All are welcome!

FLC VISITATION TEAM MEETING: The Visitation Team are congregation members who volunteer time each month to visit a member of FLC who can no longer attend worship. If you are interested in joining the team, there will be an information meeting on Sept 15 at 9:30am in the library.

HIGH SCHOOL FREE PIZZA LUNCH: Upperclassmen, who are able to leave campus, on the 3rd Thursday of each month, join the Pastors for a *FREE lunch*, at Pizza Ranch at 11:30am.

HIGH SCHOOL HANG OUT: Teens, join us for a High School Hang Out on September 22 at FLC @ 4:30pm.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS: Thank you to those who continually volunteer! You are vital to each service. We are always searching for new individuals that are willing to volunteer – particularly as a Communion Assistant (1st and 3rd Sundays), Usher and Reader. If you have an interest in volunteering for these roles but aren't sure what they entail, you are not alone! Please reach out to Sarah Nelson, Ministry and Social Assistance Coordinator (ph: 218-847-5656 or email: sarah@firstlutheranchurch.com). Pastor Joe or Pastor Matthew can also talk you through and show you the ropes.



Prayers for God's People

Brent Blake, Bill Wegschie, Cole Woltjer, Elyda Handegard, Joyce Gilbertson, LeAnn Henson, baby Nora, Deni & Jacob, Jake Netland, Tina Moe, Ryder Schmidt

Prayers of comfort for the families of: Michelle Gaard, Karl Jacobson, Charlie Scherzer & 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

Phthalates are used to make plastic more flexible and durable in food packaging. Consumer Reports has been testing over the last 25 years and has found phthalates in almost every food tested--even in organic products. They are leached from landfills into the soil.

Consumer Reports, February 2024.

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.

VISITORS

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



GIVE ONLINE

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



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218-228-3228

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