

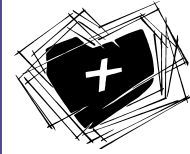


First Lutheran Church

Welcome ~ We're glad you are here!

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

Sunday, September 1 2024 · 8:30 AM · Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost



Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

PRELUDE **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Flutes and Keys

Dotz Johnson, Carol Turner, & Connie Wood

INVOCATION

GATHERING HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

vs. 1-2, 4 ELW #879

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

Refrain: Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.

2. For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light: *Refrain*

4. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild:

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

Holy, Holy, Holy - arr. Brent Olstad

Flutes and Keys

Dotz Johnson, Carol Turner, & Connie Wood

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9

¹ "So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ² You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶ You must observe them and perform them, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the people, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!' ⁷ For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸ And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? ⁹ "But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children—

RESPONSIVE PSALM*Psalm 15*

R: O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

C: Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right and speak the truth from their heart;

R: who do not slander with their tongue and do no evil to their friends nor heap shame upon their neighbors;

C: in whose eyes the wicked are despised but who honor those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

R: who do not lend money at interest and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

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 7:1-8,14-15, 21-23*

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

¹ Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ² they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³ (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, ⁴ and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.) ⁵ So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶ He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷ in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' ⁸ "You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴ Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

²¹ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, ²² adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

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

SERMON

Pr. Matthew Engum

HYMN OF THE DAY*What Wondrous Love Is This**ELW #666*

- 1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?
- 2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.
- 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing.
- 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing God's love for me, and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and through eternity I'll sing on.

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

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.

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.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty vs. 1-3 ELW #858

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation! Let all who hear now to his temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining. Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by his gracious ordaining?
3. Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you; surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do if with his love he befriend you.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED on Mon, Sept 2 in observance of Labor Day.
REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE RESUMES: On Sept 8 our **Sunday** schedule will go back to: 8:30am Traditional Worship | 9:30am Sunday School | 10:45am Contemporary Worship. On Sept 11 our **Wednesday** nights resume: Oasis meal 5pm | Worship service 6pm | Wednesday school 6:30pm.

RALLY SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY: Join us on Sunday, September 8 & Wednesday, September 11 as we kick off the new ministry year with blessing of the backpacks and ice cream sundaes !

TAI JI QUAN: A new 12-week session is starting on Sept 17. The class will meet every Tuesday & Thursday at 1pm. Tai Ji Quan helps with strengthening and improving balance. It also helps to relieve arthritic pain and back issues. Please sign up at the volunteer table.

JUBLIATE CHOIR: *The time for voices singing in praise has come!* The FLC Jubilate Choir will begin it's Fall Season on Sept 4 at 7:15 pm and rehearses every Wed evening from 7:15-8:15pm in the Multi-Purpose Room, the choir will sing 2 to 3 Sundays a month. We welcome all adults and high school students who want to explore the joy of singing and harmonizing! No experience is necessary!

ALTAR GUILD: Reminder to please sign up! There is a sign-up sheet for the next three months in the Sacristy.

ALLELUIA RINGERS: Please join us for an "Introduction to Bells" on Sept 4 at 6:15p in the music room. Our rehearsals are every Wed from 6:15-7:15pm and we provide the musical message at the 8:30am service every other week. Playing bells requires you to be able to count and read, the notes your bells will play. For questions, contact Carla Hansen, director, at 701-200-8984 or Hansencarla62@gmail.com

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.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Join us on Sunday, September 22 at 9:30am 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 this team, there will be a meeting on Sept 15 at 9:30am in the library.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA: Reminder: the registration deadline for the NW Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization Convention is due today. Registration forms are on the volunteer table.

Prayers for God's People

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

*Prayers of comfort for the family of:
Marilyn Weiler, Michelle Gaard &
Karl Jacobson .*

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

Try to "Buy Local" food to care for your body and exercise your power of choice. You will minimize intake of unnecessary and more than likely unhealthy chemicals such as preservatives, dyes, nanoplastics, and pesticides. Remember—Daniel and his compatriots refused to eat the king's lavish foods and after just 10 days "they looked healthier and stronger than all those who had been eating the royal food".

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
 Today's altar flowers are given by Judy, in honor of **Judy & Max Maxwell's 58th Wedding Anniversary!**

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.



TEXT TO GIVE

218-228-3228

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