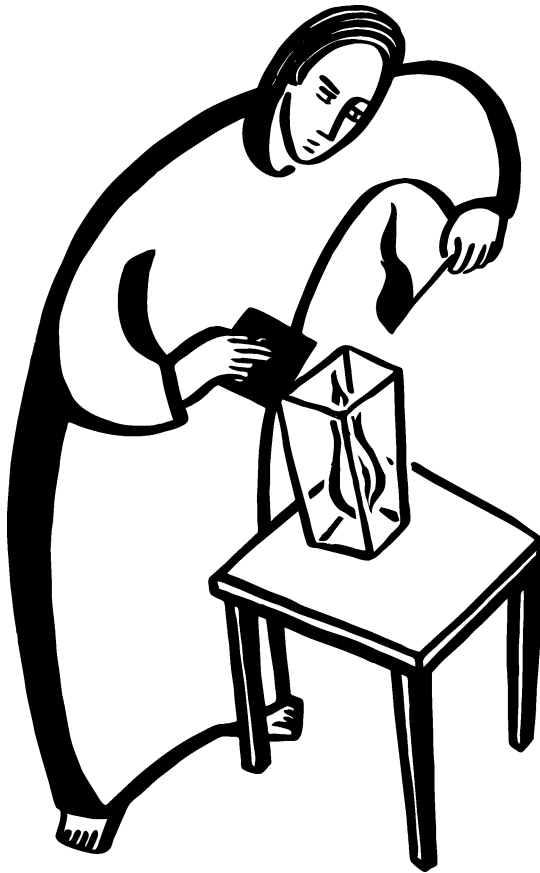


**August 10, 2025  
Blended Worship  
10 AM**



**First Evangelical Lutheran Church  
19419 Royalton Road  
Strongsville, Ohio**



## Mission Statement

*Living God's love through our devotion to  
service, worship, and one another.*

**Good Morning!**

**If you are a visitor today,**

*Welcome!*

**Sunday Schedule for Next Week, 08/17/2025**

Worship 10 AM

To contact the Church, call the office at 440-238-7890  
or email [firstchurchalive@hotmail.com](mailto:firstchurchalive@hotmail.com)

Office Manager Hours are Monday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 to 12:00 PM

Pastor Kathy - 440-666-8758 or [revklk@gmail.com](mailto:revklk@gmail.com)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Don't forget that if you ever have any questions or concerns,  
you may contact your Council representatives:

President: June Zakrajsek: 440-336-1678, [jfzakrajsek@gmail.com](mailto:jfzakrajsek@gmail.com)

Vice President: Ken Holda: 440-665-2836, [kenjholda@gmail.com](mailto:kenjholda@gmail.com)

Secretary: Lindee Flater 330-391-4627, [lindeeloulou@gmail.com](mailto:lindeeloulou@gmail.com)

At Large: Janet Kaiser: 216-215-4572, [janetmackaiser@gmail.com](mailto:janetmackaiser@gmail.com)

At Large: Margaret Bewie: 440-263-5748, [bewie@att.net](mailto:bewie@att.net)

Treasurer: Gary Walters: 216-645-8472, [gwaltersoh@yahoo.com](mailto:gwaltersoh@yahoo.com)

Mutual Ministry: Dawn Zima: 440-821-6545, [dzima@cox.net](mailto:dzima@cox.net)

Controller: Brenda Jacob, 440-655-1535, [bkjacob1@hotmail.com](mailto:bkjacob1@hotmail.com)

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
**Setting 4**

\* Please *turn off all electronic devices* during our time of worship.

**PRELUDE**  
*"Canticle"*

**David Gooding**  
Alan Layton

**PRAYER of PREPARATION**

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**SONGS**

*"Everlasting God"*  
*"10,000 Reasons"*

**PRAYER of the DAY**

**P** Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church.  
Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive  
you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen**

*Sit*

**FIRST READING: GENESIS 15:1-6**

*God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.*

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

*After the reading:*    R The Word of the Lord.    C **Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING: HEBREWS 11:1-3, 8-16**

*Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.*

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By

faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith, with Sarah’s involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

*After the reading:*    **R** The Word of the Lord.    **C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

### 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**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **GOSPEL: LUKE 12:32-40**

[Jesus said:] “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

*After the reading:*

P The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

## **CHILDREN’S SHARING TIME**

### **SERMON**

*“Dressed For Action”*

*Stand*

### **SONG**

*“Praise the Lord”*

## **BACKPACK BLESSING**

### **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**

*Sit*

### **PRESENTATION of the GIFTS**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

### **MUSIC**

*“Andante”*

**David Gooding**

**Alexandre Guilmant**

*Stand*



# 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 dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927  
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## **PRAYERS of INTERCESSION**

**P** In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

**P** God of grace,  
**C** hear our prayer.

*The prayers conclude:*

**P** Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen**

### **BLESSING**

**P** The love of God abound in you;

the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;

and the life of the Spirit

✠ bless you and give you peace.

**C** Amen

**SENDING SONG**      **ELW #624**

*"Jesus, Still Lead On"*

### **DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**  
*“Verset”*

**David Gooding**  
**Hans Klemmer**

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# **PRAYERS**

## **Hospitalized/Home and Recuperating**

Rhonda Fox, Reagan Kolman, Alice Treiber, Bob Jacob

## **Military Members**

Austin Holley, Deacon Nemet, Matthew and Teresa Dittman, Haley Uline

## **Stephen Ministry Team**

Maureen Harris, Sam Reichert, Becky Piper, Beth David, Pat Sauernheimer, Pam Simpson, Marsha Ginley, Phil King, and Bob Strong

## **On-going Prayers**

Linda Stanley, Nighman Family, Heidi Balicki, Tia (Simpson) Russell, Ron and Joanne Cvelbar, Cheryl Mooney, Elaine, Rob Shoens, Jessica Walsh, Sue Widdows, Wanda Woods, Stephania, Susan & George Bodovetz, Carol Rosenblum, Bonnie Bailey, Darlene and Jim Cassidy, Carrie Deal, Curt Kowalewski, Sarah Franko, Jim Taylor, Sue Sutton, Erica Kaminski, Jeanette Paus, Matt & Pat, Kevin, Zach Russell, Ryan Kuchta, Morgan Popple, Trish Nolder, Peter Duffy, Salay Family, Richard, Scott Hurley, John Walker, Don McKelvey, Karil Piskur, Clark Buckley, Laura Evangelista, Dennis Bailey, Eleanor Preston, Isabella, Amelia, Melina

## **Homebound**

Mary Jane Knaack, June Beck, Marj Wilder, Audie Kiplinger, Sheryl Clark, Ron & Mary Jane Warzel

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ELCA PRESIDING BISHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations and welcome to Rev. Yehiel Curry, who was elected to serve a six-year team as presiding Bishop of the ELCA. Curry has served as bishop of the ELCA Metropolitan Chicago Synod since 2019. He previously served as mission developer (2009-2012) and pastor (2012-2019) of Shekinah.

He received a Bachelor of Arts from Lewis University in Romeoville, Ill., in 1995 and a Master of Divinity from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC) in 2013. LSTC is one of seven ELCA seminaries.

## DAVID GOODING - THANK YOU

I wish to offer unbounded thanks to the congregation of First Church for its wondrous recognition of my recent birthday! It is a privilege to serve as First Church's organist and the thoughtful and generous gift and gathering were a stunning surprise! I am grateful to be able to make music in these latter years and to share it with you all is indeed a bountiful blessing.

Cheers!

David

## KIDS HOPE NEXT – DIRECTOR NEEDED

Kids Hope Next, the middle school version of our Kids Hope Program is in need of a director. The job description is on the Welcome Center. If you are interested, please reach out to Dawn Zima ([dzima@cox.net](mailto:dzima@cox.net)) or Pastor Kathy ([revklk@gmail.com](mailto:revklk@gmail.com))

## STEPHEN MINISTRY UPDATE

We are growing and are in need of an additional Stephen Leader and more Stephen Ministers. Please contact Maureen Harris for more information. She can be reached at (440)376-1506. On August 24, there will be an informational meeting following the service.

Please continue to pray for our Stephen Ministers and their care receivers. Thank you.

## **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY – CHURCH NURSERY**

We still need a few volunteers in order to open the nursery!

If you are interested in serving in the nursery, please contact Barb Nalette 216-970-4131 [mistylakenalette@gmail.com](mailto:mistylakenalette@gmail.com)

Due to the requirements of our insurance carrier and the new standard set by the National ELCA Church, we must meet the following to care for children: **all** volunteers over 18 must pass a fingerprint background screening and at least two people will need to be in the nursery, teens are eligible to volunteer along with one adult when the nursery is in operation. The fingerprinting is quick and easy and is provided for by the church.

## **MILITARY PRAYER REQUESTS**

If you know someone in the military serving our country, we want to include them in prayer. Please scan the QR code or go to [bit.ly/FLCMilitaryPrayers](http://bit.ly/FLCMilitaryPrayers) to add them to the list



## **ONLINE GIVING OPTION**

Due to requests for people to have the option to give their offering electronically, we are providing a QR code to allow anyone who would like to give electronically.



SCAN ME

## **STRONGSVILLE EMERGENCY FOOD BANK - DONATIONS**

The Strongsville Food Bank is in need of the following items: Cereal, (All types and Sizes), Oatmeal – (Cylinders any/all sizes), Mac and Cheese, Tuna Fish - (all sizes) Peanut Butter – All Sizes, Jelly – All Sizes, Ramen Noodles  
Urgent need to Hygiene products: Bars of Soap, Shampoo & Conditioner, Band-Aids, Antibacterial Ointment, Rubbing Alcohol (any size or wipes), Peroxide (any size), Body Wash, Body Lotion, Toothpaste & Toothbrushes

## **FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH APP**

First Lutheran Church has an app in both the Apple App Store (search FLC Strongsville) and the Google Play Store! (search FLC Strongsville) This communication option will help us stay connected and give us new and exciting tools to use. We continue to fine tune the options available on the app to best suit our congregation. If you see something that needs to be fixed, please reach out to the office and let us know.

Be sure to allow notifications when you download the app to get important updates!





**The Altar Flowers are given to the  
Glory Of God by  
The Reicherts in celebration of  
their Anniversary  
And  
Marj Gray in memory of John Gray.**

**Last Week's Attendance  
10 AM - 127  
Online – 30**

**Upcoming Worship Times  
Dates – Times  
August  
08/17 – 10 AM  
08/24 – 10 AM  
08/31 – 10 AM  
09/07 – RALLY DAY – 10 AM**

**Thank you to the following  
volunteers:**

**Reader**

Gloria Reichert

**Ushers**

Barb and Jerry Kreuger

**Counters**

Gayle Kovach, Mark Schultz,

Chris Hamel

**Altar Guild**

Lynn Stenger, Ellen Kolman,

Debbie Brighter

## **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

**Monday, August 11th**

AA at 7:30 PM

**Tuesday, August 12th**

Toastmaster's at 7:00 PM

Al Anon at 7:00 PM