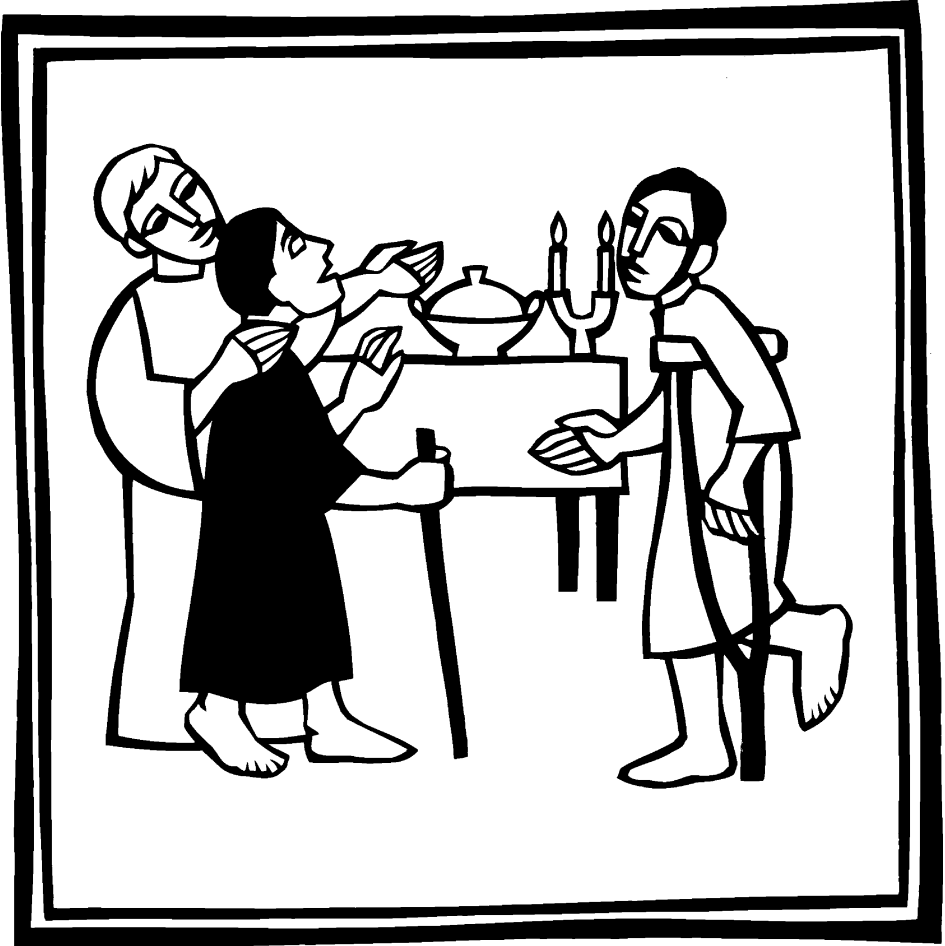


**August 31, 2025
Blended Worship
10 AM**



**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, 09/07/2025 – Rally Day
Worship 10 AM

To contact the Church, call the office at 440-238-7890
or email firstchurchalive@hotmail.com

Office Manager Hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 to 12:00 PM
Pastor Kathy - 440-666-8758 or 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

Vice President: Ken Holda: 440-665-2836, kenjholda@gmail.com

Secretary: Lindee Flater 330-391-4627, lindeeloulou@gmail.com

At Large: Janet Kaiser: 216-215-4572, janetmackaiser@gmail.com

At Large: Margaret Bewie: 440-263-5748, bewie@att.net

Treasurer: Gary Walters: 216-645-8472, gwaltersoh@yahoo.com

Mutual Ministry: Dawn Zima: 440-821-6545, dzima@cox.net

Controller: Brenda Jacob, 440-655-1535, bkjacob1@hotmail.com

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Setting 4

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

SONG: *“Blessed Be your Name”*

CALL TO WORSHIP

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

GATHERING SONG *“Build Your Kingdom Here”*

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER of the DAY

P O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are
humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Sit

FIRST READING: PROVERBS 25:6-7A

The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel's leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today's reading is about humility.

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

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

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 13:1-8, 15-16

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same

yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY **ELW #676** *“Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak”*

GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 14th Chapter

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

CHILDREN'S SHARING TIME

SERMON

"It Can be Hard to be Humble"

Stand

HYMN of the DAY

ELW #712

"Lord, Whose Love In Humble Service"

Sit

PRESENTATION of the GIFTS

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

MUSIC

"Chorale"

David Gooding

Evan Mason

Stand

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. 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 Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

After each portion of the prayers:

P Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude:

P Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

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

“Live With Abandon”

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Movendo”

David Gooding

Evan Mason

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PRAYERS

Hospitalized/Home and Recuperating

Rhonda Fox, 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, Chris Hamel

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, Cindy Walker

Homebound

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

BAPTISM



We celebrate as Preston Glen Mills will be baptized this morning. His parents are Heather and Shawn Mills and Preston's sponsors are Tyler Preston and Jenna Preston. Welcome to the Lord's family, Preston.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFICE STAFFING UPDATE

Just a reminder, the office is closed on Monday, September 1st in observance of Labor Day.

STEPHEN MINISTRY – UPDATE

While we are very excited to have had several people attend the informational meeting for becoming a Stephen Minister, we are in need of a few more people to complete the class and serve in this ministry. The need is great! Please call Maureen Harris for information. She can be reached at (440)376-1506. Thank you!

RALLY DAY/GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS – SEPTEMBER 6TH & 7TH

We are partnering with Habitat for Humanity for our God's Work, Our Hands Project! We will be building two playhouses for 2 different Habitat Families!

Volunteer Opportunities are as follows:

Saturday, September 6th

- 9:30 AM - 1 PM - (10-15 Volunteers) - Priming/1st Coat Painting
- 1 PM - 3 PM - (10-15 Volunteers) - 2nd Coat Painting, Touch ups, begin detail work/shingle roof

Sunday, September 7th

- 12 PM - 3 PM - (8-10 Volunteers) - detail work, touch up, assembly, finish roofing
- 3 PM - Families pick up the playhouse

Lunch will be served both days - when signing up for volunteering, please indicate if you plan to join us for lunch either day, as well how many will be eating lunch.

Scan the QR code or use the link <https://bit.ly/FLCGWOH2025> to register



GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS – DONATION OPPORTUNITY

Unable to volunteer? You can still participate in our project by donating supplies to A Welcome Basket for Habitat Families! There is a collection box in the Welcome Center for the following supplies: Mop, Broom, Paper Towels, Window Cleaner, Laundry Detergent, Dryer Sheets, Misc. Cleaning Products, Garbage Cans, Garbage Bags, Dish Towels, Hand Towels, Hand Soap, Toilet Paper

STEWARDSHIP PHOTO REQUEST

Stewardship is in need of photos that highlight our mission, outreach and fellowship. They are looking for photos of people interacting, working and enjoying our church and all that we do. Please send any photos to firstchurchalive@hotmail.com

CHAIR YOGA – MONDAY, 09/15, 1:30 PM

Sign up for Chair Yoga, beginning Monday, 09/15 at 1:30 PM. Contact Maureen Shorts at shortsstuff3@gmail.com for additional information.

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS, SEPTEMBER 14TH – 10:15 AM

Sunday School begins in two weeks and we can't wait to see you! Help us complete some housekeeping prior to the first week by filling out our online registration form for each student attending Sunday school. Scan the QR code or use the link: <https://bit.ly/FLCSS2025>



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 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

ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UPS

There are Altar Flower Vase openings in September, November and December. If you have a special event or celebration you would like to recognize or remember, please consider signing up for one of the available spots. Altar flowers are \$20.00 and can be taken home or donated to shut-ins. Please sign up in the Welcome Center

FIRST CHURCH WOMEN'S SEPTEMBER BOOK CLUB

Our next book club will take place on September 13 at 10:00 AM. We'll meet at 88 Fox Hollow in Brunswick to discuss *The Surgeon's Daughter* by Audrey Blake.

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!

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

- *Outreach Ministry Leaders – Gayle Kovach & Monika Muller*
The Outreach Ministry Team is an outward focused ministry that reaches out to prospective members and spreads God’s word and love by doing God’s work to address critical needs of the community and world at large.
- *Congregation Ministry Leaders – Linda Browning & Maureen Shorts*
The Congregation Ministry Team conducts programs and activities that provide comfort and assistance to the members of FLC in various times of need. It is an inward focused ministry that includes fellowship activities as well as teams that provide services to FLC members.
- *Youth & Adult Enrichment Leaders – Beth Hartman & Carolyn Roman*
The Youth and Adult Enrichment Ministry Team covers all educational and special activities that enrich the mind and soul of congregation members at all stages of their life. This Ministry is especially focused on providing support and guidance to future members.
- *Dynamic Worship Ministry Leaders – Pat Sauernheimer & Sandy Treudler*
The Dynamic Worship Ministry Team ensures that worship services are conducted regularly and in accordance with the practices of the ELCA. This Ministry also explores innovative approaches for worship to enhance the dynamic worship experience, allowing members to thrive in their relationship with God.



**The Altar Flowers are given to the
Glory Of God by Debbie & Jeremy
Jenkins in celebration of
Nolan's 6th Birthday**

**&
Vicky Hughes and Bob Polly in
celebration of their Wedding
Anniversary.**

**The Bulletins are given in by
Claudia Lenarz in celebration of
Nolan Jenkin's 6th Birthday!**

Last Week's Attendance
10 AM - 123
Online - 30

Upcoming Worship Times
Dates - Times
September
09/07 - RALLY DAY - 10 AM
09/14 - 9 AM & 11:15 AM
09/21 - 9 AM & 11:15 AM
09/28 - 9 AM & 11:15 AM

**Thank you to the following
volunteers:**

Reader

Lori Forse

Ushers

June and Jim Zakrajsek

Counters

Paul Nalette, Ingrid Naso,
Daphne Leon

Altar Guild

Barb Kreuger, Shelley Hoffman,
Jacquie McLemore

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday, September 1st

OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY

AA at 7:30 PM

Tuesday, September 2nd

Stephen Ministry

Supervisory Meeting 6 PM - 7:30 PM

Toastmaster's at 7:00 PM

Al Anon at 7:00 PM

Thursday, September 4th

Stewardship Committee

Meeting - 7 PM - 8:30 PM