

First Lutheran
relationships that transform



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 5, 2023

LARGE PRINT BULLETIN

Welcome to worship at First Lutheran Church.

We worship God using the form of worship which has been used by Christians throughout church history, which is commonly called “liturgical worship.” Liturgy is defined as the “work of the people,” which means that this is a participatory form of worship for all people, whether leading from the front, or singing and responding as a part of the congregation.

In worship, we come out of the chaos of the world to prepare ourselves to meet God, who is revealed to us in Jesus Christ. Through confession/forgiveness, prayer, and proclamation of the Word of God, we are led to the center of our worship which is the celebration of Holy Communion (also called the Lord’s Supper or Eucharist). It is in that act of eating and drinking the true body and blood of Jesus in the forms of bread and wine, that we make a sacred connection with God. As our worship concludes, we are sent back into the world, as people who have been changed by an encounter with God, to be light in the midst of the chaos and confusion of the world.

FLC regularly supports the work of the following ministries of our denomination and community:

- Longview Community Ministries
- Newgate Mission
- Texas Ramps Project
- Living Water International
- Lutheran World Relief
- Lutheran Disaster Response

Any time you would like to contribute to these ministries, you may label your offering as such, and the church office will forward the money to the appropriate place.



An assistive listening system is available in our sanctuary. This is a state of the art system by Anchor Audio, it is durable and delivers great sound quality.

You may select a receiver from the basket in the rear of the sanctuary, near the sound booth; please return it following worship.

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

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

In the beginning was the Word,
And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

In the Word was life,
And the life was the light of all people.

The Word became flesh and lived among us,
And we have seen His glory, full of grace and truth.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Praise the Lord! O Heavens



2 Praise the Lord, for he is gra - cious; nev - er shall his prom - ise fail.



God has made his saints vic - to - rious; sin and death shall not pre - vail.



Praise the God of our sal - va - tion; hosts on high, his pow'r pro - claim;



heav'n and earth, and all cre - a - tion, laud and mag - ni - fy his name!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1 – 9a

¹Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.

³“Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

^{9a}Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1 – 16

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ¹³And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

¹⁶“For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Sing twice)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13 – 20

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

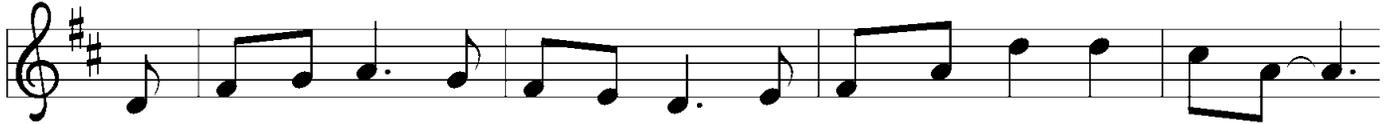
Pastor Jeff Borgwardt

SILENT REFLECTION

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

My Lord of Light



- 1 My Lord of light who made the worlds, in wis - dom you have spo - ken;
- 2 My Lord of love who knew no sin, a sin - ner's death en - dur - ing:
- 3 My Lord of life who came in fire when Christ was high as - cend - ed:
- 4 My Lord of lords, one Trin - i - ty, to your pure name be giv - en



but those who heard your wise com - mands your ho - ly law have bro - ken.
for us you wore a crown of thorns, a crown of life se - cur - ing.
your burn - ing love is now re - leased, our days of fear are end - ed.
all glo - ry now and ev - er - more, all praise in earth and heav - en.

APOSTLE'S 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.**

Please stand

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with: Lord, in your mercy

Congregational response: Hear our prayer

God of our longing ...in Jesus name we pray.

A musical score for the congregational response 'Amen, amen, amen.' The score is written on two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with the words 'A - men, a - men, a - men.' written below the notes. The music consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes beamed together. The piece ends with a double bar line.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The sharing of the peace is a time for us to be reconciled with one another through the peace, love, and forgiveness of Christ. We greet each other in the name of Christ in preparation for Holy Communion.

The Peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated

OFFERING ANTHEM

Please stand.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

As the gifts are presented, the congregation sings.

Give Thanks



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

OFFERING PRAYER

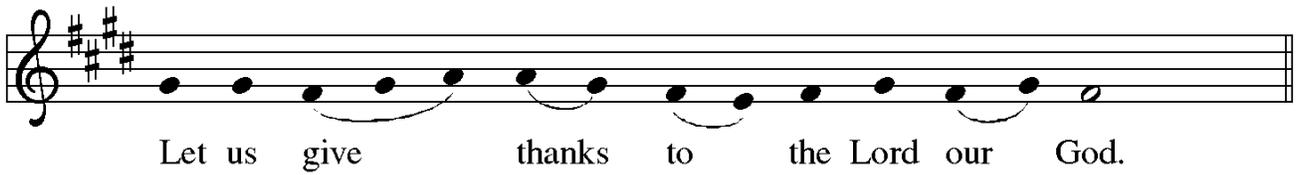
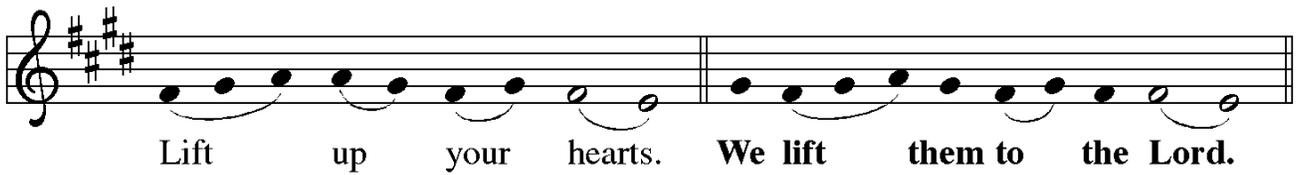
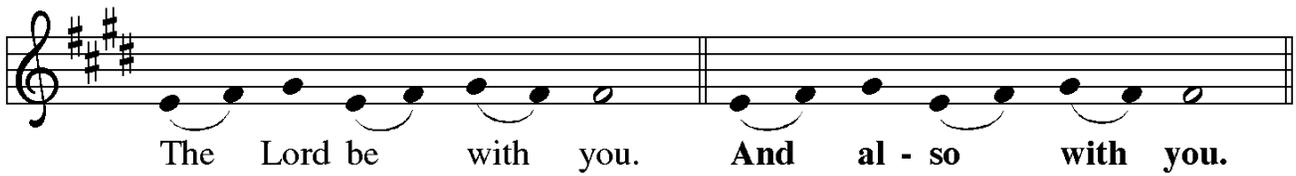
Let us pray.

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice
and let the oppressed go free.

Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power,
and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.

Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. **Amen**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right...we praise your name and join in their unending hymn.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. . . .

Please be seated.

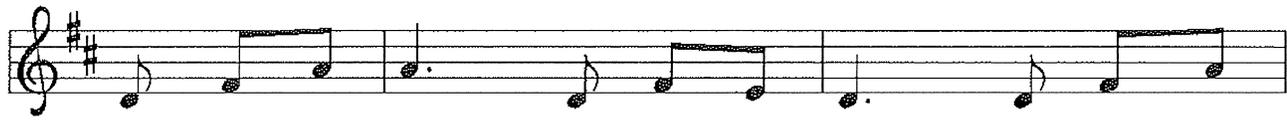
DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. We teach that Holy Communion is a celebration of the real presence of Christ under forms of bread and wine. For those who prefer, cups in the center ring of the tray are filled with white grape juice. If you wish to receive a blessing, signal this by crossing your arms against your chest.

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God
Your Only Son

336



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.

Sing refrain twice

O Lamb of



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Please join in singing the distribution hymn.

Let Us Break Bread Together



1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

Please stand

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in His grace. **Amen.**

CANTICLE



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

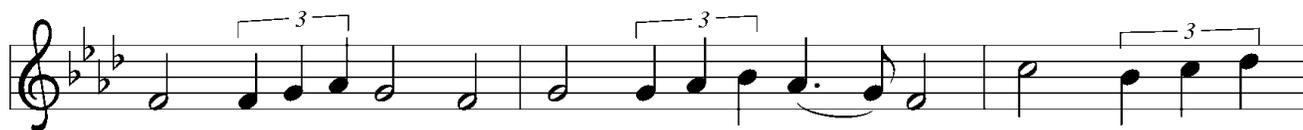
Holy One, we thank you for the healing
that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice,
love kindness, and journey humbly with you.
Amen.

BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you
May the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you
May the Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace
Amen.

SENDING HYMN (Verses 1 – 3)

Thy Strong Word



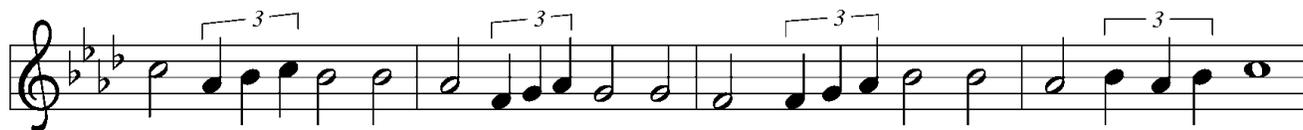
1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we
night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -
thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.
va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.
glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.
beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

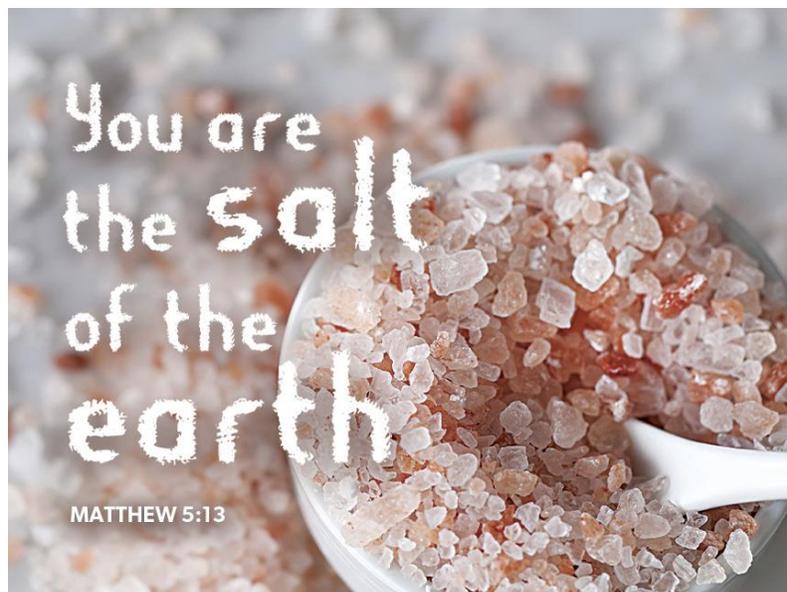
Go in peace. We are formed and loved by Christ to Live!
Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

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Bible Studies

Dig Deeper with Friends



Sundays:

9:30 am studying the book of Ephesians.

6:00 pm studying the book of Mark.

Tuesday 2/7/23:

9:00 am Friendship Circle



Volunteers are needed to provide Wednesday Family Suppers during Lent

Meal begins at 5:00 pm

Worship at 6:15 pm

Each volunteer should bring enough soup or sandwiches to feed 10 people.

Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.



Single Ladies Luncheon

Feb 7th @ 1:00 pm @ Little Mexico
Please **RSVP** to Carolyn Ramirez
903-234-8877



The Unity and Diversity Committee will honor the two recipients at the 19th Annual Unity Honors Luncheon. The luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Feb. 15 at the Maude Cobb Convention Center.

Mrs. Amanda Veasy of One Love Longview and Mr. Clent Holmes of Thrive Longview have been selected as the 2023 Unity Honors recipients.

THERE ARE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE FLC TABLE, TALK TO PASTOR JEFF (903)295-7423

Men's Breakfast

February 11th

8:00 am

**In the Church
Kitchen**



Donate by February 12, 2023.
Our goal = 16,613 items!

Keep up the good work!

You may give a cash offering and we will shop for you!

2019 = 16,612
(highest count ever)

2022 = 6,206

2023

Mardi Gras Dinner
Papacita's Mexican Restaurant
February 18th 6:00 pm
\$17 per person
RSVP required
Sign up in the narthex.
All are welcome!

There are some free dinner tickets available, if needed. Also, some have offered to give rides to anyone who needs one. Let the church office know if either one of these will be helpful to you.
(903)295-7423

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK

Monday, February 6	Tuesday, February 7	Wednesday, February 8
<p>8:00 am Homeschool group</p> <p>9:30 am Staff Meeting</p>	<p>9:00 am Friendship Circle</p> <p>1:00 pm Single Ladies Luncheon @ Little Mexico</p> <p>3:30 pm Success Center</p> <p>5:30 pm Fitness Class</p> <p>6:30 pm BB Recovery Group</p>	<p>10:00 am Quilters</p> <p>5:30 pm Family Dinner</p> <p>5:45 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>5:45 pm Mentoring Plus</p> <p>6:00 pm Confirmation</p> <p>7:00 pm Youth Group</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>
Thursday, February 9	Friday, February 10	Saturday, February 11
<p>3:30 pm Success Center</p> <p>5:30 pm Fitness Class</p>		<p>8:00 am Trash Pick-up w/Scouts</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Breakfast</p> <p>9:30 am Classy Quilters</p>
Sunday, February 12	Volunteer Schedule this week: February 5	Volunteer Schedule next week: February 12
<p>8:15 am Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>10:00 am Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>10:45 am Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>6:00 pm Bible Study on Ephesians with Dr. Batts</p>	<p>Lector:</p> <p>8:15 am: Hilda Vale</p> <p>10:45 am: Aidan Morrow</p> <p>Communion:</p> <p>Set up: Carolyn Ramirez & Betty Brown</p> <p>Clean Up: Lucy Maxwell</p> <p>Offering Counters:</p> <p>Cole Paschall</p> <p>Rachel Grundmann</p>	<p>Lector:</p> <p>8:15 am: Deb Butts</p> <p>10:45 am: Belinda Walenta</p> <p>Communion:</p> <p>Set up: Linthicum</p> <p>Clean Up: Teresa DeShazer</p> <p>Offering Counters:</p> <p>Roger Lineberry</p> <p>Lakeita Walker</p>

Prayer Needs

Please send all prayer requests and updates to the church office at: prayerchain@firstlutheran.us

FLC Members

Charlotte Cherry who broke her leg on January 3rd and is recovering at home.

Linda Kaplan is having treatments for lung cancer.

Paula Kaplan is in need of healing, strength, wisdom and peace.

Bob and Pat Mueller need prayers for strength.

Debbie Graham suffers with Multiple System Atrophy-Cerebellar type.

Pray for wisdom for our church leadership.

Family and Friends of FLC Members

Laura Hill is having cancer treatments.

Joyce Hanson, Deb Paschall's cousin, has cancer.

Carter Smith, friend of Cole Paschall, is having a recurrence of Leukemia.

Alzheimer's patients and their caregivers.

Those who are imprisoned.

Pray for church growth, numerically and spiritually.

Pray for wisdom and direction for our church leadership.

The homeless

Members Serving in the Military

Eric Jenkins – Air Force, Seoul, South Korea

Terrina Anderson – U.S. Army Norfolk, VA

Timothy Martin – Navy

Church Cash Flow Year to Date as of: 01/24/2023			
Regular Church Offering:		Building Fund:	
Contributions:	\$20,410.61	Contributions:	\$7,819.25
Expenditures:	\$19,687.28	Expenditures:	\$9,427.69
Difference:	\$723.33	Difference:	(\$1,608.44)

GOSPEL MESSAGE

February 5, 2023

Salt and Light

What we believe about ourselves has the power to shape our behavior in profound ways. If we believe we aren't good enough or are unwanted, that will likely show up in the way we carry ourselves, in the way we interact with others, and in the opportunities we seek out or don't. On the other hand, if we know that we are loved or if we feel like we belong, we will probably bring more assurance to our interactions with others, and will be more likely to take risks and to reach out and engage with our communities.

Similarly, our identity as disciples of Jesus has the power to shape the way we live. It all starts with who Jesus says we are. "You are the salt of the earth," Jesus tells his disciples. "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:13-14). Salt preserves food and adds flavor. Used masterfully, it brings out the best in the other flavors of a dish. It can pull other elements together to help create a new thing. Light nurtures life. It can comfort, energize, and help make things clear. Together, salt and light sustain, nourish, and welcome new life in the world around them.

What kind of people would we be if we really believed we were the salt of the earth and the light of the world? Nurturers, sustainers, co-creators with God in making all things new? What fears could we let go if we simply trusted that we are who Jesus says we are? What risks would we take? How would we show up in our communities? As we gather for worship today, we are invited to hear anew this identity we are given in Christ. Then, nourished by word and sacrament, we are sent forth with the promise that Christ is forever at work in us, keeping us as salt and light in all times and places.

Assisting In Worship Today

Celebrant: Rev. Jeff Borgwardt

Musicians: Donna Ashby, Pat Mueller
and The Chancel Choir

Live Stream: 8:15 am Deb Butts

10:45 am: Diane Borgwardt

Lectors

8:15 am: Hilda Vale

10:45 am: Aidan Morrow

Flowers: Debbie Sadler

Church Staff

Jeffrey E. Borgwardt, Pastor

Donna Ashby, Director of Music

John Parsons, Dir. of Youth and Family Min.

Tina Sewell, Secretary

Teresa DeShazer, Bookkeeper

2023 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Cole Paschall (*President*)

Mike Gentsch (*Vice-President*)

Rachel Grundmann (*Secretary*)

Julia Harris (*Treasurer*)

Lakeita Walker (*Relationship with God*)

Gayle Poland (*Relationship with Community*)

Roger Lineberry (*Relationship with One Another*)

3901 Bill Owens Parkway

Longview, Texas 75605

903-295-7423

churchsecretary@firstlutheran.us

www.FirstLutheran.us

*We receive gifts for the mission of the
congregation and the Church in the world.*

*An offering plate is available in the back of the
sanctuary. If you prefer to give by credit card
you may do so at www.firstlutheran.us/donate
or by scanning the QR code below*



*In ministry to those in need in our
community, foodstuffs are received to
support Longview Community Ministries.
Please help keep our baskets filled to
overflowing!*