

First Lutheran
relationships that transform

Welcome others
Welcome Jesus




Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28, 2026

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.



Are you having trouble hearing the sermon?

An assistive listening system is available in our sanctuary.

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

There are **printed** copies of the sermon available in the narthex near the bulletins

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FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JUNE 28, 2026 **8:15 am & 10:45 am**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship, we are glad that God has brought us together today! If you are visiting us today, please fill out a card to receive more information about First Lutheran Church. The cards are in the narthex near the bulletins or from an usher or staff member.

NURSERY

Children 3 and under are invited to our staffed nursery.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children up to 5th grade are invited to attend Children's Church. Meet the leader at the back of the sanctuary. The children meet in the chapel and will return to service just before Holy Communion.

PRELUDE

Sing Hallelujah to the Lord

The Chancel Choir

Please stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
And of the ✝ Son,
And of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Since we have such a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus Christ our Lord, let us with confidence draw near to God, that we may receive mercy and find grace in time of need.

Let us make personal confession of our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

We acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins – those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by you. We know that before you nothing remains hidden, and in you everything is revealed. Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; work in us that which is pleasing in your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

God is merciful and gracious, granting forgiveness through Jesus Christ to all who confess their sin. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sin, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

SHARING OF CHRIST'S 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.

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

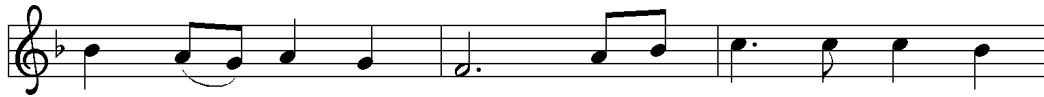
All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

GREETING

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.

KYRIE

HAUGEN

Assistant:
 In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:
 Lord, have mer - cy.

3rd time to Coda ⊕

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer -

Assistant:
 For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the
 For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you
 cy.

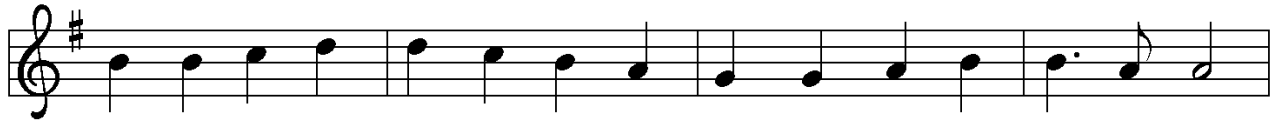
world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
 praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the

⊕ Coda
 Help, save, and de - fend us, O
 cy.

* *Ending for Kyrie*

God.
 A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

God's Word Is Our Great Heritage



God's word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for - ev - er;



to spread its light from age to age shall be our chief en - deav - or.



Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay. Lord, grant while



time shall last your church may hold it fast through-out all gen - er - a - tions.

BLESSING OF THE LECTOR

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from you. Bless our lector who will read to us the scriptures. Make us hunger for the Word of life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 28:5 – 9

⁵ The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ⁶ and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD and all the exiles. ⁷ But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸ The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹ As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

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

SECOND READING: Romans 6:12 – 23

¹² Do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. ¹³ No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵ What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted ¹⁸ and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

²⁰ When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting 10



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:40 – 42

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰ “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, ⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

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

SERMON

Hospitality and Discipleship

Pastor Jeff Borgwardt

SILENT REFLECTION

Please stand.

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
 still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
 by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
 stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
 that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN

Let My Prayer Rise Up

All

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the
lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.

Leader or Group One

O God, I call to you, come to me now; oh, hear my
voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise up like

in - cense be - fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an
of - fer - ing to you. Keep watch with - in me, God;

deep in my heart may the light of your love be burn - ing
bright. Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -
fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to

you. All praise to the God of all— Cre - a - tor of
 life; all praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of love.
 Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the
 lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with: Lord, in your mercy

Congregational response: Hear our prayer

Receive our prayers...in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the
 lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.

Please be seated.

OFFERING ANTHEM

Please stand.

As the gifts are presented, the congregation sings.

God, Whose Giving, Knows No Ending

1 God whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end-less store;

na - ture's won - der Je - sus wis - dom cost - ly cross, graves' shattered door

gift - ed by you we turn to you of - f'ring up our selves in praise;

thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er gra - cious do -- nor of our days.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

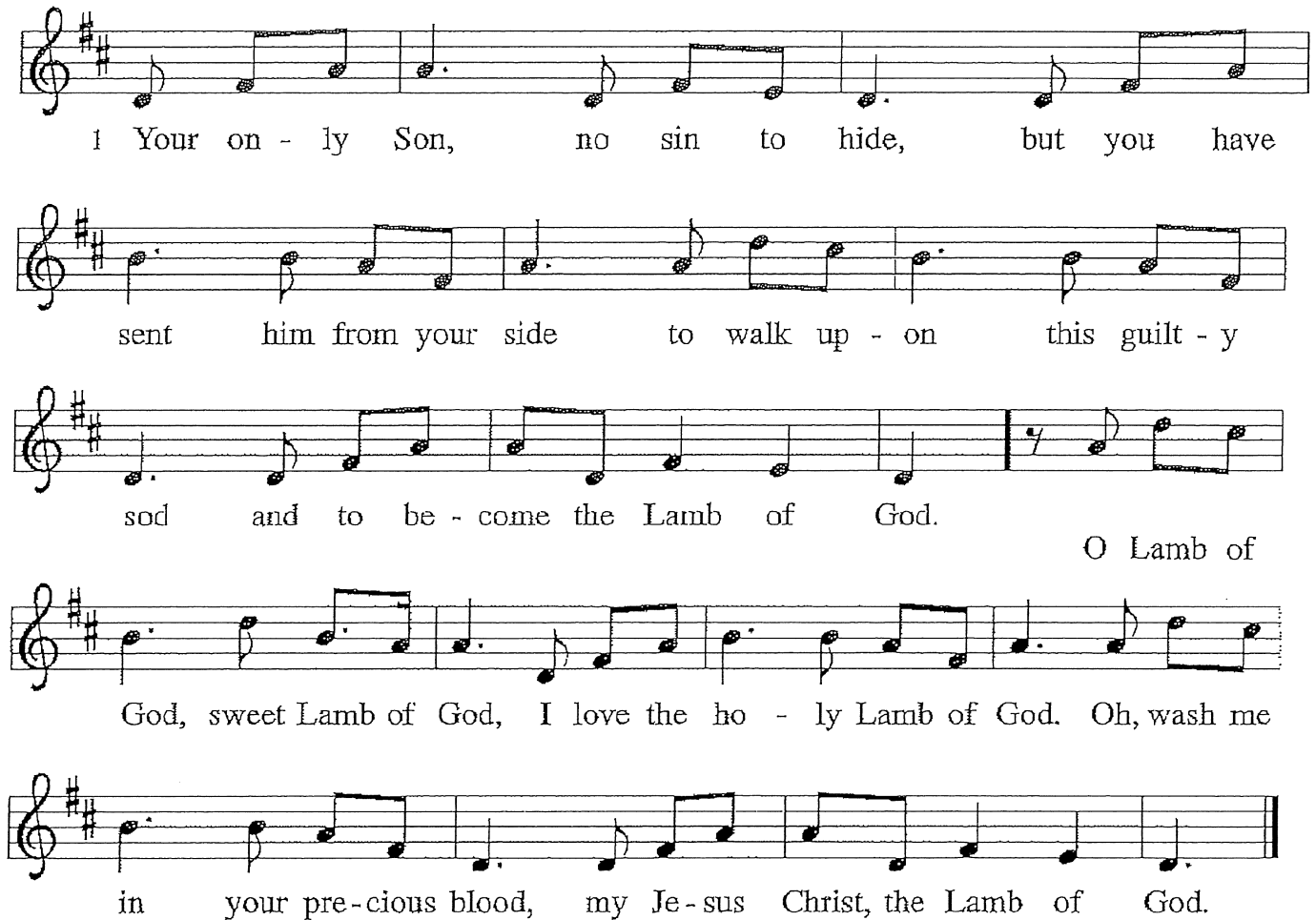
DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

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.

Lamb of God

Your Only Son

336



I 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. 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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

In Remembrance

Words and Music by
Ragan Courtney and Buryl Red

VERSE 1 & 2

$\text{♩} = 84$

$A\flat$ Cm $D\flat$ $E\flat 7sus$ $D\flat/E\flat$ $D\flat$

1. In re - mem - brance of Me, eat this bread. In re - mem - brance of
 (2. In re) - mem - brance of Me, heal the sick. In re - mem - brance of

6 $B\flat m$ $E\flat$ $E\flat 7$ $E\flat 7sus$ Fm $D\flat$ $G\flat$ $E\flat$ $A\flat sus$ $A\flat$

Me, drink this wine. In re - mem - brance of Me, pray for the time when God's own
 Me, feed the poor. In re - mem - brance of Me, o - pen the door and let your

1

2

BRIDGE

14 Cm $D\flat maj 7$ $B\flat m 7$ $E\flat$ $D\flat maj 7$ $A\flat/C$ $B\flat m 7$ $E\flat 7$ $A\flat$ $F\flat$

will is done. 2. In re in, let him in. Take, eat, and be
 broth-er

23 $A\flat$ $F\flat$ $A\flat$ $A\flat/C$ Fm $E\flat$ $D\flat$

com - fort - ed, drink and re - mem - ber, too, that this is My bod - y and pre - cious

VERSE 3

32 $A\flat$ $B\flat 7sus$ $A\flat/C$ $B\flat$ $A\flat/B\flat$ $B\flat$ $E\flat sus$ $E\flat$ $A\flat$ Cm $D\flat$

blood shed for you, shed for you. 3. In re - mem - brance of Me, search for truth.

40 $E\flat 7sus$ $D\flat/E\flat$ $D\flat$ $B\flat m$ $E\flat$ $E\flat 7$ $E\flat 7sus$ Fm $D\flat$ $G\flat$

In re - mem - brance of Me, al - ways love. In re - mem - brance of Me don't look a -

48 E \flat A \flat sus A \flat Cm D \flat D \flat /E \flat A \flat D \flat

-bove, but in your heart, look in your heart for God. Do this in re -

56 D \flat /E \flat E \flat 7sus A \flat

- mem - brance of Me.

TFF 259

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

- 1 All the way my Sav-ior leads me; what have I to ask be - side?
- 2 All the way my Sav-ior leads me, cheers each wind - ing path I tread,
- 3 All the way my Sav-ior leads me; oh, the full - ness of his love!

Can I doubt his ten-der mer - cy, who through life has been my guide?
gives me grace for ev-'ry tri - al, feeds me with the liv - ing bread.
Per - fect rest to me is prom-ised in my Fa - ther's house a - bove.

Heav'n - ly peace, di - vin - est com-fort, here by faith in him to dwell!
Though my wea - ry steps may fal - ter, and my soul a - thirst may be,
When my spir - it, clothed im - mor - tal, wings its flight to realms of day,

For I know, what - e'er be - fall me, Je - sus do - eth all things well;
gush - ing from the rock be - fore me, lo, a spring of joy I see;
this my song through end - less a - ges—Je - sus led me all the way;

for I know, what - e'er be - fall me, Je - sus do - eth all things well.
gush - ing from the rock be - fore me, lo, a spring of joy I see.
this my song through end - less a - ges—Je - sus led me all the way!

Jesus, Name Above All Names

D F#m7

Je - sus, name a - bove all names, beau - ti - ful

Em7 A

Sav - ior, glo - ri - ous Lord, Em -

D F#m7

man - u - el, God is with us, bless - ed Re -

Em7

<i>Optional repeat</i>	<i>Last time</i>
D G/A A	D

deem - er, liv - ing Word. Word.

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

Let us pray.

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, may share your love freely,
as you have shared with us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus.

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 (VS 1, 2, 4, & 5)

ELW 579

Lord, You Give the Great Commission



1 Lord, you give the great com - mis-sion: "Heal the sick and
2 Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my name bap -
3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,
4 Lord, you show us love's true mea-sure: "Fa - ther, what they
5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you



preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,
tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,
this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,
do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure
to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,



and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness
life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new
dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the
all that you so free - ly give. May your care and
may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the



to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:
fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:
world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty:
mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:
cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:



With the Spir - it's gifts em - pow'r us for the work of min - is - try.

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

POSTLUDE

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK:

Monday, June 29	Tuesday, June 30	Wednesday, July 1
9:30 am Staff Meeting	4:30 pm Fitness Class 6:30 pm Family Improvement 6:30 pm Spiritual Journey	10:00 am Quilters
Thursday, July 2	Friday, July 3	Saturday, July 4
4:30 pm Fitness Class	Church office closed for the Independence Day Holiday	
Sunday, July 5	Volunteer Schedule this week: June 28	
8:15 am Worship with Holy Communion, and Children's Church. 9:30 am Sunday School 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 10:45 am Worship with Holy Communion, and Children's Church. 4:00 – 6:00 pm Celebration of Freedom Party	Lector: 8:15 am: Randy Cathey 10:45 am: Teresa DeShazer Communion: Set up: Ed Bero Clean Up: Leslie Jenkins Offering Counters: Randy Cathey & Johnny Davis	

Readings for in preparation for Sunday, July 5

Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19 & 25-30

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Given in honor of the wedding anniversary of Tim and Pam Owens



I AM WORTHY



16th ANNUAL LADIES RETREAT

Join us for a joyful women's gathering filled with fellowship, food, learning, and fun. Come connect, grow in faith, and enjoy time together!

Sign-up sheet is in the narthex

 **25 JULY**
FROM 10:00 TO 4:00

 **3901 BILL OWENS PKWY**
LONGVIEW TX 75605



PASTOR VERONIKA CZUTOR
GUEST SPEAKER

For more information

 Belinda Walenta 903-918-1314

First Lutheran Day Camp
WONDERS OF THE WATER



Day Camp
July 13 - 17

LONGVIEW Community Ministries

Serving With Love



We will collect box fans for the next couple of weeks to take to LCM. They are always in need of fans in the summer. You may bring them to the church and we will deliver them, or you may take them to LCM directly at 504 N 2nd street.

Walmart has them on sale right now.



First Lutheran Church's

CELEBRATION

of

FREEDOM

SUNDAY, JULY 5TH

4:00—6:00 PM

FOOD, GAMES, MUSIC, PIE IN THE FACE,
FOOD DECORATING CONTEST AND
MUCH MORE!

HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS &
ALL THE FIXIN'S WILL BE PROVIDED.
PLEASE BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE!



Weekly Financial Report

Church Cash Flow Year to Date as of:

06/21/2026

Regular Church Offering: 2026	
Contributions:	\$ 299,294
Expenditures:	\$ 305,994
Difference:	\$ (6,701)

Building Maintenance Fund Activity: 2026	
Contributions:	\$ 29,526
Expenditures:	\$ 5,099
Difference:	\$ 24,427

Summer Camp: 2026	
Donations	\$ 7,485
Expenditures:	\$ 17,710
Difference:	\$ (10,225)

*Respectfully,
Rachel Keiser*

Weekly First Lutheran Happenings



Do you know a family that is struggling with managing all that life brings? Invite them to join our Family Improvement class where practical teaching helps parents and families build better lives! Contact John Parsons for more information 903-295-7423.

FAMILY IMPROVEMENT MEAL

One of the things that makes the Family Improvement class work so well for families is that we serve them a meal (cooking is not required). We need volunteers to help provide a meal. **Those who are willing to help in this way, you may sign up for a Tuesday night on the sheet in the narthex.**

A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY



Stepping into God's will and purpose for your life

**TUESDAYS
6:30 PM**

Join us in taking steps that can help develop a healthy, peaceful, and harmonious relationship with God, with others, and with yourself.

God, grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change, the courage to change the one I can, & the wisdom to know that one is Me. Living one day at a time; Enjoying one moment at a time; Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; Taking, as Jesus Christ did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; Trusting that Jesus will make all things right if I surrender to His will. So, that I may be reasonably happy in this life & supremely happy with Him forever & ever in the next! Amen!

SERENITY PRAYER

First Lutheran Church
3901 Bill Owens Parkway
Longview, Texas 75605
(903) 295-7423



**Classes offered on
Sunday Mornings at 9:30 am**

- **Reflective Bible Study**
Led by Vivian McElligott
- **Study of the book of Genesis**
Led by Kevin Bond
- **The Augsburg Confession**
Led by Pastor Jeff & Bill Anderson
beginning May 31

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

FLC Members

Johnnie Owens has fallen and is in a rehabilitation hospital recovering.

Zoie Perry is having chemotherapy for breast cancer.

Paula Kaplan is in hospice care.

Lois Boldt is in hospice care.

Pray for the children and teens who attend our church and The Success Center.

Pray for church growth, numerically and spiritually.

Pray for wisdom and direction for our church leadership.

Pray for the homebound of our church and their caregivers.

Jane Bailey	Robert Kohnfelder
Durwin Sewell	Bruno Schueler
Mary Ann Gamel	Chuck & Paula Kaplan
Patty Lowe	Johnnie Owens
Joseph Carlson	Albert Holmen
Lois Boldt	

Family and Friends of FLC Members

The Fears family have been in a tragic car accident. Tracy Fears died in the accident. Stephanie and Braden are recovering.

Babs Colclasure, friend of Sharol Leikam, has terminal cancer.

Alzheimer's patients and their caregivers.

Those who are imprisoned.

The homeless

Members Serving in the Military

Eric Jenkins – Air Force, Ft. Meade, MD

Terrina Anderson – White House Military Office

Timothy Martin – Navy

Hannah Perry – Army, San Antonio, Tx

GOSPEL MESSAGE

June 28, 2026

From Welcome to Belonging

In just a few verses, the word welcomes sets the tone in this week's gospel passage. There are transactional aspects when we welcome guests into our personal spaces, or when we are welcomed by others. We are aware of the power dynamics between host and guest, and the welcome that is given and received reflects our understanding of these roles. There are also different degrees of welcome. For example, it is one thing to experience a welcome of our physical presence, and quite a different matter when our perspectives and opinions are welcomed. The former relies on host-guest roles; the latter relies on a relationship being formed beyond culturally established roles.

It is no surprise that congregations pay attention to their welcome practices. Some even adopt and publicize welcome statements. Congregations usually consider how visitors or guests come into their space for a worship service they host. When deeper welcome practices are employed, we can grow in our understanding of how we give and receive. This provides an interesting opportunity to consider that welcoming is more than just hospitality. We can also consider how the worship event happens because we are gathered by the Holy Spirit, so God is our host and we are all guests in that space.

Moving worship beyond a typical guest-host transaction, the reward is experiencing our belonging together as people of God. Belonging means welcoming one another into shared space. Seeking a wide expression of belonging challenges power dynamics that might otherwise remain in place in more traditional guest-and-host situations. Belonging is a culture we in congregations can cultivate and a gift we can share.

Assisting In Worship Today

Celebrant: Jeffrey Borgwardt

Musicians: Donna Ashby, Pat Mueller
and The Chancel Choir

Live Stream: 8:15 am Deb Butts,
Eric Chandler, and Daniel Chandler

10:45 am: Diane Borgwardt

Lectors:

8:15 am: Randy Cathey

10:45 am: Teresa DeShazer

Church Staff

Jeffrey E. Borgwardt, Pastor

Donna Ashby, Director of Music

John Parsons, Dir. of Family and Outreach Min.

Tina Sewell, Secretary

Rachel Keiser, Bookkeeper

Steve Howie, Facilities Coordinator

2026 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Beverly Bell (*President*)

Randy Cathey (*Vice-President*)

Arlene Hicks (*Secretary*)

Ranette Carter (*Treasurer*)

Jenn Belcourt (*Relationship with God*)

Johnny Davis (*Relationship with Community*)

Mary Stuart (*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



FLC regularly supports the work of the following ministries of our denomination and community with financial, volunteer, and food offerings:

Longview Community Ministries

Newgate Mission

Living Water International

Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran Disaster Response

For more information on how to get involved contact the church office (903)295-7423.