



First Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
455 West Sunnyside Road  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402  
(208)522-9301  
www.firstlc.com

---

APRIL 19, 2026

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

---

**WELCOME:** We pray that all will experience a warm welcome and experience the presence of the Lord in this house of worship. After the service we invite worshipers to enjoy refreshments in our fellowship hall.

**WORSHIP NOTES:**

- ◆ Today's service will use the liturgy known as "Now the Feast and Celebration" by Marty Haugen.
- ◆ **Bold printed words** indicate the congregation's responses.
- ◆ For families with young children, you're invited to take advantage of our worship activity bags for children located in the lobby. A nursery for children 4 and younger is located in Room #7 in our educational wing.
- ◆ If you have a moment, please sign the friendship pad in the pew and pass it to others in your pew.
- ◆ For those with hearing loss, we have hearing devices available at the welcome window; ask an usher for assistance.
- ◆ For those with eyesight issues, we have large print bulletins; ask an usher for one.

**WE PREPARE OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP**

PRELUDE

Michelle Hanson

*Please observe silence in preparation for worship.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**WE LIFT OUR PRAYERS AND PRAISE TO GOD**

GATHERING SONG

#377

*"Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!"*

**APOSTOLIC 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**

**OPENING PRAYER**

LEADER In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

CONGREGATION Lord, have mer - cy.

CONGREGATION Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. *3rd time to Coda*

LEADER  
1 For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the  
2 For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you

CONGREGATION cy.

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

**Coda**

Help, save, and de - fend us, O

CONGREGATION

God.

CONGREGATION

A - - - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION

Refrain

*Congregation:*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,  
 all of cre - a - tion sings for joy  
 to the God of life and love and  
 free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -  
 er - more!

Verse 1

*Congregation or Congregation 1:*

Now is the feast of the Lamb once  
 slain, whose blood has freed and u -  
 nit - ed us to be one great  
 peo - ple of God.

*To refrain*

Verse 2

*Congregation or Congregation 2:*

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and  
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ  
for ev - er. *To refrain*

Verse 3

*Congregation:*

3. For God has come to dwell with us,  
to make us peo - ple of God; to make  
all things new. *To refrain*

FIRST LESSON (*Pew Bible p. 885*)

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Our first scripture reading is from the New Testament, the book of the Acts of the Apostles, chapter two, beginning with verse fourteen.

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:...

<sup>36</sup> “Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, every-one whom the Lord our God calls to him.” <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed

his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

This is God's word.

**Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON (*Pew Bible p. 983*)

1 Peter 1:17-23

Our second lesson comes from the New Testament, the Apostle Peter's first letter, chapter one, beginning with verse seventeen.

<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

This is the word of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand, as you are able, for the reading of the Gospel.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL (*Pew Bible p. 860*)

Luke 24:13-35

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, chapter twenty-four, beginning with verse thirteen.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are

you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?”<sup>19</sup> He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,<sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.<sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.<sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,<sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.<sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.”<sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!<sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?”<sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.<sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them.<sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.<sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight.<sup>32</sup> They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?”<sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.<sup>34</sup> They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!”<sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

THE SERMON

PASTOR MIKE KNAUFF

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### SERVICE OF INSTALLATION & COMMISSIONING FOR STEPHEN MINISTERS

*Our congregation participates in **Stephen Ministry**, a Christ-centered program that equips trained laypeople to offer confidential, one-to-one care to those experiencing life's challenges. Scripture gives us the foundation for this ministry: **John 13:34–35** reminds us of Jesus' command to "love one another as I have loved you." Stephen Ministers live out this call through compassionate, Christlike presence. **2 Corinthians 1:3–4** teaches that God comforts us so that we may share that same comfort with others. Stephen Ministers offer this comfort to those walking through difficult times. **Galatians 6:2** urges believers to "bear one another's burdens," a calling at the heart of Stephen Ministry's mission. Through prayer, listening, and care, Stephen Ministers help embody the love and comfort of Christ within our community. If you or someone you know could benefit from a Stephen Minister—or if you feel called to serve—please contact the church office.*

Brothers and sisters in Christ, today we give thanks to God for the ministry of caring and service that Christ has entrusted to His Church. After a period of study, prayer, and preparation, these individuals have completed their training to serve as Stephen Ministers—lay caregivers who offer Christian support, compassion, and encouragement to those facing life's challenges. Today we commission them to this ministry and ask God's blessing upon their service among us.

### PRESENTATION OF THE STEPHEN MINISTER CANDIDATES

*Stephen Ministry Leader (Annick Dixon): I present to you these brothers and sisters who have completed their 50 hours of training and are called to serve as Stephen Ministers for First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Idaho Falls, Idaho: Elaine Bengston, Bill Boyd, Heather Catanese, Pat Christenson, Ginny Conricode, Tessa Forbord, Trina Jacobson, Linda Lerum, Beth Nicholas, Deborah Nowatzki, Barbara Valentine.*

### CHARGE TO THE STEPHEN MINISTERS

You have been trained to listen, to care, to pray, and to share the love of Christ with those in need. Will you assume this ministry in the confidence that comes from God?

*Stephen Ministers: Yes, and I ask God to help and guide me.*

Will you strive to be trustworthy, compassionate, prayerful, and faithful in your service?

*Stephen Ministers: Yes, and I ask God to help and guide me.*

Will you follow our Lord Jesus Christ, who came not to be served

but to serve?

*Stephen Ministers: Yes, and I ask God to help and guide me.*

#### CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

People of God, will you receive these Stephen Ministers into your partnership in the Gospel? Will you pray for them, encourage them, and support them in their ministry of compassion?

**We will, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

#### LAYING ON OF HANDS

*(Current council members, Stephen Leaders, and Stephen Ministers are invited to join the pastor.)*

*Those blessing the candidates say the following blessing together: "May the Lord bless you as you serve in His name. May the Holy Spirit work through you as you offer care and compassion. We ask this in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."*

**Amen.**

#### PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING

Let us pray. Gracious and merciful God, You have called these servants to a ministry of compassion and presence. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon them. Strengthen them for the tasks You set before them: to walk alongside the troubled, the grieving, the lonely, and the hurting. Give them wisdom, patience, and a heart like Christ's. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

#### COMMISSIONING

By the power of the Holy Spirit, I commission you as Stephen Ministers in this congregation. Serve confidently, faithfully, and with the love of Christ.

**We bless you and send you forth in the name of Christ.**

#### WELCOME

People of God, let us welcome these ministers into their new role.

**We welcome you and pray for you. May God guide your service and bless those you care for.**

#### SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Share a sign of peace with your fellow worshippers.

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

GRACE NOTE CHOIR

“We Have Seen the Risen Lord”

Stan Pethel CCLI Song #1743152 © 1995, Hope Publishing; For use solely with the CCLI® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #699128

OFFERTORY

Refrain

*Congregation:*

As the grains of wheat once scat - tered on the hill were  
 gath - ered in - to one to be - come our bread;  
 so may all your peo - ple from all the ends of earth be  
 gath - ered in - to one in you.

Verses

1. As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst, \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ *To refrain*  
 may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
 all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

# WE CELEBRATE OUR LORD'S SUPPER

## 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 God thanks and praise.

*Presider:* *Congregation:* *Presider:* *Congregation:*

## THE PREFACE

It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God through Jesus Christ who by His death on the cross and glorious resurrection broke the bonds of sin and death and gave life to all creation. And so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might, Heav - en and earth are filled with your

*Congregation:*

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the  
 One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the  
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

You are indeed holy, gracious, and merciful God; everything is filled with your glory. We give you thanks for Your promise and presence which have sustained the faithful in this and every generation. Above all, we give you thanks for Jesus, born of Mary, who in Word and deed announced your gentle rule of justice, reconciliation and peace.

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

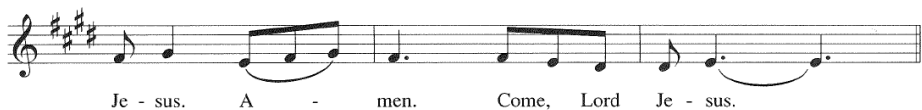
On the night of His betrayal, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

### COMMUNION PRAYER

Remembering His command to love one another, His life and death, His resurrection and His ascension, we pray for His coming again, even as we cry;

*Prisider:*  
 A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A -  
*Congregation:*  
 men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord



Send now, we pray, Your Holy Spirit that all of Your promises may come to us and Your whole creation.



This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and friend.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, they 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

*We invite all who are baptized in Christ, and believe in receiving the bread and wine they receive Christ's body and blood and the forgiveness of sins, to join us. Children not receiving communion may come forward for a blessing. Holy Communion will be served at the altar rail this morning. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. You may choose white grape juice or red wine. The serving station at the center of the altar rail is our hypoallergenic station with gluten-free wafers. Please return to your seats by a side aisle.*



*Congregation:*



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
2. From of old you loved and sought us:

Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the  
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice

weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -

mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

3. Praise to you O God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for

ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:

Thanks be to you for ev - er. Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

SENDING SONG

#172

*“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

Liturgy from “Now the Feast” by Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications. OneLicense SKU Numbers: 01107, 01108, 01110, 01112, 01113, G3488H, 01114, 01116, 01117 For use solely with the OneLicense® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.onelicense.net OneLicense #A-736147

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PENNY POWER:** The Penny Power focus for March was Camp Magical Moments. In April, Penny Power is helping the Christian Motorcyclists Association (CMA) to spread the love of Jesus. CMA is a non-profit, interdenominational ministry dedicated to reaching people for Christ in the highways and byways through the passion of motorcycling.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** The Ladies' Book Club is tackling the book of Acts. Join us as we study how the Holy Spirit worked through the Apostles to spread the Gospel through the known world. There are lots of great stories to enjoy as we follow Peter and then Paul in their leadership roles. We will meet Rhoda and Lydia, and be shipwrecked with Paul. You won't want to miss it! We meet Wednesdays from 2 to 3 pm. As always, there is no outside reading or study, and no extra book to buy. Just bring your Bible – and maybe a friend. If you forget your Bible or don't have one, the church owns many for your use. (So – no excuses!)

**CALLING ALL TECH-MINDED INDIVIDUALS!** We need more help with our worship service livestream. Our online community has expanded. We currently stream to almost 100 online viewers each week. This is an amazing platform to reach out to those beyond our church walls. This opportunity is open to our high school and college students, as well as anyone who is interested in learning a new skill. Please contact Paul Bayless for more information.

## **FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH CHRISTIAN LEAGUE SOFTBALL TEAM:**



Sunday afternoon games start April 26th. Playoffs are in September, and played at Community Park (occasionally Tautphaus Park) ballfields. We do not play on Mother's Day. You must be 16 or older. No age is too old!! Any experience is welcome!

A MINIMUM OF 6 GUYS & 6 GIRLS ARE NEEDED  
FOR US TO PLAY AT EACH GAME.

For more information, call or text **Andrew Meng** at **208-716-5625**.



Time and location of games will be posted each week in the Sunday church bulletin and monthly newsletter. If you don't want to play, please come and support us by cheering the team on at the games.



## **FELC ANNUAL YARD SALE**

Saturday, June 6 | 8 am - 2 pm |

Save the date! AND start saving your clean, usable stuff!!

Your help is so important and is greatly appreciated! You can plan on helping by: donating, volunteering, healthy snacks, shopping, and praying for a beautiful day!

More details to come

**WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS**

**Greeters: Michelle Cleverly, Mary Pilkington**

**Liturgist: Deb Nowatzki**

**Communion Assistants: Cathi Bean, Shawn Cleverly**

**Kim Bemensolo, Debra Holst, DiAnn Brown**

**Usher Coordinator: Richard Magnuson**

**Ushers: Geri Magnuson, Tom Pilkington**

**Counters: Paul Bayless, Lisa Swenson**

**Altar Guild: Diane Sheldon, Jan Galbraith**

**Collection Specialist: Andrew Swenson**

**Streaming Technician: Paul Bayless**

Sundays and Seasons.com License #SB170220

CCLI License #699128

Streaming License #20272565 One License #A-736147



Scan the QR code for giving.

**FELC LEADERSHIP**

**MINISTERS:** ..... **All the Members of FELC**

**Senior Pastor:** Pastor Mike Knauff ..... e-mail: [pastormike@firstlc.com](mailto:pastormike@firstlc.com)

**Church Administrator:** Julie Sagnimeni ..... e-mail: [office@firstlc.com](mailto:office@firstlc.com)

**Youth & Family Minister:** Heather Catanese ..... e-mail: [youth@firstlc.com](mailto:youth@firstlc.com)

**Bookkeeper:** Greg Stultz ..... e-mail: [bookkeeper@firstlc.com](mailto:bookkeeper@firstlc.com)

**Music Director:** Michelle Hanson ..... e-mail: [musicdirector@firstlc.com](mailto:musicdirector@firstlc.com)

**Choir Accompanist:** Heidi Bessette.....

**Praise Band Director:** Steve Galbraith.....

**Pastor Emeritus/Minister of Welcome:** Pastor Larry Cudmore.....

**Preschool Director:** Barbara Carlson.....[flpreschoolif@gmail.com](mailto:flpreschoolif@gmail.com)

Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Friday Closed

Web Page: [www.firstlc.com](http://www.firstlc.com) • Phone: 208-522-9301

---

**Report of First Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Year to date Income thru March \$92,327; Year to date Expenses thru March \$92,740

Year to date net Cash Flow thru March -\$413