



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

July 12, 2026

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME! A hearty welcome to all our guests! The addition of your praise and thanks to God heartens us all. If you are just passing through, we wish you godspeed. If you are looking for a church home, you will find a ready welcome here at FELC. After the service we invite worshipers to enjoy some refreshments in our Fellowship Hall.

WORSHIP NOTES:

- ◆ **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.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ If you have a moment, please sign the friendship pad in the pew and pass it to others in your pew.

WE PREPARE OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Michelle Hanson

"Prelude in F Major"

J.S. Bach; © 2005 Music Sales Corporation; For use solely with the CCLI® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #699128

Please observe silence in preparation for worship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

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

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination...

Most merciful God...

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. 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 sins 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

#508

“As Rain from the Clouds”

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.

Refrain

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the

u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you

this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



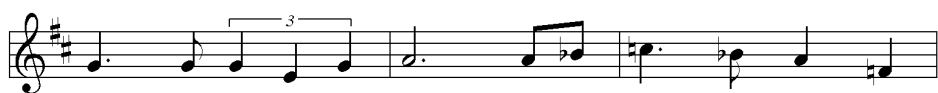
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

I For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 II you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.

☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,
 and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

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WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON (*Pew Bible p. 598*)

Isaiah 55:10-13

Our first scripture reading is from the Old Testament, the book of the prophet Isaiah, chapter fifty-five, beginning with verse ten.

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
 and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
 making it bring forth and sprout,

- giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹² For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

This is God's word.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM (*Pew Bible p. 459*)

Psalm 65:9-13

Our Psalm for today is Psalm sixty-five verses nine through thirteen. I invite the congregation to read it aloud with me.

- ⁹ **You visit the earth and water it;
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain,
for so you have prepared it.**
¹⁰ **You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.**
¹¹ **You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.**
¹² **The pastures of the wilderness overflow;
the hills gird themselves with joy;**
¹³ **the meadows clothe themselves with flocks;
the valleys deck themselves with grain;
they shout and sing together for joy.**

This is the word of God.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON (*Pew Bible p. 918*)

Romans 8:1-11

Our second lesson comes from the New Testament, the Apostle Paul's letter to the church in Rome, chapter eight, beginning with verse one.

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

This is the word of God.
Thanks be to God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

p. 188

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, chapter thirteen, beginning with verse one.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!”

¹⁸ “Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

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

SONG OF THE DAY

#512

“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”

THE SERMON

PASTOR MIKE KNAUFF

“When God Makes Gardens Out of Graveyards”

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontious Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Each petition will conclude with "Lord in your mercy;" the congregation responds with "Hear our prayer.")

OFFERING

SEE BACK OF BULLETIN FOR QR GIVING CODE

SPECIAL MUSIC

MICHELLE HANSON

"O Spirit All-Embracing"

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OFFERTORY

CREATE IN ME

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. _____ Cast me not a - way from Your

pres-ence, and take not Your Ho-ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to
 me the joy of Your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with Your Spir - it free.
 Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me.

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WE CELEBRATE OUR LORD'S SUPPER

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.

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.

DISTRIBUTION

We believe those who receive the consecrated bread and wine receive Christ's body and blood and the forgiveness of sins. We invite all who are baptized and believe in Christ to join us in communing. 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.

SONGS DURING DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

- #679 *“For the Fruit of All Creation”*
- #404 *“Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove”*
- #458 *“Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God”*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may this body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

And now may the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor, and give you his peace.

Amen.

CLOSING SONG

#550

“On What Has Now Been Sown”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

**THE WORSHIP IS ENDED
LET THE SERVICE BEGIN!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS!

The office hours have changed for July and August. We will be open from 9 am to 2 pm Monday - Thursday.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY: STARTING THIS WEEK!

Financial Peace University will be offered this summer at a discounted rate to the congregation! (Originally \$129 to only \$80!) Classes will be held Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm beginning on July 14th, running until September 8th. *There's still time to register.* See the flyer at the Welcome Window and speak with Julie at the church office for more information and to register.

PENNY POWER:

Penny Power for July will be given to FISH (Friends In Service Here). Because of the generous support of the Christmas Giving Machine, FISH has enough money to provide school supplies and fill backpacks for students who cannot afford them. FISH also provides assistance to local individuals and families who are experiencing difficult times. With Penny Power funds this month we will be able to help meet urgent needs and offer hope to our neighbors when they need it most.

FELC CHRISTIAN LEAGUE SOFTBALL TEAM:

Sunday afternoon games have started and run through August with playoffs in September. We'd love to have fans in the stands so please come and support us by cheering the team on at the games.
JULY 12TH - Community Park NW @ 4:30pm vs Crosspoint Floral

DREAM TEAM DELI NITES:

Where is God leading FELC next? To begin answering that question, we're inviting the entire congregation to take part in a series of Wednesday evening gatherings called the FELC "Dream Team." Our first gathering, "Dream Team Deli: Build Your Own Hero Nite," will be a relaxed, welcoming space to share a meal and begin dreaming together about the future of our church. The meal itself reflects the spirit of the evening. As we build our own sandwiches, we'll be reminded that no single ingredient makes the whole sandwich. In the same way, no single voice will shape our future - but only together can we discern God's direction for FELC. This is not a meeting for a select few - it's an open invita-

tion to anyone who cares about the life and future of our congregation. *Everyone who comes is part of the Dream Team.* The church will provide the basics (bread, meats, cheeses, mayo & mustard) for our "build-your-own hero" meal. We invite you to bring a sandwich topping (lettuce, tomato, bacon...), side dish, or dessert to share. Please sign up on the Dream Team Deli display near the Welcome Window in the narthex. If you'd like more information about the individual sessions please see the "Dream Team Deli" insert in the bulletin.

As we look ahead, we do so with gratitude for where we've been, confident in God's faithfulness, and hopeful for what is still to come.

SERVICE ON CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

The FELC Nominating Committee will be helping our congregation to mutually discern, through prayer, those that the Holy Spirit calls for service on the Council. One third of the Council's membership is replenished annually by election at the November congregational meeting. Our Council resolves consequential issues that deeply influence the life and ministry of our church. This week, and during the month of July, the worship bulletins will contain a nominating form suitable to write-in names of persons recommended for service on the Council. Contact Chris Brooks at (208) 881-3352 or cwbsrv@gmail.com with any questions.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED!

We are looking for additional people who are willing to assist during our Sunday services as communion assistants, liturgists, or serve on altar guild. If you feel called to serve in this capacity, please contact DiAnn Brown.

MINISTRY TEAM BUDGET PROPOSALS DUE:

All ministry teams need to have their 2027 budget proposals submitted to Natalie Meyer no later than August 8th in order for the Finance Team to begin the annual budget process.



HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a purple prayer request card and drop it in the offering plate or you can email office@firstlc.com.

All requests remain confidential - only with permission are individual names placed on the written prayer list below.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL, RECOVERING, OR GOING THROUGH A DIFFICULT TIME:

Donna Amundson; Kären Bateman; Betty Benjamin (*Lisa Mullinix's mother*); Charlotte Benson; Dean Benson; Kevin Call; Tracy Coburn; Margaret Contor; Devyn, Corden & Elias Cox (*Cal Miller's family*); Wendy Cudmore; Dayna Dabauras; Laura Dean; Joan Douglas (*Bev Novak's sister*); Josephine Fife (*Julie Reinwald's mother*); Sharon Gilbert; Jo & Al Glissendorf; Diane Hackman; Steve Hammond; Grayson Hansen (*Cathi Bean's grandson*); Josie Holtz; Cathy Homberg (*Heather Catanese's sister*); Laura Hundley (*Dave & Diane Sheldon's daughter*); Ann Hurley; Lexi Jensen (*Rebecca Jackson's cousin*); Vickie John; Lynn Parshall Kinghorn (*Alecia Coburn's former mother-in-law*); Mary Krippner; Makyla Labrum (*friend of Dean Benson*); Pat Lance (*Cal Miller's Sister-in-Law*); Austin Leger (*Heather Catanese's son*); Allan Magnuson; Mike Martin; Adara McClure (*Jeannie Campbell's daughter*); Bob McGee (*Richard Magnuson's friend*); Tim Metcalf; Vicky Mickelson (*Becky Jackson's aunt*); Cal Miller; Dick Mitchell; Wendy Morgan (*Larry Hudman's sister*); Mark Mullinix, Bob Neff; Josh Neis; Don Newman (*Richard Magnuson's cousin*); Heidi Packer (*Cal Packer's niece*); Mary Pilkington; Mark Pischer (*Cal Miller's son-in-law*); Priscilla Rainey; Patricia Richardson (*Dustin Jackson's aunt*); Camille Ronnebaum (*Kathy Katainen's friend*); Laura Schoonmaker; Jason & Kelly Smith (*Barbara Carlson's cousin*); Julie Sundberg; Scot Swenson (*Vernal & Jackie Swenson's son*); Kathy Tauscher; Deborah Vavra; Linn Watson (*Jacki Potter's mother*); Chris Weaver; Daniel & Sarah Young

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING FOR RESTORED HEALTH:

Bobbie Eddie (*Barbara Carlson's father*); Ashley (*Anne Mitchell's granddaughter*)

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES TO:

- Family and friends of Alicia Palmer, who died on June 20th. Her graveside service @ the VA cemetery in Blackfoot was led by Pastor Mike on June 26th.
- Family and friends of Judy Sahr, who died on June 27th. Her graveside service was led by Pastor Mike on July 11th.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**TODAY | SUNDAY 7/12/2026**

10:15 am	Sunday Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

MONDAY 7/13/2026

10:00 am	Staff Meeting - Library
7:00 pm	Worship & Music Team Meeting - Library

TUESDAY 7/14/2026

9:00 am	Happy Stitches - Fellowship Hall
12:00 pm	Care & Concern Meeting - Library
6:00 pm	Girl Scout Troop #930 - Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Financial Peace University - Library

WEDNESDAY 7/15/2026

6:30 pm	Dream Team Deli Nite - Fellowship Hall
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THURSDAY 7/16/2026

10:00 am	Kaffeeklatsch - Library
7:00 pm	Stephen Ministry Team Meeting - Library

FRIDAY 7/17/2026

10am - 4pm	Friends in Stitches - Fellowship Hall
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SATURDAY 7/18/2026

9am-5pm	Scrapbooking and Craft Day
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SUNDAY 7/19/2026

10:15 am	Sunday Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Jan Galbraith & Beth Nicholas**

Liturgist: **Steve Galbraith**

Communion Assistants: **Debra Holst**

Elaine Bengston

Usher Coordinator: **Dave Sheldon**

Ushers: **Phil Forbord, Paul Worth**

Counters: **Phil & Tessa Forbord**

Altar Guild: **Cathi Bean & Diana Murphy**

Collection Specialist: **Andrew Swenson**

Streaming Technician: **Paul Lerum**

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FELC LEADERSHIP

MINISTERS: **All the Members of FELC**

Senior Pastor: Pastor Mike Knauff e-mail: pastormike@firstlc.com

Church Administrator: Julie Sagnimeni e-mail: office@firstlc.com

Family Minister: Heather Catanese e-mail: youth@firstlc.com

Bookkeeper: Greg Stultz e-mail: bookkeeper@firstlc.com

Music Director: Michelle Hanson e-mail: 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

Summer Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, Friday Closed

Web Page: www.firstlc.com • Phone: 208-522-9301

Report of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Year to date Income thru May \$174,350; Year to date Expenses thru May \$154,382

Year to date net Cash Flow thru May \$19,968

Last Week's in Worship Attendance: 111, Live Stream: 52