

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

246 South Main Street
Greensburg, Pennsylvania
724-834-1457
www.felchurch.org

Rev. Douglas M. Heagy

Pastor

Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull

Pastor

Mr. Jack Delk

Vicar

Mr. Marvin J. Huls

Director of Music

WELCOME to First Lutheran Church! We are happy that you decided to worship with us. If you are visiting just for today, we pray that God will be with you on your journey. If you are seeking a church home, we would be happy to welcome you into our church community. If you are interested in joining with the First Family, call the church office...and please worship with us again.

ALL BAPTIZED worshipers who confess the presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion are invited to commune. Children are invited to come forward for a blessing. Communicants please complete a communion card.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS providing activities based on today's scripture readings are available in the narthex.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BAGS containing soft Biblical figures and coloring books are available for young children to use during worship. Speak to an usher if your child is interested.

A STAFFED NURSERY (available at 10:45 worship) is located on the second floor of the education building.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 14, 2010

8:15 AM and 10:45 AM

The beginning of the organ prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God.

GATHERING

Preludes and Silent Prayer

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly kneels. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive 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.**

Greeting

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

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

Prayer of the Day (Celebrate insert)
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us pray... **Amen**

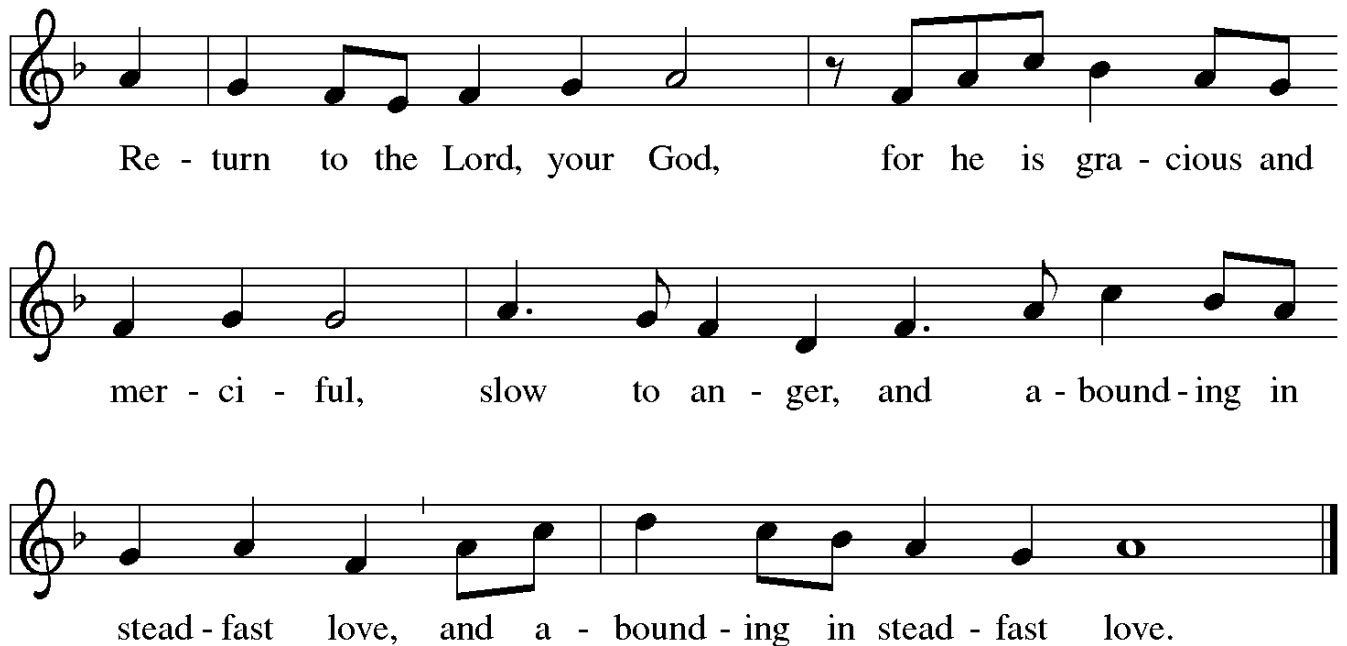
WORD

First Reading Joshua 5:9-12 (Celebrate insert)
R/Thanks be to God!

Psalm 32 (Celebrate insert)
(Read responsively, 8:15; sung, choir and congregation, 10:45)

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 (Celebrate insert)
R/Thanks be to God!

Lenten Acclamation



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

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Gospel Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 (Celebrate insert)
R/ Glory to you, O Lord. R/ Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon “*A Ridiculous Father*”

Hymn of the Day “Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”

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Apostles' 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.**

Prayers of the Church (Celebrate insert)

The Peace

THE MEAL

Offering

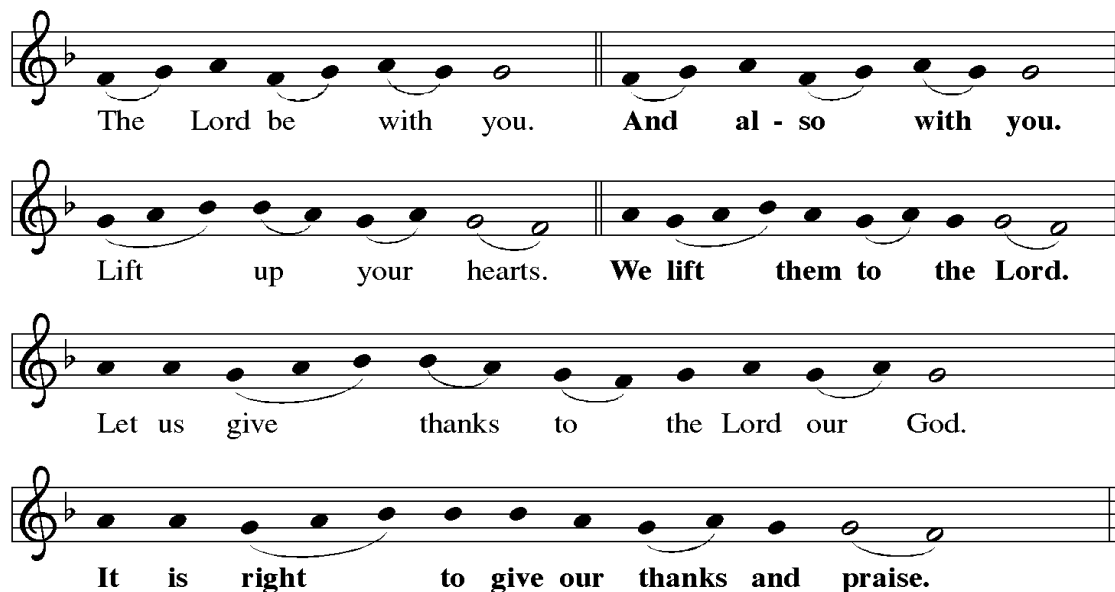
Offertory “Create in Me a Clean Heart”

Offertory Prayer

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The Great Thanksgiving

Preface Dialogue



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

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

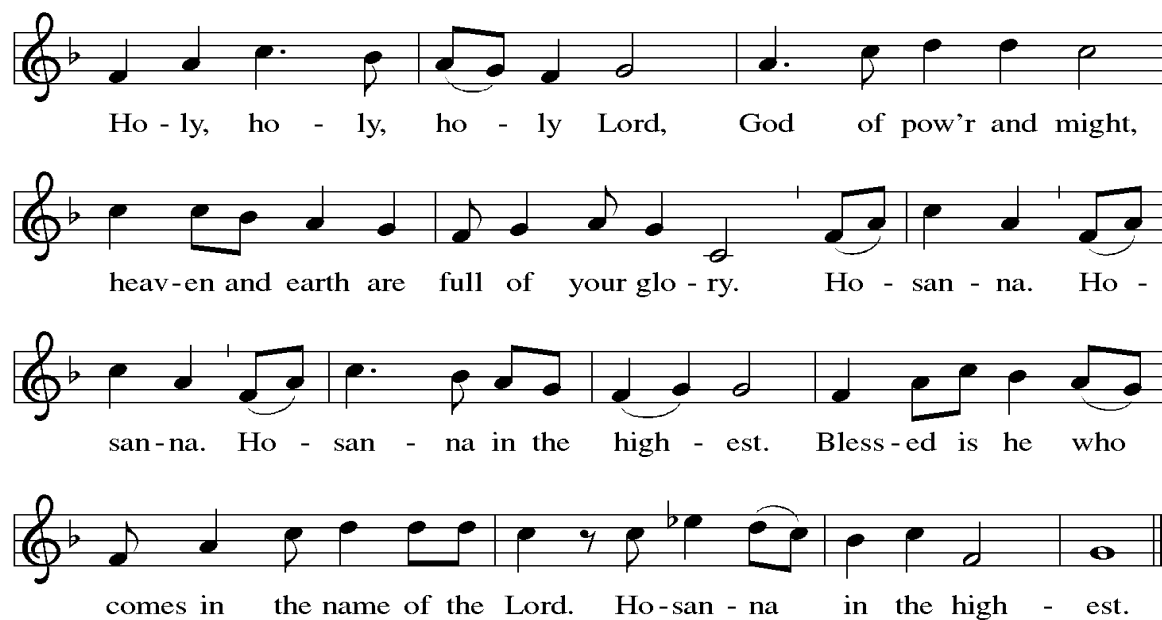
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



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

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WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

COMMUNION

Table Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life. **Amen**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you
and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

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DISMISSAL

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

IN THE TIME BEFORE WORSHIP TODAY, the congregation is encouraged to read each introduction to the scripture readings in preparation for the hearing of God's word.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in memory of Harry and Agnes Flock by their sons and families.

ACOLYTES are Dylan Leone, Nathan Flory, and Ian Deise.

THE NURSERY is in the care of Peggy Hargis and Hannah Heagy. Children under the age of 4 are welcome.

LECTORS are Duane Daniels and Shirley Huls.

TAPE MINISTRY is provided by Dave Delisi. Tapes will be delivered tomorrow by Betty Mohny.

GREETERS are at 8:15 Pastor Marleen - north door, Vicar Jack - center, Pastor Doug - south door, Bonnie Barnhart - choir door; at 10:45 Pastor Marleen - north door, Vicar Jack - center, Pastor Doug - south door, Art Smith - choir door.

THE CONGREGATION is reminded to respect the concerns of members who cannot shake hands during the flu season when we share the peace in worship. A verbal greeting of peace can serve as a substitute.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST is available this morning and every Sunday, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

YOUTH ARE INVITED to attend a "Captive Free" concert this evening at Harrold Zion Lutheran, 6:30 p.m. They will meet at the Delisi home at 5:00 p.m. Call Emma for directions (724-837-4656).

MONDAY NIGHT STUDY continues tomorrow evening, 7:00 p.m.

REBEKAH CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. in the conference room. All ladies of the church are welcome.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS this week include Budget and Finance, Tues., 6:30 p.m., Christian Ed. and Stewardship, Tues., 7:00 p.m.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE for April is this Wednesday, March 17. Please submit your articles by the deadline.

FOOD FROM THE HEART, our weekday luncheon ministry, continues this Wednesday at noon.

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION is this Thursday. Volunteers are needed by 8:00 a.m. to unload the truck, sort groceries, and help carry groceries to cars. Lend a hand if you are able.

MORNING BIBLE STUDY meets this Thursday, 10:30 a.m.

CHOIRS will NOT rehearse this Thursday.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH continues their Wednesday mid-day Lenten services. Devotions will begin at 12:05 p.m. and conclude at 12:30 p.m. A luncheon in the fellowship hall will follow the service.

ZION'S LUTHERAN will have Thursday noon Lenten services beginning at 12:05 p.m. with lunch following. Vicar Jack Delk will lead worship this week speaking on "Jesus, Our Risen Life and Love".

A YOUTH LOCK-IN is planned for March 26-27 beginning at 8:00 p.m. They will walk to Main Bowl for cosmic bowling at midnight. See the March newsletter for more info.

CROP WALK is set for Sunday, April 25. More information will be available in the coming weeks.

ALTAR GUILD is in need of members for the month of April. Anyone interested in serving during the month of April or being a member of Altar Guild anytime during the year please contact the church office or one of the monthly coordinators, Dianna Marusko, Bev Attenberger, Debbie Delisi, or Bobbie Laciak.

PRAYER REQUESTS for First's Prayer Chain may be made at any time by calling the church office or by writing the request on the prayer cards in the pew racks and placing it in the offering plate. If you wish to participate on First's Prayer Chain, please contact Jean Miller. Let us lift up one another in prayer.

TWO TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS are available to members of First. Members of the college who plan to attend Thiel are requested to call the church office. Also, the Education Society of Westmoreland County provides Lutheran residents of the county who attend any Lutheran college the opportunity for scholarship aid. Applicants are asked to contact Lisa Robosky at 724-532-7349 or at 831 Wisconsin Avenue, Greensburg.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...a BUS TRIP to Lancaster, PA scheduled for September 11, 2010 to see "**Joseph**" at the Millennium Theater after an Amish dinner. The cost of the trip is \$115.00 which includes bus transportation, the Amish dinner, and "**Joseph**" tickets. Call the church office if you wish to make reservations or for more details.

IF YOUR LOVED ONE IS HOSPITALIZED please notify the pastors or call the church office. Due to the new HIPA rules, the hospital does not always notify us of members' admissions.

PLEASE KEEP John Zuzarate, serving in Germany, and Ben Weyandt, serving in Afghanistan in your prayers.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE last Sunday was 216.

**Five Fridays at First Lutheran Church
246 South Main Street / Greensburg, Pa
2010 Lenten Luncheon Series**

February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26

12:05 PM - 12:30 PM Music & Meditation in
the Sanctuary

March 19 features John Olearchick, jazz piano

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM Lunch / Fellowship Hall

This year during Lent, First Lutheran Church will celebrate a series of musical performances and a time of meditation during the noontime hour for our church members and the Greensburg community. Entitled, "Five Fridays at First Lutheran," the meeting times will be held on the Fridays of February 26, March 5, 12, 19, and 26.

Music and Meditation will be shared in the sanctuary from 12:05 PM until 12:30 PM. Musical performances will be organized by Marvin Huls, Professor of Music at Seton Hill University and the Director of Music at First Lutheran Church. Brief meditations will be shared by the First Lutheran pastors.

Following the music and meditation time, a lunch will be offered in our Fellowship Hall from 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM. First Lutheran Church invites the Greensburg community, and those who work in town during the day, to join us for these five Fridays during Lent.



A Journey through Lent

*Transforming Lives
with the Gift of Clean
Water*

Lent is a period of prayer and fasting. It is fitting for Christians to emulate our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus with a forty day period of sacrifice. Join us on this Journey through Lent and give the gift of clean water to someone in need.

- Over a billion people in the world lack access to clean water – that’s one of every six people on the planet. As a result, 6,000 children die each day due to water-borne disease.
- 80% of all sickness and disease is caused by unsafe water and lack of basic sanitation, killing more people every year than all forms of violence combined (yes, even war).
- Women & children can spend hours each day simply to gather any water they can find to keep their family alive.

You can help. A series of small sacrifices throughout Lent could literally save a life. Here’s how:

- **Drink water only.** Set aside the money you would have spent at Starbucks or on soft drinks and donate the proceeds to Water to Thrive for a water well.
- **Forego the movies.** For about the cost of a movie ticket, we can provide clean water for one person – for up to 20 years, the average life time of a well!
- **Pray** for God’s needy children around the world, especially those without access to clean water.
- **Invite others to join you.**
- **Give as you are able.** Use a gold pew envelope and mark it “Well Project”.

ELCA DISASTER RESPONSE CHILE EARTHQUAKE RELIEF ELCA DISASTER RESPONSE CHILE EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

One of the most powerful earthquakes in history struck Chile on Saturday, February 27, impacting major cities and small fishing communities along the coast. More than 800 people lost their lives and many more are feared dead. It is estimated that 2 million people have been displaced.

Blocked roads, collapsed bridges, and fallen electricity wires and phone lines have made it difficult for humanitarian aid to reach those with the greatest need.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is uniquely positioned to respond. Unlike other aid organizations, ELCA Disaster Response works through long-standing partnerships on the ground that are prepared and able to reach the most affected communities. One such partner, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile, reports that church buildings are already being used to shelter the homeless. Our partners are in need of water, water filters, food, shelter and personal hygiene items to distribute to affected communities. Your donations are needed to bring these life-saving supplies to those in need. Will you help today?

Thanks to your Sunday morning offerings 100 percent of your gifts designated for Chile Earthquake Relief will be used for this response effort. Your prayers and generous gifts will make a life-saving difference. Please give today.