

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

246 South Main Street
Greensburg, Pennsylvania
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www.felchurch.org

Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull
Mr. Marvin J. Huls

Pastor
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 10:00 worship) is located on the second floor of the education building.

14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 29, 2010

8:15 AM & 10:00 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

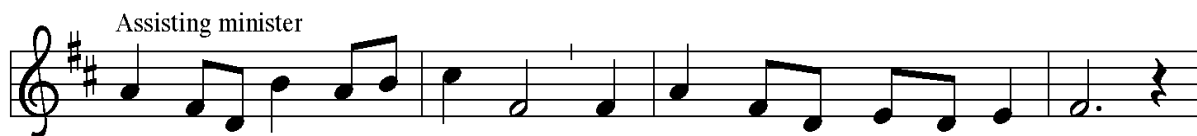
therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Hymn "As We Gather at Your Table"

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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.**



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



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



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



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.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



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.

Prayer of the Day (Celebrate)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray... **Amen**

Blessing of Backpacks

Let us pray.

Lord God, a new school year is about to begin. Bless these bags and backpacks, and those who will use them. Be with these students as they learn and grow this year. Help each of them to discover and develop their gifts and strengths. Whatever our talents, help us do your work when we are kind and caring to others, when we our very best, when we respect others and ourselves. Thank you for each one of them. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**

The leader invites teachers and other school workers to stand.

The school system that teaches children and helps them to live out their vocation requires a lot of people with different gifts. We bless you now as you begin your vocation of helping children.

Let us pray.

Lord God, we ask your blessings on these women and men who serve you in so many different ways. Thank you for their gifts and their calling to do one of the most important jobs in the world, to help our

children grow and learn. We pray that you would give them patience, wisdom, and a sense of humor in the coming year. Use them to show children your love and to guide them as they grow. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**

Please stand

We are all called to support, encourage, and pray for our students. We are all called to be teachers and learners with children; to teach them about God's love, and also to learn what children have to teach us. We bless you now as you support these children.

Let us pray.

Lord God, bless all gathered here today. Especially bless us as we support, protect, and encourage the children among us. May we all be both teachers and learners. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**

WORD

First Reading Proverbs 25:6-7 (Celebrate insert)

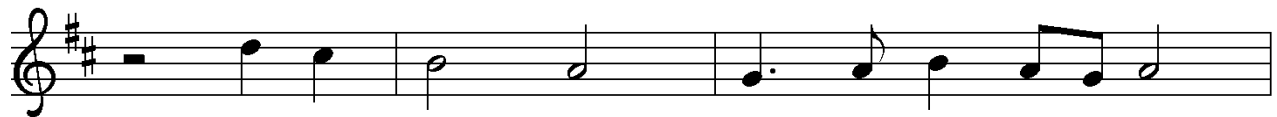
R/Thanks be to God!

Psalm 112 (Celebrate insert) *Read responsively*

Second Reading Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 (Celebrate insert)

R/Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Luke 14:1, 7-14

R/ Glory to you, O Lord. R/ Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon *“Mutual Love”*

Hymn of the Day “All Are Welcome”

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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)

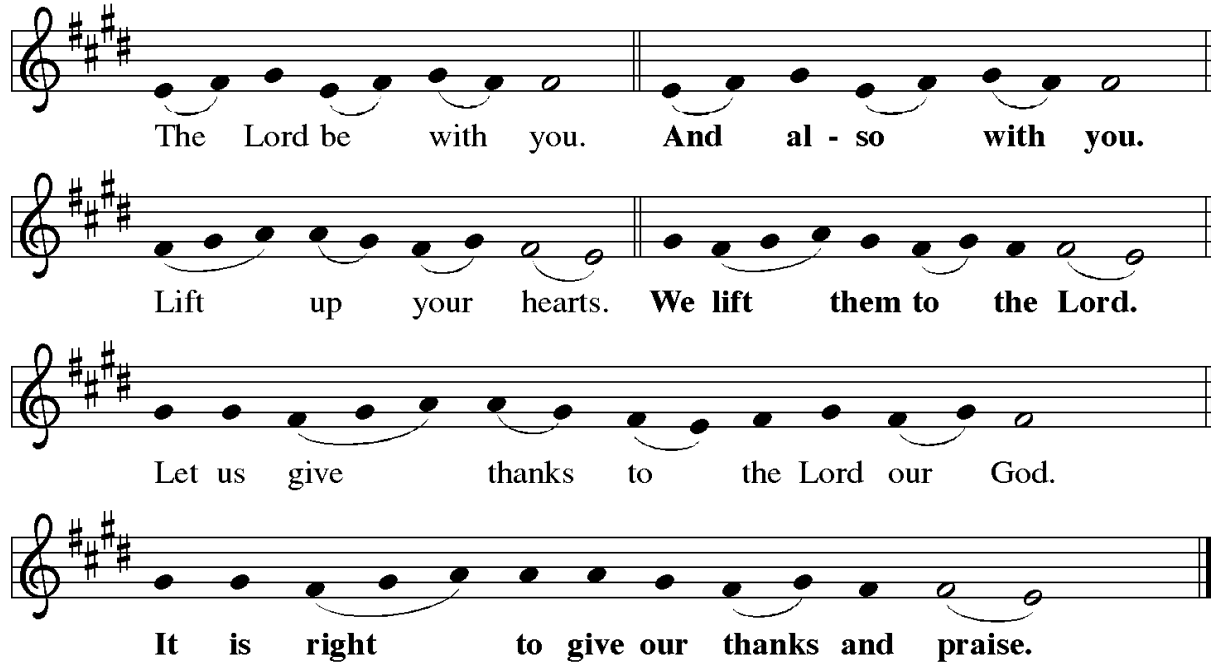
The Peace

THE MEAL

Offering

Offertory Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving



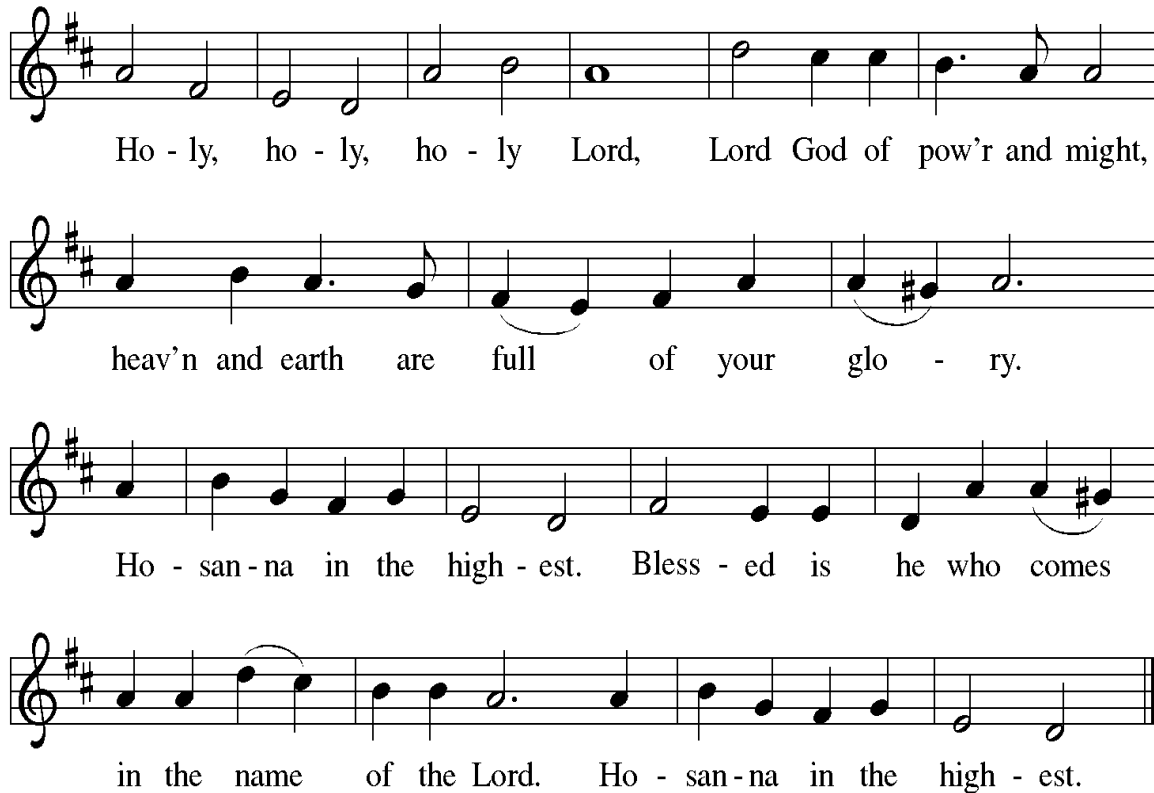
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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, 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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.

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.

O God, we give you thanks
that you have set before us this feast,
the body and blood of your Son.
By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need
and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

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

Hymn "Around You, O Lord Jesus"

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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.

ACOLYTES are Brandon Armstrong and Julia Gogol.

THE NURSERY is in the care of Mary Furlong Leppold and Rachel Krunszyinsky. Children under the age of 4 years are welcome.

LECTORS are Gail Armstrong and Alex Byers.

TAPE MINISTRY is provided by Wendy Johnston. Tapes will be delivered tomorrow by Judi Seanor.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS are Carolyn Hanzel and Rebecca Brunetta.

GREETERS are at 8:15 Hazel Adams - north door, Janet Wineman - center, Pastor Marleen - south door; at 10:00 Charla Keffer - north door, Peggy Hargis - center, Pastor Marleen - south door.

OUR THANKS to Marc Toure for his ministry of music today.

THIS MORNING at both worship services, we will have a Blessing of the Backpacks. All youth, preschoolers through college, are invited to bring their backpacks that Sunday for a blessing. Adults with briefcases, etc. are invited to come forward as well.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY meets Tues., 7:00 p.m. This committee is in the process of upgrading our sound system so that we can record the worship services digitally. If you could assist with this project, you are most welcome to join the committee.

F.L.Y. AND JUNIOR F.L.Y. will meet following the Rally/ReCreation Day event at Twin Lakes Park, Pavilion #4. They will enjoy a time of fellowship, activities, and planning for the new year, including election of officers.

“SNAZZY SATURDAY” CONCERT IN THE PARK is Saturday, Sept. 25 at St. Clair Park. FREE food and give aways! There will be no charge for admission. “Smallfish”, “Bookendz”, “Spirit” (Zion’s Lutheran Church Band) and “Never the Same” will be performing along with other entertainment. All welcome! Adult volunteers should speak to Pastor Marleen.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST will begin again in mid September. If you are able to assist one or two Sunday mornings a year in setting up for the breakfast and cleaning up afterwards, please call the church office or place a note in the offering plate. Guidelines will be available to you and you will be reimbursed for any expenses.

IN PARK NOW, SOON IN DRIVE...With demolition now completed, we eagerly anticipate the final steps of phase one of our park development. We continue to encourage congregational input regarding its thoughts about a fully functional park. Slots are still available on Phase Two’s Planning Committee. Contact a council person, office staff, or ‘apply’ in the Bird Box, against the choir loft.

OUR NURSERY IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS! Consider volunteering in our nursery during the second worship service. You would be asked to serve once every 10 – 12 weeks. Please call the church office if you are able to serve.

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.

DON'T PITCH, RECYCLE.....The Social Ministry Committee is placing waste receptacles at the church doors so that you can recycle your bulletins on Sunday. Of course you are encouraged to take the announcements and lessons home with you, but when every member of a family is given a bulletin, a lot of paper may go to waste.

OUR SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE continues through mid September. Summer worship times are at 8:15 and 10:00 a.m. Sunday Church School will not meet during the summer.

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, Ben Weyandt and Scott Sibley, serving in Afghanistan, and Liz Miles, serving as a navy nurse in Kuwait in your prayers.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE last Sunday morning was 132.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY BEGINS SEPT. 20

Join us for adult Bible Study on Monday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. beginning September 20th. The upcoming study is based on the book of Numbers. The texts for this series explore the stories of the Israelites as they wander, complain, and battle their way through the wilderness. We will use the Numbers text as a guide as we work through these questions:

Where is God in our "wilderness" times?

Is this what God wants?

Is there any hope for us?

Who can speak for God?

If you are planning on attending this series, please sign below and place in offering plate or call the church office so that adequate study books can be ordered.

Name _____

Will Our Children be Stewards?

A lively discussion centered around the memories of giving offerings as children when the facilitator asked "What do the children in this congregation now do about offering?" There was silence and then embarrassment until one quiet voice said, "Nothing, I guess. I hadn't thought about it until now."

Quite often there is no Sunday School offering collected. In many congregations children leave the worship service for Sunday School before the offering is given.

Adults of the older generation often begin their stewardship witness saying "My parents taught me to tithe." How many of our children could say that? If giving is not learned as a child, they may not give as adults.

Children's money values are influenced by the thousands of underlying messages in advertising we hear each day. According to a global market research company a staggering statistic is that 80% of product purchases are influenced by children! The Church has a tremendous opportunity, and responsibility, to create a culture of generosity that teaches a proportional perspective between earning, giving, saving, and spending money.

"What are we teaching our children about stewardship?" is becoming a critical question for our church. The fact is that we are teaching them very little.

So, will our children be stewards? The answer relies largely on the level of stewardship conversation that we have with the adults and children in our congregations.

*Train a child in the
way he should go,
and when he is old
he will not turn away
from it. Prov.22:6 NIV*

