



November 13, 2022

Time After Pentecost

*An asterisk * invites you to stand in body or in spirit, and you are invited to read responses found in **bold**.*

Welcome to First Lutheran Church!

Gathering in God's Presence

Prelude — “Your Kingdom Come”

Larry Olson & Julie Hennies Clark

***Words of Welcome**

***Confession and Forgiveness**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who is eager to forgive
and who loves us beyond our days.

Amen.

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and forgiveness,
we confess that sin still has a hold on us.
We have harmed your good creation.
We have failed to do justice,

love kindness,
and walk humbly with you.
Turn us in a new direction.
Show us the path that leads to life.
Be our refuge and strength on the journey,
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and
friend. Amen.

Beloved of God:
your sins are forgiven † and you are made
whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ,
who meets us on the road.
Journey now in God's abiding love
through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

***Prayer of the Day**

May God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Hearing & Responding to Scripture

A Reading from the book of Malachai— Malachai 4:1-2a

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

A Reading from Paul’s Second Letter to the Thessalonians — 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone’s bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation**

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

***Gospel — Luke 21:5-19**

The Gospel of Luke, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give

you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

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

Sermon — “Yes, bad things will happen AND...”

Pastor Chris Culuris

***Hymn** — no. 439

“Soon and Very Soon”

***Affirmation of Faith** — The 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 power of 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 Intercession**

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

Reviving God, keep your church active in its mission and ministry. Encourage bishops, deacons, pastors, and lay leaders to risk boldly in their proclamation and fill them with wisdom and endurance for challenging times. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, as the northern hemisphere prepares for winter, make us mindful of the ordered beauty of your creation. Teach us to treasure cycles of rest and new life. Help us care for what you have made. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Loving God, accompany all who make sacrifices for the sake of others. Safeguard first responders and active duty military personnel. Grant peace to veterans and heal any wounds in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, your people cry out to you. Sustain doctors, nurses, and hospital personnel in their tireless work. Uphold mental health professionals and those in their care. May the sun of righteousness rise on all who are sick. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Uniting God, unite this assembly in its shared mission and ministry for the sake of the gospel. Highlight ways we can better work together and give us patience to work through disagreement. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Consoling God, abide with all who grieve for loved ones who have died. Comfort us with the promise of resurrection and new life with you. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Offering

Music at the Offering

“Everybody’s Got Something to Offer”

Larry Olson

Sharing the Meal

*Great Thanksgiving & Preface

The Lord be with you. **And also 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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy, Holy, Holy...” *ELW page 153* Setting Four

*Words of Institution and The Lord’s Prayer

In the night in which he was betrayed,
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.

Again, 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.

In gratitude to God, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

*Invitation to Communion

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ.

It is made ready for those who love God

and who want to love God more.

So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little.

You who have been here often

and you who have not been for a long time or ever before.

You who have tried to follow and all of us who have failed.

These are the gifts of God for the People of God.

Come, not because the Church invites you;

It is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here.

The table is ready. Come.

Distribution of Communion

Song — “Secure in Your Arms”

Meg Sander & Hans Peterson

Communion Blessing and Prayer

We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to be your body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Departing to Serve God's World

Announcements

***Sending Song** — no. 697

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

***Blessing & Dismissal**

The God of peace, who creates all things and calls them good,
who makes us alive in Jesus, and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope,
‡ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**
Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world. **Thanks be to God.**

***Postlude**

Acknowledgements

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Worship Assistants

Pastor: Chris Culturis

Director of Music: Emily Bruflat

Music Leader: Steve Kidder

Audio/Video: Maren Swenson, Brett Peterson

Greeter: Finely Olson, Joe Greenig

Reader: Nancy Timm

Ushers: John Nadeau, Tom Thorkelson

Acolytes: Maxwell Swenson, Nolan Swenson

Communion Preparers: Nancy Thorkelson, Grace Timm

Communion Servers: Lynn Kidder, Sharon Domier

Bread Bakers: Michelle Doose

Musicians: Jeremiah Band -

Galen Bly - guitar

Christiaan Hajos - drums

Martijn Hajos - saxophone

Announcements

- Digital Advent devotional booklets will be available beginning the week of Thanksgiving. Since they contain beautiful artwork and imagery, it is recommended that you view them electronically. There will be a link to view the devotional booklet in the Heartbeat beginning on November 23 and through the end of the year. Please contact Angela if you would like a black and white version printed for you or she can send you a link to a printable version if you would like to print it yourself.
- Fellowship coffee and snacks are being served and provided by the Buildings & Grounds Committee.
- Flowers for the Altar are given by the Roemhildt Family in honor of Veterans Day.

- Poinsettias and Christmas trees are available to order using the Flower Sign-Up Sheet in the Gathering Space. Orders due by Dec 12. These will be placed on the altar and you may give them in honor or in memory of someone. The names of these people will be noted in the December 24 bulletin.
- Our first ever **Chili and Soup Cook off and Pie Auction** is coming up on November 20th. We will gather in the Dining Hall after worship for food, fellowship and fun! Please see the newsletter for the entry form. All donations raised will support First Lutheran Church!
- **Holiday Pies or Flowers**. Do you know someone who could use some cheer this season? Please contact the office to let us know who would like a pie or flowers this season.
- **If you are feeling sick** please stay home and know that we will pray for you. Please contact the office via email or phone and we will be happy to help you. Worship services are recorded each week to watch on Facebook.
- FLC is collecting money for the **Holiday Grocery Voucher Program**. Please write your checks to First Lutheran Church with “*Grocery Vouchers*” in the memo line.
- There are a few **new volunteer opportunities for youth** including bell ringing for the Salvation Army as well as positions to help in “The Kitchen”. Contact Calleigh Carlson for more details on how to sign up.
- Trinity Lutheran Church is hosting the annual **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service** in St Peter on Wednesday, November 23, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Singers from participating churches are invited to a combined choir for the service. The Rehearsal will be in Trinity’s Sanctuary at 6:00 p.m., one hour prior to the service. Any interested singers are encouraged to come to the rehearsal and sing in the choir. Contact Annette at Trinity with questions: music@trintystpeter.org 507-934-1274.
- Buy a holiday wreath or swag and help support local scouts! Wreaths or swags are \$25 and will be delivered to your home between November 25 and December 2. Order using the form at this link or the QR code tinyurl.com/25xfj6zr. You may also purchase one after church on November 20 in the Gathering Space. Questions? Email troop58stpeter@gmail.com or call Aaron at 612-644-2055.
- **Upcoming Congregational Meetings Dec 4 & Jan 29**. Please plan to be at these important meetings that will take place after worship. A quorum is needed and we will be voting on new council members in December and the Annual Report will be in January.



Prayers

- We lift up prayers for those on our long-term list: Elgene Lund, Chuck Petry, Bob Cady, Joan Williams, Myrene Bunge, Glenn Stryker, Erika Schuldt, Claire Cardwell, Ursula McRostie, Karen Wendroth and Gene Roemhildt.
- We pray for Dan Polzin who is mourning the loss of his father Ken.
- We pray for all those mourning the recent loss of loved ones.
- We pray for peace around the world; for all affected by natural disasters; and, for healing and wholeness in the lives of all who are ill.