

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIRST'S FRUITS



SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP

October 9, 2022
Season of Stewardship

*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 — “For the Fruit of All Creation”

Setting by Mark Sedio
John Bipes, cello

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.

***Greeting & Kyrie** — pg. 3, *Now the Feast and Celebration* booklet

***Canticle of Praise** — pg. 4, *Now the Feast and Celebration* booklet

***Prayer of the Day**

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

Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Hearing & Responding to Scripture

A Reading from 2 Kings — 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean?'" So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

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

Psalm 111 — Spoken responsively by verse

Praise the LORD!
I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
**Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.**
Full of honor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.
**He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.**
He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
**He has shown his people the power of his
works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.**

The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.
**They are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and
uprightness.**
He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name.
**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of
wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good
understanding.
His praise endures forever.**

A Reading from Paul's Second Letter to Timothy — 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. The saying is sure:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;
if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he will also deny us;
if we are faithless, he remains faithful—
for he cannot deny himself.

Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

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

***Gospel Acclamation** — pg. 7, *Now the Feast and Celebration* booklet

***Gospel** — Luke 17:11-19

The Gospel of Luke, the 17th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon — “Remember to say, “Thank You!”

Pastor Chris Culuris

***Hymn** — no. 840

“Now Thank We All Our God”

***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**

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God’s good creation.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for bishops, pastors, deacons, and our lay leaders. Inspire leaders of the church to proclaim your mighty deeds, that your saving faith may be known to all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Majestic God, we give you thanks for land and water, seedtime and harvest. Break down boundaries we construct between ourselves and the rest of your creation. Bring renewal and restoration to places affected by pollution and deforestation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Mighty God, we give you thanks for those in our community, nation, and world who work for justice and peace. Guide those who govern to act on behalf of those marginalized by race, ethnicity, or religion. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Merciful God, we give you thanks that you hear the cries of those in need. Restore to community those who are stigmatized by illness, feel rejected, or who live in isolation. Send healing to all who suffer. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Faithful God, we give you thanks for the healing ministries of this congregation. Equip those who visit, care, and pray for the sick. Give insight to doctors, nurses, home health aides, and all practitioners of the medical arts. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Eternal God, we give you thanks for your faithful people who have gone before us to your glory. Renew our trust in your eternal promises of mercy, redemption, and new life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Offering

Music at the Offering

Followed by: "As the Grains of Wheat"

page 9, *Now the Feast and Celebration* booklet

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" — page 10, *Now the Feast and Celebration* booklet

*Words of Institution and Prayers

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 the name of the servant Christ, we pray together: **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

Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste, and see that the Lord is good.

Distribution of Communion

“Lamb of God” — page 13, *Now the Feast and Celebration* booklet

Hymn — no. 886

“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Communion Blessing and Prayer

God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Departing to Serve God’s World

Announcements

*Sending Hymn — no. 858

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

*Affirmation of Christian Vocation & Dismissal

Siblings in Christ, both our work and our rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, at morning and evening, at work and at play, all the days of your life? **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit you have knit us your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Look with favor upon us in our commitment to serve in Christ’s name. Give us courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Together in Jesus Christ, we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully. Go in peace; serve God and neighbor. **Thanks be to God!**

*Postlude — “Majesty”

by Jack Hayford - arranged by Fred Bock

Acknowledgements

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Worship Assistants

Pastor: Chris Culuris
Music Leader: Sharon Malm
Audio/Video: Brett Peterson, Finley Olson
Communion Preparers: Mary Spear, Patricia Duenwald
Communion Servers: Sharon Domeier, Aileen Bipes, John Bipes

Greeters: Joe Greenig & Kay Moline
Reader: Kallie Stadick
Ushers: Tom Thorkelson, Gordon Long
Acolytes: Dylan Greenig, Lucas Chambers, Kolby Nixon
Bread Bakers: Marilyn Kochsiek
Musician: John Bipes

Announcements

- ***FLC's Got Talent!*** Join us for a fun and festive night ***TONIGHT, October 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the Dining Hall.*** We have all sorts of talented children, youth, and adults participating and everyone is welcome to attend! Let's come together and have some FUN! Invite your friends and neighbors! If you are dropping off art or food, the doors will be open by 6:00 p.m., and tables will be set up and ready for your creations!
- Fellowship refreshments are furnished by Carol Solberg today . **Thank you, Carol!**
- **Flowers for the Altar** are given today by the St. Peter PEO group.
- **Worship Assistants are needed!** We have a lot of gaps in the upcoming schedule especially for communion preparers and servers. Communion will be served every Sunday going forward. Contact the office if you want to learn more about how to get involved as a worship assistant.

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 the family of Father Harry Behan Ashford who passed away on Tuesday in Ireland. Father Harry served as a minister in St Peter during the 1998 Tornado.
- We pray for the family of Lynn Kidder as they are mourning the loss of her father Lowell Mattila.
- We pray for Kathryn Christenson who is mourning the loss of her daughter Abigail.
- We pray for peace in Ukraine and around the world; for all affected by natural disasters, especially the people of Puerto Rico, Cuba, and Florida; and for healing and wholeness in the lives of all who are ill.