

# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIRST'S FRUITS



SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP

## September 25, 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 — “Build Up”

Larry Olson and Hans Peterson

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.

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

# Hearing & Responding to Scripture

## A Reading from the book of Amos — Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,  
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,  
Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory,  
and lounge on their couches,  
and eat lambs from the flock,  
and calves from the stall;  
who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,  
and like David improvise on instruments of music;  
who drink wine from bowls,  
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,  
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!  
Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,  
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

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

## Psalm 146 — *Spoken responsively by verse*

Praise the LORD!  
Praise the LORD, O my soul!  
**I will praise the LORD as long as I live;**  
**I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**  
Do not put your trust in princes,  
in mortals, in whom there is no help.  
**When their breath departs, they return to  
the earth;**  
**on that very day their plans perish.**  
Happy are those whose help is the God of  
Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God,  
**who made heaven and earth,**  
**the sea, and all that is in them;**  
**who keeps faith forever;**

who executes justice for the oppressed;  
who gives food to the hungry.  
The LORD sets the prisoners free;  
**the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.**  
**The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;**  
**the LORD loves the righteous.**  
The LORD watches over the strangers;  
he upholds the orphan and the widow,  
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.  
**The LORD will reign forever,**  
**your God, O Zion, for all generations.**  
**Praise the LORD!**

## A Reading from Paul's First Letter to Timothy — 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign,

the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.  
Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

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

**\*Gospel** — Luke 16:19-31

The Gospel of Luke, the 16th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** — “Notice One Lazarus This Week”

Pastor Chris Culuris

**\*Hymn** — no. 723

“Canticle of the Turning”

Sung in this format: Stanzas 1 & 2, **Refrain** Stanzas 3 & 4, **Refrain**

**\*Affirmation of Faith** — The Apostles’ Creed

Let us affirm our faith together using the words of 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.

O God, rich in mercy, fill your church with righteousness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness. Empower the baptized by your Spirit to be rich in good works and ready to share. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Protect the earth and its creatures. Provide water, food, shelter, and favorable habitats, especially for endangered species. Preserve threatened ice caps, glaciers, parks, and beaches. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Increase justice in nations, local governments, and courtrooms. Guide lawyers and those who hold public office to act with compassion and discernment. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Give food to the hungry. Set the captives free. Lift up those who are bowed down. Watch over the stranger. Tend to those who are ill. Stir us to act in the best interest of our neighbors. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Enfold the saints who have died in the arms of your loving care. Grant that the holy angels accompany us and bring us to eternal life with them in the light of your presence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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*

"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 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. 479

“We Come to the Hungry Feast”

### **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. 532

“Gather Us In”

### **\*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** — “Healer”

Larry Olson

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#### Worship Assistants

Pastor: Chris Culuris	Greeter: Paul Aasen
Music Leader: Steve Kidder	Reader: John Holte
Vocalist: Rachel Ribar	Ushers: Tom Thorkelson
Musicians: Jeremiah Band	Bread Bakers: Nancy Thorkelson
Audio/Video: Shanon Nowell	
Communion Preparers:	
Communion Servers: Cathy Wills, Sharon Domier	

#### Announcements

- **FLC’s Got Talent!** Thanks to everyone who has signed up for FLC’s Got Talent, which will be **October 9th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Dining Hall. There is still time to sign up! Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/zwqvysua> or by contacting Calleigh at [cc.flcstp@gmail.com](mailto:cc.flcstp@gmail.com) to reserve a spot by **Tuesday, October 4!**
- **Refreshments** after the service will be furnished and served by the Altar Guild committee.
- 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.
- Pastor Chris will be away at our Synod’s **Fall Theological Conference** starting this evening and going through Tuesday, Sept. 27th.
- **Confirmation and Faith Formation Classes** begin Wednesday, Sept. 28th. Questions, please contact Calleigh at [cc.flcstp@gmail.com](mailto:cc.flcstp@gmail.com).

#### 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, Betty Gustafson and Karen Wendroth.
- We pray for the family of Lynn Kidder, they are mourning the loss of her father Lowell Mattila who passed away last Tuesday.
- We pray for the families who are mourning the loss of loved ones including those of Maralyn Flinner and Joan Miller.
- 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; and for healing and wholeness in the lives of all who are ill.