

John
17:17

*Your
word is truth.*

**May 16, 2021
Seventh Sunday of Easter
9:30 AM Worship**

First Lutheran Church
709 5th Ave. – P.O. Box 218
Washburn, North Dakota 58577
www.flcwashburn.com
701-462-3775

PRELUDE AND BELLS

AS WE GATHER

(Some of the most memorable portraits of Jesus shared with us by the Gospel writers depict times when He prayed. We remember Him teaching the disciples to pray when He was on the mountain, sharing the heart of His teaching. We have the powerful portrait of Him praying in the Garden of Gethsemane the night He was betrayed. And in John's Gospel is recorded what is known as the High Priestly Prayer of our Lord. Jesus prayed for His people during His earthly ministry; He continues that praying for us. In his first epistle, John writes that "we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1). There is holy conversation in heaven just as sure as there is holy conversation on earth when we pray!)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia.

P: Blessed are those who call on the strong name of the risen Lord!

As we gather in the victorious name of Christ, let us open our hearts to him and confess the ways in which we have failed to follow his will, and the ways in which we simply neglected our calling as his disciples.

(Silence for self-reflection and examination)

P: Lord of heaven and earth, of the living and of the dead,

C: We come before you confessing our sins, asking for your gracious mercy. By our human nature we are sinful and unclean; we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. By your lovingkindness, we implore you to grant us forgiveness and restore us to your salvation, that we might live holy lives here and now, and be with you in the final resurrection. Amen.

P: Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, God declares to all who believe and confess their sins, that we are forgiven and restored to a right relationship through Jesus Christ. We have been redeemed and renewed by Christ, our Passover Lamb. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit, let us walk in newness of life, following our Lord Jesus in holy obedience.

C: Amen.

GREETING

P: Christ is Risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who went to the cross for our sake; the love of the Father who put an end to the power of death through the resurrection of Christ; and the promised Holy Spirit who gathers us together, be with you all.

C: And also with you

SPECIAL MUSIC Choir
"Prayer of St. Francis"

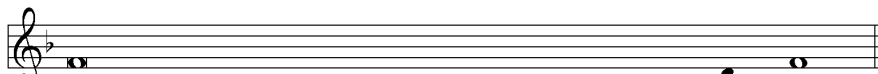
KYRIE

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.



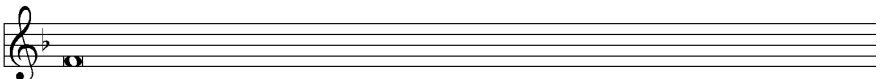
Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Ⓑ Lord, have mer - cy.



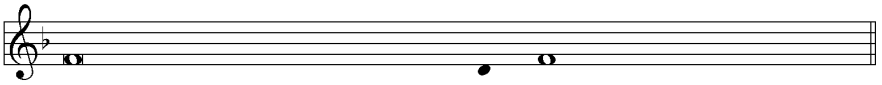
Ⓐ For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Ⓑ Lord, have mer - cy.



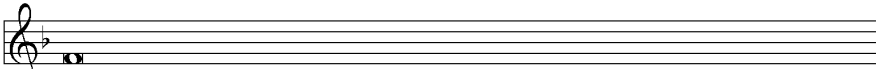
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



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

HYMN OF PRAISE



C This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,




al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **D** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was



slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



C This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. ¶ Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and




strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.




☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. ¶ Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



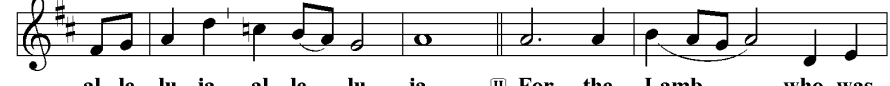
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. ¶ For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION



♩ The Lord be with you.

♩ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray:

C: Blessed Trinity, your deep desire for you people is that we may be one as you are one. You have made us one in Christ through the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. Teach this gathering of Christ's followers to live each day out of our true identity —children of God and one in Christ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READINGActs 1:12-26

(We spend considerable time, sometimes years, finding a replacement pastor when one leaves. We interview candidates, visit their churches (sometimes at a great distance) to hear them preach, read their papers and résumés, and discuss the candidates in meetings and by telephone when the meetings conclude. Of course, some call committee folks will discuss the candidates in the parking lot. We also pray.

The apostles needed to replace errant Judas and they began with prayer — devoted, persistent prayer. Then they brought two candidates to God's attention, perhaps after a few interviews, and left it to him. They trusted God enough to direct the outcome, that they cast lots, turning over the decision to the Lord. Casting lots was a longstanding practice of the culture. Nevertheless, their cast for God's choice displayed great trust.)

¹²{The apostles} returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. ¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about ¹²⁰) and

said, ¹⁶“Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ¹⁸(Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰“For it is written in the Book of Psalms, “‘May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it’; and “‘Let another take his office.’ ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us — one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” ²³And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

PSALM (Read responsively)Psalm 1
(If one believes the counsel of this psalm, then she need not look much further than the Small Catechism for a simple discipline that will lead to blessing. The one who is blessed is that person who meditates on God's law day and night. The Morning and Evening Blessings direct us to say the Lord's Prayer and the Apostles' Creed, and to sing a hymn upon rising and retiring. Some pastors urge their congregations to say the Ten Commandments as they lay in their beds. Great blessing comes from this simple devotion.)

Blessed is the man
 who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
 nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
**² but his delight is in the law of the Lord,
 and on his law he meditates day and night.**

³ He is like a tree
planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not wither.
In all that he does, he prospers.

⁴ **The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶ **for the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND READING 1 John 5:9-15
(There is a sin that leads to eternal death, to hell; it is the sin against the Holy Spirit (Matthew 12:31). Sinning against the Holy Spirit is the insistent denial of the Spirit's testimony to Christ. All other transgressions will be forgiven, but not that sin of refusing the Spirit's call to faith in Christ. How can God forgive those who do not want forgiveness?)

You may know that you have eternal life if you have not denied the Spirit leading you to Christ. And you may know that you have eternal life if you have not denied the Spirit leading you back to Christ when you have sinned. Your sins will be forgiven and your eternal life assured only if you do not blaspheme the Holy Spirit by saying Jesus is not the Christ — or that he could not possibly forgive the likes of you.)

⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. ¹⁰Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. ¹⁵And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 17th chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

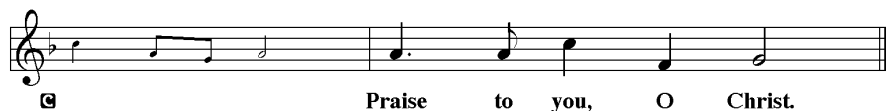
GOSPEL READING John 17:11b-19
(There are two kinds of saints. One way to be a saint is through what you say and do. Of course, we fail most miserably in this regard. We regularly “confess that we have sinned against [God] in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone” (Book of Common Prayer). After a moment of consideration, we must conclude that there are no such saints, despite what people may call some otherwise fine folks. They are still sinners, and as such, they are not saints.

The other way (the only way) to be a saint is through faith In God's word. In no way is this kind of saintliness determined by what we do. Instead, it is a matter of what (or who) we believe. We believe that Jesus has already cleansed us through his word (John 15:3). There is nothing we can add that makes a whit of difference.)

^{11b}{Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said,} “Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I do not ask

that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON Pastor Chuck Mann

SPECIAL MUSIC Gwen DeMontigny and Cam Merkel
"I Saw the Light"

DEDICATION CEREMONY

SPECIAL MUSIC Choir
"America, Wake Up!"
*(The words to this song were written by
Vivian Merkel's mother, Ella Lindemann in 1956.)*

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

(Place your hand over your heart and turn to your neighbor sharing the peace in this manner. No hand shaking.)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER (Said in unison)

Generous God, you have given us treasures too numerable to count. Grant us faith to be generous with all that you have first given us: our time, our resources, and our possessions. May we boldly trust that your providence, presence, and care are a never-ending reality in our lives. Amen.


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and proper that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. As Your children, You have given us a perfect love to see Your Son, Jesus Christ, in His humble birth, perfect life, sacrificial death, and glorious resurrection, by which You give us the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

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.

P: Blessed are You, almighty God, for You sent Your Son into this world to rescue us and make for Yourself an everlasting kingdom and through Your perfect love have given us all we need through the all-availing sacrifice of Christ's body and blood on the cross. In Him, Your love is complete and applied to us as Your children. Enable and equip us with faithful hearts to follow in faith, and grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us to do in His own testament. Receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28;

Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✕ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✕ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Merciful Lord, as Your children, keep us amid all the temptation to doubt and fear that we not lose sight of the goal before us. Grant us every aid and blessing that we may hold fast to the hope that is ours in Christ and be prepared when He comes again to bring to completion all things. To You be all glory and honor, both now and forevermore.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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, for ever and ever. Amen

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

(Single Aisle Station – one side at a time, social distancing)

SPECIAL MUSIC Gwen DeMontigny and Cam Merkel

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

Gracious God, you have fed us at this holy meal with the bread of life and the cup of salvation. We praise you for the glorious resurrection of Christ which is a sign of your great love for your people. You have forgiven us through this sacrament and restored us to new and everlasting life.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Psalm 32:10*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✕ give you peace

Numbers 6:24–26

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

C: Amen.

HYMN On next page

“Be Thou My Vision”

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

P: Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves have been born of God and knows God. Go now in the name of God the Father, the Son, + and the Holy Spirit. (1 John 5:7)

C: Amen.

P: Go in peace. Christ is Risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

776

Be Thou My Vision

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways.
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!

thou my best thought . . . by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tower,
 thou, and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Today's Worship Leaders & Volunteers – Thank You!

PASTOR Pastor Chuck Mann
COMMUNION ASSISTANT Matt Gardner
READER..... Matt Gardner
ORGANIST Theresa Petersen
USHER/GREETER Arden & Sande Wagner
ALTAR GUILD Melanie Beckman & Janell Ziemann
COFFEE HOUR..... Stewardship Committee
SERVICE GROUP COORDINATORS Randy & Janet Hanson

First Lutheran Church
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Washburn ND 58577
701-462-3775

PASTOR Chuck Mann email: pastorchuck@westriv.com

Cell phone: 701-891-9443

Parsonage: 701-462-3774

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY: Jeannette Rost

Church Office: 701-462-3775

Email: flc@westriv.com

Website: www.flcwashburn.com

OFFICE HOURS: T-T-F 9:00 am - 12:30 pm, 1:30 - 3:30

W – 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

YOUTH DIRECTOR: Laura Gardner

ORGANISTS: Theresa Petersen and LeAnn Richard

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Randy Hall

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR: Gwen Hall

CUSTODIAN: Jeff Schmidt

Our Mission

“Working hand in hand to know Christ and make Christ known through Worship, Christian Education, Evangelism, Fellowship, Caring Ministries, and Service.”

Welcome to all who have come to worship.

“God gave us eternal life,” says the writer of 1 John, “and this life is in his Son” (5:11). We gather to worship the Giver of life. Welcome!

Visitors

We welcome all visitors to First Lutheran today.

Holy Communion

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Receive the bread into your open, flat palm. Ask if you wish to receive grape juice or a gluten free wafer. Alert an usher if you, or someone you know, needs communion served in the pew.

Nursery

The nursery, located beside the narthex, is available for use for any parent feeling the need to use it during worship services with their child.

Thank you for your giving

Sunday, May 9th, Attendance – 144

Facebook Online Viewing - 102

General Fund & Plate Giving - \$3,290.00

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers today are from Tom Merkel in memory of Vivian and Clark Merkel.

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Mary Schulz. Funeral services for Mary will be this Tuesday, May 18th, at 2:00 pm here at First Lutheran. May God give them comfort in this time of sorrow.

Pastoral Care

Please call Pastor Chuck if you or a loved one are in the hospital or know you will be going to the hospital. The church does not usually get informed of your stay by any of the hospitals even if you are registered under our congregation's name. We want to make sure you get pastoral care. Thank you!

Prayer Requests

Family of Mary Schulz, Steph Mann, Kristi Olson, Elmer Schwarz, Mardella Aanderud – Mother to Melanie Beckman, Mary Ann Monsebroten – Sister to Jackie Olson, Weldon Wagner – Brother to Arden Wagner, Kathy Solomonson, Josiah Johnson – Brother to Steph Mann, Shauntaye Kopecky – Kurle family member, Mary Schulz, Ross Lorentzen, Kayla Boger – Family member of Steve & Peggy Wollmuth, Keith Hammerbeck – Family friend of the Kugler's, Deborah Davenport – Mother of Laura Gardner's friend, Virgie Emineth, Cindy Delmonico – Mother to Melissa Kugler, Ruby from Pine Ridge, Claire Boucher – Friends of Aaron & Lexie Solomonson newborn, Jamie Baumann, Taylor Gardner, Harold Holtz, Elaine Renfrow – Mother to Lynette Sondrol, Sandi Femling – Cousin to Melanie Beckman, Laren Holznagel, Harlow Tatum – Daughter to Brea (Gutknecht) Tatum, Ruth Lund – Mother to Doddie Kuntz, John Krebsbach – Brother to Peggy Wollmuth, Arlo Omoth – Brother to Jeneen Loe, Bob Miller, Rodney Jaeger

Dedication Ceremony and Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Today during the worship service we will be have a dedication ceremony for the pew cushions, roof, parking lot, video system & screen and other items purchased lately. Coffee, juice and cupcakes will be served after worship.

Newsletter Deadline

Please have all articles for the June newsletter to the church office no later than noon this Tuesday, May 18th.

Deborah Bible Study

Deborah Bible Study will meet this Thursday, May 20th, at 9:30 am at the church. Brenda Ankenbauer and Sylvia Thompson host. Study will be Episode 3, Lessons 1 & 2.

High School Senior Recognition

Next Sunday, May 23rd, we will honor our high school graduates during the worship service. Graduation Tea follows the service. Following are the seniors along with their prayer warriors. Thank you, prayer warriors for being a part of their Christian life.

Tristan Allery – Chris Samuelson
Brooklyn Barnick – Brianna Lazier
Preston Beckman – Dan Chrest
Dawson Erber – Tyge Sheldon
Karter Hansen – Rodney Jaeger
Armani Martinez – Matt Gardner
Garrett Pfeiger – Brenda Suckow
Caitlin Scheresky – Maybell Job
Ellie Schmidt – Sue Winter

Super Sunday Supper

Next Sunday, May 23rd, is Super Sunday Supper from 4 – 6 pm. Menu is cabbage rolls, rice, salad, homemade buns and dessert for a free will offering. This month will be by delivery or pickup only. No eating at the church. A signup sheet is in the narthex along with a collection basket for food or money. Call the church office at 462-3775 to sign up on the sheet in the narthex for takeout or delivery of the meal. People are needed to help prepare the meal, delivery and cleanup. Questions – call Judy at 701-220-4410 or Mike at 701-460-6997.

VBS

- ⇒ VBS is around the corner! June 1st – June 4th. Kids preschool thru entering kindergarten will be from 9:00-10:30 am. Grades 1-6 will be from 6:00-8:30 pm. Registration forms are in the narthex, as well as online. To access the online form, see the link on Facebook or you may have already received it through the Remind app.
- ⇒ We still need volunteers for each group. Please reach out to Stacy or Melissa (call the church office for their number).

Graduation Open House

Everyone is invited to the graduation open house for Caitlin Scheresky on Sunday May 30th, following the Washburn High School graduation ceremony at approximately 3:30 pm.

Our Daily Bread

The June/July/August issue of *Our Daily Bread* is in the magazine racks in the narthex. Pick up a copy today to use with your daily devotions.

Christ in Our Home and Our Daily Bread

The April/May/June edition of *Christ in Our Home* is in the magazine racks in the narthex. Pick up a copy to use with your daily devotions.

Connections Magazine

The May/June issue of *Connections* is in the magazine racks. Pick up a copy today to get updates on LCMC and NALC along with other interesting articles.

CCM Mother the Camp

It's the time of year to "Mother the Camp"! A tote with a list of items needed for Camp of the Cross is in the narthex. A list of items is also on the bulletin board. Any donations help to reduce the operating costs of the camp. Donations will be collected until Saturday, May 22nd and then packed up for delivery to the Camp.

New Members

If you are interested in becoming a member of First Lutheran in the near future, please talk to Pastor Chuck. A new member class will be scheduled sometime this summer or next fall.

Hearing Assist

First Lutheran is in the process of getting a hearing assist system to be used during the worship services. If you feel you could benefit from this, please let Jeannette know in the church office so we have an idea of how many units to order.

Thank You

THANKS to the FLC Church Council, FLCW, Evangelism Committee, Men's Bible Study group, and an anonymous party, all registration fees will be covered for FLC campers to Camp of the Cross Ministries this summer. Please let Peggy Moran know by May 24, 2021, if you have campers registered so the funds can be sent to the camp before the camp season begins.

LBW & WOV Hymnals

We will be ordering more LBW (green) and WOV (blue) hymnals. As of the printing of this bulletin we are looking at approximately 35 more LBW at a cost of \$32 per book and approximately 30 WOV at a cost of \$15.75 per book or a total of \$1,598.50. If you would like to help purchase any of these hymnals, please talk to Jeannette in the church office. We may have a chance to purchase some from another church but how many and price is yet to be determined. ***LBW books on the cart in the narthex are free for the taking.***

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

TODAY	9:30 AM	Worship w/Holy Communion Dedication Ceremony
	10:30 AM	Fellowship/Coffee Hour
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting
TUES.	8:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Mommy's Group
	Noon	Newsletter Deadline
WED.	9:30 AM	Friendship Bible Study
	7:15 PM	FLY
	7:30 PM	Choir
THURS.	9:30 AM	Deborah Bible Study
SUNDAY	9:30 AM	Worship High School Senior Recognition
	10:30 AM	Graduation Tea
	4-6 PM	Super Sunday Supper
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting
	7:00 PM	Al-Anon Meeting

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

May 16, 2021 — Seventh Sunday of Easter

“And they cast lots for them...”

– Acts 1:26 –

For the disciples of Jesus, the last few months of their lives have been a whirlwind. They witnessed the death of Jesus. They were filled with grief and became fearful. Then they were surprised later when Jesus rose from the dead and appeared to them, and they saw Jesus face-to-face.

After Jesus met with many of them sporadically, he ascended into heaven. The disciples stood gazing upward and they wondered what they’d just witnessed. The disciples begin planning their next steps. They are no longer confused or baffled. Now all of the disciples seem to “get it.”

They needed to add a disciple to the group to replace the treacherous Judas. The number of them had to be restored to twelve. Two were brought forward, Justus and Matthias. The mundane workings of the church are now in progress. They have a discussion, a meeting, a brainstorming session. They say, “Well, since Jesus isn’t really here now, we need to be practical about this. Let’s just pick one and get on with it. We need to do our job and get moving!”

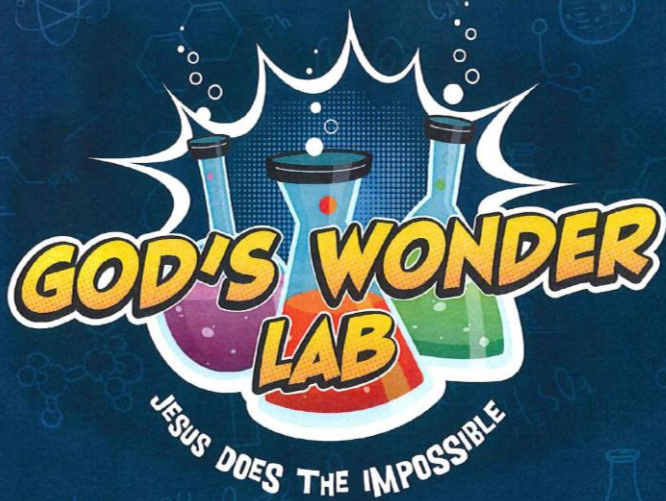
We think we may hear the voice of reason and feel the actual outcome is not really all that important, after all both men had been along for the ride since the beginning. But then Peter steps up and makes a speech about faith. So they pray and ask the Lord to guide them. Lots are cast in faith and Matthias is chosen.

What is important is the ability to be faithful in the decision, no matter the size or importance. This is the way to start out on the right foot, with faith first and foremost. These are the moments when our faith really shines, when we face a real test, not simply a tedious function of filing a report or forming a committee.

Peter was tasked with building the church. We are tasked with carrying the church forward. The church will persevere, regardless of us getting in the way. The real challenge for us and the church is this: can we be faithful? Can we trust the Holy Spirit to guide us?

The answer, of course, is a resounding YES!

Save the Date



VBS 2021

First Lutheran Church

For kids age 3 - entering Kindergarten

June 1st - 4th

9:00 - 10:30 am

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PLEASE JOIN ME FOR
BOLT: TOTALLY 80'S VBS.

DATE: June 1-4
ELEMENTARY: 6-8:30 pm
PLACE: First Lutheran Church

During BOLT, we're going to play games, sing songs, eat snacks, and take a tubular trip through the early church.

It's going to be so RAD!