

Lamentations 3:23

Great

is your faithfulness!

**June 27, 2021
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM Worship**

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

AS WE GATHER

(Do you forget to pray now and then? This is fallen human nature. God never forgets to listen. The Lord's steadfast love never ceases. When Jesus walked this earth, this was evident as He raised Jairus's daughter, who had died between the request and Jesus' arrival at his home. And He cured a hemorrhaging woman whose only prayer was touching His robe. But God does more than restore us to physical life and health. Jesus left the riches of heaven, becoming a poor and despised human being so that we might become rich with everlasting life. How can we ever thank Him? Paul encourages us to share generously and joyfully whatever God has so graciously given us.)

PRELUDE AND BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Put prayer requests on yellow pew cards and hand them to the ushers as they come around during the first hymn.)

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Called, gathered, enlightened and sanctified by the Holy Spirit of God, we worship in the name of God the Father, Son, † and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us come humbly before God and our brothers and sisters in the faith, confessing our sins, known and unknown, trusting in God's gracious word of forgiveness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Holy God who brings life out of death and transforms the whole creation with a Word, forgive our disobedience and breathe on us the Spirit of your righteousness.

C: Free us from the power of sin, death, and the devil in our lives; renew us with your loving Spirit as you bring us from death to sin to life in Christ Jesus Our Lord. Make us your instruments of peace and love in the world and free us from all that seeks to enslave us, trusting that your will for us is that we would be free to live fully into your mercy and grace. Amen.

P: By the command and authority of Christ, I 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. For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. (Galatians 5:1)

C: Amen.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ who grants us life eternal, the glory of the Father who created us in love, and the power of the Holy Spirit who forgives and renews our life, be with you all.

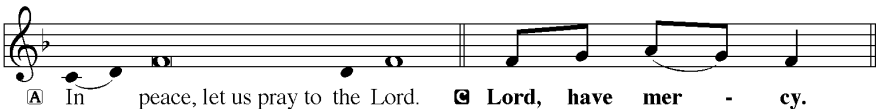
C: And also with you.

**HYMN LBW #520
“Give to Our God Immortal Praise!”**

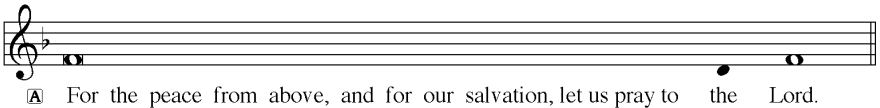
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE



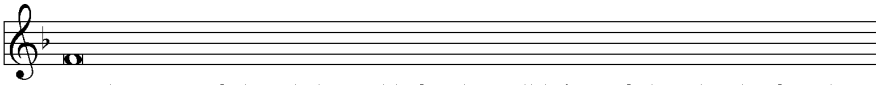
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **B** Lord, have mer - cy.



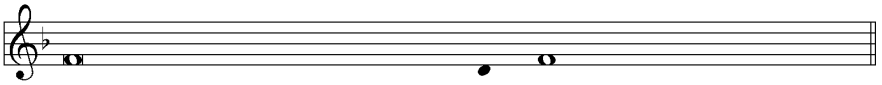
A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



B Lord, have mer - cy.



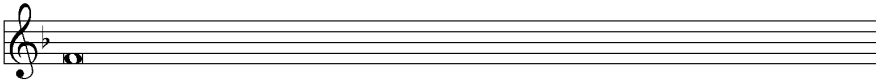
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



Ⓒ Lord, have mer - cy.

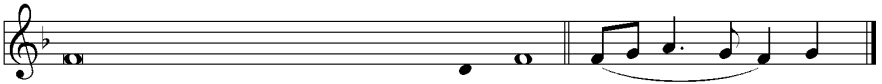


Ⓐ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Ⓒ Lord, have mer - cy.



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

SALUTATION



Ⓐ The Lord be with you.

Ⓒ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray:

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Read in Unison)

Holy and compassionate God, grant us grace to find in you our strength and hope in the face of all adversity that we might not be overcome by trials, but rather bear witness to the light of hope that you shine in our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING Lamentations 3:22-33
(Our lessons today are filled with grief and sadness, and with compassion and joy. Those who have a complaint should be patient, for the Lord is merciful. Though God may have dispatched some painful lesson or permitted some grief, he does so with good purpose. One should place her hope in the Lord. Soon enough, God will also provide his mercy because of his faithful love.)

²²The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; ²³they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” ²⁵The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. ²⁶It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. ²⁷It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. ²⁸Let him sit alone in silence when it is laid on him; ²⁹let him put his mouth in the dust — there may yet be hope; ³⁰let him give his cheek to the one who strikes, and let him be filled with insults. ³¹For the Lord will not cast off forever, ³²but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; ³³for he does not afflict from his heart or grieve the children of men.

PSALM (Read responsively) Psalm 30
(King David made many mistakes, and he sinned against the Lord more than a few times. He — and others — paid awful prices for these trespasses. Yet, the Lord always restored his life. David admitted that the Lord had briefly been angry with him but that the favor the Lord had bestowed on him lasted a lifetime. Though there was real reason for lament, for sackcloth and mourning, the Lord turned all of his sadness into joy.)

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up
and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

**² O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.**

³ O Lord, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;
you restored me to life from among those who go down to
the pit.

**4 Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints,
and give thanks to his holy name.**

5 For his anger is but for a moment,
and his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may tarry for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.

**6 As for me, I said in my prosperity,
“I shall never be moved.”**

7 By your favor, O Lord,
you made my mountain stand strong;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.

**8 To you, O Lord, I cry,
and to the Lord I plead for mercy:**

9 “What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the pit?

Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?

**10 Hear, O Lord, and be merciful to me!
O Lord, be my helper!”**

11 You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
you have loosed my sackcloth
and clothed me with gladness,

**12 that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent.
O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever!**

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 8:1-9, 13-15

(The church in Judea was afflicted by a severe famine and the apostles undertook a mission to raise money from other churches to provide food for those poor believers. A poor and afflicted church in Macedonia rose to the occasion, overflowing with generosity though they were extremely poor themselves. This should always be the response of the church: Help those in need even if you do not have the resources. Of course, you do not have the resources. God has the resources! He needs you to give them. This is often how God turns sadness into joy for both the needy and the giver.)

¹We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ²for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ⁴begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints — ⁵and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. ⁶Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. ⁷But as you excel in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you — see that you excel in this act of grace also. ⁸I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. ⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

¹³For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened, but that as a matter of fairness ¹⁴your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, that there may be fairness. ¹⁵As it is written, “Whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack.”

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. Mark, the 5th chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READINGMark 5:21-43

(Oh, how the faithless laugh. They will not believe that God is merciful and compassionate. Yet, some few will believe when everyone else mocks. A little girl was dying and her father came to Jesus, imploring him to make her well. On the way to the man's house, a woman who had been hemorrhaging for a dozen years touched the edge of his garment. Many had done this very thing in Gennesaret and been healed (Mark 14:34-36). This poor woman was also made well. Jesus then went into the house of the man with the dying daughter. Indeed, by now she had died. Jesus said she was not dead but sleeping. Though they laughed, he then brought her back to life as easily as one wakens a sleeping child.

May such faith as that of Jairus and this woman move the Church to greater belief. May we reach out to Jesus and be healed of any lack of faith.)

²¹When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea. ²²Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet ²³and implored him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." ²⁴And he went with him. And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. ²⁵And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, ²⁶and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. ²⁷She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. ²⁸For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." ²⁹And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" ³¹And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?'" ³²And he looked around to see who had done it. ³³But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. ³⁴And he

said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease." ³⁵While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?" ³⁶But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." ³⁷And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. ³⁸They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping." ⁴⁰And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. ⁴¹Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Talitha cumi," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." ⁴²And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. ⁴³And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of the following notes: G4 (quarter), A4-B4 (eighths), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (eighths), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), D3 (quarter), C3 (quarter). The lyrics "Praise to you, O Christ." are written below the staff, with each word aligned under its corresponding note.

HYMN LBW #499
"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by thy help I'm come;
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, Call for songs of loud - est praise.
 And I hope, by thy good plea - sure, Safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now like a fet - ter Bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

While the hope of end - less glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love,
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love.

Teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; May I still thy good - ness prove.
 He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; Seal it for thy courts a - bove.

“Beautiful Savior”

PRAISE, ADORATION

Beautiful Savior

518

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of

God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love thee, Tru - ly I'd
 flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
 spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
 God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -

serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 pur - er, He makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
 ra - tion, Now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. ... I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

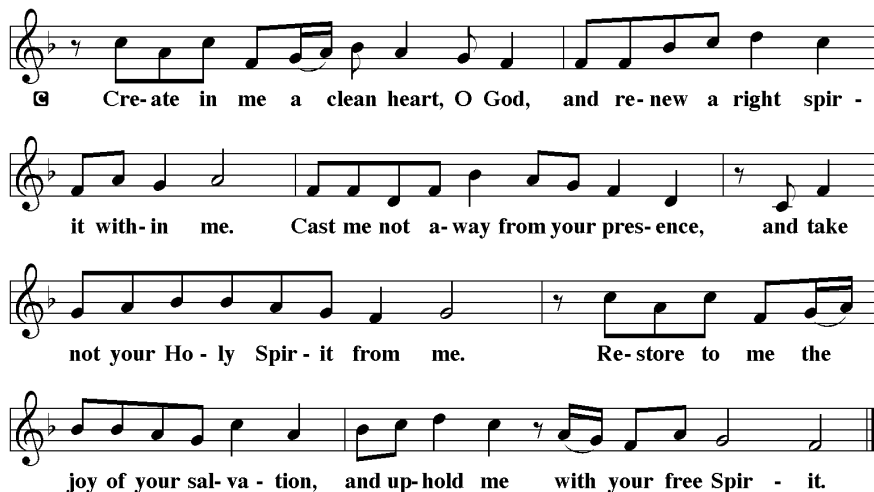
SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

OFFERINGS ARE RECEIVED

OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER (Read in unison)

Benevolent God, you have granted us in abundance with all the good things that life has to offer. May we be truly grateful for our daily bread, even as we return a portion of what you have first given us as a sign of our humility and thanksgiving for your bounteous gifts. Let the treasures we have received from you be used to serve the world you love. Amen.

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

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) LBW #415

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

415

God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us Scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; Bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e - vils

pour your pow'r; Crown your an - cient Church's . . . sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; Let the gift of your sal - va - tion

Bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 Free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 Rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 Be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

For the fac - ing of this hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.
 For the liv - ing of these days, For the liv - ing of these days.
 Lest we miss your king - dom's goal, Lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 Serv - ing you whom we a - dore, Serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Today's Worship Leaders & Volunteers – Thank You!

PASTOR Pastor Chuck Mann
READER Dick Bickert
ORGANIST LeAnn Richard
USHERS/GREETERS .. Chris Samuelson & Suzanne Swanson
VIRTUAL SERVICE Don & DJ Winter
ALTAR GUILD..... Claudette Ness & Maybell Job
FELLOWSHIP/COFFEE HOUR..... Gary & Cindy Thiel
SERVICE GROUP COORDINATORS Dwight & Margaret
Rasmussen

First Lutheran Church
709 5th Ave. - PO BOX 218
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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

Cell phone: 701-315-0212

Email: fly@westriv.com

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.

Members and guests, we're so glad you're here, for your presence expands and enlivens our worship. Let us praise God together!

Visitors

We welcome all visitors to First Lutheran today and ask that you sign our guest book in the narthex.

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, June 20th, Attendance – 84

Facebook Online Viewing – 75

General Fund & Plate Giving - \$5,001.00

Prayer Requests

Tiffany Schmitz, Family of Pat Lindell on her death, Sheila Koehler – Friend of the Kurle family, Hunter Feigum, Olivia Retterath, Pat Anderson, Kristi Olson, Mardella Aanderud – Mother to Melanie Beckman, Mary Ann Monsebroten – Sister to Jackie Olson, Kathy Solomonson, Shauntaye Kopecky – Kurle family member, Ross Lorentzen, 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

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!

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to Bill Lindell and family on the death of his wife, Pat Lindell. Memorial service for Pat will be held this Friday, July 2nd, at 11:00 am. Inurnment will be held at 10:00 am on Tuesday, July 6th at the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery, Mandan.

Church Doors

The council voted at their June meeting to have summer hours which the church doors will be unlocked and locked. They are:

Sunday: 8:00 am – 8:00 pm

Monday thru Saturday: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

If you need in the church any other time, please contact Pastor Chuck or Jeannette Rost.

Jean Sunday

Today is Jean Sunday. If you wore jeans to church today, consider donating \$1 or more to FLY to help with expenses for activities throughout the year. Even if you didn't wear jeans, you are still welcome to donate. A jean's can is on the table with the offering plate.

Super Sunday Supper

Today, June 27th, is our Super Sunday Supper from 4-6 pm. Delivery is available for shut-ins. Please call for delivery, pickup and reservations. Contact Judy Beaudry or Mike Aull with questions.

Attention Members Grades 7 thru College

Come join Pastor Chuck & Steph for a cookout at Cross Ranch State Park on Monday, June 28th, from 5-8 pm for a fun time to get to know each other. Food will be provided. We will meet at 5 pm in the church parking lot (rides available if needed).

Lemonade Stand

The Washburn School this Tuesday, June 29th, from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm at the school, will be having lemonade stands to support different charities. Come to door 3 for a lemonade stand that the profit will support First Lutheran Church and other area charities.

FLC Executive Board Meeting

The FLC Executive Board will meet this Tuesday, June 29th, at 7:00 pm.

LCMC Annual Gathering and Convention

The LCMC Annual Gathering and Convention is October 3-6, 2021 in Hilliard, OH. Early bird registration is August 15. If you are interested in going, please talk to Pastor Chuck, Matt Gardner or Jeannette Rost.

Volunteers Needed

Donna Gunderson is looking for volunteers to help on a weekly basis to water the flowers. If you are willing to help from June thru September, please talk to Donna.

Altar Flower Signup

There is a signup sheet in the narthex for altar flowers from now thru September 26th. Signup for the date you would like to supply flowers before your date is taken. Remember, you furnish the flowers and make sure they get to the church for that Sunday.

FLC Phone Number

It has been brought to our attention that the First Lutheran Church phone number is incorrectly listed in the McLean County Phone Book. It is listed with the parsonage number. The church number should be 701-462-3775. All other phone books have it listed correctly.

Landline vs Cell Phone

Have you dropped your landline phone and gone to just your cell phone? If so, have you given First Lutheran your cell phone number yet? If not, we would appreciate it so we can get ahold of you when needed. FLCW work group co-chairs need your number too! Call 462-3775 or email flc@westriv.com with your cell number. Thank you!

Christ in Our Home

The July/August/September issue of *Christ in Our Home* is in the magazine racks. Pick up a copy today 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.

Hearing Assist

First Lutheran has some hearing assist systems to be used during the worship services. If you feel you could benefit from this, please talk to Pastor Chuck before the church service.

LBW & WOV Hymnals

Thank you everyone that donated money for the new hymnals. I am so overjoyed to tell you that we now have enough money to fully pay for all the hymnals ordered! What a wonderful congregation we have! God is good!!!

There are still a few LBW books in the narthex that are no longer good enough for use in the pews, but good enough for use at home. If you would like one or more of those hymnals, please stop at the church and take as many of them as you wish. Remember, it is only the ones in the narthex for your taking.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

TODAY	9:30 AM	Worship
	10:30 AM	Fellowship/Coffee Hour
	4-6 PM	Super Sunday Supper
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting AI-Anon Meeting
TUES.	10:00 AM	Mommy's Group
	7:00 PM	FLC Executive Board Meeting
THURS.	AM	Pastor Chuck at Text Study
FRI.	11:00 AM	Pat Lindell Memorial Service
SUNDAY	9:30 AM	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	10:30 AM	Coffee/Fellowship Hour
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting
	7:00 PM	AI-Anon Meeting

A Little Church Humor - Church Excuses

To make it possible for everyone to be able to attend church next Sunday, we are going to have a special "No Excuse Sunday."

Cots will be placed in the foyer for those who say, "Sunday is my only day to sleep in."

There will be a special section with lounge chairs for those who feel that our pews are too hard.

Eye drops will be provided for those with tired eyes from watching TV late Saturday night.

We will have steel helmets for those who say "The roof would cave in if I ever came to church."

Blankets will be provided for those who think that the church is too cold, and fans for those who think that it is too hot.

Scorecards will be provided for those who would like to list the hypocrites present.

Relatives and friends will be in attendance for those who can't go to church and cook dinner too.

We will distribute "Stamp Out Stewardship" buttons for those who feel that the church is always asking for money.

One section will be devoted to trees and grass for those who like to seek God in nature.

Doctors and Nurses will be in attendance for those who plan to be sick on Sunday.

The sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who have never seen the church without them.

We will provide hearing aids for those who can't hear the sermon and cotton for those who can.

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost – June 27, 2021

“Do not fear, only believe.” (Mark 5:36)

Two very different people in distress seek help from Jesus. One is an official, Jairus, and the other is a woman with no name. However, they share a mutual characteristic in that they both have faith and believe Jesus could be the answer to their problems.

The woman is fearful, thinking Jesus will rebuke her. But he doesn't. Instead, he says, “Daughter, your faith has made you well.” Jesus doesn't say, “Because you have worked up great faith in me, I've decided to heal you.” Rather he says, “Your faith in me is honored by me.” She has a relationship with Jesus so whether healed or not, she still trusts Jesus.

Jairus asks Jesus for help. But because Jesus was delayed by healing the woman, Jairus' daughter dies. The crowd mocks Jairus with “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?” But when Jesus comes around, we have to say it ain't over til it's over! The daughter is brought back to life. With this miracle, Jesus is basically saying to Jairus, “Don't be afraid, keep on believing, keep on trusting.”

Perhaps these stories are mirrors. Some of us trust and are faithful in such a way that when we find ourselves in a desperate situation, like Jairus, we come down off our high horse and ask for help. Others of us are like the woman who is desperate and totally dependent on Jesus to make a way when there is no way. Still others may be like the mocking crowd. All this faith-healing and Jesus-pleading stuff may seem a bit “goofy.” We are sophisticated, scientific, critical-thinking people. We see some wild faith-healer on TV and we scoff and mock.

The good news is sometimes faith comes about in desperation. We hit bottom, or life spins out of control, or we get such bad news there is nothing we can do about it. So we call out to Jesus and are surprised to learn we've been given more faith than we thought we had. He turns to us, blesses us, gives us what we need, not as a payoff from our faith but rather as a mysterious, incomprehensible outpouring of his love and grace for us.

It's when we're desperate and all we've got left is trust, we trust that Jesus is not only God, but also God for us. Desperate? Jesus is the one in whom you can have faith. Amen.

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Give to Our God Immortal Praise!

1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and
 2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save From guilt and
 3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; The King of

truth are all his ways; Won - ders of grace to
 dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to
 kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er

God be - long; Re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 God be - long; Re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 shall en - dure When lords and kings are known no more!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748
 Tune: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

DUKE STREET
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