

First Lutheran Church ELCA



Sunday ✝ August 10, 2025 ✝ 10:30 am

We gather for worship

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN

“Come to the Water of Life”

ACS 955

1 All who are thirst - y for mer - cy, all who are thirst - y for
 2 All who are thirst - y for heal - ing, all who are thirst - y for
 3 All who are thirst - y for beau - ty, all who are thirst - y for
 4 All who are thirst - y for jus - tice, all who are thirst - y for

love; all who are thirst - y for love, for mer - cy,
 touch; all who are thirst - y for touch, for heal - ing,
 truth; all who are thirst - y for truth, for beau - ty,
 peace; all who are thirst - y for peace, for jus - tice,

come: come to the Wa - ter of life.
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
 Music: WATER OF LIFE, Ray Makeever
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THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the wellspring of grace, Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice
thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

**Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into
freedom's land.
Amos cried out for your waters of justice to roll down.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal
life.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life!

**At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.**

**By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as your people.**

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen. Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together:

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you and serve you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

We hear God's Word for us

God speaks to us through scripture, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."

² But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ The LORD brought Abram outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then the LORD said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-12

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Luke 12:32-36, 40

We stand for the reading of the Gospel

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

The Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks... ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

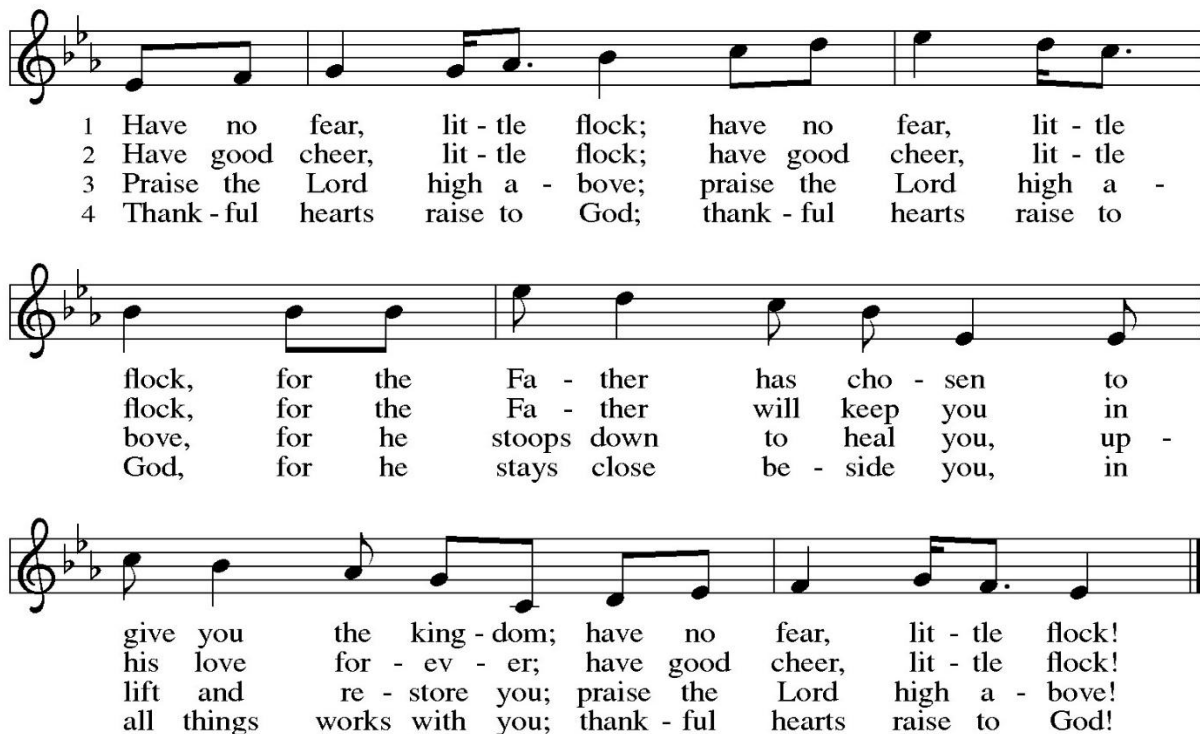
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Have No Fear, Little Flock”

ELW 764



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to

flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to
 flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in
 bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -
 God, for he stays close be - side you, in

give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!
 his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
 lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!
 all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4
 Music: LITTLE FLOCK, Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930
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APOSTLES' CREED

ASSISTING MINISTER:

*We have been made God's people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.*

**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 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

Following each prayer, we respond...

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Welcome to God's Table

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Greet one another with a gesture of peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERING / OFFERING SONG

Thank you for your offering! Offerings can be shared in the basket at the entry before or after worship. Your support of the ministry of First Lutheran is important and valued!

Thanks to those who give on a regular basis through "direct deposit" giving. (Contact the church office about this giving option.)

**Loaves were broken, words were spoken by the Galilean shore.
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven, was their food forevermore.
By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

ASSISTING MINISTER:

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Communion Prayers / Words of Institution

On the night before 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.

Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Lord's Prayer

Over the years, different versions of the Lord's Prayer have become familiar (all quite different from the original prayer as recorded in the Gospels).

Please use the most meaningful version as you pray today:

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.	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, forever and ever. Amen.
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Communion

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God!

All are invited to receive these gifts of God. Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

Communion is served by intinction. Dip the bread in either the wine or the grape juice.

Gluten-wafers are available, simply ask your server. If you prefer to remain in your pew, the pastor will come and serve you there.

COMMUNION MUSIC

BLESSING AND PRAYER

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

ASSISTING MINISTER:

*Let us pray.
We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

We go into God's world

God blesses us and sends us into daily vocations of service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / OPPORTUNITIES


BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"Have No Fear, Little Flock"

ELW 764



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 bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -
 God, for he stays close be - side you, in

give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!
 his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
 lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!
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SENDING

ASSISTING MINISTER:

Go in Peace! Serve the Lord! Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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First Lutheran Church ELCA

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Transition Pastor David Halaas

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Welcome to worship! You are valued and we welcome you!
We are grateful for God's gift of a diverse community.
Find comfort in this holy space. Find friendship in this community.

Children always participate here!!

- Adults are encouraged to help children participate in the times we sing and pray together.
- Faith is learned by doing and belonging. At the entry to the sanctuary special worship bags for children are available.
- All children are welcome at Holy Communion. Children learn by doing! If families prefer, children can receive a pastoral blessing.

About Holy Communion today

- Everyone (yes everyone!) is invited to God's table of grace!
- We believe that Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine
- Holy Communion will be served today by intinction... dip the bread in either the wine (dark Color) or the grape juice (light color)
- If you prefer to remain seated, the pastor will come and serve you there.
- Gluten-free communion bread may be requested

Coffee and fellowship follow worship today!

SERVING TODAY

Pastor David Haalas	<i>pastor</i>
Alison Hertenstein	<i>assisting minister</i>
Valerie Kaat	<i>pianist</i>
Janet Gross	<i>reader</i>
Julie Thiele	<i>sacristan</i>
Jason Denne	<i>communion minister</i>
Jay Schenzel	<i>usher</i>
Lee Knop, Catherine Rommel	<i>greeters</i>
Ben & Ellie Hertenstein	<i>sound and media technicians</i>
The Schenzel Family	<i>radio and livestream broadcast sponsor</i>
Sarah Biorn, Chris Taylor	<i>coffee fellowship</i>

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am to 2pm.

Wednesday, August 13

9:00-11:30 am Holy Family Food Pantry, Healthy Kids of Iowa Distribution
volunteers: Sue Bowers, Ann Doellinger

Thursday, August 14

1:00 pm Bible Study
4:00 – 6:00 pm Siouxland Soup Kitchen

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

Jack McGaffin 8/10, Jay Denne 8/12, Sara Tomsha 8/13, Bob Taylor 8/14

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Tell others First Lutheran worship ON FACEBOOK live on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. and then available anytime . . .and the **First Lutheran radio broadcast** – every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. on iHeart radio 620 am. ...

Holy Family Food Pantry is reaching the next generation!

We need you!!

FLC is still looking for volunteers for our food pantry: pickups, packing and distributing. Please contact Janet if you can help.

We also need **plastic bags** (Fareway bags seem to hold up the best) for our distributions.

Siouxland Soup Kitchen:

Our next opportunity to serve will be **Thursday, August 14th, from 4-6pm**. Contact Becki McGlaulin at 712-490-1593 or sign up on the Siouxland Soup Kitchen website.

Your presence is a gift – to you and to others!

Attendance at worship previous weeks: July 13 – 57, July 20 – 51, July 27 - 50

Attendance at worship last week: 51

Offering at worship last week: \$1,390

**There is now an online option to choose “HVAC - Capital Campaign” in Realm to designate your offering. You can also write HVAC on your check memo to designate your offering specifically. Thank you for your continued support at FLC!

Mission and Ministry Partners

- **Western Iowa Synod ELCA (109 neighbor congregations)**
www.wisynod.org www.elca.org Bishop Lorna Halaas / Bishop-Elect Scott Dalen
- **Lutheran Lakeside...** outdoor ministry/camp and retreat center in
Spirit Lake, Iowa www.lutheranlakeside.com
 - **ELCA churches in Sioux City, including**
St. Mark Lutheran Church – 5200 Glenn Avenue, Sioux City
Pastor Halaas also serves as Pastor at St. Mark
- **ELCA Colleges, Universities, and Seminaries**
 - **Lutheran World Relief** quilt ministry
 - **ELCA ‘Young Adults in Global Mission’**

First Lutheran Church Council 2025

Bill Habermann, *President*

Kaia Downing, *Vice-President*

Enola Peters, *Secretary*

Pete Hawkinson, *Treasurer*

Jenny Denne, Dave Gross, Brad Heider, Richard Storm