

First Lutheran Church ELCA



Sunday ✝ August 24, 2025 ✝ 10:30 am

We gather for worship

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

PRELUDE

"Because He Lives"

arr. By Cindy Berry

OPENING HYMN

"Look Who Gathers At Christ's Table"

ACS 977

Vs. 1 & 4

Verse 1

Look who gathers at Christ's table!
Hear the stories that they bring.
Some are weeping; some are laughing;
some have songs they want to sing.
Others ask why they're invited,
burdened by the wrong they've done.
Christ insists they all are welcome.
There is room for ev'ryone.

Verse 4

Bring your joy and bring your sadness,
and prepare to be surprised
by the host whose hands are wounded,
who will open wide your eyes
when he blesses bread and breaks it –
truth and manna from above! –
and then passes wine that awakens
in your heart the taste of love.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✠ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together:

Merciful God, you gave us the grace that always helps in time of need. Help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and you have promised renewed life in Jesus Christ. Amen.

We hear God's Word for us

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

First Reading: Isaiah 58:9b-14

God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.

¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

¹³ If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the Sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs;
¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

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

Second Reading: Psalm 108: 1-8

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
² **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits —**
³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;
⁴ **who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**
⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
⁶ **O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**
⁷ You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.
⁸ **LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

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

Alleluia Verse

ELW 172

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -

- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -

Hal - le - lu - jah.

lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.

The Gospel according to Luke, the 13th chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath.

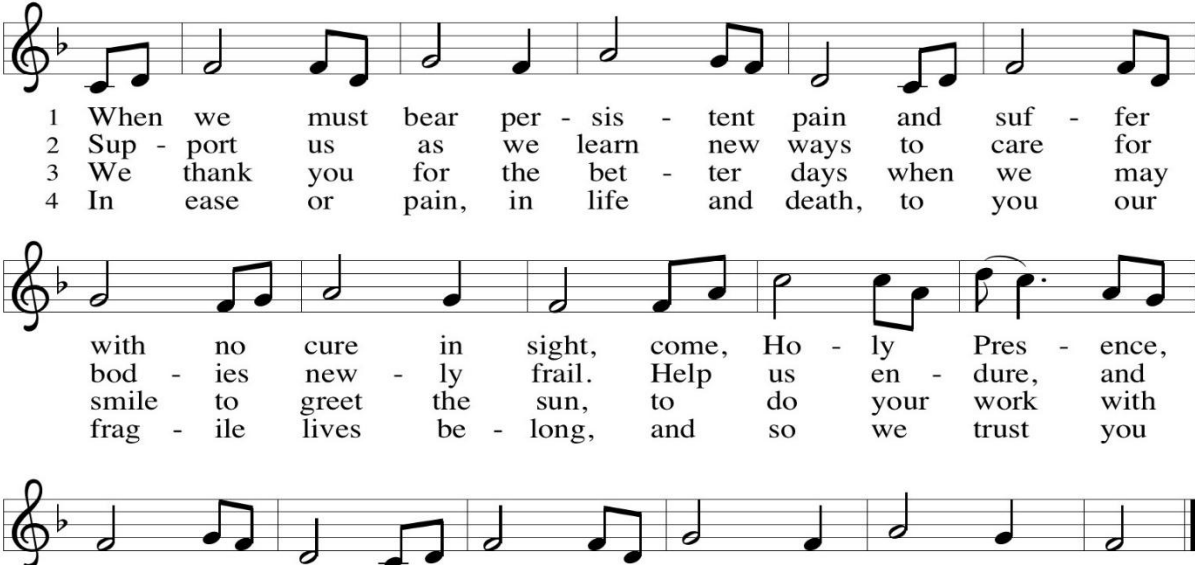
¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God.

⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day." ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" ¹⁷ When Jesus said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "When We Must Bear Persistent Pain" ACS 1014



1 When we must bear per - sis - tent pain and suf - fer
 2 Sup - port us as we learn new ways to care for
 3 We thank you for the bet - ter days when we may
 4 In ease or pain, in life and death, to you our

with no cure in sight, come, Ho - ly Pres - ence,
 bod - ies new - ly frail. Help us en - dure, and
 smile to greet the sun, to do your work with
 frag - ile lives be - long, and so we trust you

breathe your peace with gifts of warmth and heal - ing light.
 live and love. Hear our com - plaint when pa - tience fails.
 clear - ing mind, and bless your name when day is done.
 in all things. You are our hope, our health, our song.

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.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"The Lord's Prayer"

Albert Hay Malotte

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.

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:*

<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
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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 seated, the pastor will come and serve you there.

COMMUNION MUSIC

“As the Deer” with “Fairest Lord Jesus”

Mark Hayes

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

"Welcome Table"

ACS 969



1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

SENDING

ASSISTING MINISTER:

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

POSTLUDE

A Southern Gospel Boogie Medley

Charity Book Putnam

Coffee and fellowship follow worship today!

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First Lutheran Church ELCA

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712- 239-3942

Church office open Monday-Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm

www.firstlutheransc.org

Transition Pastor David Halaas

david.halaas.rev@wisynod.org 701-430-3393



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. Worship bags for children are available.
- All children are welcome at Holy Communion. Children learn by doing!

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 Halaas	<i>pastor</i>
Lori McClaren	<i>assisting minister</i>
Yvonne Hazlett	<i>pianist</i>
Cindy Lippke	<i>reader</i>
Jenny Denne	<i>sacristans</i>
Jenny Denne	<i>communion minister</i>
Denise Powell	<i>usher</i>
Dorothy Goettsch	<i>greeter</i>
Ben & Ellie Hertenstein	<i>sound and media technicians</i>
Richard & Bonnie Storm	<i>radio and livestream broadcast sponsor</i>
Jay & Lisa Schenzel	<i>coffee fellowship</i>

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

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

Wednesday, August 27

9:00-11:30 am Holy Family Food Pantry, volunteers: Mary McCoy & Sue Mullin

Thursday, August 28

NO BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, August 31 - 5:00 pm *Congregational Life: Food, Fun & Fellowship* at Bob Roe's Point After. Please sign up on the clipboard and let us know if you need a ride.

See you there!

Sunday School begins – during worship on Sunday, September 7th

Sunday, September 7 and Tuesday, September 9

Information Meeting presented by the Church Council –

Sunday 9/7 – after worship

Tuesday 9/9 at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 21 -Annual Church Picnic at Hillview Park at 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 11 - Fall Clean-up Day at church (inside and outside)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

Elizabeth Walz 8/25, Jeanne Hanna 8/26, Becki McGalufin 8/30, Kaley Hein 8/30

Holy Family Food Pantry

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.

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

Attendance at worship previous weeks: July 27 – 50, August 3 – 51, August 10 - 48

Attendance at worship last week: 38

Offering at worship last week: \$1,158

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!

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