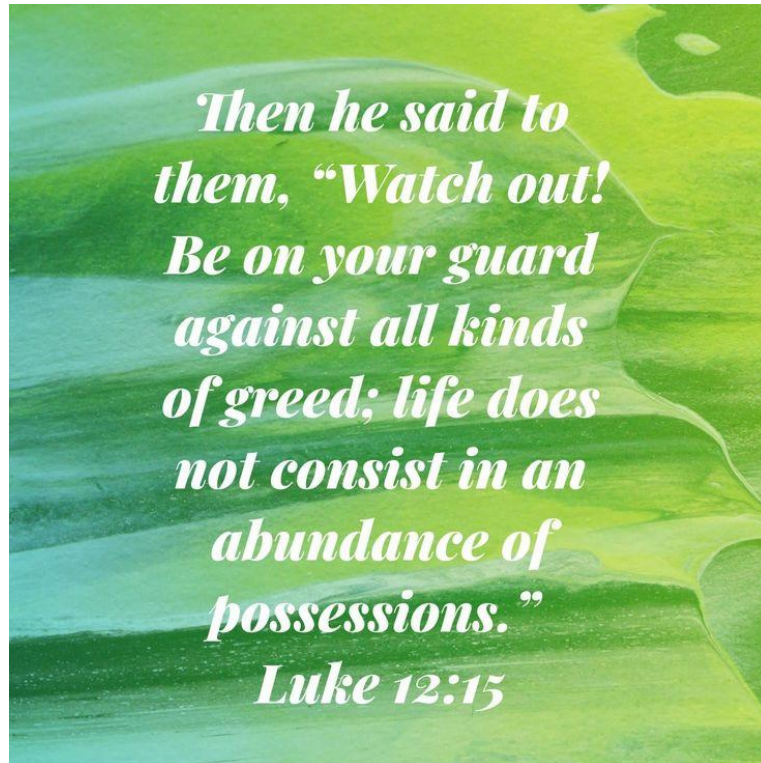


# First Lutheran Church ELCA



Sunday ☩ August 3, 2025 ☩ 10:30 am

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## We gather for worship

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

### PRELUDE

### OPENING HYMN

"The Peace of the Lord"

ELW 646

1 *La paz del Se - ñor, la paz del Se - ñor, la*  
 1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the  
 2 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the  
 3 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the

*paz del Re - su - ci - ta - do: la paz del Se -*  
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the  
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the  
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the

*ñor a ti ya mí, a to - dos al - can - za -*  
 Lord is for you and for me, and al - so for all of God's  
 Lord is a - mong us right now, so o - pen your - selves to re -  
 Lord kept with - in can - not live, so o - pen your - selves now to

*rá; la paz del Se - ñor a ti ya*  
 chil - dren. The peace of the Lord is for you and for  
 ceive it. The peace of the Lord is a - mong us right  
 share it. The peace of the Lord kept with - in can - not

*mí, a to - dos al - can - za - rá.*  
 me, and al - so for all of God's chil - dren.  
 now, so o - pen your - selves to re - ceive it.  
 live, so o - pen your - selves now to share it.

## 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, break our bonds,  
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.**

We pray together:

**Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives.  
Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you,  
and to treasure what is precious in your sight, 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: from Ecclesiastes, chapters 1 and 2**

*The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a "vanity of vanities." Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one's work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.*

<sup>2</sup> Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

<sup>12</sup> I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. <sup>14</sup> I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

<sup>2:18</sup> I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, <sup>19</sup> and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup> So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup> because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup> What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? <sup>23</sup> For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

**Word of God. Word of Life.**

Thanks be to God.

### **Second Reading: Psalm 25**

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**Show me your ways, O LORD,  
and teach me your paths.**

Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.

**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**

You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

**Word of God. Word of Life.**

Thanks be to God.

### **Gospel: Luke 12:13-21**

*We stand for the reading of the Gospel*

The Gospel according to Luke, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup> And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup> Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup> So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

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

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

“We Give Thee but Thine Own”

ELW 686

1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,  
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,  
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.  
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ-like thing.  
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

## 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:*

<b>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.</b>	<b>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.</b>
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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

## "This Little Light of Mine"

ELW 677




1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

## 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**

**We welcome today Pastor Judith Wascher!**

***Pastor Halaas returns this week from the ELCA Churchwide Assembly***

Pastor Judith Wascher	<i>minister</i>
Bruce Miller	<i>assisting minister</i>
Valerie Kaat	<i>pianist</i>
Ian Hertenstein	<i>reader</i>
Kaia Downing	<i>sacristan</i>
Stacy Hagan	<i>communion minister</i>
Mike VanBeest	<i>usher</i>
Denise Powell, Linda Nielsen	<i>greeters</i>
Ben & Ellie Hertenstein	<i>sound and media technicians</i>
Craig & Sandie LaMaster	<i>radio and livestream broadcast sponsor</i>
Brian & Julie Thiele	<i>coffee fellowship</i>

### THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

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

#### **Wednesday, August 6**

9:00-11:30 am Holy Family Food Pantry, Healthy Kids of Iowa Distribution  
volunteers: Lori McClaren, Enola Peters

#### **Thursday, August 7**

1:00 pm Bible Study

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

Candy Johnson 8/4, Doug Rice 8/4, Meave Sweeney 8/5, Larry Joslin 8/7,  
Lori McClaren 8/8, Neal Paulson 8/9

### 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!!** Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity that supports our food pantry? We need a volunteer teen, adult, family unit, or small team to help pack dry goods grocery bags each week. If you are a high school student you may volunteer for honor society or silver cord hours during the school year. To start at the beginning of August.

What: Food Pantry volunteer

Where: Holy Family Food Pantry at First Lutheran

When: To be determined (has been Tues. after school) -- about 1 hour per week

Why: To provide packed food bags for weekly pantry guests

### 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 6 – 48, July 13 – 57, July 20 - 51

**Attendance at worship last week:** 50

**Offering at worship last week:** \$625

## Mission and Ministry Partners

- **Western Iowa Synod ELCA (109 neighbor congregations)**  
[www.wisynod.org](http://www.wisynod.org) [www.elca.org](http://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](http://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