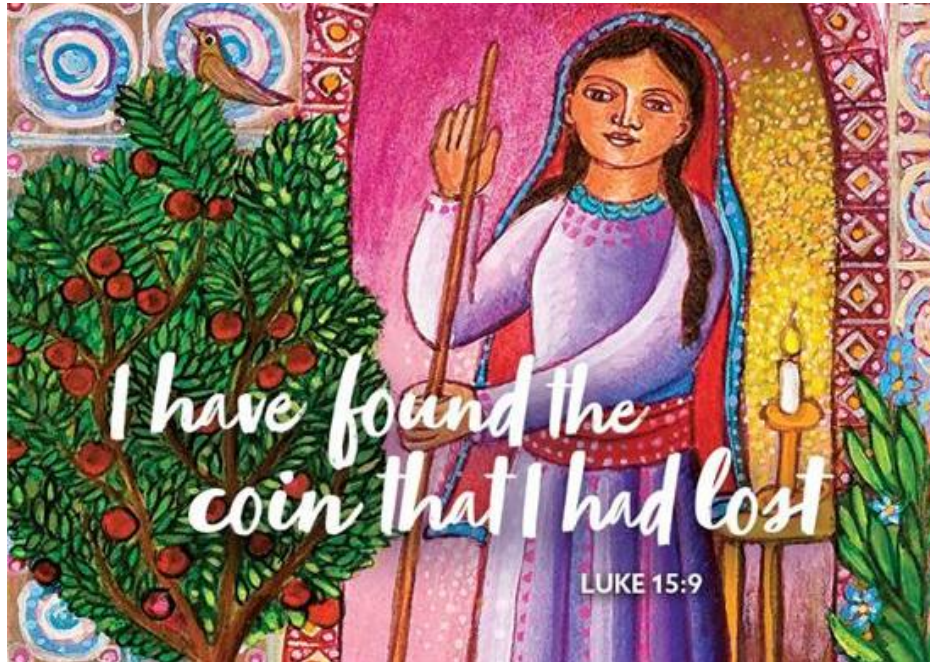


First Lutheran Church ELCA



The Season of Pentecost

Sunday ☩ September 14, 2025 ☩ 10:30 am

We gather for worship

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

PRELUDE

"Children of the Heavenly Father" John A. Behnke

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

"Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

ELW 789



1 Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
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 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

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.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,**

things we have done and things we have failed to do.

**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you**

in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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:

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S MERCY / KYRIE

ELW, PAGE 184

We hear God's Word for us

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

FIRST KIDS!!

Children go to Sunday School
(and return for Holy Communion)

First Reading: Exodus 32:7-14

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.

⁷ The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " ⁹ The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” ¹⁴ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

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

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

ELW 172

Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

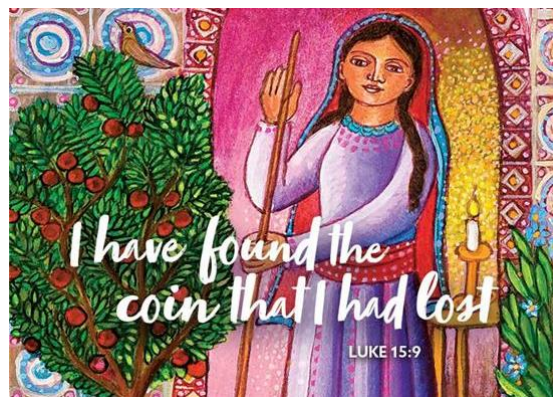
¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?
⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

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

SERMON



HYMN OF THE DAY

"Amazing Grace"

ELW 779



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

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

"I Will Love the Lord"

Sheldon Curry

f
I will love the Lord, I will love the Lord

8
With all my heart, mind, soul, and strength; And my neigh - bor, my

15
1. neigh - bor as my - self. 2. *rit.* self.

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.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:

our time, our talent, and our possessions.

use us, and what we have gathered,

in feeding the world with your love.

In Jesus' name we pray. 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 seated, the pastor will come and serve you there.

COMMUNION MUSIC “Children of the Heavenly Father” Dale Wood

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.

In Jesus' name we pray. 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,

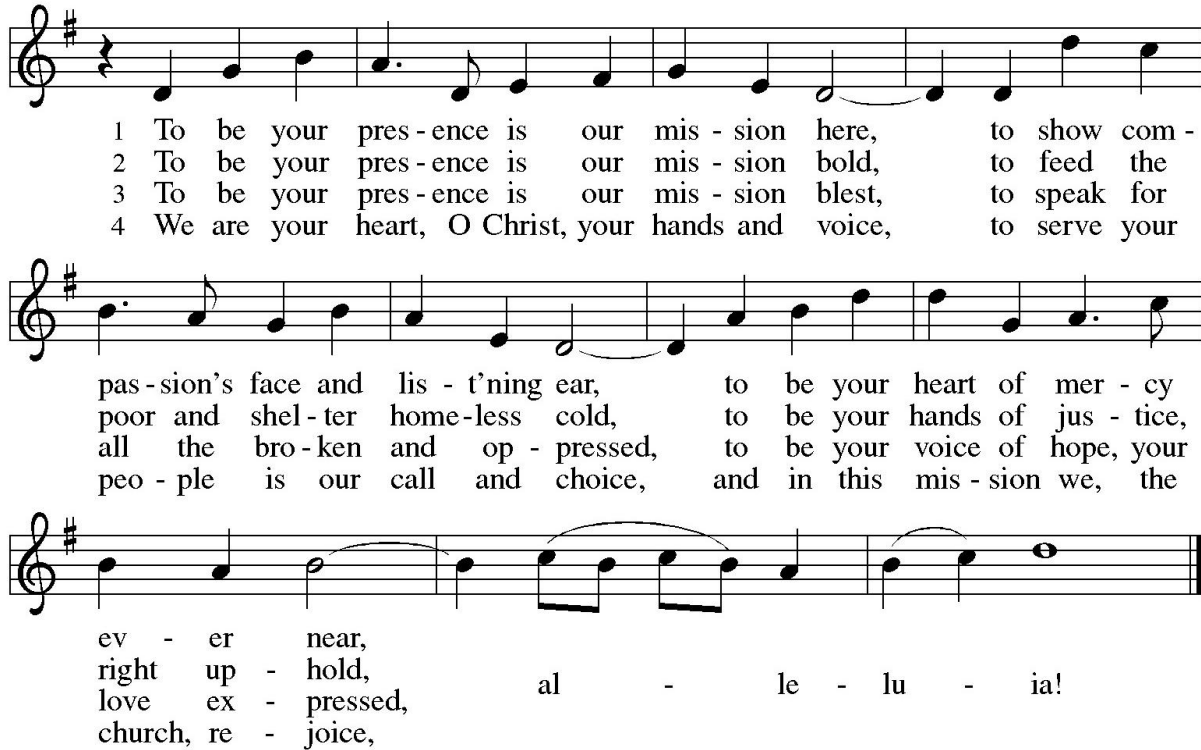
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"To Be Your Presence"

ELW 546



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
 2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
 3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
 4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your
 pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
 poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
 all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
 peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the
 ev - er near,
 right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
 love ex - pressed,
 church, re - joice,

SENDING

ASSISTING MINISTER:

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

POSTLUDE

"Recessional in Eb"

David N. Johnson

Coffee and fellowship follow worship today!

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First Lutheran Church ELCA

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712- 239-3942

www.firstlutheransc.org

Transition Pastor David Halaas

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

Church office open Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm

Lindsey McGinty, Office Manager



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

SERVING TODAY

Pastor David Halaas *pastor*

Alison Hertenstein *assisting minister*

Yvonne Hazlett *organist*

Catherine Rommel *reader*

Kaia Downing *sacristan*

Sheila Geary *communion minister*

Jay Schenzel *usher*

Denise Powell, Bev Rosenkrans *greeters*

Ben & Ellie Hertenstein *sound and media technicians*

Jim & Nancy McKenzie *coffee fellowship*

Hillard & Ann Knutson *radio broadcast & livestream sponsor*

(in honor of their 57th wedding anniversary)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

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

Monday, September 15

9:00am Quilters

1:00pm Mary's Circle, fireside room

6:30pm Handbells

Tuesday, September 16

6:00 Executive Committee

6:30 Church Council

Wednesday, September 17

9:00-11:30 am Holy Family Food Pantry

volunteers: Mary McCoy & Sue Bowers

6:30 pm Choir

6:30 pm Confirmation at St. Mark Lutheran, 5200 Glenn Avenue

SAVE THE DATE!

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

Grilled meat and beverages will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share.

Please consider donating an item for the auction.

Share your crafts and talents, arrange a gift basket, all gifts are fun – big and small!

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



Please place your non-perishable food items in the grocery cart in the narthex.

We will distribute them at our **Holy Family Food Pantry**.

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

Sunday School

We are looking for a couple more people to teach Sunday School. Sunday School will take place during the worship. Please contact Jenny Denne (712-251-3069 or jenndenne@yahoo.com) if you are willing to assist with Sunday School.

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

Attendance at worship previous weeks: August 17 – 38, August 24 – 51, August 31 – 65

Attendance at worship last week: 72

August Offerings: \$9,904

August Designated Offerings: \$1,548

**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 generosity

FLC Mission and Ministry Partners

- **Western Iowa Synod ELCA (108 neighbor congregations)**
www.wisynod.org www.elca.org Bishop 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