What are we willing to leave behind when we follow christ?



WELCOME

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

April 21, 2024 Easter

Embracing Love's Adventure Together

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE! —

Welcome, Guests and Visitors! Please fill out a yellow communication card from the pew rack and leave it in the offering plate. Check the boxes for anything that interests you. You are welcome at our worship services, groups and activities. If you haven't gotten a **Welcome Bag** yet, please take one from the wooden kiosk at the sanctuary entrance. Contact the church office at 608.752.7434 x10 or office@flcj.org. We'd love to get to know you!

Members: Please use the yellow communication card in the pew rack to advise the office of changes to your address, phone, or email. Also use it to let us know that you have communed, at least twice a year.

Hearing Assists: Two types of Hearing Assists can be found on the table by the entrance to the sanctuary,

to borrow for services. One uses headphones, the other has a Neckloop Telcoil Coupler. Instructions are in the bags.



YAY FOR KIDS! —

To help your child participate in worship

- Fill up an Activity Bag from the Gathering Space with fidgets
- Sit up front on the right, by the kids Prayground

Our **Nursery** is staffed on Sundays during worship times, welcoming kids ages 5 and under. Located between the Gathering Space and the Chapel.

An **Infant Calming Room** is located on second floor in the north hallway. For nursing mothers and little ones needing a quiet space. A nursery attendant can direct you to the room.

Sunday School (Pre-K to 6th Grade) 9:15-10:15am

- Please preregister at flcj.org/ssreg
- Check in each Sunday at the desk outside the chapel

Contact Renee at 608.359.9685 or rengen@flcj.org with questions and for more information.

MISSION: Reach, Nourish, and Empower people with the Good News of Jesus Christ!

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOMING WORDS

GATHERING HYMN - Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW #798 vs. 1, 2 & 4

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING - Genesis 12:1-4

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





GOSPEL - Mark 2:13-17

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O God.

Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician but those who are sick; I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON - Come Follow Me

Pastor Jim Johnson

HYMN OF THE DAY - Here I Am I ord

ELW #574

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

Response to the petitions:

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING TIME

A story of our ministry...



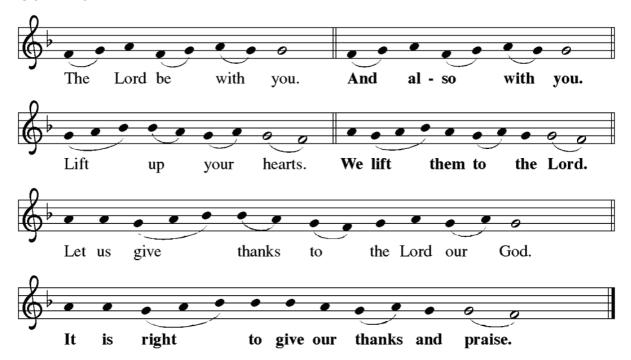
OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

Amen.

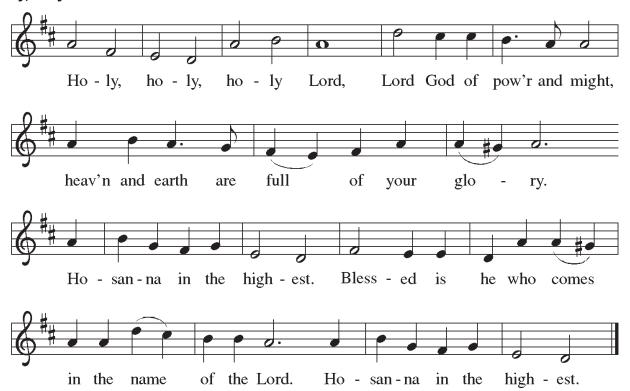
MEAL

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE



We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, for in dying has Christ destroyed death, and in rising he has led us up out of the grave into life.

Holy, Holy, Holy



Holy, living God of love, Creator of the heavens and the earth, we bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to reveal the power of your life.

We thank you that Jesus came to live among us. With a love stronger than death, he healed the sick, fed the hungry, and gave his life for others.

In the night in which 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 to remember me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is my blood, poured out for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this to remember me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live freely and boldly as your chosen ones. Amen.

THE 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,
forever and ever. Amen.

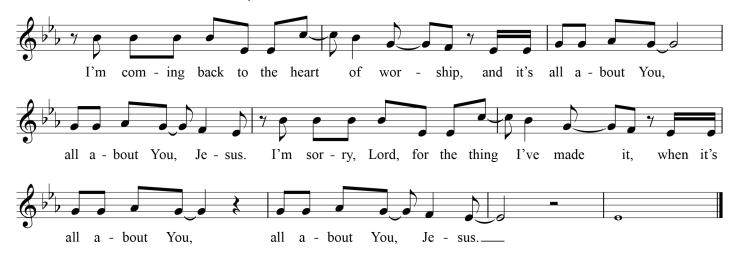


INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

COMMUNION - Heart of Worship



When all have communed:

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

SENDING

SENDING WORD

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG - God Be With You Til We Meet Again

ELW #536

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Calendar of Events

Sunday, April 21

8:00a Worship (Sanctuary)

Nursery (ages 5 & under)

9:00a Coffee Hour (Gathering Space)

Masterpiece (Youth Room)

9:15a Sunday School (Sunday School Room)

9:30a Worship (Sanctuary)

Live Broadcast (Facebook & YouTube)

10:45a Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

12:00p Vision Retreat (Gathering Space)

Monday, April 22

1:00p Noteables (Choir Room) 6:00p Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall) Cub Scouts (Fellowship Hall)

8:00p Centering Prayer (Zoom)

Tuesday, April 23

8:00a BG's (Fellowship Hall Lounge) 9:00a Knitters (Gathering Space) 11:00a Staff Meeting (Rm 302)

4:15p Hand Bell Rehearsal (Sanctuary)4:30p Girl Scouts (Fellowship Hall)6:30p Stewardship Board (Rm 302)

Wednesday, April 24

10:00a Bible Study (Rm 302) 7:30p Youth Group (Youth Room)

Thursday, April 25

6:00p Smart Recovery (Rm 302)6:30p Worship Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Friday, April 26 - None

Saturday, April 27

12:00p Spring Salad Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)

Child Care Options

 A Staffed Nursery for younger children (ages 5 and under) is located outside of the Sanctuary, past the Gathering Space on the right.

Prayground is located in the front of the worship space (sanctuary) and is available for children and parents to sit and engage in *holy play* during worship.

When getting ready to enter the sanctuary families may stop in the Gathering Space and fill up an Activity Bag with some handson items and fidgets to engage your child's hands and brain during worship.

Sunday School 9:15-10:15am: The check-in desk is outside of the chapel. All children, pre-K to grade 6, are welcome! More info at flcj.org. Preregister at flcj.org/ssreg if possible, or go to the check-in desk on Sunday. Contact Renee at 608.359.9685 or rengen@flcj. org with questions.

Readings for Next Week

Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8

Stewardship - Week in Review

 Giving
 Attendance

 Last Week's Giving:
 8am: 81

 \$11,869 Thank You!
 9:30am: 138

 Avg Weekly Giving YTD: \$16,939
 SS: 24

 Weekly Need: \$16,830
 MP: 5

Welcome Bags for Visitors - Visit the kiosks! Stop at the tall wooden kiosks near the far left and right entrances to the sanctuary. Visitors, please pick up a Welcome Bag there. Also available are devotional books, picture directories, and the monthly Progress newsletter.

Confirmation Question: What do you remember from the sermon today?



TODAY: Growing Our Spiritual Life as Adults (Apr 28, May, 5, 12, 19 Chapel) - Each Sunday morning you have a chance to gather for an hour of adult learning, immediately following the 8am worship service. Pick-up some refreshments and meet in the Chapel.

TODAY: Modern-Day Pilgrimage - the Camino Frances

Have you ever felt drawn to an experience way outside of your comfort zone...and then decided to pursue it anyway? What images does the word 'pilgrimage' bring to mind? A pilgrimage is more than arriving at a holy site...it is a journey that prepares you to find God in everyone

prepares you to find God in everyone and everything. On Sunday, April 21 at 9:15am, meet three Pilgrims to hear how a 500-mile hike across northern Spain in six weeks brought a fresh perspective on how to live life more intentionally and experience God's presence more



Apr 28: Living Well with Dementia

Our final Living Well With Dementia conversation will begin at 9:15am in the chapel on April 28. Please bring any

timely concerns or general questions with you for our last

23-24 meeting. Looking forward to learning and growing together!

May 5, 12, 19: Christian Ethics - The Good Life

Join us for an introductory class on Christian Ethics. We will review and study the process of making choices in trying to live a good life, and how our identity as Christians affects those choices. The concept of ethics focuses on how we make thoughtful, reflective, and self-conscious decisions. It includes the study of making and following rules, setting goals, and virtues, the qualities we cultivate in ourselves, including, and especially, the qualities that we cultivate as members of the Body of Christ.





Spring Salad Luncheon (April 27; Noon) - The FLC-Women are sponsoring the annual Spring Salad Luncheon with a delicious buffet of salads and desserts. Tables will be decorated in different themes, so arrive

between 11-11:45am to look them over! Choose a seat at 11:45 for the welcome. Serving is at noon. The cost is \$10. Come and bring a friend for a nice spring social time. Tickets can be purchased in the church office or after services on April 21. The proceeds from this event are gifted to Janesville nonprofit organizations.



2024 Crop Walk (Apr 28; 1pm; Cargill United Methodist Church) - Just one week left before the Janesville Crop Hunger Walk. This year includes a canned food drive. You can bring canned food

items to church next Sunday or bring them to the Crop Hunger Walk at Cargill United Methodist Church at 1pm. A canned food pyramid will be displayed with all the food items. Two Sundays left to participate in the Crop Hunger Walk. You can participate by:

 Walking on Sunday, April 28, beginning at 1pm at Cargill United Methodist Church in Janesville.

Weekly/Bi-Weekly

Centering Prayer (Mons; 8-8:30pm; Zoom) Centering prayer, also known as the prayer of silence, helps you quiet your mind from the constant thoughts and



impulses, and frees your true self to experience more of God's love in the very core of your being. You will gain inspiration, rich insight, and practical knowledge of a contemplative prayer practice that can open you up to deep experiences of inner healing and peace. Everyone is welcome to take part. Led by Pr. Michael Mueller.

Login Link: https://tinyurl.com/2p89n5sc

Meeting ID: 816 1696 9038

Passcode: 224107



The BG's (Tues; 8-11am; Fellowship Hall Lounge) - The BG's are a group of 6-10 (mostly retired) guys that gather every Tuesday at 8am for coffee, socializing, and

to handle the many outdoor and indoor miscellaneous maintenance needs around First Lutheran. If you are interested in joining this group stop by Tuesday!

Knitters (Tues; 9am; Gathering Space) - Join us Tues at 9am in the Gathering Space for smiles, laughs, and lots of knitting!





Wednesday Bible Study (10am; Rm 302) - Please join us for Bible study as we explore the major and minor prophets of the Old Testament. We meet every

Wednesday morning from 10-11am in Room 302.

Mission Sew (1st, 3rd & 5th Wed of the Month; 8:30am; Fellowship Hall) Help us with cutting, sewing, tying, and pining quilts for LWR. These quilts are distributed



to struggling neighbors across the globe. For more info contact Margaret Drinkwater, by contacting the church at 608.752.7434.

- Make a pledge to someone who is walking. This can be done in the Gathering Space after church services the next two Sundays or by going online to Janesville Crop Walk, search for First Lutheran Church, Janesville and donate to a listed team member.
- Make a purchase at the wood working craft sale at church the next two Sundays. 100% of all proceeds from the craft sale will be donated to the Crop Hunger Walk

Thank you for your support. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Crop Hunger Walk, please contact Mat Haeger at (mhaeger@ymail.com).



FLC Craft Days (May 4; 9am-4pm)

- Join us for a FLC Craft Day! We welcome all types of crafters. Please bring you crafting supplies and enjoy seven hours of uninterrupted crafting! The cost is \$10 per person and includes a table to use for your craft, coffee, and water. Please bring a snack to share. Lunch is on your own and you can enter the church at Door



#4. For registration and further information email the church office at office@flcj.org or call 608.752.7434 x10.



Men of Iron (Sat, May 4; 9am; Tues, May 7; 6pm; Fellowship Hall Lounge) - Open to men of all ages. On Tuesdays at 6pm, we study the Bible and the book Twelve Ordinary Men by John MacArthur. On Saturdays at 9am, we have a Bible study of men in the Bible. If you have questions contact Eric at 608.290.7083

or eengen@flcj.org.

Page Turners Book Club (May 7, June 4; 6pm; Gathering Space) - The Page Turners book club welcomes anyone interested! Contact Sally Schuenke 608.754.0407 with questions.

May 7: The Midnight Library by Matt Haig

June 4: *The Surgeon's Daughter* by Audrey Blake





Second Harvest Food Pantry (May 16): (Third Thurs of the Month, 3:30-5:30pm; Gym) Please call Mary Gallup at 608.755.1399 so she knows if she has enough help. Set-up begins at 2:30pm.



GRADUATION CELEBRATION MAY 19

- 9am: Cake reception in honor of the grads
- 9:30am: Grads are recognized during the service after they process down the aisle

Questions? Contact Eric at eengen@flcj.org



Brat Fest Volunteers (May 24-26; Alliant Energy Center, Madison) -\$10 of every volunteered hour goes to FLC's First Events, helping us put together the amazing musical outreach like January's The OK Factor/Jaerv youth musician performance, and our annual musical showcases! Sign-up: https:// tinyurl.com/3nnnszek

GIFTS Men's Shelter (June 2-15)

- We need men to fill overnight shifts at the GIFTS men's shelter from June 2-15. Please contact Peg Haeger at 608.449.7722 for details. A huge thank you to the loyal men who have served in the past! We



seek newcomers willing to support this ministry!

Ways to give

- Simply Giving at flcj.org. A safe electronic giving option facilitated by Thrivent Financial, for a one-time or a recurring offering.
- Citrus Café (Mention FLC any day of the week and Citrus Café donates 10% of your bill to FLC)
- Use our QR Code ---->
- Go to bit.ly/flcjgive
- Mail in a check
- **Stocks**
- **Thrivent Choice Dollars**



Caring For Your Needs

Please contact the office if you or a loved one is seriously ill, hospitalized, or in a care facility so we can keep in touch.



Pastoral Visit: If you would like to have a visit from Pastor Jim Johnson in person or by phone, please call the church office at 608.752.7434 x10.

Prayer Chain: Did you know we have a very active prayer chain here at First Lutheran? If you, your family, or your friends are in need of prayers for any reason, contact Sally Schuenke at 608.754.0407 or tbear45@att.net or the church office at 608.752.7434 x10 or office@flcj.org. You only need to give the first name of the person needing prayer and as much or as little information on their need as you wish. The members of the prayer chain will do the rest.

If you want to pray for others contact Sally Schuenke (contact info above).



Convalescent Loan Closet (Fellowship Hall): You are welcome to come and pick up or donate items. Accepting bath benches/chairs, toilet risers, commodes, walkers, canes, standard wheelchairs, and adult urinary incontinence products. Hours: Mon-Thurs 8am-4pm, Friday 8am-Noon.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers
Hospice: Mike Garvin, Allen Jones, Ted

Hartsough **Death:** Julie Lewis

Mercy: Jean Hanson, Jean Hoium Prayers: Jamie, Ben, great grandson of Will & Jan Reck, Nathan & Heather

Barlass, Norma Bushaw, Jose Chicinos, Luis Chirinos, Miranda Chirinos, Rachel Collins, Renee Comstock, Linda Coon, Karen Curry, Violette Eichman, Connie Evans, Linda Fronczak, JoAnn Haeberlin, Bea Hanson, Diane Harrier, Kathy Hendricks, Norma Higgins, Oher Janice, Rosanne Jensen, Sharleanne Jones, Aileen Kegley, Nancy Kelleher, Wiley Kessinger, Gary Kleinhans, Audrey Kvistad, Eli, Jackie, K. Letheby, Marion Maddock, Joan Malphy, Rolle McClellan, Bill McCumber, Jan Metzger, Kathy Mikkelsen, Bill Murray, Andrew Oliver, Diane Olson, Susan Popp, Kevin Punzel, Willard Reck, Salvador Rivera, Mary Sather, Elaine Schilling, Linda Sturdevant, Bob Voegeli, Jan Wathke

Nursing Home Care: Cathy Easton, Rose Jensen, Bethyl (Betty) Johnson, Betty Johnson, Jerry Roehl, Jan Sampson, Phil Selgren, Chuck Smith, Janice Wathke

Homebound: Dorothy Babcock, Marlys Carlson, Evelyn Dahl, George Dallman, Ray & Liz Decker, Harriet Hanson, Sylvia Jersild, Wayne Koste, Shirley Mooney, Sue Myers, Lynn Reddel Military: Zach Bumpus-Air Force, Tyler Carin-Army, Gunner Call-Air Force, Trevor Young-Army National Guard, Marisa Gohlke-Navy, Sean Gohlke-Navy, Kim Klusmeyer-Army, Erica Lindroth-Army, Marc Sunby-Navy, Jon Sunby-Air Force, Scott Kjendlie-Army, Brett Krueger-Army, Nick Krueger-Army, Alexander Shew-Navy.

Please keep these families in your prayers. We will leave people on the prayer list; please remember to notify us if someone should come off.



FLC MONTHLY BIKE RIDE 2024

Dust off your bike and find your helmet, then join us on the third Saturday of the month for a bike ride. For all rides, except the Pie Ride, we will meet at FLC at 8am. Here is the link to the Janesville Trail Map: https://tinyurl.com/386af8ua

Plan on a one-to-three-hour outing. All abilities are welcome and participants can cut their outing short or go longer.



May 18

Take bike trail south through Monterey Park follow the Rock River to the Hwy 11 bypass. Exit the bypass at Oakhill Ave. Take Oakhill Ave to State St, then onto Mocha Moments for refreshments. Drop down to Delavan Drive and pick up the bike trail at Beloit Ave & Jackson, (east of Jack & Dick's).



June 15 - Pie Ride Meet on Festival Street. To register: www.pieride.org



July 20

Take the bike trail north to Milton. Refreshments at Café 26.



August 17
Take the bike trail south through downtown to Riverside Park. Michael Palmer will update us on the work at the brewery, ride through the park and finish at the Farmer's Market. Refreshments available.



September 21
Take the bike trail south through Palmer and Monterey Parks, follow the river past the Water Treatment Plant to Afton. Those that want a longer ride can proceed to Big Hill Park.



612 N Randall Ave, Janesville, WI









All are welcome at the Lord's table of Holy Communion.

THIS DAY IN WORSHIP

8am

Greeters: Don & Joy Lederman **Reader:** Stephanie Schlueter

Communion Servers: Donna Woodman, Stephanie

Schlueter

9:30am

Greeters: Tom & Kathy Dorscheid

Reader: Tom Dorscheid

Communion Servers: Tom & Kathy Dorscheid

Coffee Hour Hosts: Open Table Group — Jer Carpenter &

Leslie Emmel

Pew Rack Helper the week of April 22: Joy Lederman,

Nan Bandt

Altar Guild: Anne Gohlke, Barb Tapovatz

Worship Team:

Dave Schroeder

Leo Johnson

Dan Talbot

Duane Meister

Susan DeGarmo

Mande Zierath

Kurt Saterbak

Amy Palmer

Brad Cartwright

Breanna VonBank

Sawyer Vetos





flcjanesville



flcjvl



FirstLutheranChurchJanesville

First Lutheran Church will occasionally take photographs and video of church activities, which may be used online, and in digital and print materials. Additionally, worship services are broadcast on a weekly basis. By participating, authorization to publish any such photo or video is granted to First Lutheran Church.

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