



ALL ARE WELCOME

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

9:30AM

Office Phone: 608.752.7434 x10

Website: flcj.org

September 8, 2024

Pentecost

Welcome to First Lutheran Church. We are glad you joined us today.
Visitors, please request a Welcome Bag from a greeter at the entrance. Please fill out the Connect card. Return it at your next visit or mail it to the church office. You are welcome at any worship service or church activity. We'd love to get to know you!
Communion is open to all who wish to receive it.



GATHERING

PRELUDE - "All You Need Is Love" John Lennon and Paul McCartney

Worship Team

WELCOMING WORDS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.
Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess the ways we have turned in upon ourselves.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider, help us.

It is often hard to believe there is enough to share.

We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live.

We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again toward you.

Where else can we turn?

Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: Jesus is the manna from heaven, by whom you are fed and nourished. With Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✠ the bread of life, you see God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN - Do, Lord, Oh Do, Lord

Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Look away beyond the blue.

I've got a home in Gloryland that (clap) outshines the sun,
I've got a home in Gloryland that (clap) outshines the sun,
I've got a home in Gloryland that (clap) outshines the sun,
Look away beyond the blue.

I took Jesus as my Savior, (clap) you take him too,
I took Jesus as my Savior, (clap) you take him too,
I took Jesus as my Savior, (clap) you take him too,
Look away beyond the blue.

Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Look away beyond the blue.

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

Loving God, fill our hearts with the love that you always celebrate with us. Today we celebrate Love's Adventure together. Help us create an atmosphere of happiness and generosity for all people. Help us to love and encourage each other as big-time as you love us! **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING - James 2:1-10, 14-17 CEB

My brothers and sisters, when you show favoritism you deny the faithfulness of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has been resurrected in glory. Imagine two people coming into your meeting. One has a gold ring and fine clothes, while the other is poor, dressed in filthy rags. Then suppose that you were to take special notice of the one wearing fine clothes, saying, "Here's an excellent place. Sit here." But to the poor person you say, "Stand over there"; or, "Here, sit at my feet." Wouldn't you have shown favoritism among yourselves and become evil-minded judges?

My dear brothers and sisters, listen! Hasn't God chosen those who are poor by worldly standards to be rich in terms of faith? Hasn't God chosen the poor as heirs of the kingdom he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Don't the wealthy

make life difficult for you? Aren't they the ones who drag you into court? Aren't they the ones who insult the good name spoken over you at your baptism?

You do well when you really fulfill the royal law found in scripture, Love your neighbor as yourself. But when you show favoritism, you are committing a sin, and by that same law you are exposed as a lawbreaker. Anyone who tries to keep all of the Law but fails at one point is guilty of failing to keep all of it.

My brothers and sisters, what good is it if people say they have faith but do nothing to show it? Claiming to have faith can't save anyone, can it? Imagine a brother or sister who is naked and never has enough food to eat. What if one of you said, "Go in peace! Stay warm! Have a nice meal!"? What good is it if you don't actually give them what their body needs? In the same way, faith is dead when it doesn't result in faithful activity.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL - Mark 12:28-34 CEV

When a scribe asks Jesus which commandment is first of all, Jesus answers that love of God and love of neighbor are interconnected and define the heart of the kingdom of God.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

One of the legal experts heard [the Sadducees'] dispute and saw how well Jesus answered them. He came over and asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?"

Jesus replied, "The most important one is Israel, listen! Our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this, You will love your neighbor as yourself. No other commandment is greater than these."

The legal expert said to him, “Well said, Teacher. You have truthfully said that God is one and there is no other besides him. And to love God with all of the heart, a full understanding, and all of one’s strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself is much more important than all kinds of entirely burned offerings and sacrifices.”

When Jesus saw that he had answered with wisdom, he said to him, “You aren’t far from God’s kingdom.” After that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

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

SERMON

Pastor Michael Mueller

HYMN OF THE DAY - He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands – Amen

He’s got the whole world in His hands, He’s got the whole wide world in His hands, He’s got the whole world in His hands, He’s got the whole world in His...a-men, a-men, a-men, amen, amen!

He’s got you an’ me, sister in His hands, He’s got you an’ me, brother, in His Hands, He’s got you an’ me, sister in His hands, He’s got the whole world in His...a-men, a-men, a-men, amen, amen!

He’s got all of us here in His hands, He’s got all of us here His hands, He’s got all of us here, in His hands, He’s got the whole world in His...a-men, a-men, a-men, a-men, a-men!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In our prayers today, we put all our worries and hopes into the hands of God. You are welcome to hold your own hands in front of you as you pray.

Response to the petitions:

Hear us O God,

Your mercy is great!

Creator God, accept these prayers in the name of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING TIME

A story of our ministry...



OFFERING SONG - 742 What A Friend We Have in Jesus

OFFERING PRAYER

“God of all, everything is yours. We bring your gifts to the table, that all of us might be fed. We thank you for giving us your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**”

MEAL

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God,
for you set the example, welcoming us into the way of love.

Holy, Holy, Holy



On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, Jesus gathered his friends. Taking the bread, he blessed and broke it, and gave it to his friends and said:

This is my body. Whenever you eat this, do this to remember me.

Then Jesus took the cup filled with wine, raised it up and gave thanks for it, shared it with his friends and said:

This is my blood. Whenever you drink this, do this to remember me.

We offer you these gifts:

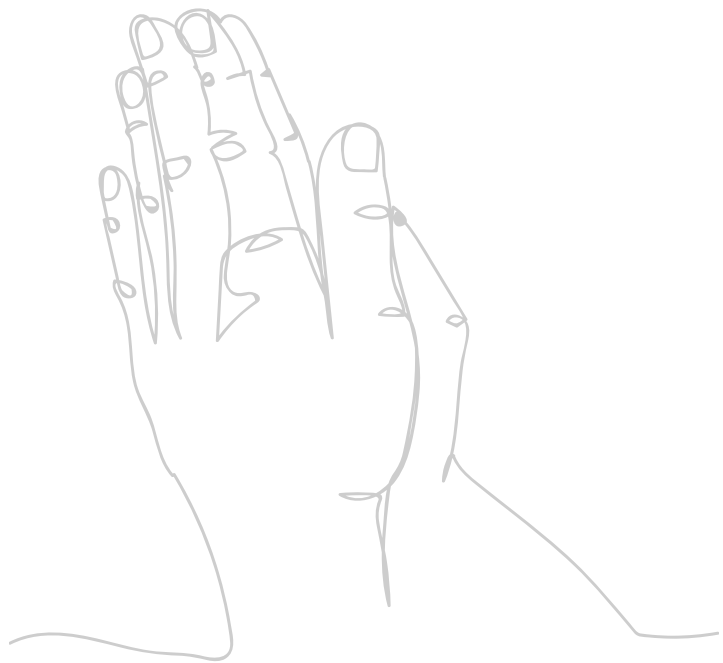
Jesus, the bread of life. Jesus, the cup of salvation.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal.

Filled with your gifts of faith, hope and love, lead us out into the world to give mercy as richly as we have received. 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

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

COMMUNION - "It Is You" Newsboys

Worship Team

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

Creator God, we have listened to your Word, and we are made strong by this food. Send us now into the world, where we can help others celebrate the adventure that is Your Love! In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

SENDING

SENDING WORD

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✠ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG - "My Lighthouse" by Chris Llewellyn and Gareth Gilkeson

In my wrestling and in my doubts
In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

In the silence You won't let go
In the questions Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

My Lighthouse my Lighthouse
Shining in the darkness
I will follow You oh
My Lighthouse my Lighthouse
I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore
Safe to shore safe to shore safe to shore

I won't fear what tomorrow brings
With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

Fire before us
You're the brightest
You will lead us
Through the storms (hey)
(REPEAT 3X)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Confirmation Question: What do you find most meaningful today and why?

If you are interested in **hosting a foreign exchange student** for the school year please contact Jeanie at 608.752.7434.

Raffle Basket prizes are making a return at this year's First Fest! Simply attending the event grants you one entry ticket. Moreover, we are collecting funds to support Adams Elementary teachers and their classrooms in readiness for the 2024 students. Any dollar amount donated earns you an additional 5 raffle tickets. Help us reach our goal of \$300.



ADAMS ELEM. CLASSROOM DRIVE

HELP PREPARE TEACHERS FOR '24

Help Us To Reach The Goal

\$300

RECEIVE 5 EXTRA RAFFLE TICKETS FOR ANY DOLLAR AMOUNT DONATED



DONATE AT FIRST FEST - SEPT. 8



Raspberries for Fair Pies
- Do you or someone you know have raspberries that you'd like to donate? We would happily accept them to make pies for the

2025 fair. Questions? Please call the church office 608.752.7434 x10.

Youth Ministries

- Sept 11: Fall Kickoff
- Sept 18

Contact: Eric at 608.290.7083 or eengen@flcj.org



Sign-Up for Fall Break Bread Groups

- Break Bread groups for Oct-Dec are now being formed. In a

small group of 6-8, participants meet for a meal three times between Oct & Dec. Break Bread is a great way to strengthen your relationships within our church community. Both new and long-time members are encouraged to participate. Options are available for weekdays or weekends, for lunch, dinner, breakfast or brunch, and to eat in at homes or eat out in restaurants. Scan the QR code to sign-up or pick up a paper survey in the narthex. Deadline is Sun, Sept 15.



Adult Ed: Community Solar by Kimberly Mueller, Alliant Energy (Sept 15; 9:15am; Chapel) - Are you considering switching to solar energy but are not thrilled with the idea of panels on your roof? Please join Kimberly Mueller, Key Account Manager for Rock County, Alliant Energy Community Solar as she explains a wonderful option available to all of us. Alliant Energy Community Solar offers a great way to enjoy the benefits of solar without installing panels on your roof. Here's why it's an ideal solution for electric customers:

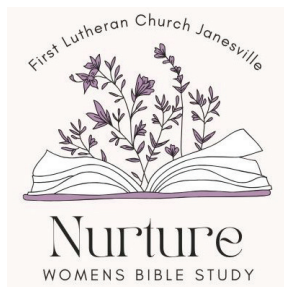
- Solar energy simplified: Enjoy the benefits of solar without installation, insurance, and maintenance.
- Flexible options: You can purchase as many solar blocks as you like - up to enough to cover 100% of your usage. Choose the number that meets your budget and environmental goals.
- Long-term savings: Lock in predictable savings for 20 years with ongoing monthly bill credits.
- Works for everyone: Invest in clean energy no matter your home or business type - house, condo, apartment, or farm.



Second Harvest Food Pantry (Sept 19; 3:30-5:30pm; Fellowship Hall)
Please call Mary Gallup at 608.755.1399 so she knows

if she has enough help. Set-up begins at 2:30pm.

Bike Ride (Sept 21; 8am; FLC) - Join us for the last fall bike ride. We will take the bike trail south through Palmer and Monterey Parks, follow the river past the Water Treatment Plant to Afton.



Women's Bible Study (Sept 25; 7pm; Gathering Space) - We will read the book of Ephesians. Whether you're diving deep into each passage or taking things at your own pace know that spending time with God's

word is always enriching. The nursery will be open but unstaffed. Children are welcome.

Page Turners Book Club (Oct 1; 6pm; Gathering Space) - All are welcome. Please contact Sally Schuenke at 608.754.0406 for more information.



Oct 1: *The Bookwoman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson

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**



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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AVAILABLE NOW!

PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

The Support of Your Business is Greatly Appreciated

Tom from LPI, our newsletter printer, will be securing new ads for our Center in the coming weeks. It is the support of the business community that helps to make our Center thrive. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation makes our newsletter successful, and you attract customers!

Newsletter advertising is a cost-effective way to advertise 12 times per year and show support for your local community; in turn, members will support you!

Digital advertising allows your business to be front and center to anyone who visits a center profile page on OurSeniorCenter.com — that's approximately 500,000 page views per month!

Tom Bergles
 800-950-9952 ext. 2158
tbergles@4lpi.com

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Hospice: Lois Bandt, Ted Hartsough, Allen Jones

Prayers: Jamie, Ben, great grandson of Will & Jan Reck, Nathan & Heather Barlass, Lynne Bienash-Olson, Norma Bushaw, Rachel Collins, Renee Comstock, Karen Curry, Violette Eichman, Connie Evans, Bill Foss, Linda Fronczak, JoAnn Haeberlin, Bea Hanson, Jeff Hanson, Diane Harrier, Kathy Hendricks, Norma Higgins, Jean Hoiium, Oher Janice, Sharleanne Jones, Aileen Kegley, Nancy Kelleher, Kip, Audrey Kvistad, Eli, Jackie, K. Letheby, Marion Maddock, Jan Metzger, Kathy Mikkelsen, Andrew Oliver, Richard Olson, Richard Ott, Susan Popp, Kevin Punzel, Willard Reck, Alex Rockman, Sam Romano, Mary Sather, Elaine Schilling, Ethel Shulta, Linda Sturdevant, Barb Tapovatz, Jan Wathke

Nursing Home Care: Cathy Easton, Rose Jensen, Bethyl (Betty) Johnson, Betty Johnson, Bruce Pearson, Jerry Roehl, Phil Selgren

Homebound: Dorothy Babcock, Marlys Carlson, Evelyn Dahl, George Dallman, Ray & Liz Decker, Harriet Hanson, Wayne Koste, Shirley Mooney, Sue Myers, Lynn Reddel, Jan Sampson

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.

Readings for Next Week

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 116:1-9

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

Stewardship - Week in Review

Giving

Last Week's Giving:

\$6,567.72 **Thank You!**

Avg Weekly Giving YTD: \$17,190

Weekly Need: \$18,198

The weekly need is calculated by taking the budgeted expenses and dividing by the number of weeks in the year. This budget year, the expected expenses are part of a growth strategy based on insights from members under the direction and oversight of the Church Council. With your support, we are looking forward to the future that is growing at FLC.



flcjanesville



flcjvl



Network: FLCGuest
Password: FLCGuest



FirstLutheranChurchJanesville

Calendar of Events

Sunday, Sept 8

9:00a Masterpiece (Youth Room)
9:15a Sunday School (SS Room)
9:30a Worship (Sanctuary)
Live Broadcast (Facebook & YouTube)
10:45a First Fest (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, Sept 9

1:00p The Noteables (Choir Room)
5:30p Building & Grounds Board (Rm 302)
6:00p Boy & Cub Scouts (Fellowship Hall)
8:00p Centering Prayer (Zoom)

Tuesday, Sept 10

8:00a BG's (Fellowship Hall Lounge)
9:00a Knitters (Gathering Space)
Mary Ruth Circle (Fellowship Hall Lounge)
11:00a Staff Meeting (Rm 302)
4:30p Girl Scouts (Fellowship Hall)
6:30p Youth Board (Youth Room)
Worship Board (Gathering Space)

Wednesday, Sept 11

10:00a Bible Study (Rm 302)
1:00p Joanna Circle (Fellowship Hall Lounge)
7:00p Youth Group Kickoff (Youth Room)

Thursday, Sept 12

10:00a Worship Service (Rock Haven)
11:15a Memory Care Service (Oak Park)
6:00p Smart Recovery (Rm 302)

Saturday, Sept 14

7:00a LWR Box Car Loading (Madison)
9:00a Stamping (Fellowship Hall)

This Day in Worship

Greeters: David & Susan Cress

Communion Servers: Barb Clem, Stephanie Schlueter, Kevin McMullen

Altar Guild: Dan Talbot

Pew Racks: Beth Bloedel

Worship Team:

Dave Schroeder	Kurt Saterbak
Leo Johnson	Amy Palmer
Dan Talbot	Brad Cartwright
Duane Meister	Breanna VonBank
Susan DeGarmo	Sawyer Vetos

612 N Randall Ave. | Janesville, WI 53545 | 608.752.7434

office@flcj.org | flcj.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4pm; Friday 8:30am-Noon