

NOV 23, 2025

CHRIST THE KING



CHILDCARE Available for children 5 and under on the Sanctuary Level.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Meets at 9:15am. Contact Renee at rengen@flcj.org for more information. Check-in at main entrance. To register, print form from flcj.org/ssreg or register at desk.

VISITORS Grab a Welcome Bag from the wooden kiosk near the Sanctuary entrance. Also, fill out a Connect Card located in the pews and drop it in the offering plate at the back of the Sanctuary on your way out.

HEARING ASSISTS Available outside the center Sanctuary doors.

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Open The Eyes of My Heart, Lord

Worship Team

stand

WELCOMING WORDS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,
you have shown us the ways of your heart,
yet we stray from your paths.

We ignore our neighbors.

We exploit the earth.

We reject your abundance.

**We remain stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom of your promises.**

**Renew our hearts,
repair our relationships,
restore what we have broken.**

Bring us to new life.

Amen.

Hear the good news:

God the Faithful One loves you,

☩ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,

and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG 333

Jesus Is A Rock in a Weary Land

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.

*All may make the sign of the
cross, the sign that is marked
at baptism.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

sit

READING

Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

READING

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

GOSPEL

Luke 23:33-43

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

sit

SERMON

Kurt Saterbak, FLC Council

stand

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We pray by petition. At the end of each petition, the leader says, "Here us, O God," and the assembly responds, "Your mercy is great."

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

We turn to one another and with a wave or nod and offer a gesture of Christ's peace. We may say these words: "Peace be with you."

sit

MEAL

OFFERING TIME

A story of our ministry...

stand



You can give your offering by scanning the QR code above with your phone camera or place it in the offering basket by the entrance way. You can also bring it to the church office or send it by mail.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Over My Head (trad. Spiritual)

Chancel Choir &
Pr. Michael Mueller

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of life, you have blessed us with every good gift. Open us to share all that we have been given and to love the world in Jesus' name.

Amen.

THE 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.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, for you rule in vulnerability and grace, defying our expectations, bringing life.

SANCTUS

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
God of might. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo -
- ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high -
- est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

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.**

sit

*Communion is open to
all who wish to receive it.
Individual, sealed communion
kits available inside the
center sanctuary doors, for
those who prefer them.*

*If you would like to receive
Communion at your seat,
please notify an usher.*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

There is a place for you at the table of God. Here all are welcome! Come, receive the food that does not perish, it is a taste of eternal life.

COMMUNION

Be Still My Soul

Worship Team

When all have communed:

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

stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Abundant God, you have nourished us with life, love, and grace. Fill us to the brim with your care, that with open arms and open hearts we may share your peace with the world. **Amen.**

SENDING

SENDING WORD

BLESSING

The holy Trinity bless you, ✠ anoint you for the work ahead, and grant you a faithful and courageous heart, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

King of Kings

King of kings and Lord of lords, _ glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah.

King of kings and Lord of lords, _ glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah. Je - sus, Prince of Peace, _

glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah. Je - sus, Prince of Peace, _ glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



PRAYING FOR YOU

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

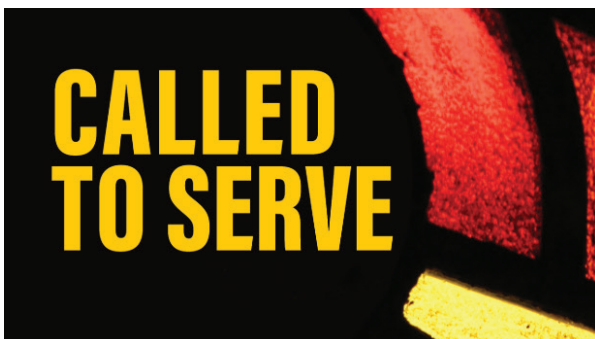
Hospice: Connie Fragale, Jon Garvin, Jack Kislia

Deaths: Bob Cleaton

Prayers: Nathan & Heather Barlass, Inge Caracristi, Rick Cleasby, Rachel Collins, Renee Comstock, Karen Curry, Lynn Dhein, Violette Eichman, Connie Evans, Linda Fronczak, Jane Gesteland, JoAnn Haeberlin, Bea Hanson, Kathy Hendricks, Myra Jensen, Marcia Kelleher, Kip, Robert Kjendlie, Gary Kleinhans, Audrey Kvistad, Eli, Jackie, K. Letheby, Marion Maddock, Naomi Martin, Joan Meister, Duane Meister, Janis Metzger, Kathy Mikkelsen, Shirley Pate, Susan Popp, Kevin Punzel, Jan Reck, Alex Rockman, Elaine Schilling, Helen Strand, Linda Sturdevant, Jan Wathke

Nursing Home Care: Marlys Carlson, Ardith Eddy, Bill Foss, Kathy Foss, Nancy Guse, Rose Jensen, Judy Mowris, Bruce Pearson, Tilford "Paul" Paulsrud, Doris Roehl, Bill Sampson, Mary Sather, Phil Selgren

Homebound: Evelyn Dahl, George Dallman, Ray & Liz Decker, Harriet Hanson, Wayne Koste, Shirley Mooney, Lynn Reddel, Jan Sampson



JOIN OUR CHURCH COUNCIL

CALLED TO SERVE

Exciting things are happening at First Lutheran Church, and we'd love for you to be part of it! We're seeking a few passionate members to help guide our ministries and support the mission God has entrusted to us. There are 3 open spots on the Church Council—no experience needed, just a heart to serve and a willingness to listen and work together in faith. The commitment is just one meeting per month. If you're interested or would like more details, please contact Barb Evert, Church Council President, at evert.barb@gmail.com.



TODAY / PICK UP: GATHERING SPACE

CARDS FOR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

We still have a few card packets remaining. Please help us reach out to our elders and send an encouraging note to remind these members that we are thinking of them throughout the year. They are available for pick-up in the Gathering Space.



TODAY & NOV 30

THANK OFFERING

The women of the ELCA are offering envelopes for collecting Thank-Offerings again this year. This special collection will benefit the National Organization of Women of the ELCA, funding their administrative, instructional, and missionary goals. The envelopes should be brought to church on Nov 30, or dropped off/mailed to the church, noting they are to be added to the Thank-offering collection.



TODAY / 10:45AM-12:15PM

DISCIPLESHIP COURSE

We invite you to join us for First Steps, a welcoming and engaging discipleship course designed to help you grow in your relationship with Jesus, deepen your understanding of the Christian faith, and find your place in the life of the church.

Nov 23: Made to Make A Difference

Feb 21, 9am-3pm: One-Day Retreat Option at Lutherdale

Please use the QR code to register or contact Renee.



**SUN, NOV 30 & DEC 14 / 9:15AM
GATHERING SPACE**

COMMUNITY COFFEE HOUR

Please bring ready-to-serve treats in a disposable container and set on the serving table on Sun, Nov 30 and Dec 14.

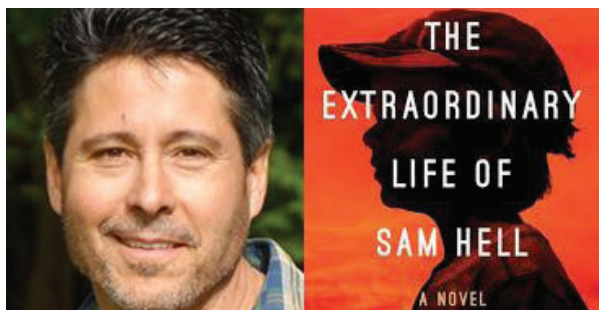


TUES, DEC 2 / 2:30-7PM / FELLOWSHIP HALL

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE

Join the First Lutheran Church Blood Drive on Tues, Dec 2, from 2:30-7pm in Fellowship Hall. Every donation helps save lives — and as a special thank you, all donors who give blood at any mobile drive between Dec 1–14, 2025, will be entered for a chance to win a \$250 Southwest Airlines voucher! Appointments are preferred.

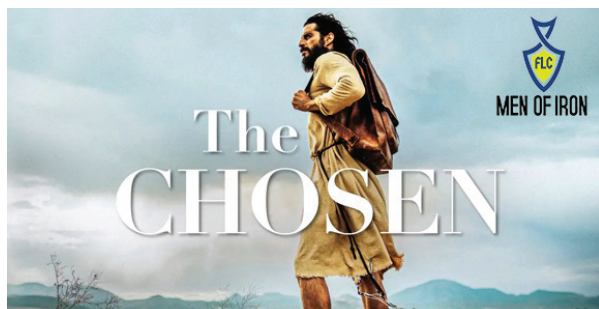
SIGN-UP: tinyurl.com/ym88yjf6



TUES, DEC 2 / 5PM / GATHERING SPACE
PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB

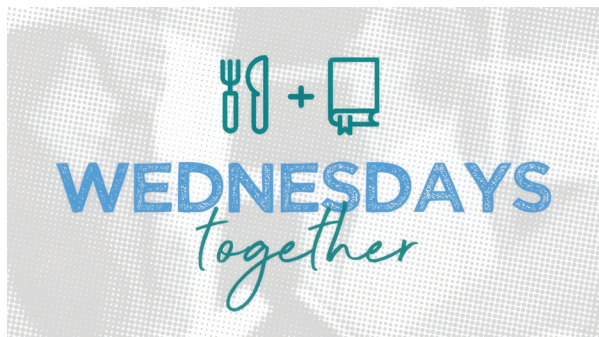
The book chosen for this month is “The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell” by Robert Drugoni. All are welcome to join the group in the Gathering Space for lively conversation and fellowship whether or not you have read the book. Contact Sally Schuenke at 608.754.0407 for more information.

January’s book is “Breathing Lessons: by Ann Tyler.



TUES, DEC 2 / 6-8PM / YOUTH ROOM
MEN OF IRON

Open to men and boys of all ages. We will use “The Chosen” TV series and curriculum to discuss and explore the Bible in a unique way. Meal provided!



DEC 3 / 6-7:30PM / GATHERING SPACE
WEDNESDAYS TOGETHER

Wednesdays Together kick off each new month at First Lutheran with food, fellowship, and fun for all ages. The evening begins at 6pm with a potluck dinner, followed by a chance to grow and connect among children, youth, and adults. We also added Communion together at our tables. Come enjoy a delicious meal and great conversation—we’d love to see you there!



DEC 6 / 10AM / FELLOWSHIP HALL
COOKIE DECORATING

Join us at 10am in Fellowship Hall for a fun, family-friendly morning of cookie decorating! All supplies will be provided, so bring your creativity and enjoy a sweet time together.



DEC 7 / STARTING AT 7:30AM

WEDNESDAYS TOGETHER

The Witness Board is bringing you the 5th Annual Cookie Walk on Dec 7. Here is a great way to get a lovely variety of holiday cookies to share with family and friends. From 7:30am until after the second service, you can fill your box with as many cookies as you want. It will be weighed and you pay accordingly.

We need lots and lots of donated cookies so when you bake, please plan an extra few dozen for your church. The proceeds go to the youth to help pay for their mission trips.



DEC 11 / 5-7PM

CHRISTMAS BINGO NIGHT

Get into the holiday spirit with a fun-filled Christmas Bingo Night on Dec 11 from 5-7pm! Enjoy a night of festive fun, prizes, and holiday cheer. There will be food, prizes, and Santa! This event is a free event.



DUE DEC 15

SPREAD HOLIDAY JOY WITH CRAIG CARES

FLC is again partnering with the Craig Cares Holiday Program to support Janesville Craig High School students in need—honoring Jan Pinnow's generous spirit.

How to Help (by Dec 15):

- **Sponsor a Student:** Send a \$140 check (covers gifts + gift cards) payable to Craig Cares Holiday Program, Attn: Heather Last, 401 S. Randall Ave, Janesville, WI 53545. Write "First Lutheran Church" on the memo line.
- **Shop for a Student:** Call 608.743.5251 (Heather Last) to get a wish list. Use gift bags—no wrapping—and label with the student's number.
- **Donate Any Amount:** Send a check to Craig Cares Holiday Program with "First Lutheran Church" noted.

Thank you for helping make the season brighter for local students! **Questions?** Contact Phylis Olson at 608.752.7793 or wayneandphylis@gmail.com.

WEEK OF NOV 23

WEB flcj.org | FACEBOOK @flcjvl | ON YOUTUBE
HOURS MON-THURS 8:30am-4pm | FRI 8:30am-Noon
CONTACT 608.752.7434 | office@flcj.org

SUN, NOV 23 - CHRIST THE KING

8:00am	Worship	Sanctuary
9:15am	Coffee Hour	Gathering Space
9:15am	Sunday School	2nd Floor
9:30am	Worship	Sanctuary
10:00am	First Steps: Discipleship Course	Gathering Space
10:30am	Choir	Choir Room

MON, NOV 24

1:00pm	The Noteables	Choir Room
8:00pm	Centering Prayer	Zoom

TUES, NOV 25

8:00am	BG's	Fellowship Hall Lounge
9:00am	Knitters	Gathering Space
11:00am	Staff Meeting	Rm 302
1:30pm	Smart Recovery	Rm 302
4:15pm	Hand Bells	Sanctuary

WED, NOV 26

10:00am	Bible Study	Rm 302
6:00pm	Worship Team	Sanctuary

THURS, NOV 27 - BUILDING CLOSED

FRI, NOV 28 - BUILDING CLOSED



NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

NOV 30: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

+ Isaiah 2:1-5
+ Psalm 122
+ Romans 13:11-14
+ Matthew 24:36-44



STEWARDSHIP

WEEK IN REVIEW

Last Week's Giving:
\$10,405.90 *Thank You!*
Avg Weekly Giving YTD: \$14,970
Weekly Need: \$18,045

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.



ATTENDANCE

8am: 90 9:30am: 80 SS: 22

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ON YOUTUBE
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Mon-Thurs 8:30am-4pm,
Fri 8:30am-Noon
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GREETERS

8:00 Karen Kirkpatrick
9:30 Hans & Jill von Allmen

READER

8:00 Stuart Hamilton
9:30 Christine Smith

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

8:00 Stuart & Suzanne Hamilton
9:30 Barb Clem, Christine Smith, Carrie Chesebro

USHERS

9:30 Dennis Garvin

COFFEE HOSTS

Discipleship Team

ALTAR GUILD

Beth Bloedel

PEW RACKS

Ruth Keehn

STAFF

The Rev. Michael Mueller	SENIOR PASTOR	Amy Hartsough	DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
The Rev. Jim Johnson	VISITATION PASTOR	Aubrey McMeen	MASTERPIECE COORDINATOR
Nan Bandt	OFFICE ASSISTANT	Michael Palmer	AUDIO/VISUAL ASSISTANT
Kora Conrad	CUSTODIAN	Jeanie Pomplun	OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
Jason Coon	CUSTODIAN	Michael Schuler	AUDIO/VISUAL COORDINATOR
Eric Engen	YOUTH MINISTER	Christal Swigart	COMMUNICATIONS
Renee Engen	SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION	Dan Talbot	WORSHIP COORDINATOR
Cathie Frank	NURSERY COORDINATOR	Jude Tropp	FACILITIES MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR
Jessalynne Garvin	YOUTH ASSISTANT	Arwen Twitchett	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

CHURCH COUNCIL

Barb Evert	PRESIDENT	Kurt Saterbak
Jer Carpenter	VICE-PRESIDENT	Randy Ziebell
Jarod Wasson	TREASURER	Lexi Frank
Elisa Ried	SECRETARY	Kathy Meier
Nathan Anderson		