

SEPT 6, 2026

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



CHILDCARE Available for children 5 and under in the nursery.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Meets at 9:45am. Contact Renee at rengen@flcj.org for more information. To register, print form from flcj.orgsreg.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for graciously welcoming us into their space and allowing us to worship together.

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Come As You Are

Worship Team

WELCOMING WORDS

stand

*As the presiding minister
begins, all may make the sign
of the cross, the sign that is
marked at baptism.*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

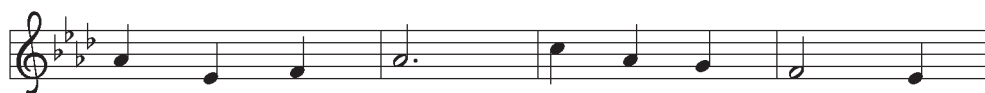
**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
 2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!
 3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!
 4 Class-rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!
 5 Knowl-edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!
 Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!
 Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!
 Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



Refrain
 God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

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 God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

sit

WORD

FIRST READING

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

SECOND READING

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

GOSPEL

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 13:8-14

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

sit

SERMON

Pr. David Andert

stand

HYMN OF THE DAY 721

Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil



Good -ness is stron - ger than e - vil; love is stron - ger than hate;



light is stron - ger than dark - ness; life is stron - ger than death; vic - t'ry is



ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic - t'ry is



ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

APOSTLES CREED

**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

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



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.

PEACE

The peace of Christ 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."

MEAL

OFFERING TIME

A story of our ministry...

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you. Set us free to be generous with what you have given. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

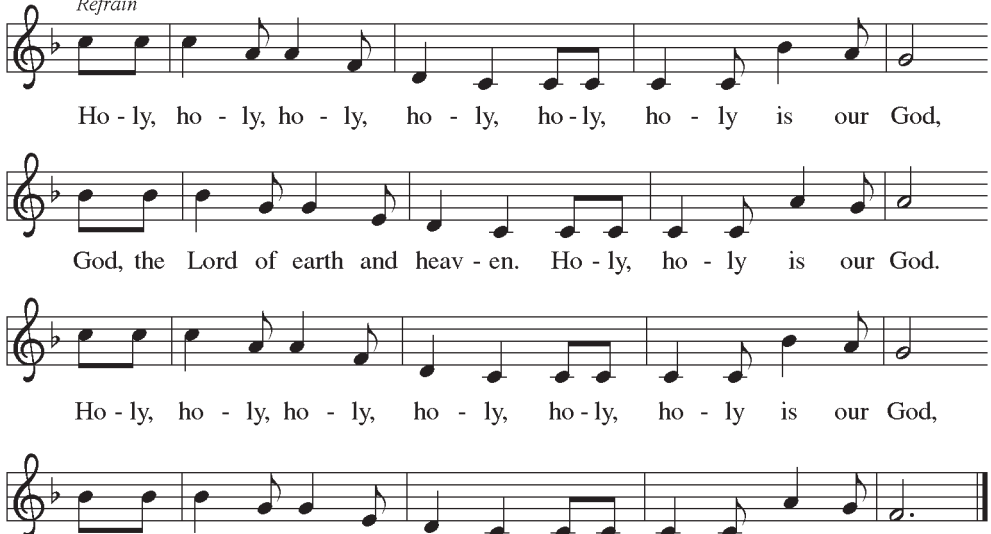
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, for you keep calling, inviting us into your mercy, until we embrace the life we had longed for without knowing.

SANCTUS

Refrain



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is our God,
God, the Lord of earth and heav - en. Ho - ly, ho - ly is our God.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is our God,
God, the Lord of all of his - t'ry. Ho - ly, ho - ly is our God.

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

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

LORD'S PRAYER

sit

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION

The Blessing

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

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, as we follow the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING

SENDING WORD

BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

The God of grace ✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG 525

You Are Holy, You Are Whole

You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more
 than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.
 Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



STARTING SUN, SEPT 20

ADULT CLASSES AT FIRST

Looking for ways to grow in faith and connect with others? Join us for Membership 101 & 201 and Practicing the Way this fall! Whether you're new to First Lutheran, exploring faith, or have been part of our congregation for years, there's a place for you. Learn, connect, and grow together.

Sign up today at flcj.org/members!

DRIVE-IN WORSHIP SUNDAY | 8AM



Embracing Love's Adventure Together

NOW - SEPT 20

DRIVE IN WORSHIP

Drive-In Worship Parking: Turn off your headlights! Please park in double rows. Larger vehicles, please park along the sides or in the back. Tune your radio to 90.1 FM.

Ask a Greeter for

- A large print bulletin
- Offering Envelopes
- Connect card - To record that you have communed, or to update your address, phone, email. Or, call the office at 608.752.7434, email Jeanie at office@flcj.org, or Nan at nbandt@flcj.org

Communion: Greeters will hand out individual communion cups each Sunday.

Weather looking iffy? 8am worship will be held at Good Shepherd. A notice will be posted on the 'Closings' page at www.WCLO.com.



PRAYING FOR YOU

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Hospice: Gary Kleinhans, Nada Rupnow

St. Mary's: Linda Fronczak

Rehab: Anita Kropf, Rick Olson

Prayers: Nathan & Heather Barlass, Damen Boehlke, Rick Cleasby, Renee Comstock, Karen Curry, Lynn Dhein, Violette Eichman, Connie Evans, Leon Freeburg, Linda Fronczak, Christine Genz, Jane Gesteland, JoAnn Haeberlin, Kathy Hendricks, Myra Jensen, Ruth Keehn, Janet Klawitter, Marcia Kelleher, Robert Kjendlie, Audrey Kvistad, K. Letheby, Marion Maddock, Eli Martin, Naomi Martin, Duane Meister, Janis Metzger, Kathy Mikkelsen, Samantha Mulderick, Curt Nodolf, Shirley Pate, Susan Popp, Kevin Punzel, Debbie Rethlefsen, Elaine Schilling, Earl Schultz, Helen Strand, Linda Sturdevant, Kamron Schwartz, Jan Wathke

Nursing Home Care: Marlys Carlson, Ardith Eddy, Bill Foss, Kathy Foss, Nancy Guse, Bea Hanson, Rose Jensen, Betty Johnson, Tilford "Paul" Paulsrud, Doris Roehl, Jan Sampson, Mary Sather

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



**SUN, SEPT 20, OCT 18, NOV 15 / 3-4:30PM
PARSONAGE LIVING ROOM**

FALL BOOK STUDY

Join FLC's Inclusion and Integration Team this fall for a three-part book study of *See No Stranger* by Valarie Kaur. Together, we'll explore what genuine inclusion means and consider Kaur's invitation to see one another—even our opponents—with wonder, compassion, and a commitment to belonging.

Sundays, September–November | 3–4:30pm

The Parsonage Living Room

We hope you'll join us! For more information and links to purchase the book, visit valariekaur.com.



SUN, SEPT 27 / 10AM / BY PERSONAGE

ONE CHURCH, ONE TABLE

Join us for one worship service outdoors at the **FLC Parsonage Greenspace**, followed by a picnic-style potluck. Barbecue chicken and shredded pork will be provided; bring a side, salad, or dessert to share. Bring a lawn chair or blanket!

Inclement weather: Worship and the meal will move to Good Shepherd Church.

Don't forget our **Jello Competition!** Enter your favorite recipe in one of three categories: Best Jiggle, Best Flavor, or Best Overall Appeal. Come worship, eat, have fun, and celebrate One Church, One Table!



SAT, OCT 3 / 6AM-6PM / GOOD SHEPHERD

PRAYER VIGIL

On Saturday, Oct 3, 6am-6pm, members of First Lutheran and Good Shepherd are invited to be part of a Prayer Vigil held in the Good Shepherd sanctuary. You are invited to sign up for a half-hour shift, but you can stay as long as you wish. A focus for prayer at this year's vigil will be seeking God's direction as decisions are made for the future of both congregations. A sign-up poster will be in the fellowship area at Good Shepherd, beginning Sept 6. Can you commit to half an hour or more, listening/talking with God? If you would like to help, please contact Ruth Demmon 608.302.7893 or Cordy Madorin 608.201.7893.

WEEK OF SEPT 6

WEB flcj.org | FACEBOOK @flcjvl | ON YOUTUBE
HOURS MON-THURS 9am-4pm | FRI 9am-Noon
CONTACT 608.752.7434 | office@flcj.org

SUN, SEPT 6 - 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00am	Drive-In	Parking Lot
9:00am	Coffee Hour	Parsonage
9:00am	Bible Study	Good Shepherd
9:45am	Sunday School	Good Shepherd
10:00am	Worship	GS Sanctuary
11:00am	Coffee Hour	Good Shepherd

MON, SEPT 7 - BUILDING CLOSED

11:00am	Meals on Wheels
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TUES, SEPT 8

8:00am	BG's	FLC
9:00am	Mary Ruth Circle	Member's Home
11:00am	Staff Meeting	Parsonage
11:00am	Meals on Wheels	
4:00pm	Relationship Building Team	Parsonage
4:30pm	Handbells	First Presbyterian
5:30pm	Worship Collective	Good Shepherd
6:30pm	Youth & Family Team	Good Shepherd
7:00pm	Discipleship Team	Good Shepherd

WED, SEPT 9

10:00am	Bible Study	Good Shepherd
11:00am	Meals on Wheels	
1:00pm	Joanna Circle	Member's Home
5:00pm	Disaster Recovery Team	Zoom
6:00pm	Worship Team	Good Shepherd
7:00pm	Youth Group	Parsonage Living Room

THURS, SEPT 10 - PROGRESS ARTICLES DUE

10:00am	Worship Service	Rock Haven
11:00am	Meals on Wheels	
11:15am	Worship Service	Oak Park Place

FRI, SEPT 11

11:00am	Meals on Wheels
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SAT, SEPT 12

7:00am	LWR Box Car Loading	Madison
9:00am	Stamping	Good Shepherd



NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

SEPT 13: 16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

- + Genesis 50:15-21
- + Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13
- + Romans 14:1-12
- + Matthew 18:21-35



STEWARDSHIP

WEEK IN REVIEW

Last Week's Giving:

\$22,669.53 *Thank You!*

Avg Weekly Giving YTD: \$17,908

Weekly Need: \$18,573

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: 132 10am: 83 SS: 21

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WEB flcj.org
FACEBOOK @flcjvl
ON YOUTUBE
HOURS
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Fri 9am-Noon
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ALTAR GUILD

Mary Peterson

TEMPORARY FLC OFFICES

Temporary offices are in the former parsonage at 740 N Randall Ave. Easiest access is through the rear porch door, and close parking is available there.
Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm, Fri 9am-Noon.

STAFF

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

CHURCH COUNCIL

Jarod Wasson PRESIDENT	Carrie Chesebro
Elisa Ried VICE-PRESIDENT	Tammy Eckley
Lexi Frank TREASURER	Barb Evert
Tom Dorscheid SECRETARY	Kathy Meier
Nathan Anderson	Kurt Saterbak
Jon Bjoin	Christina Zink
Jer Carpenter	