

This Week at First Lutheran

Sunday, November 8th ~ 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion
11:15 a.m. Fellowship and Quilt Sale

Monday, November 9th

1:00-6:00 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive
6:30 p.m. Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 10th

11:45 a.m. Men's Lunch @ FLC
1:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, November 11th

7:00 a.m. Worship on Wednesdays
9:00 a.m. Quilters
6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

Thursday, November 12th

9:00 a.m. Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, November 15th ~ 24th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion
11:15 a.m. Fellowship

Scripture Readings for Sunday, November 15th:

Zeph. 1:7, 12-18
Ps. 90:1-8[9-11]12
1 Thess. 5:1-11
Matt. 25:14-30

**Attendance last Sunday was 15
zoom log-ins and 29 in person**

First Lutheran Church
512 N. Ruby St, Ellensburg, WA 98926 ~ (509) 925-2844
~ ficeburg@yahoo.com ~ www.flc-eburg.org ~

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

First Lutheran Church ~ November 8, 2020

During November our liturgy is filled with images of the communion of saints, judgment, and a second coming of Christ. The prophet Amos says the day of the Lord will be one of gloom and darkness and calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. We gather for the eucharist—the marriage feast of the Lamb—that we may live each day to the fullest. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory.

Welcome to All Our Guests and Visitors: The people of First Lutheran Church extend a very sincere welcome to you. For this morning's worship we will be using the Red Book (Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)). Ushers are available anytime for your assistance.

P: Pastor **A:** Assisting Minister **C:** Congregation * Please stand as you are able

PRELUDE *"Our Father in Heaven"* ~ Telemann

***GATHERING SONG:** *"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"* ELW #632 vs 1-2, 5-6

Budget amounts:

September only:	-\$1,361.14
January-September:	+\$28,992.08

We have a contingency reserve, due to unpaid office positions, these positions will come back after COVID.

Women's Bible Study on Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m. at FLC. If you have any questions please contact Renee Merten.

Only 2 dates left for this book study, November 10th and 17th.

OUR 2020 FLC "BREAD FOR THE WORLD OFFERING OF LETTERS"

CONTINUES! - reshaped, but *not cancelled*, by the Corona virus pandemic. Our work has taken on greater urgency as hunger stalks the most vulnerable populations. Our faith calls us to stand beside men, women and children in the US and abroad, urging Congress to help provide the nutrition they need to in order to thrive. Wage righteous battle on behalf of the hungry!

TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE: Please take from the OUTREACH bulletin board, and from the nearby table, writing materials and your own copies of

- Contact information (mail, telephone, email) for Senators Party Murray and Maria Cantwell and for Representative Kim Schreier
- A sample "letter to Congress", and "Quick Tips for an Effective Letter"
- Visit "Bread.Org" on your computer, and explore!

ACT: Create your messages to congress; get them off by November 20. The church office will stamp and mail your letters if you wish. Please tell the office how many messages you send; this is useful information for Bread for the World!

HAVE FAITH; END HUNGER!

‡ **GATHERING** ‡

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

C **have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

C **Amen.**

***GREETING:**

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

C **And also with you.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE:**



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

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***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

- A** O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** Amen.

Special Music (if available)

"Praise and Thanksgiving"

Sheila Johnson



Prayer Requests

Diane Sabol, Mary Sue Johnson (lymphoma Lygre's sister in law), Don Loetterle, Cheryl Comsia, Angie Perkins Downs, Charlene Watterson (broken shoulder), Alice Wanless at the death of her husband Don, Suzanne Ponchene, Wanless' great granddaughter Rae Lynn Martinez (preemie), Estelle Johnson at the death of her husband Al Johnson, Geraldine Childress, Fred Watterson, Katie & Kalan Hope Klosterman (Debbie Butler niece & baby), Jan Riggs, Lani Maier, Ken Hunter, Erleen Beckley, Brooklyn Dawson, Samuel Herron, Yang-ae-Kim (Min's mother, dementia), Shane Williams, the people in the countries of the Middle East, for safety for all U.S. Service Men and Women and their families, especially Jake Ferris, Micah Barnhart, Erik Hurson, leaders of all nations, Immigrant families, and for peace in our world and in our families.

We pray also for our Companion Synod, the Ulanga Kilombero Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, Bread for the World, and FISH Food Bank.

*~Please update Pastor Dennis about people on the prayer list~
If you have a prayer request, fill out the blue prayer request sheet located in the pew in-between the pencils and hand it to an usher.
(Please remember that our Service is broadcast live on KXLE radio.)*

FLC Announcements

Flowers for today are provided by Estelle Johnson in honor of her wedding anniversary.

We have sent in 9 letters so far for our Bread for the World Letter Writing Campaign. Materials are in the Fellowship Hall or you can contact the office for them to be emailed to you.

Please return Time & Talent sheets and pledge cards after prayerful consideration of your stewardship goals for 2021. Completed items may be dropped off at church on Sundays or during office hours (Monday through Thursday, 8:30-noon), or mailed (512 N Ruby St).

They were mailed out last week. If you did not receive one and would like to please, contact the church office at 925-2844 or email flceburg@yahoo.com

† ~Mission Statement of First Lutheran Church~ †

*God's love inspires us to unite in worship, grow in Word and Sacrament,
and serve the need of others as the Holy Spirit empowers us.*

*To this end, as members of First Lutheran Church, we believe we are
each called to proclaim, share, and daily live Christ's Gospel of Love.*

PARISH STAFF

Pastor - Dennis Hickman

Organist - Betty Kramlich, Youth Director - Vacant

Office Administrator - Christine Rice

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY

Assisting Minister: Doug Fessler

Reader: Pete Petersen

Sound Operator: Richard Boss

Altar Guild: Bea Fairburn

QUILT BLESSING

† WORD †

FIRST READING:

Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos people thought that the day of the Lord would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The Lord demands justice and righteousness in the community.

Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light; ¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear; or went into the house
and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

PSALM:

Read Together

Psalm 70

You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry. (Ps. 70:5)

Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;

O LORD, make | haste to help me.

²Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and | be disgraced.

³Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.

⁴Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great | is the LORD!"

⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick- | ly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, | do not tarry.

SECOND READING:

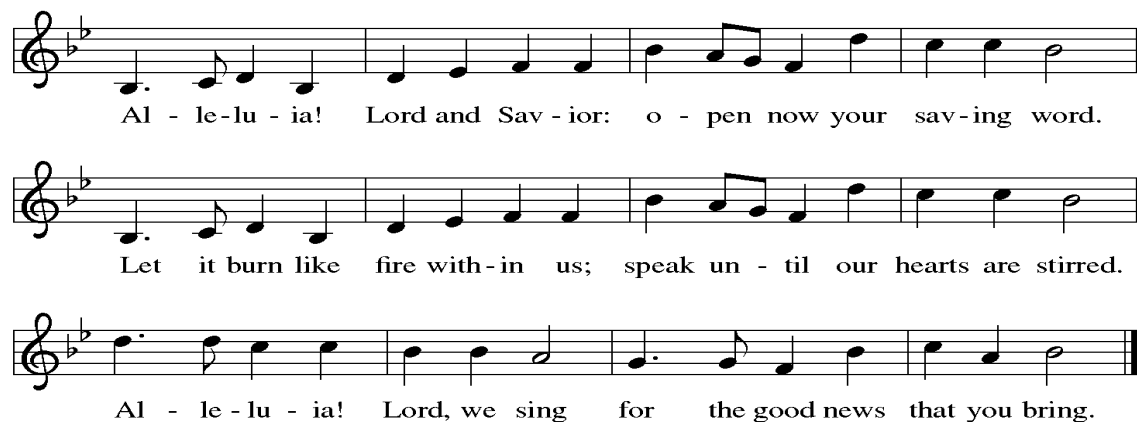
1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever.

¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.
 Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

***HOLY GOSPEL:**

Matthew 25:1–13

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord**

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

† SENDING †

***BLESSING:**

P Mothering God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

C **Amen.**

STEWARDSHIP TEMPLE TALK

~ Jess Holcomb

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***SENDING SONG:**

“Blessed Assurance”

ELW #638

***DISMISSAL:**

A Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

***POSTLUDE**

“God of Grace”

~ Manz

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C **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**

***COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION:**

For in person worship: The bread and wine are in individual serving cups on tables up front. The wafer is on top and juice beneath, peel back the clear plastic and consume the wafer. Then peel back the foil and drink the juice.

For those who are taking part in the Lord's Supper at home; Please give the bread to one another or yourself with the words "The body of Christ given for you." Then give the wine or grape juice to one another or yourself with the words "The blood of Christ shed for you." If you have children please lay your hands on their heads and bless them with words such as "The risen Jesus loves and saves you." (Or similar words)

After worship please consume any remaining bread and wine/grape juice or return it to the ground from which it came. (Don't throw it in the garbage.)

OTHER HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION: ELW #593

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER:**

A We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.

⁶"But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹²But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.'

¹³"Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON:

Pastor Dennis Hickman

HYMN OF THE DAY:

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

ELW #244

APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

** catholic means universal*

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

(The congregation greets one another in the name of the Lord: "Peace be with you.")

OFFERING

“Now Thank we all Our God”

~ Kaufmann

(Download Vanco Give Plus app to give via your phone.)

***OFFERTORY:**

“Let Us Go Now to the Banquet”

ELW #523 vs 1, 2

Refrain: Let us go now to the banquet, to the feast of the universe. The table’s set and a place is waiting; come, ev’ry one, with your gifts to share.

I will rise in the early morning; the community’s waiting for me. With a spring in my step I’m walking with my friends and my family.

God invites all the poor and hungry to the banquet of justice and good where the harvest will not be hoarded so that no one will lack for food.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

A Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

† **PRAYERS** †

A Gathered with the saints by the river of life and surrounded by the great cloud of their witness, let us pray for the well-being of the church of God, the peace of the whole world, and the welfare of all people.

P All blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be yours, O God, through Christ the crucified and risen one.

C Amen.

† **THE LORD’S SUPPER** †

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n 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. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE WORDS of INSTITUTION