

First Lutheran
relationships that transform



**You
did what?!**

Acts 11:1-18

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022

Welcome to worship at First Lutheran Church

We worship God using the form of worship which has been used by Christians throughout church history, which is commonly called “liturgical worship.” Liturgy is defined as the “work of the people,” which means that this is a participatory form of worship for all people, whether leading from the front, or singing and responding as a part of the congregation.

In worship, we come out of the chaos of the world to prepare ourselves to meet God, who is revealed to us in Jesus Christ. Through confession/forgiveness, prayer, and proclamation of the Word of God, we are led to the center of our worship which is the celebration of Holy Communion (also called the Lord’s Supper or Eucharist). It is in that act of eating and drinking the true body and blood of Jesus in the forms of bread and wine, that we make a sacred connection with God. As our worship concludes, we are sent back into the world, as people who have been changed by an encounter with God, to be light in the midst of the chaos and confusion of the world.

FLC regularly supports the work of the following ministries of our denomination and community:

- Longview Community Ministries
- Newgate Mission
- Texas Ramps Project
- Living Water International
- Lutheran World Relief
- Lutheran Disaster Response

Any time you would like to contribute to these ministries, you may label your offering as such, and the church office will forward the money to the appropriate place.



An assistive listening system is available in our sanctuary. This is a state of the art system by Anchor Audio, it is durable and delivers great sound quality.

You may select a receiver from the basket in the rear of the sanctuary, near the sound booth; please return it following worship.

PRELUDE

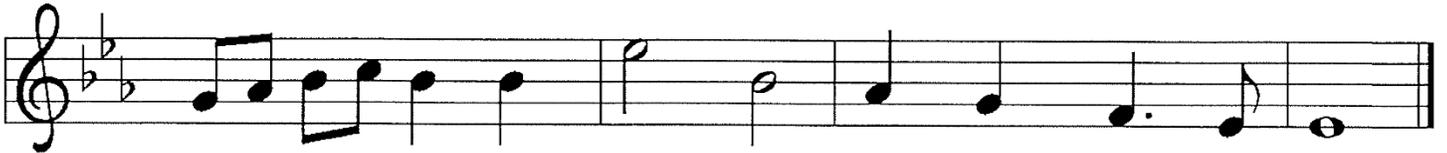
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand

CALL TO WORSHIP



Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - qu'ring Son;



end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Christ is risen! Come and worship him!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

GATHERING SONG

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



- 1 A - wake, O sleep-er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
- 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
- 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
- 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
- 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con- quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

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.

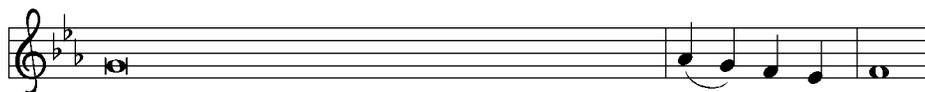
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



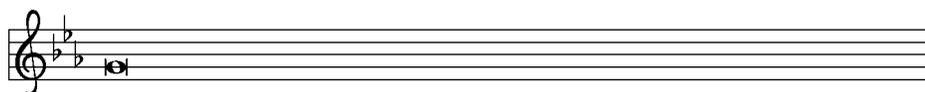
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



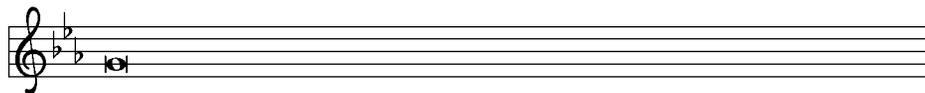
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Acts 11:1 – 18

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Revelation 21:1 – 6

¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;

one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Jeff Borgwardt

SILENT REFLECTION

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

STZ 1 – 3

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with: Lord, in your mercy

Congregational response: Hear our prayer

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

OFFERING ANTHEM

Please stand

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

As the gifts are presented, the congregation sings.

We Are an Offering**692**

The musical score consists of six staves of music in treble clef, 3/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) in the first, third, and sixth staves.

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERING PRAYER

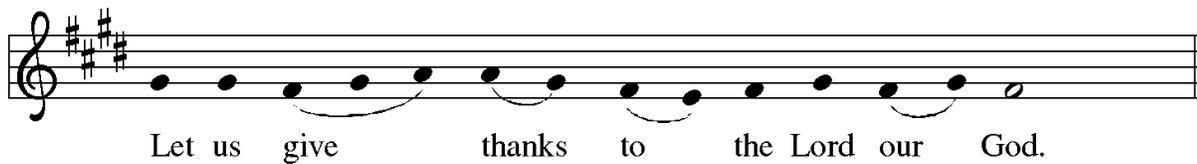
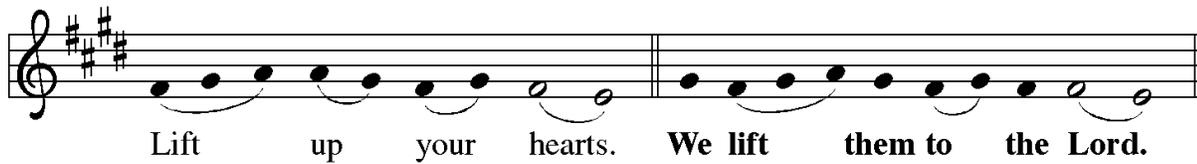
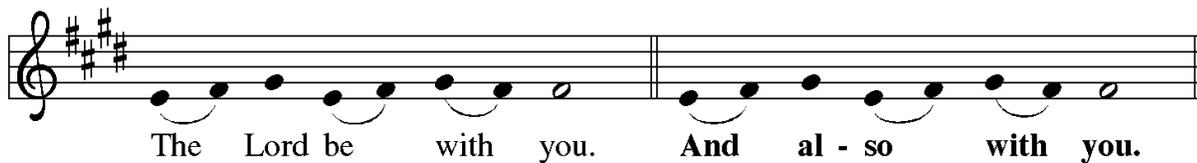
Let us pray.

Living God,

you gather us together and welcome us all at your table.

Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body,
that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right...we praise your name and join in their unending hymn.

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

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 gifts of God for the people of God. . . .

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. We teach that Holy Communion is a celebration of the real presence of Christ under forms of bread and wine. For those who prefer, cups in the center ring of the tray are filled with white grape juice. If you wish to receive a blessing, signal this by crossing your arms against your chest.

COMMUNION SONG

Tod Sechrist

Woman *Men* *All*

Je - su, Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world, have

Woman *Men* *All*

mer - cy on - - - us. Je - su, Bread of Life, You take a - way the

Woman *Men* *All*

sins of the world, have mer - cy on - - - us. Je - sus, Prince of Peace, You

take a - way the sins of the world, Grant us You - - r peace.

Please join in singing the distribution hymn.

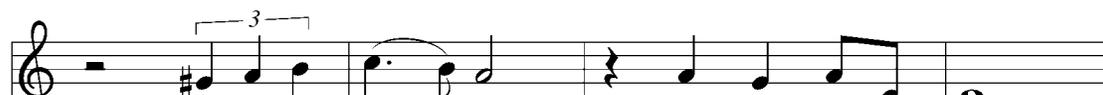
Change My Heart, O God



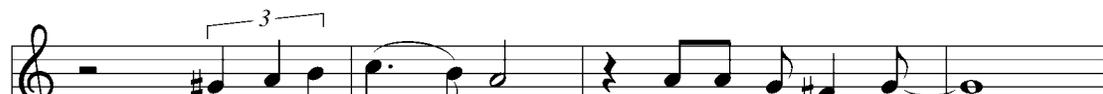
Change my heart, O God; make it ev-er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Please stand

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in His grace. **Amen.**

CANTICLE



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the
sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in this bread and cup
we have tasted your presence
and are hungry and thirsty no more.
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.
Amen.

BENEDICTION

Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever
Amen.

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Refrain
 Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord!
 Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers on the altar today

**Given by Bill Anderson in memory of
Linda Anderson**

**Given by Kim Cook in honor of
Dwight Cook's graduation
from Texas A&M Commerce!**

**Given by Virgil Brown in honor of
Betty Brown's birthday**



New Members joining today:

Steven & Jenn Belcourt

Beverly Bell

Neta Colteaux

Michael & Carolyn Fuehr

Larry & Linda Kaplan

Debbie Sadler

Barbara Walker

The 12th Annual Ladies Retreat

Saturday, July 9, 2022

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

**Mark your calendar so you will
not miss it!**

Day Camp is coming!

July 18 - 22, 2022

Registration begins Monday, May 2nd

www.firstlutheran.us

**The Bible Based Recovery
Group meets every Tuesday
evening at 6:30 pm**

The 2022 High School Graduates of First Lutheran Church:

Destine Bryant, Longview High School

Cody Janner, Pine Tree High School

Emma Perry, Hallsville High School

**The seniors will be recognized on
Sunday, May 22**

**9:30 am Reception in the Fellowship Hall
10:45 am Graduation Blessing during
worship**

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK

Monday, May 16	Tuesday, May 17	Wednesday, May 18
6:00 pm 3 B's for Men and Bunco	9:00 am Friendship Circle 11:30 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Fitness Class 6:30 pm BBR Group 6:30 pm Book Club Meeting	10:00 am Quilters 6:00 pm Confirmation & Children's Ministry 7:00 pm Youth Group & Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 19	Friday, May 20	Saturday, May 21
5:30 pm Fitness Class 5:30 pm Pilot Club Meeting 6:30 pm Council Meeting	12:00 pm Rotary	8:00 pm Men's Breakfast 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Homeschool Practicum
Sunday, May 22	Volunteer Schedule this week:	Volunteer Schedule next week:
8:15 am Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:30 am Graduation Celebration 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 10:45 am Worship w/Holy Communion 6:00 pm Bible Study	May 15 Lector: 8:15 am: Peri Topel 10:45 am: Mike Gentsch Communion: Set up: Gloria & Robert Bero Clean Up: Leslie Jenkins	May 22 Lector: 8:15 am: Carolyn Ramirez 10:45 am: Deb Butts Communion: Set up: Ed & Doris Bero Clean Up: Eva Touchstone

Prayer Needs

Please send all prayer requests and updates to the church office at: prayerchain@firstlutheran.us

FLC Members

Jane Bailey is recovering from surgery.

Linda Kaplan is recovering from surgery.

Betty Brown is recovering from shoulder surgery.

LaKeita Walker, needs strength and wisdom.

Bob and Pat Mueller need prayers for strength.

Debbie Graham suffers with Multiple System Atrophy-Cerebellar type.

Pray for wisdom for our church leadership.

Family and Friends of FLC Members

Wendy Shen, mom of Hong & Dawn Shen, has bile duct and kidney cancer

Pastor Michael Pancoast who is undergoing chemotherapy treatment for aggressive non-Hodgkins lymphoma.

Rachel Paschall, daughter in law of Cole and Deb Paschall, who has MS.

Bob & Diana Padgett and their family for her chronic schizophrenia.

Healing for those suffering with COVID, and protection for those at risk.

Alzheimer's patients and their caregivers.

Those who are imprisoned.

Pray for church growth, numerically and spiritually.

Pray for wisdom and direction for our church leadership.

The homeless

Members Serving in the Military

Eric Jenkins – Air Force, Seoul, South Korea

Terrina Anderson – U.S. Army Norfolk, VA

Timothy Martin – Navy

May 15, 2022

We Are Found

As Jesus in today's gospel prepares the disciples for his imminent departure, he tells them that they will look for him but won't be able to join him where he is going. It will not be long before the women are at the tomb in the early morning, only to find it empty.

We also look for Jesus, but perhaps we don't know that we are engaged in the search. We are constantly seeking purpose and answers, turning to self-help books, inspirational videos, exercise programs, and new ways of organizing our stuff. Billboards and magazine covers highlight our flaws while offering the next best solution to make us happy and well.

These opportunities can be compelling, and some of them will prove successful in managing some aspects of life. But these solutions don't turn up what we're really looking for: to be truly loved and known, secure and whole. We find this security only in the love of God. Yet, in this Easter season we are reminded that we do not need to seek Jesus; rather, Jesus seeks out and finds us. We cannot go where Jesus goes, leading the way through death to new life, but Jesus ultimately finds us wherever we are, even when we are most lost. The women found an empty tomb, but Jesus is not gone. The resurrected Jesus finds them!

In finding us, Jesus also directs our searching by giving us a commandment: "Love one another" (John 13:34). In seeking to love one another, we are reminded again and again that the great love of God has already found us.

Assisting In Worship Today

Celebrant: Jeffrey Borgwardt

Musicians: Donna Ashby, Pat Mueller
and The Chancel Choir

Lectors:

8:15 am: Peri Topel

10:45 am: Mike Gentsch

Flowers: Jeanette Nolen

Church Staff

Jeffrey E. Borgwardt, Pastor

Donna Ashby, Interim Dir of Music

John Parsons, Dir. of Youth and Family Min.

Tina Sewell, Secretary

Karen Smith, Bookkeeper

2022 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Vivian McElligott (*President*)

Cole Paschall (*Vice-President*)

Rachel Grundmann (*Secretary*)

Teresa DeShazer (*Treasurer*)

Leslie Jenkins (*Relationship with God*)

Gayle Poland (*Relationship with Community*)

Donna Ashby (*Relationship with One Another*)

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Longview, Texas 75605

903-295-7423

churchsecretary@firstlutheran.us

www.FirstLutheran.us

We receive gifts for the mission of the congregation and the Church in the world.

An offering plate is available in the back of the sanctuary. If you prefer to give by credit card you may do so at www.firstlutheran.us/donate or by scanning the QR code below



In ministry to those in need in our community, foodstuffs are received to support Longview Community Ministries. Please help keep our baskets filled to overflowing!