

February 2, 2025  
Blended Worship  
10 AM



First Evangelical Lutheran Church  
19419 Royalton Road  
Strongsville, Ohioa

**Mission Statement**  
*Living God's love through our devotion to  
service, worship, and one another.*

**Good Morning!  
If you are a visitor today,**

**Welcome!**

**Sunday Schedule for Next Week, 02/09/2025**

Contemporary Worship at 9:00 AM

Sunday School at 10:15

Traditional Worship at 11:15 AM

To contact the Church, call the office at 440-238-7890  
or email [firstchurchalive@hotmail.com](mailto:firstchurchalive@hotmail.com)

Secretary Office Hours are Monday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 to 12:00 PM  
Pastor Kathy - 440-666-8758 or [revklk@gmail.com](mailto:revklk@gmail.com)

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Don't forget that if you ever have any questions or concerns,  
you may contact your Council representatives:

Darren Whitford: 330-524-3670 [dgwhitford1114@gmail.com](mailto:dgwhitford1114@gmail.com)

June Zakrajsek: 440-336-1678 [jfzakrajsek@gmail.com](mailto:jfzakrajsek@gmail.com)

Stacey McNamara: 440-567-9532 [staceymac104@gmail.com](mailto:staceymac104@gmail.com)

Janet Kaiser: 216-215-4572 [janetmackaiser@gmail.com](mailto:janetmackaiser@gmail.com)

Ken Holda: 440-665-2836 [kenjholda@gmail.com](mailto:kenjholda@gmail.com)

Gary Walters: 216-645-8472 [gwaltersoh@yahoo.com](mailto:gwaltersoh@yahoo.com)

Dawn Zima: 440-821-6545 [dzima@cox.net](mailto:dzima@cox.net)

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
**Setting 3**

**WELCOME** to you all this morning. May God bless us as we gather and raise our hearts and voices in thanks and praise to our God. We celebrate the Eucharist this morning. All baptized believers in Jesus Christ are welcome to come to the Lord's table. Those who have not yet been instructed are welcome to come for a blessing.

*The center ring of cups in the trays contains non-alcoholic wine for those who desire it and the pedestal in the center contains gluten-free wafers*

Communion is continuous at two stations.

\* Please *turn off all electronic devices* during our time of worship.

**PRELUDE**

*"Live Like That"*

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Stand*

**GATHERING SONG**      **ELW #514**

*"O Word of God Incarnate"*

**GREETING**

P 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.

## PRAYER of the DAY

P Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

*Sit*

## LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13

*Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.*

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

*After the reading:*    R The Word of the Lord.    C Thanks be to God.

*Sit*

## **CHILDREN'S SHARING TIME**

### **SERMON**

*"Expectation Vs. Reality"*

*Stand*

### **SONG**

*"With Every Act of Love"*

### **PRAYERS of INTERCESSION**

P With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

P God of grace,  
**C hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

P We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

**C Amen**

*Sit*

### **SONG**

*"We Believe"*

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen**

*Sit*

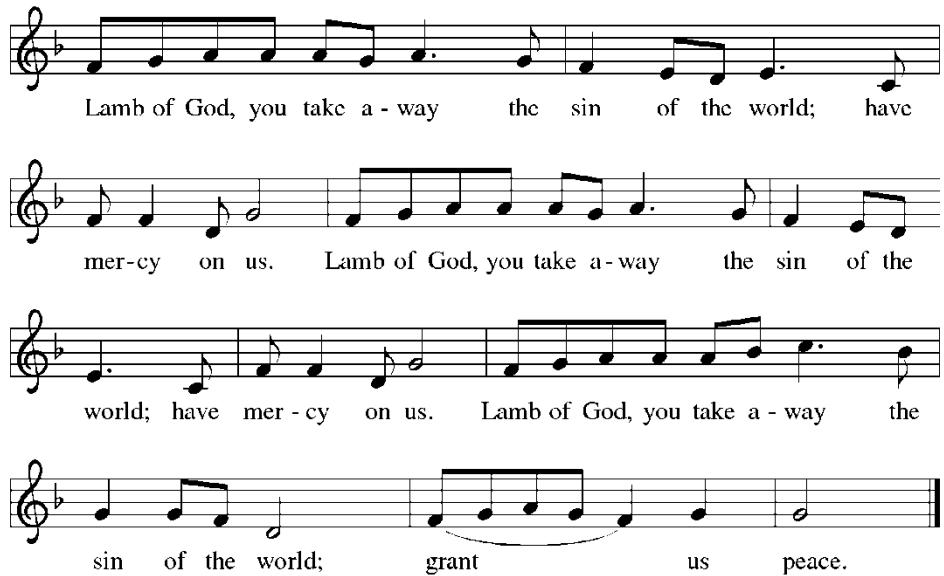
## **COMMUNION**

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

**The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.**

*The communicant may respond: Amen*

## Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

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*Stand*

P Nourishing God,  
at this table you have refreshed us  
with holy gifts of food and drink.  
Strengthen us for service,  
and send us out to embody your good news  
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.  
In the name of Christ we pray,

C Amen

**BLESSING**

P The Spirit of the triune God

☩ bless you with joy,  
anoint you with compassion,  
and send you in love.

C Amen

**SENDING SONG**

ELW #665

*“Rise, Shine, You People!”*

**DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Live in hope.

C Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**

*“Decani”*

**David Gooding**

Alan Morrison

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# **PRAYERS**

## **Hospitalized/Home and Recuperating**

Susie Siebert, Don McKelvey, Karil Piskur, Clark Buckley, Darrell Whitford, Paula McKee, Mary Jane Warzel

## **Military Members**

Austin Holley, Deacon Nemet, Matthew and Teresa Dittman, Haley Uline

## **Stephen Ministry Team**

Maureen Harris, Sam Reichert, Becky Piper, Beth David, Pat Sauernheimer, Pam Simpson, Marsha Ginley, Phil King, and Bob Strong

## **On-going Prayers**

Natalie David, Linda Stanley, Abbey Uline, Nighman Family, Heidi Balicki, Tia (Simpson) Russell, The Fox Family, Ron and Joanne Cvelbar, Cheryl Mooney, Elaine, Rob Shoens, Connie, Michael Otto, Jessica Walsh, Sue Widdows, Wanda Woods, Stephania, Susan Bodovetz, Carol Rosenblum, Bonnie Bailey, Bruce Piper, Josh, Cynthia, Sara, Dennis Bailey, Darlene Cassidy, Carrie Deal, Norma Cubano, Curt Kowalewski, Sarah Franko, Bill Bartkus, Jim Taylor, Sue Sutton, Chelsea, Erica Kaminski, Jeanette Paus, Matt & Pat, Claudia Lenarz, Kevin, Zach Russell, Andrew Lee, Ryan Kuchta, Morgan Popple, Trish Nolder, Dakota Salay

## **Homebound**

Mary Jane Knaack, June Beck, Marj Wilder, Audie Kiplinger, Sheryl Clark, Ron Warzel

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BICYCLE RELOCATION PROGRAM

Do you have a bicycle (adult- or child-size) that could use a second life? Please contact Pierre David and he will pick it up, repair it so that it is “like new” (if necessary), and then take to the Redeemer Crisis Center on W. 30th Street in Cleveland. Please contact at pdavid@bw.edu or 216-213-8386

## FIRST CHURCH WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Our next book is The Silent Sister by Diane Chamberlain. We'll meet at 88 Fox Hollow in Brunswick on February 22 at 10:00. Happy reading!

## 2024 GIVING STATEMENTS

Statements detailing your 2024 contributions to First Church will be sent on Monday, February 3rd to the email address we have on file for you. Please review the statement closely for accuracy. If you have any questions or want to confirm your email address, please contact [firstELCAstewardship@gmail.com](mailto:firstELCAstewardship@gmail.com).

## FLC NIGHT OUT AT THE HOFBRÄUHAUS CLEVELAND

On February 5<sup>th</sup>, - Children Who Witness Violence Program of Frontline Services will be the Charity Keg Tappers for the Hofbräuhaus's Cleveland monthly Keg Tapping event.

Reservations are at 5:30 PM, Keg Tapping is at 6:30 PM. Come join the fun and help support CWWV. We will make a group reservation, so please sign up at the Welcome Center or via the link or QR code by Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> [bit.ly/FEB5HOF](https://bit.ly/FEB5HOF)



## STRONGSVILLE EMERGENCY FOOD BANK - DONATIONS

The Strongsville Food Bank is in need of the following items: Spaghetti-O's, Ravioli, Ramen Soup, Pork & Beans, Mac & Cheese, Tuna Fish (all sizes), Boxed Baked Goods, Cereal, Jelly: Squeeze Bottle, 30 oz, 32 oz, Peanut Butter (all sizes)

## **MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

There are several open routes available for volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels to seniors in the City of Strongsville. ROUTE 3 - Thursdays Week 1 (starting Feb 6<sup>th</sup>), ROUTE 3 – Fridays Week 1 (starting Feb 7<sup>th</sup>), ROUTE 3 – Tuesdays Week 3 (starting Jan 21<sup>st</sup>), ROUTE 3 – Tuesdays Week 4 (starting Jan 28<sup>th</sup>), ROUTE 4 – Wednesdays Week 2 (starting Feb 12<sup>th</sup>), ROUTE 4 – Thursdays Week 2 (starting Feb 13<sup>th</sup>), ROUTE 5 – Tuesdays Week 1 (starting Feb 4<sup>th</sup>), ROUTE 5 – Tuesdays Week 3 (starting Feb 18<sup>th</sup>) – ***If you are interested in volunteering as a driver, contact Chris Foell at 440-823-8590 or email foelfamily5@gmail.com***

## **ALTAR FLOWERS – 2025**

There are still spots for Altar Flowers in February. Please consider signing up to sponsor a vase for a special event or memorial date.

## **SUMMER VBS IS BACK – SAVE THE DATE!**

Save the date for our Summer VBS Program taking place June 23<sup>rd</sup> through June 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to 11:30 AM. We can't WAIT to see you there!

## **NEW STEPHEN MINISTERS – CONTINUED PRAYERS REQUESTED**

The Stephen Ministry team needs your continued prayers for guidance, patience, and confidence as we move forward in the training phase of this amazing ministry.

## **MILITARY PRAYER REQUESTS**

If you know someone in the military serving our country, we want to include them in prayer. Please scan the QR code or go to [bit.ly/FLCMilitaryPrayers](http://bit.ly/FLCMilitaryPrayers) to add them to the list



## **ONLINE GIVING OPTION**

Due to requests for people to have the option to give their offering electronically, we are providing a QR code to allow anyone who would like to give electronically



SCAN ME



**The Altar Flowers are given to the  
Glory of God by  
The Bailey Family in celebration of  
Michel Dittman, Maggie Buccalo  
and Kennedy Bailey's Birthdays  
And Jeremy and Debbie Jenkins  
In loving memory of  
Dylan and Nash Jenkins**

**The Bulletins are given to the  
Glory of God in by Curt Jeanine and  
Susanah Kowalewski in celebration  
of Petr's 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday.**

**Last Week's Attendance**  
9 AM – 59  
11:15 AM - 57  
Online – 26

**February Worship Times**  
02/09 – 9 AM & 11:15 AM  
02/16 – 9 AM & 11:15 AM  
02/23 – 9 AM & 11:15 AM  
**March Worship Times**  
03/01 – 9 AM & 11:15 AM  
03/05 – 11 AM & 7:30 PM

**Thank you to the following  
volunteers:**

**Reader**  
Tony Rugar  
**Ushers**  
Lori & Eddie Forse  
**Counters**  
Mark Schultz, Brenda Jacob,  
Terri Mosley  
**Altar Guild**  
Ellen Kolman, Deb Brighter,  
Lynn Stenger  
**Communion Assistants**  
Tony & Melina Rugar,  
Jeanine Kowalewski  
**Communion Bread Baker**  
Donna Baker

## **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

**Monday, 02/03**  
AA – 8:00 PM  
Confirmation Class – 7 PM – 9 PM  
**Tuesday, 02/04**  
Stephen Ministry – 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM  
Al Anon - 7:00 PM  
Toastmasters - 7:00 PM  
**Wednesday 02/05**  
Hofbräuhaus Keg Tapping – 5:30 PM  
**Sunday 02/09**  
Bible Bonanza – 5 PM – 7:30 PM