

**June 22, 2025  
Blended Worship  
10:00 AM**



**First Evangelical Lutheran Church  
19419 Royalton Road  
Strongsville, Ohio**



**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, 06/29/2025**  
Single Worship Service, 10 AM

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

Office Manger Hours are:

Monday – 10 AM – 1 PM

Thursday – 9 AM – 12:00 PM

Friday 10:00 AM to 1 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:440-821-6545_dzima@cox.net)

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
**Setting 1**

\* Please *turn off cell phones and pagers* during our time of worship.

**MUSIC**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**GATHERING SONG**

*"Salt and Light"*

**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.

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

**HYMN**            **ELW #848**

*"Give to Our God Immortal Praise!"*

**PRAYER of the DAY**

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen

*Sit*

## **READING: GALATIANS 3:23-29**

*For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.*

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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

*Stand*

**HYMN**

**ELW #650**

*"In Christ There Is No East Or West"*

## **GOSPEL**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 8<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL: LUKE 8:26-39**

Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be

driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

*After the reading:*

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Sit*

## **CHILDREN’S SHARING TIME**

**SERMON**

“Share the News”

*Stand*

**SONG**

“Start a Fire”

## **INSTALLATION OF VBS STAFF**

### **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**

### **PRESENTATION of the GIFTS**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

### **MUSIC**

*Pastel*

*Stand*

**David Gooding**

**Marian Woods**

# Create in Me

## Offering Song

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first line of the musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a treble and a bass staff. The melody is in the treble staff, starting on a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a half note D5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords. The lyrics are: "Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right".

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

The second line of the musical score continues the melody. The treble staff has a half note D5, followed by quarter notes C5, B4, and A4, then a half note G4. The bass staff continues with chords. The lyrics are: "spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your".

pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

The third line of the musical score continues the melody. The treble staff has a half note F#4, followed by quarter notes E4, D4, and C4, then a half note B3. The bass staff continues with chords. The lyrics are: "pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -".

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

The fourth line of the musical score continues the melody. The treble staff has a half note B3, followed by quarter notes A3, G3, and F#3, then a half note E3. The bass staff continues with chords. The lyrics are: "store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,".

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The fifth line of the musical score concludes the piece. The treble staff has a half note D3, followed by quarter notes C3, B2, and A2, then a half note G2. The bass staff continues with chords. The lyrics are: "and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.".



## **PRAYERS of INTERCESSION**

P Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

P God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C Amen.**

## **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

## **BLESSING**

P The love of God abound in you;

the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;

and the life of the Spirit

✠ bless you and give you peace.

**C Amen**

## SENDING SONG

*"I'm Not Ashamed"*

## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

*"Great is Thy Faithfulness"*

**Zack Richards**

arr Phil Driscoll

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# PRAYER CONCERNS

## **Hospitalized/Home and Recuperating**

Mary Jane Warzel, Rhonda Fox, Sheryl Clark, Allie Kolman

## **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**

Linda Stanley, Nighman Family, Heidi Balicki, Tia (Simpson) Russell, The Fox Family, Ron and Joanne Cvelbar, Cheryl Mooney, Elaine, Rob Shoens, Michael Otto, Jessica Walsh, Sue Widdows, Wanda Woods, Stephania, Susan & George Bodovetz, Carol Rosenblum, Bonnie Bailey, Darlene and Jim Cassidy, Carrie Deal, Curt Kowalewski, Sarah Franko, Bill Bartkus, Jim Taylor, Sue Sutton, Erica Kaminski, Jeanette Paus, Matt & Pat, Kevin, Zach Russell, Ryan Kuchta, Morgan Popple, Trish Nolder, Peter Duffy, Salay Family, Richard, Scott Hurley, John Walker, Don McKelvey, Karil Piskur, Clark Buckley, Laura Evangelista, Dennis Bailey, Eleanor Preston, Isabella, Amelia

## **Homebound**

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

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **NAMETAG SUNDAY**

It's Nametag Sunday, please wear a nametag and note who you are worshipping with.

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – TODAY**

Today is the congregational meeting directly following worship. We need a quorum of 75 to conduct business.

## **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. Pierre can be contacted at [pdavid@bw.edu](mailto:pdavid@bw.edu) or 216-213-8386

## **STEPHEN MINISTRY UPDATE**

We are growing and are in need of an additional Stephen Leader and more Stephen Ministers. Please contact Maureen Harris for more information. She can be reached at (440)376-1506. On August 24, there will be an informational meeting following the service.

Please continue to pray for our Stephen Ministers and their care receivers. Thank you.

## **STRONGSVILLE EMERGENCY FOOD BANK - DONATIONS**

The Strongsville Food Bank is in need of the following items: Cereal, (All types and Sizes), Oatmeal - (all Sizes/cylinder only), Syrup - (all sizes), Pancake Mix - (all sizes), Mac and Cheese, Pasta - (all types/sizes), Tuna Fish - (all sizes), Ramen Soup, Ravioli, Beef-a-Roni, Spaghetti O's, Dinty Moore Beef Stew - 20 oz, Peanut Butter – All Sizes, Jelly – All Sizes

## **FIRST CHURCH WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB – JULY**

We are reading the book Eternal by Lisa Scottoline. We will meet at 10:00 AM on July 19. Place TBD. Happy reading!

## **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY – CHURCH NURSERY**

The need for the nursery has become apparent as we welcome families with young children. Our goal is to open the nursery as early as this July but we need volunteers for us to achieve this goal. If you have a heart for children and a desire to serve, the church nursery is the perfect place for you to make a meaningful impact. The nursery is a haven for children, a place where they feel safe and loved while their parents participate in worship. Your dedication will ensure that each child feels valued and cared for.

If you are interested in serving in the nursery, please contact Barb Nalette 216-970-4131 [mistylakenalette@gmail.com](mailto:mistylakenalette@gmail.com)

Due to the requirements of our insurance carrier and the new standard set by the National ELCA Church, we must meet the following to care for children: **all** volunteers must pass a fingerprint background screening and two adults will need to be present in the nursery when it is operational. The fingerprinting is quick and easy and is provided for by the church.

## **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](https://bit.ly/FLCMilitaryPrayers) to add them to the list



## **PIERSTORF COLLEGE FUND – DEADLINE JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup>!!**

The Pierstorf College Fund was established in 1994 to provide interest-free loans to eligible college students who are members of Lutheran churches in Ohio. Please note that all entering and current college students who are members of First Church are eligible to apply for this interest free loan.

*If interested, please go to [Pierstorf.org](https://Pierstorf.org) where you will find detailed information as well as the application process and needed forms.*

## **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  
Reiner and Monika Mueller  
in celebration of their  
Wedding Anniversary  
&  
The Paine Family in  
Celebration of Elise's 13<sup>th</sup>  
Birthday**

**Last Week's Attendance  
10 AM - 87  
Online - 18**

**Upcoming Worship Times  
Dates - Times  
June  
06/29 - 10 AM  
July  
07/06 - 10 AM  
07/13 - 10 AM  
07/20 - 10 AM**

**Thank you to the following  
volunteers:**

**Reader**

Amy Kuntz

**Ushers**

Len & Margie Taylor

**Counters**

Reiner Mueller, Pierre David,

Ray and Sandy Treudler

**Altar Guild**

Trish Nolder, Sheri Gist, Beth David

## **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

**Sunday, June 22<sup>th</sup>**

Congregational Meeting - 11 AM

**Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>**

VBS - 9 AM - Noon

AA at 7:30 PM

**Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**

VBS - 9 AM - Noon

Council Meeting - 6:30 PM

Toastmaster's at 7:00 PM

Al Anon at 7:00 PM

**Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>**

VBS - 9 AM - Noon

**Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>**

VBS - 9 AM - Noon

