

Sunday, September 8th, 2024
Worship
10 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, 09/15/2024

Contemporary Worship at 9:00 AM

Sunday School at 10:15 AM

Traditional Worship at 11:15 AM

To contact the Church, call the office at 440-238-7890
or email firstchurchalive@hotmail.com
Secretary Office Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 to 12:00 PM
Pastor Kathy - 440-666-8758 or 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

June Zakrajsek: 440-336-1678 jfzakrajsek@gmail.com

Stacey McNamara: 440-567-9532 staceymac104@gmail.com

Janet Kaiser: 216-215-4572 janetmackaiser@gmail.com

Ken Holda: 440-665-2836 kenjholda@gmail.com

Gary Walters: 216-645-8472 gwaltersoh@yahoo.com

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

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Setting 4

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

MUSIC

SONG

“With Every Act of Love”

PRAISE BAND

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Stand

GATHERING SONG

“Do Something”

PRAISE BAND

RALLY DAY LITANY

P We stand before you, Lord, to proclaim your greatness. You have given us creation, which is the fruit of your creative genius and power. You call us to care for your world. Help us to learn about your world so that we can be faithful to our calling.

C We thank you for creation. WE PRAISE YOUR NAME FOREVER!

P We promise to use our minds to study your world, to use our eyes, and ears to learn, our hands to offer help where we are able, and to use our tongues to discuss, question, and probe.

C We are wonderfully made. WE PRAISE YOUR NAME FOREVER!

P We celebrate ideas, numbers, words, and skills. We celebrate puzzles, paints and colors. We celebrate imagination, instruments and enzymes. All of it, Lord, is a part of your world.

C Your world is marvelous. WE PRAISE YOUR NAME FOREVER!

P We thank you for teachers who teach about your world. We thank you for students who see the wonder of your world unfold before them. We thank you for opportunities and occasions where we can put into practice that which we learn about your greatness.

C WE PRAISE YOUR NAME FOREVER!

P As we learn of life in your name, help us to live that commitment with joy. Nudge us to set higher goals when it is easy; to keep on trying when the work seems difficult; and to use the full potential you've given each of us.

C WE PRAISE YOUR NAME FOREVER!

P We thank you, God, for all of our brothers and sisters. Help us to support and encourage whenever we have the opportunity.

C Give us the desire to learn. Give us strength and energy to be about your work. Give us a desire to do our best.

P Guide us that we might use today, and tomorrow all that you have so graciously bestowed in our lives. To you, Lord, be all honor and glory.

C May our lives be the example; that together we might PRAISE YOUR NAME FOREVER. Amen.

PRAYER of the DAY

P Let us pray. Creator of all, rally us around your Word and renew our commitment to follow Christ Jesus into the world. Fill our hearts, minds and spirits with your love. Empower us to be faithful in our witness to what Christ has done and is doing in our world.

C Amen

FIRST READING: JAMES 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

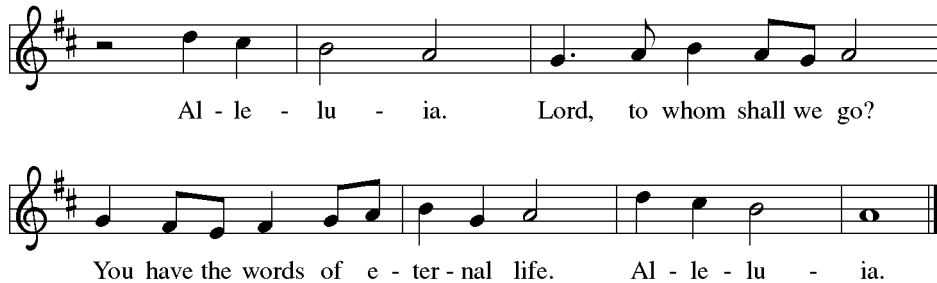
You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

Stand

Gospel Acclamation



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GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 25:14-30

For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been

trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN

ELW #715, VS (1,3,5) *"Christ, Be our Light"*

Sit

CHILDREN'S SHARING TIME

SERMON

"Time to Rally"

Stand

HYMN of the DAY

ELW #659

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

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**

Sit

PRESENTATION of the GIFTS

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

MUSIC

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Zack Richards
arr. Phil Driscoll

Stand

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

P Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

P Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude:

P We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, 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 God all mighty,

God most merciful

✠ bless you, keep you,

and give you peace.

C **Amen**

SENDING SONG

“GO”

PRAISE BAND

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Allegro Moderato”

David Gooding

Janice Martin

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PRAYERS

Death in the Family

Our Sympathy and Prayers to family and friends of The Thomas Family as they mourn the loss of Jim's brother, John (Johnny) Thomas.

Hospitalized/Home and Recuperating

Carla Kulka, Bob Beck

Military Members

Austin Holley

Stephen Ministry Leaders

Maureen Harris, Sam Reichert, Becky Piper, Beth David

On-going Prayers

Natalie David, Peter Mazzeo, Linda Stanley, Abbey Uline, Nighman Family, Heidi Balicki, Dianne Mosley, Tia (Simpson) Russell, Ron and Mary Jane Warzel, The Fox Family, Ron and Joanne Cvelbar, Cheryl Mooney, Deb Wise, Elaine, Jim Cochran, Thomas Lloyd, Rob Shoens, Sue Naypauer, Connie, Michael Otto, Jessica Walsh, Sue Widdows, Wanda Woods, Stephania, Susan Bodovetz, Carol Rosenblum, Dennis Beckman, Bonnie Bailey, Hedda Gonzalez, Bruce Piper, Josh, Cynthia, Sara, Dennis Bailey, Darlene Cassidy, Audie Kiplinger, Carrie Deal, Karil Piskur, Eleanor Preston, Jamie Mewhinney, Norma Cubano, Curt Kowalewski, Bob Schulz, John Thomas

Homebound

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SERVICE PROJECT – SEPTEMBER 8TH

Join us directly following the service for our Rally Day service project. We will be making Lasagna in cooperation with Lasagna Love - www.lasagnalove.org – in support of 12 local families who are in need. We will also be making cards and decorating placemats for Generations Assisted Living in Strongsville.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGE

Reminder, next week we return to our two worship service format. Contemporary Worship will begin at 9 AM and Traditional Worship will begin at 11:15 AM. Christian Education for Adults and Youth will be in between the worship services at 10:15 AM.

YOUTH AND ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS

Sunday School begins next Sunday, September 15th at 10:15 AM for both Youth and Adults! we can't WAIT to see you there!

THRIVENT MEMBERS – YOUR HELP NEEDED

Calling all Thrivent members! We are looking to compile a list of current Thrivent members. This will allow us to better utilize Thrivent Action Cards and to promote First Lutheran as a recipient of Thrivent Choice dollars. Please reach out to the office, if you own Thrivent products.

MEN'S BASKETBALL LEAGUE - 18 & OVER

The First Church Men's Basketball will be starting up in October for the Men over 18 at Kinsner Elementary School, Thursdays at 7:30pm beginning in October. If interested, please contact Ray Treudler, raysort1@yahoo.com or 440-829-5316

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, FAITH BUILD – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Habitat Faith Build,

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Shift

Thursday, September 12

Scan the QR code or enter the link

<https://bit.ly/flc2024faithbuild> to register



SCAN ME

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 to add them to the list



STRONGSVILLE FOOD BANK

The Strongsville Food Bank is in need of Spaghetti Noodles and/or canned tuna.

CALLING ANY AND ALL MUSICIANS!

Join us in praising God with music this Program Year! ANYone can praise God through music! ANY age. ANY experience level. ANY instrument. ANY voice. First Church is the perfect place to share your talents. We have a Brass Choir, Bell Choir, Chancel Choir, and Contemporary Praise Band. We also have solo and small group opportunities. ALL you need is a desire to praise God through music! We'll take care of the rest. Contact Zack Richards for more information. ALL are welcome in this place!

WATOTO RETURNS!

First Church has the privilege to host the Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda again this November! Watoto is a Christian organization that houses orphans and victims of violence in Uganda. They take many of the kids around the world to sing of God's works and love. We will need 9-10 homes to host the children on Tuesday, November 19th. All that is needed is transportation from and to the church, a warm shower and bed for each child, a healthy snack, breakfast, and sack lunch. If interested, sign up at the welcome center or contact Zack Richards or the church office for more information.

STEPHEN MINISTRY PRAYERS

Please continue to pray for our Stephen Ministry Leaders - Sam Reichert, Becky Piper, Beth David, and Maureen Harris. Please, prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister who provides Christian care for those experiencing life's difficulties. Applications to become a Stephen Minister are available in the church office and are due on Sunday, September 22nd.

2024 ALTAR FLOWERS AND BULLETIN DONATIONS

Sign-up sheets are on The Welcome Center, there are still vase spots for September, October and December.



**The Altar Flowers are given to the
Glory Of God by
Curt Dean
in honor of Larry Lue Dean
and the Holda Family
In celebration of Ingrid and Mike's
First Anniversary.**

**Last Week's Attendance
TIME OF SERVICE - 100
Online – 24**

Thank you to the following volunteers:

Reader

Anne Holda

Ushers

Chris & Rick Gonzalez

Counters

Wayne Mosley, Curt Dean

Altar Guild

Trish Nolder, Sheri Gist, Beth David

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday, 09/09

AA – 8:00 PM

Tuesday, 09/10

Cabinet – 6:30 PM

Al Anon - 7:00 PM

Toastmasters - 7:00 PM