

**August 18, 2024
Traditional 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, 08/25/2024

Contemporary Worship at 10:00 AM

To contact the Church, call the office at 440-238-7890
or email firstchurchalive@hotmail.com

Secretary Office Hours are
Monday, Thursday 9:00 to 12:00 PM; Friday 11 AM – 2 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

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Setting 4

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

"Prelude and Fugue"

David Gooding

J.S. Bach

PRAYER of PREPARATION

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

C Amen

P Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God, our provider,

C help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.**

Amen.

P Beloved people of God:

**in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.**

**By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.**

**Through Jesus, ✠ the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.**

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG ELW #879

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

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.

This Is the Feast

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

PRAYER of the DAY

P Let us pray. Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

Sit

FIRST READING: PROVERBS 9:1-6

Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.

Wisdom has built her house,
she has hewn her seven pillars.
She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,
she has also set her table.
She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls
from the highest places in the town,
“You that are simple, turn in here!”
To those without sense she says,
“Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.
Lay aside immaturity, and live,
and walk in the way of insight.”

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

SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 5:15-20

True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

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GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: JOHN 6:51-58

[Jesus said,] “I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

CHILDREN’S SHARING TIME

SERMON

PASTOR JIM KULMA

Stand

HYMN of the DAY ELW #480

“O Bread of Life from Heaven”

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**

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

P Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray
for the church, the world, and all in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

P Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy
keeping.

C **Amen**

Sit

PRESENTATION of the GIFTS

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

MUSIC

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

Zach Richards

arr. James Curnow

Stand

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*

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

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are: 'Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of'. The second staff continues the melody: 'bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that'. The third staff: 'we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of'. The fourth staff: 'all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble'. The fifth staff concludes the phrase: 'with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.' The score ends with a double bar line.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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P Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

C Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Preface Dialogue

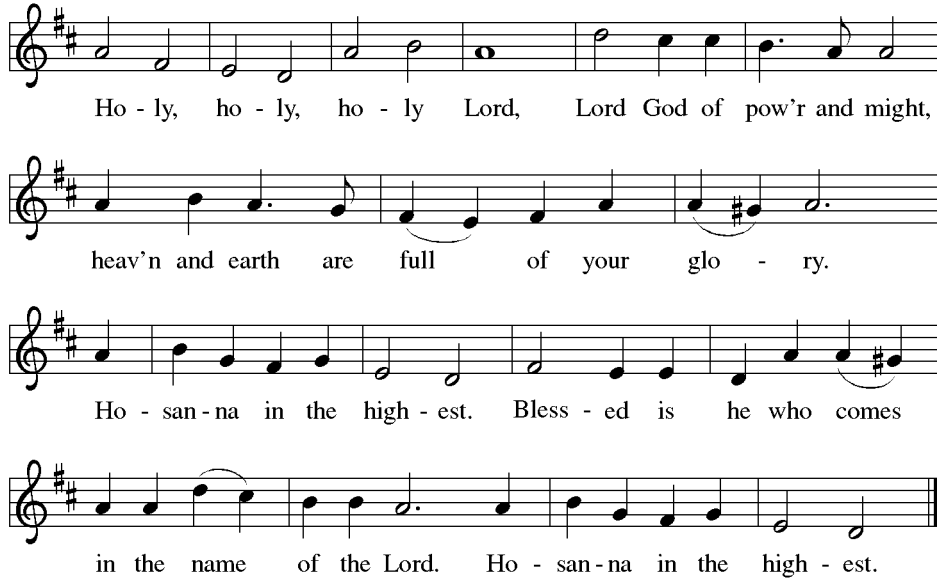
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

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In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

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; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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Stand

P Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C Amen

BLESSING

P The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.

C Amen

SENDING SONG ELW #851

“When in Our Music God Is Glorified”

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Allegro”

David Gooding

Donald Higgins

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PRAYERS

Hospitalized/Home and Recuperating

Sheryl Clark, Adrian Woods, Dennis Bailey, Darlene Cassidy, Audie Kiplinger, Carrie Deal, Karil Piskur, Linda Walker, John Duhn, Eleanor Preston, Jamie Mewhinney, Norma Cubano, Kevin Duffy, Curt Kowalewski, Bob Schulz, John Thomas

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, Jerry Neumann, Deb Wise, Elaine, Jim Cochran, Thomas Lloyd, Rob Shoens, Sue Naypauer, Connie, Michael Otto, Jessica Walsh, Sue Widdows, Wanda Woods, Stephania, Susan Bodovetz, George Richards, Mike Rini, Carol Rosenblum, Dennis Beckman, Bonnie Bailey, Hedda Gonzalez, Bruce Piper, Josh, Cynthia, Sara

Homebound

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME!

We are happy to welcome Pastor Jim Kulma as he joins us for worship this morning.

OFFICE STAFFING NOTE

Pastor Kathy will be on vacation FROM Thursday 08/15 through Thursday, 08/29. In her absence Pastoral coverage will be provided for all emergencies. Please contact Vanessa at 216-548-5345 or Dawn Zima 440-821-6545, should you or your family be in need.

\$60SUN – 08/18/2024

Please join us in making this \$60SUN a success by placing the envelope mailed to you this month in the offering plate. Another way to participate in this \$60SUN is to donate on-line, at <https://bit.ly/FLCGIVE> or scan the QR Code, then follow the steps to make your donation. Please be sure to choose \$60SUN in the fund drop down box.



We realize that this may present a financial challenge to some families; however, we ask that all prayerfully consider donating to this effort to the best of their ability.

STEPHEN MINISTRY PRAYERS

Please continue to pray for our Stephen Ministry Leaders - Sam Reichert, Becky Piper, Beth David, and Maureen Harris. Sam, Becky and Maureen have completed their training and Beth begins her training next week. Also, prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister who provides Christian care for those experiencing life's difficulties.

STEPHEN MINISTRY INFORMATIONAL MEETING

We will be having an informational meeting on Sunday, August 25th immediately following worship in the classroom next to the First Church library room. Please come see how you can serve in this amazing and fulfilling new ministry at First Church. Scan the QR Code or use <https://bit.ly/FELCSM> to RSVP. Contact Maureen Harris at (440)376-1506 for more information.



2024 ALTAR FLOWERS AND BULLETIN DONATIONS

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

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH – TALENT COORDINATOR, PAID ROLE

We are looking for a Talents Coordinator to work with our congregation to identify their talents, gifts, skills and interests for various volunteer positions and activities for the Church and greater community. A detailed description of the role is available on the Welcome Center. Resumes and/or questions should be sent to Dzima@cox.net

2024/2025 - SUNDAY SCHOOL – TEACHERS NEEDED

Sunday School will be starting Sunday, September 15th. We are still looking for a few more teachers. If you would like more information or are interested, please contact Beth Hartman via text or call at 216-262-7799.

BOOK CLUB

Our next Book Club meeting will take place on Saturday, August 24 at 10:00. We'll meet at 88 Fox Hollow Lane in Brunswick to discuss *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards. Happy reading!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, FAITH BUILD – 8 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

STRONGSVILLE FOOD BANK

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

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



CALLING ALL WOMEN!

Interested in singing with a group? We will have a Women's Choir singing a simple and beautiful song this Sunday, and we want you to join! Reach out to Zack Richards for the music and more information.

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!

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**



**The Altar Flowers are given to the
Glory of God by
The Krueger Family in celebration
of Gary Kovach's birthday.**

Last Week's Attendance

10 AM - 119

Online – 18

Thank you to the following volunteers:

Reader

Linda Walker

Ushers

Lori & Eddie Forse

Counters

Sheri Gist, Pierre David, Ray Treudler

Altar Guild

Ellen Kolman, Sheri Hurley, Lynn Stenger

Communion Assistants

Linda Walker, Brenda & Bob Jacob

Communion Bread Baker

Bonnie Bailey

Donut Fellowship

Bonnie Bailey

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday, 08/19

AA - 7:30

Tuesday, 08/20

Al Anon - 7:00 PM

Toastmasters - 7:00 PM

Council Meeting – 6:30 PM

Saturday, 08/24

Book Club – 88 Fox Hollow Ln, 10 AM

Sunday, 08/25

Stephen Ministry Meeting, 11:00 AM