



First Evangelical Lutheran Church

455 West Sunnyside Road
Idaho Falls, ID 83402
(208)522-9301
www.firstlc.com

February 8, 2026

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome: Today we gather in the light of Christ, who calls us to be salt for the earth and light for the world. We pray all those led here by Christ to worship, will be renewed in grace, strengthened in faith, and sent to shine with His love. Following the service, everyone is invited for refreshments in our fellowship hall.

WORSHIP NOTES:

- ♦ **Bold printed words** indicate the congregation's responses.
- ♦ For families with young children, you're invited to take advantage of our worship activity bags for children located in the lobby. A nursery for children 4 and younger is located in Room #7 in our educational wing.
- ♦ If you have a moment, please sign the friendship pad in the pew and pass it to others in your pew.
- ♦ For those with hearing loss, we have hearing devices available at the welcome window; ask an usher for assistance.
- ♦ For those with eyesight issues, we have large print bulletins; ask an usher for one.

WE PREPARE OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Michelle Hanson

Please observe silence in preparation for worship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

WE LIFT OUR PRAYERS AND PRAISE TO GOD

GATHERING SONG

#553

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

OPENING RESPONSIVE READING (based on Isaiah 58:1–9, Psalm 112, and Matthew 5:13–20)

Blessed are those who delight in the ways of the Lord.

We gather to praise the God who calls us to shine with His light.

The righteous rise in the darkness as a light for others.

By God's grace, may our lives reflect His compassion and justice.

The Lord says, "Your light shall break forth like the dawn."

Heal us, renew us, and send us to bear Your light into the world.

Jesus calls us the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Strengthen us to live in faith, serve in love, and honor Your name.

Let us worship the Lord, who illumines our path and sustains our hope.

We rejoice in God's presence and offer our praise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON (Pew Bible p. 600)

Isaiah 58:1-12

Our first lesson is from the Old Testament book of the prophet Isaiah, the fifty-eighth chapter beginning with verse one.

¹ Shout out; do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
they want God on their side.

³ "Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day
and oppress all your workers.

⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight

and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.
⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?
⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you;
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
^{9a} Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."
If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
¹¹ The Lord will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.
¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

This is the word of God.

Thanks be to God.

Our Psalm for today is Psalm one hundred twelve, verses one through ten. I invite the congregation to read it aloud with me.

¹ Praise the Lord!

Happy are those who fear the Lord,
who greatly delight in his commandments.

² Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

³ Wealth and riches are in their houses,
and their righteousness endures forever.

⁴ They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

⁵ It is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice.

⁶ For the righteous will never be moved;
they will be remembered forever.

⁷ They are not afraid of evil tidings;
their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.

⁸ Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid;
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

⁹ They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever;
their horn is exalted in honor.

¹⁰ The wicked see it and are angry;
they gnash their teeth and melt away;
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

This is God's Word.

Thanks be to God.

Our second lesson is from the New Testament, the Apostle Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth, the second chapter, beginning with verse one.

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom

of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴ Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

¹⁶ “For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.

This is God's Word.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able, for the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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GOSPEL READING (*Pew Bible p. 786*) Matthew 5:13-20
The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the fifth chapter
beginning with verse thirteen.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³ “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SONG OF THE DAY

#688

“Lord of Light”

SERMON

Pastor Mike Knauff

“Let Your “God-Light” Shine”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles’ Creed

Gathered as a Christian community let us together confess our faith in our Triune God using the words of the Apostle’s Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended into hell.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again 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 THE PEOPLE

(Each petition will conclude with "Lord in your mercy;"
the congregation responds with "Hear our prayer.")

OFFERING

OFFERTORY



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 the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
 prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

WE CELEBRATE OUR LORD'S SUPPER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 and 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.

CALL TO CHRIST'S TABLE

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray...

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.

DISTRIBUTION

We invite all who are baptized in Christ, and in receiving the bread and wine they receive Christ's body and blood and the forgiveness of sins, to join us. Children not receiving communion may come forward for a blessing. Holy Communion will be served at the altar rail this morning. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. You may choose white grape juice or red wine. The serving station at the center of the altar rail is our hypoallergenic station with gluten-free wafers. Please return to your seats by a side aisle.

SONGS DURING DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

#715 *"Christ, Be Our Light"*
#717 *"Let Justice Flow Like Streams"*
#474 *"Bread of Life from Heaven"*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may this body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING SONG

see next page

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

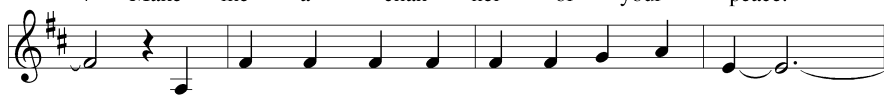
**THE WORSHIP IS ENDED
LET THE SERVICE BEGIN!**

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Prayer of St. Francis



1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.



Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your love;
 Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope;
 It is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned,

Last time to coda ⊕



where there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord;
 where there is dark - ness, on - ly light;
 in giv - ing of our - selves that we re



and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 and where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.



3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so



much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be



un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be

D.C. (stanza 4) al coda



loved as to love with all my soul.



ceive, and in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE NEW 2026 CHURCH DIRECTORY IS HERE!!

The new church directory is available now. You can find your copy in the front office. The directories are in alphabetical order by last name. Please stop by and grab your personal copy! Additional copies are \$5.00 each.

PENNY POWER

The Penny Power focus for February is Champ's Heart. They are always in need of volunteers. There are a great variety of activities that a person can do to help in the program. It is an opportunity to be part of creating life-changing experiences for others and even you. If interested go to champsheart.org.

ENDOWMENT GRANTS

The Endowment Fund was established to support activities, programs, campaigns, and missions of FELC. Grant applications for 2026 are now available and can be obtained from the church office. Completed forms will be accepted through Friday, February 27, and the review process should be completed by Friday, March 13.

PRAYER CHAIN RENEWAL

An email has been sent to our prayer chain members to confirm if you would like to remain on the list for this year. Please keep an eye out for it and send your response to the church office. If you are interested in joining the prayer chain list, please contact Julie in the office - office@firstlc.com - and she will provide you with the details.

YOUTH AND FAMILY BOWLING EVENT!

Join us for a great afternoon of family fun and fellowship at Homestead Pizza and Bowling, 1770 W Broadway, on Sunday, February 15th at 2:00 pm. This is open to families of all ages, and you are welcome to invite friends. All parents are encouraged to participate, and those with children under 10 will need to stay for the entirety of the event. Please RSVP so we can ensure enough lanes are reserved. There is a sign-up at the welcome window or you can contact Heather (208) 521-2565 or Youth@firstlc.com

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Mid-week services will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 18th, with worship at noon and 7:15 pm. Ash Wednesday is traditionally a day of fasting so there will be no accompanying soup supper that evening. We will continue each week following Ash Wednesday during Lent with a potluck soup supper at 6:30 pm and a Holden Evening Prayer Service at 7:15 pm.

RCCM COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES:

The Regional Council for Christian Ministry will once again offer a midweek Lenten service for the community during the season of Lent. Lenten services will be offered every Wednesday from 12:00 - 12:30 pm, starting after Ash Wednesday and until Holy Week. Each week a different member church will host the service. For those attending during their lunch hour, a soup and bread lunch will also be available prior to (11:30 am - 12:00 pm) and following the service (12:30 -1:00 pm). See chart on following page for schedule.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND FAMILY MINISTRY NEED YOUR HELP

It takes a team of volunteers to facilitate our Children's Ministry. We are trying to staff both the Sunday School and the Nursery in a manner that doesn't burn out our wonderful volunteers. The more people we have, the more we share the load. Please consider if God is calling you to serve our youth. We also have opportunities to serve with youth events and activities. Please contact Heather at youth@firstlc.com for more information.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Bible study makes for a terrific new year's resolution. The Ladies' Book Club is tackling the book of Acts. Join us as we study how the Holy Spirit worked through the Apostles to spread the Gospel through the known world. There are lots of great stories to enjoy as we follow Peter and then Paul in their leadership roles. We will meet Rhoda and Lydia, and be shipwrecked with Paul. You won't want to miss it! We meet Wednesdays from 2 to 3 pm. As always, there is no outside reading or study, and no extra book to buy. Just bring your Bible – and maybe a friend. If you forget your Bible or don't have one, the church owns many for your use. (So – no excuses!)

Lenten Soup Suppers

Mid-Week Services:

February 18th - Ash Wednesday
 12:00 pm Worship: *Blessed Are You*
 7:15 pm Worship: *Blessed Are You*
February 25th - 6:30 pm Potluck Soup Supper
 7:15 pm Worship: *You are Salt and Light*
March 4th - 6:30 pm Potluck Soup Supper
 7:15 pm Worship: *Prayer and Fasting*
March 11th - 6:30 pm Potluck Soup Supper
 7:15 pm Worship: *Do Not Worry*
March 18th - 6:30 pm Potluck Soup Supper
 7:15 pm Worship: *Judge Not*
March 25th - 6:30 pm Potluck Soup Supper
 7:15 pm Worship: *Build on Rock*

Host Ministry Teams are needed for Soup Suppers. The following days need a ministry team host:

February 25 - Finance
 March 4 -
 March 11 -
 March 18 -
 March 25 -

RCCM COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>PASTOR</u>	<u>THEME</u>
Feb 25	Trinity UMC	Phil Hagen	Matthew 5 vv 1-4,12
Mar 4	St. Luke's / New Day	P.J. Simpson	Matthew 5 vv 1-2,5-6,12
Mar 11	First Lutheran	Elizabeth McVicker	Matthew 5 vv 1-2,7-8,12
Mar 18	First Presbyterian	Mike Knauff	Matthew 5 vv 1-2,9-10, 12
Mar 25	Seventh-Day Adventist	Ann Bjorklund	Matthew 5 vv 1-2, 11-12



HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a purple prayer request card and drop it in the offering plate or you can email office@firstlc.com. All requests remain confidential - only with permission are individual names placed on the written prayer list below.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL, RECOVERING, OR GOING THROUGH A DIFFICULT TIME:

Donna Amundson; Betty Benjamin (*Lisa Mullinix's mother*); Dean Benson; Peggy Buhr; Kevin Call; Tracy Coburn; Wendy Cudmore; Dayna Dabauras; Barrett [*Dahlberg*] (*Cara Dahlberg's nephew*); Bobbie Eddie (*Barbara Carlson's father*); Josephine Fife (*Julie Reinwald's mother*); Sharon Gilbert; Jo & Al Glissendorf; Diane Hackman; Steve Hammond; Bill Hayes; Jack Heier; Tami Henvit; Sue Hindman; Beverly Hudman (*Larry Hudman's mother*); Larry Hudman; Ann Hurley; Jeff Hustad; Vickie John; Lynn Parshall Kinghorn (*Alecia Coburn's former mother-in-law*); Mary Krippner; Steven Krippner; Andy Kruckeberg; Allan Magnuson; Mike Martin; Pat Matthews; Adara McClure (*Jeannie Campbell's daughter*); Tim Metcalf; Dick Mitchell; Wendy Morgan (*Larry Hudman's sister*); Josh Neis; Don Newman (*Richard Magnuson's cousin*); Heidi Peoples; Carol Miller Pisher (*Cal Miller's daughter*); Priscilla Rainey; Cindy Robello; Bob Scarr; Laura Schoonmaker; Julie Sundberg; Scot Swenson (*Vernal & Jackie Swenson's son*); Kathy Tauscher; Deborah Vavra; Chris Weaver; Daniel & Sarah Young.

PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

TJ Litterer; Andrew Mitchell; Brianna Townsend; Jody Townsend.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE:

We've been made aware that Garrett Marchington, Mike Monroe, and Mike Stultz have been mustered out of the military and thank them for their service.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING FOR RESTORED HEALTH:

Cathy Abreu; Sharon Bauman; Andrew Bessette; Scottie Grace; Mark Holland (*Cara Dahlberg's father*); Heidi Ibach; Randy Kay; Bud Langerak; Rochelle Mason; Amelia McDaniel

Report of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Year to date Income thru December \$394,870; Year to date Expenses thru December \$342,513

Year to date net Cash Flow thru December \$52,357

Last Week's in Worship Attendance: 170, Live Stream: 70

THIS WEEK AT FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Today 2/8/2026

9:00 am	Adult Forum - Library
9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
9:00 am	Sunday School - Youth Room
10:15 am	Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	King's Men Rehearsal - Sanctuary
4:00 pm	Round About Brass Practice - Narthex

Monday 2/9/2026

10:00 am	Staff Meeting - Library
7:00 pm	Worship & Music Team Meeting - Library

Tuesday 2/10/2026

9:00 am	Preschool
9:00 am	Happy Stitchers - Fellowship Hall
12:00 pm	Care & Concern Meeting - Library
1:00 pm	Preschool
6:00 pm	Girl Scout Troop #930 - Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Wednesday 2/11/2026

9:00 am	Preschool
1:00 pm	Preschool
2:00 pm	Ladies' Book Club - Library
5:00 pm	Praise Band - Sanctuary

Thursday 2/12/2026

9:00 am	Men's Bible Study - Library
9:00 am	Preschool
10:00 am	Kaffeeklatsch - Library
1:00 pm	Preschool
5:00 pm	Finance Team Meeting - Library
6:00 pm	Stephen Ministry Training - Youth Room

Friday 2/13/2026

10:00 am	Friends in Stitches - Fellowship Hall
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Saturday 2/14/2026

Valentine's Day

Sunday 2/15/2026

9:00 am	Adult Forum - Library
9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
9:00 am	Sunday School - Youth Room
10:15 am	Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	King's Men Rehearsal - Sanctuary
2:00 pm	Youth and Family Bowling - Homestead Pizza and Bowling
4:00 pm	Round About Brass Practice - Narthex

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Michelle Cleverly, Jan Galbraith

Liturgist: Steve Galbraith

Communion Assistants: Natalie Meyer, Shawn Cleverly

Diana Murphy, Beth Nicholas, Diane Sheldon

Usher Coordinator: Dave Sheldon

Ushers: Phil Forbord, Paul Worth

Counters: Phil & Tessa Forbord

Altar Guild: Cathi Bean, Debra Holst

Collection Specialist: Andrew Swenson

Streaming Technician: Paul Lerum

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Scan the QR code for giving.

FELC LEADERSHIP

MINISTERS: **All the Members of FELC**

Senior Pastor: Pastor Mike Knauff e-mail: pastormike@firstlc.com

Church Administrator: Julie Sagnimeni e-mail: office@firstlc.com

Youth & Family Minister: Heather Catanese e-mail: youth@firstlc.com

Bookkeeper: Greg Stultz e-mail: bookkeeper@firstlc.com

Music Director: Michelle Hanson e-mail: musicdirector@firstlc.com

Choir Accompanist: Heidi Bessette

Praise Band Director: Steve Galbraith

Pastor Emeritus/Minister of Welcome: Pastor Larry Cudmore

Preschool Director: Barbara Carlson flpreschoolif@gmail.com

Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Friday Closed

Web Page: www.firstlc.com • Phone: 208-522-9301