



Sharing the Light



The mission of First Lutheran Church is to grow together in Christ through Prayer, Worship, and Education and to spread the love of Christ to our community.

July 2025

Publication of First Lutheran Church, Temple City, CA

What is a Christian to do with the Season of Pentecost?

The miracle of Pentecost is not merely a past historical event. The Spirit's wondrous activity goes on in the Church today.

Traditionally, the Church has observed this day as one of the most important festivals of the year. But unlike Christmas or Easter, Pentecost doesn't have the cultural attachments that remind us of its significance. There are no ornamented trees, strings of lights, or wrapped presents to announce the season, no egg-filled baskets or Easter lilies to proclaim the day. Without cultural traditions behind it, we may wonder how to celebrate Pentecost. Is it really as important as the other days? Why do we observe Pentecost at all?

The Church celebrates the Festival of Pentecost as the fulfillment and conclusion of the Easter season. The name Pentecost, meaning “the fiftieth day,” originally referred to the Jewish Festival of Weeks, the time of thanksgiving for first-fruits and the ingathering of the harvest (Exodus 34:22). The Christian Church retained the name to mark the completion of the 50-day period after Easter—and the first in-gathering of believers into the Church.

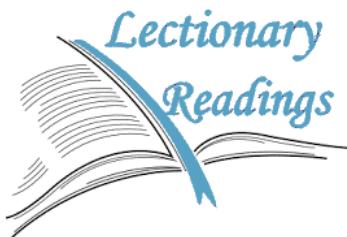
On Pentecost, Christians commemorate the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We recall how a humble fisherman, filled with the Spirit, boldly proclaimed Jesus Christ crucified and risen from the dead. We give thanks that a multitude of hearers repented and believed. Three thousand people, from all over the world, were baptized and received the gift of the Spirit. Sent by God the Father, and by His Son, Jesus Christ, the Spirit came to continue the Father’s work on earth.

The Spirit’s activity continues today. That’s why the Christian celebration of Pentecost is such a joyful one—and so vital for the Church to remember. Through the preaching of the Gospel and Baptism, the Holy Spirit calls and gathers believers to Christ and His Church. This gracious work is ongoing; it is not yet completed in our lives.

The Spirit works among people of every nation and language—among all to whom the Church is sent to proclaim the Gospel. For this reason, Christians pray for the continued outpouring of the Spirit and for the fulfillment of His sanctifying work.

by Dr. Gerhard Bode, *The Lutheran Witness Magazine*





These are the Lectionaries for July.

| | Old Testament | Psalms | Epistle | Gospel |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| July 6 | Isaiah 66:10-14 | Psalm 66:1-7 | Gal. 6:1-10, 14-18 | Luke 10:1-20 |
| Fourth Sunday after Pentecost | | | | |
| July 13 | Lev. (18:1-5) 19:9-18 | Psalm 41 | Col. 1:1-14 | Luke 10:25-37 |
| Fifth Sunday after Pentecost | | | | |
| July 20 | Gen. 18:1-10a (10b-14) | Psalm 27:(1-6) 7-14 | Col. 1:21-29 | Luke 10:38-42 |
| Sixth Sunday after Pentecost | | | | |
| July 27 | Gen. 18:(17-19) | 20-33 Psalm 138 | Col. 2:6-15 (16-19) | Luke 11:1-13 |
| Seventh Sunday after Pentecost | | | | |

Worship Times & Leaders

Sunday, July 6, 8:30 a.m., Rev. Frank Matthews
 Sunday, July 13, 8:30 a.m., Rev. Frank Matthews
 Sunday, July 20, 8:30 a.m., Rev. Frank Matthews
 Sunday, July 27, 8:30 a.m., Rev. Frank Matthews



Sunday School Time Every Sunday, 9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

7/3 Richard & Susan Swanson
 7/11 Niel & Renee Erickson

Ushers: Craig Boehne, Dave Lassanske, and Don Lammerts

Readers: July 6 and 20: Richard Swanson
 July 13 and 27: Christine Geltz

Greeters: July 6: Connie Kean July 20: Sharon Corey
 July 13: Diane Oberlander July 27: Norma Boehne

Guest Musician: July 6: Esther Liu

Anniversaries

If you are unable to attend worship, you may:

- Listen to the [Lutheran Hour](#) sermon at any time you choose – Just go to lhm.org/guide.
- View [Worship Anew](#) at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays on DirectTV, Channel 377 from our Fort Wayne Seminary in Indiana. Or you can view it any time at <https://worshipanew.org/by-type/watch?>.
- **Access and/or review First Lutheran sermons online by going to:**
<https://firstlutherantc.org/Media>.

Welcome to Our Guest Musician on July 6

Esther Liu serves as the Director of Music for the Chinese Assembly at Our Savior Lutheran in Arcadia. She was born and raised in Tainan, Taiwan where she learned (*Continued next page*)

piano, violin, music theory, and musicianship which God has used greatly later on in her life. At 12 years old, she lost her earthly father and moved to Taipei, where she attended a Baptist church because her mother was a Christian. She received Jesus as her Savior at 13 and began serving God by playing piano in the worship services.

At 18, Esther immigrated to the U.S. with her mother. She received her B.S. degree in Business Administration at Cal State, Los Angeles and then her CPA license. During this time, she still served God with her musical gifts at Mandarin Baptist Churches of Pasadena and Los Angeles. After resigning as an accountant from the City of Los Angeles, God led her to Lutheran Church of the Cross in Arcadia to work as the music director for four years before her current position. Her favorite Bible verse is Romans 8:28, *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.”*

★ ★ ★ JULY Events

Monthly Luncheon: Hot Dogs & Fixin's

Parish Hall Closed for Repainting

Load the Van to Friends in Deed

Parking Lot Closed for Resurfacing

Mission Development Team Meeting

Volunteers at Friends in Deed in Pasadena

Board of Directors' Meeting

Paint Your Pet Workshop & Ice Cream Social

July 2, Wednesday, at noon

July 7 – 11, Monday through Friday

July 11, Friday, at 8:30 a.m.

July 14 – 19, Monday through Saturday
(Park on Noel and use Noel entrance)

July 15, Tuesday, at 10:30 a.m.

July 19, Saturday, at 8:00 a.m.

July 20, Sunday, at 11:00 a.m.

July 26, Saturday, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

FLC's Blood Drive Honored World Blood Donor Day, June 14



World Blood Donor Day has been celebrated around the world on June 14 every year since 2004. It marks the birthday of Karl Landsteiner on June 14, 1868. He won the Nobel Prize for his discovery of the ABO blood group system.

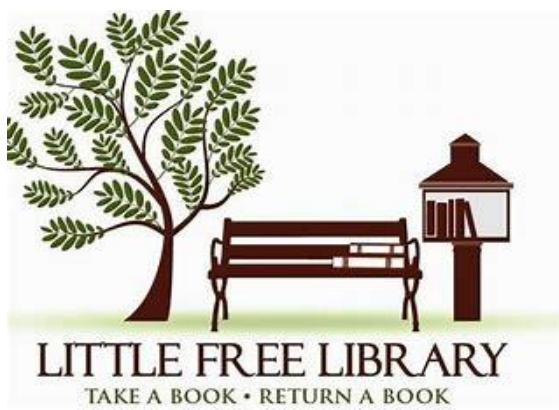
First Lutheran held a blood drive that day and welcomed 22 people who came to donate blood, 19 of whom successfully donated. Five of them were first time donors, including Darren Choi, a recent Temple City High School graduate who has attended Sunday School at First Lutheran for years.

FLC has held three blood drives in the last year: June 2024 and February and June 2025. Our own Peter Dille has organized them with the help of the American Red Cross and the Mission Development Team. FLC will offer more blood drives in the future: This newsletter let you know the dates!

Top photo: Peter Dille, FLC's Blood Drive organizer, managed the event.

Bottom photo: FLC volunteer greeters Judy Gunther (left) and Vicki Trepanier (standing) with a friendly young Red Cross volunteer who served with them.





Monthly Luncheon: Hot Dogs & All the Fixin's

An unforgettable luncheon is being planned for the "National I Forgot Day" celebration on July 2. Don't forget to write it on your calendar, tie a string around your wrist, put the date on your smart phone, write the details on sticky notes and place them in your car, bathroom, kitchen etc. Don't forget to come to this never-to-be-forgotten luncheon! P.S. We will also celebrate Independence Day!

Community Prayer Box Update

Recently a prayer request went out on our email prayer chain. Our neighborhood is composed of many unchurched people needing a church that can help them to grow spiritually strong. Please pray for the people who visit First Lutheran and are searching for a church home. Pray that they would be faithful in their search and find a place where they can consistently worship God and participate in Christian fellowship. Pray that we would be welcoming to visitors and comfortable and bold to invite people to worship with us.

Psalm 95:6-7 *Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.*

New Selections in Our Little Free Library

The children's shelf in our Little Library has books for all age groups, even a few books appropriate for teenagers. Recently some adult Amish fiction books were donated, and also an Arthur Miller play. The available books change as neighbors take and also bring books. You can donate items by putting them in the library, give them to ushers or Jo Tschopp.

With Higher Prices, Food Donors Are Still Faithful

The recent load of shelf stable food products to Friends in Deed was **525 pounds**. With the higher price of food, 525 pounds is very commendable. A big thank-you to all who participate in this Pasadena ministry. Warm weather is here: Think of what you like to eat during the summer months, such as gelatin mixes, juices, canned meats, crackers, jams, peanut butter, etc. You can donate weekly by putting your food gifts in the box in the narthex area. You can even donate money and someone will buy groceries for you.

Latest News from Our Board of Directors

As reported in the past, our congregation offers a tithe of our income to support missionaries. We previously supported our dear sister in Christ, Missionary Anna Rostek. Since she is now with the Lord in heaven, our Board of Directors decided at their June 15 meeting to support the Terhune family with our tithe. They work in Papua New Guinea with Wycliffe Bible Translators.



Matt and Emily are proud parents of Claire and Elijah and support Bible translation in Papua New Guinea - the country that has more languages than anywhere else on earth! Technology has dramatically sped up the work of Bible translation, and computer support staff are crucial to the task of reaching remaining language groups with God's Word.

Matt provides technical support for translation teams as a Network Engineer at Ukarumpa translation center. Emily works part-time helping manage a ministry called S.A.L.T. (Scripture Application & Leadership Training). This ministry sends teams of Papua New Guinean Bible teachers throughout the country to run Bible study courses while also encouraging the use of mother tongue Bible translations.

Below, left: Emily teaching at a trauma healing workshop for children.

Below, right: Matt (in the blue shirt) sharing at a meeting of all the department managers in Ukarumpa.



Prayer Needs

- Pray for Matt, for stamina with work, and that God would provide workers for some of the areas and roles that he's currently covering.
- Pray for good decision making regarding homeschooling Elijah next year.
- Pray for the different language groups that have Bible or training workshops going on right now, particularly the Onobasulu, Kaluli, and Enga people.

Learn to Paint Your Pet's Portrait! Saturday, July 26 at First Lutheran Church

Since last year's workshop was so fun and productive, we're bringing back Instructor Sally Weiss for another session of furry friend portrait painting! Check out the photos below of the class and their pet portraits, some by people who had never painted before!



We'll paint with acrylics on a 9" X 12" canvas. Please bring a printed copy of the animal photo you'd like to paint. We'll transfer the image to the canvas, so make sure the image is the actual size you want to paint. Sally recommends a close-up photo of your pet, rather than a whole body shot. This lets you concentrate on the face and the eyes. If you can, print one image in color and the other in black and white.

Register now for this fun Adult Paint Your Pet's Portrait Class and invite your friends. Saturday, July 26, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. No experience needed! \$25 per person including materials and refreshments - Pay at the door (cash, Zelle). Class size limit: 20 people. Register by July 19 to cgeltz@firstlutherantc.org. Our campus is at 9123 Broadway in Temple City.

...and while you're here:

Celebrate National Ice Cream Day with our Ice Cream Social: Saturday, July 26



Bring the kids along!

You can all enjoy delicious ice cream treats, and the kids can have fun with games and crafts while you paint. Everybody can sample the frozen goodies and be creative from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.!



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First Lutheran Church of Temple City

Save the Date! October 11, 2025

This year we're celebrating First Lutheran Church's 80 years of ministry here in Southern California through our campus ministries and around the world through our missionaries.

Make plans to join us on Saturday, October 11 at 5:00 p.m. for a Christian music songfest and concert with guest choirs and musicians, followed by a sumptuous 1940's themed dinner in the Parish Hall. Tell your family, friends, and church and school alumni. We'll start taking reservations soon—Watch for your special Save the Date invitation!

First Lutheran Church, School, Preschool and Choir Alumni: Let Us Hear from You!



Will you be visiting in the San Gabriel Valley area soon? Want to meet up with old FLC friends or send your greetings? Got family, work, travel or other news to share? We'd be very pleased to stay in touch and share your news here in the newsletter. Just send your alumni news and photos to Christine Geltz at cgeltz@firstlutherantc.org.

Not Receiving Email Special Announcements and/or Prayer Requests?

Email Newsletter: If you would like to receive the newsletter and prayer requests by email, please share your email address with Christine Geltz, Newsletter Editor, at cgeltz@firstlutherantc.org. You may also send her news and story ideas at that address.

Printed Newsletter: If you prefer to have a newsletter hard copy mailed to you, please call (626) 287-0968 and leave a message for Elizabeth Yu, the Church Administrator.

Pastoral Care: Please contact Board of Directors Chairman Judy Gunther at: (626) 833-5613.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
9123 Broadway
Temple City, CA 91780

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL**

July 2025

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Office Phone: (626) 287-0968**

**E-Mail: admin@firstlutherantc.org
Website: <https://firstlutherantc.org>**

**8:30 a.m. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
Holy Communion every first & third Sunday
9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL / BIBLE STUDY
Every Sunday**