

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Reconciling In Christ Worship

Resilient Community

June 22, 2025

9:30 am

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

JUNE 22, 2025

ALL ARE WELCOME

Whether you're just starting your spiritual journey or looking for ways to grow deeper in your faith, First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Tulsa is pleased to walk with you.

The community of First Lutheran invites you into our joy, no matter who you've been, where you've been, what you've done or left undone. Each and every person is our neighbor, to be loved as we love ourselves.

- We especially welcome and support those who have felt excluded from the spiritual community.
- We commit ourselves to treat each person as an equally loved, forgiven, accepted, and blessed child of God.
- We profess the worth and dignity of every person and recognize each one as created in the image of God.
- We follow God's calling to be just by working to achieve racial equity.

This means: First Lutheran, Tulsa loves, invites, and welcomes people of all races, ages, cultural backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender expressions, gender identities, marital status, physical and mental abilities, family structures and economic statuses. The people of the church should look like the people of the place we call home.

Prelude

O God, We Call

arr: Clayton J. Foor

Please stand when the () indicates standing. Know the communion of Saints, both living & departed, stand for you if you should choose to remain seated for any reason.*

*The Pastoral Greeting

P: We gather in the name of God, † Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

A: We gather on the traditional homelands of the native peoples.

P: The roads that brought us here today were a place where Indigenous people walked and lived on this sacred land, and still do today.

A: We gather to honor the Creator, and all creation—human, animal, plant, water, wind, earth, and sky—that belong to God.

*The Gathering Song

What Is This Place

ELW 524



1 What is this place where we are meet-ing? On - ly a house, the
2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, sparks that are sown in
3 And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a



earth its floor. Walls and a roof shel - ter - ing peo - ple,
us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs and won - ders
liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing,



win-dows for light, an o - pen door. Yet it be-comes a bod - y that lives
sent from the past are all we need. We in this place re - mem-ber and speak
we are each oth-er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re - ceive



when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.
a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem-ing word.
what we need to in - crease: our jus - tice and God's peace.

Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933

Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

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*The Song of Praise

This is the Feast of Victory

ELW Setting 3

Refrain

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and

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

Refrain

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon-or,

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

Refrain

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

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

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Holy God, your Word teaches us, calls us, and shapes us, that we will become the wisdom of God and the body of Christ for others. On this Reconciling in Christ Sunday may your word turn us toward what is good and holy and just, that all your beloveds of all sexual and romantic orientations, identities, and expressions will know we are seen, known, and loved by you. May the example of Jesus continue to create words and action of courage in the work and ministry of antiracism.

A: Amen.

The First Reading

Isaiah 65:1-9

¹ I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,
to be found by those who did not seek me.
I said, "Here I am, here I am,"
to a nation that did not call on my name.

² I held out my hands all day long
to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,
following their own devices;
³ a people who provoke me
to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens
and offering incense on bricks;
⁴ who sit inside tombs,
and spend the night in secret places;
who eat swine's flesh,
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;
⁵ who say, "Keep to yourself,
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."
These are a smoke in my nostrils,
a fire that burns all day long.

⁶ See, it is written before me:
I will not keep silent, but I will repay;
I will indeed repay into their laps
⁷ their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,
says the LORD;
because they offered incense on the mountains
and reviled me on the hills,
I will measure into their laps
full payment for their actions.
⁸ Thus says the LORD:
As the wine is found in the cluster,
and they say, "Do not destroy it,
for there is a blessing in it,"
so I will do for my servants' sake,
and not destroy them all.
⁹ I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;
my chosen shall inherit it,
and my servants shall settle there.

R: Blessed are they who seek wisdom.

A: **Who treasure her ways and follow her paths.**

(Proverbs 2)

Psalm 22:19-28

(sung responsively)



- ¹⁹ But you, O LORD, be not | far away;
O my help, hasten | to my aid.
- ²⁰ **Deliver me | from the sword,
my life from the power | of the dog.**
- ²¹ Save me from the | lion's mouth!
From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.
- ²² **I will declare your name | to my people;
in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.**
- ²³ You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.
- ²⁴ **For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither is the LORD's face hid- | den from them;
but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.**
- ²⁵ From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.
- ²⁶ **The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!**
- ²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.
- ²⁸ **For dominion belongs | to the LORD,
who rules o- | ver the nations.**

R: Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing to you, God, our rock and our redeemer.

The Second Reading

Galatians 3:23-29

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ 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. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

R: Blessed are they who seek wisdom.

A: **Who treasure her ways and follow her paths.**

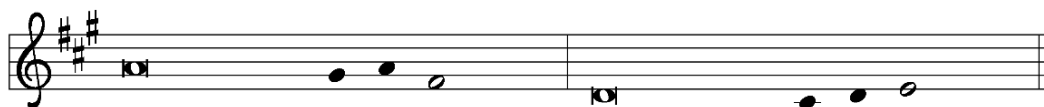
(Proverbs 2)

***The Announcement of the Gospel Reading**

ELW 174



All Sing



Return to your home,* and declare how much God has done for you.

Repeat the Gospel Acclamation

P: The Word made flesh dwells among us.

A: **Full of grace and truth.**

***The Reading of the Gospel**

Luke 8:26-39

²⁶ Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ 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. ²⁸ 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”—²⁹ 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.) ³⁰ Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. ³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³² 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. ³³ 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.

³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵ 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. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷ 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.

³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ “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.

P: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ

A: Praise to you, Word of life!

The Sermon

We observe a brief silence for reflection

We Are Called



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to
 fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so
 one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.
 sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: WE ARE CALLED, David Haas

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***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

L: Water is life. Our bodies need water. This community needs water to be resilient and flourish. Plants and animals need water. Water is essential for all of life on this planet to thrive and flourish.

L: We need water for drinking, for washing, for cooking, for cleaning, for refreshing. Water sustains our lives, and water enhances our lives. Every day of our lives includes multiple uses of water. L: Let us give thanks for the gift of water and for baptism.

A: We give you thanks, O God, for this water that comes to us as a gift from our Creator, the source of all that is good and life-giving. You are a generous and loving God who blesses us through water and who claims all people in the fullness of sexual or romantic orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, gender expression, immigration status, beliefs, and abilities.

L: Let us fill this font with water – water from our homes, water from nearby lakes and rivers, creeks and streams – water upon which all living creatures depend and that nourishes all of life on this planet. As we sing, you are invited to bring forward your water to pour into this font. We, though many, are one in the unity of God's love for us and for all the world. Water is life.

Please bring your water (from home or nearby creek) forward to the font.

Special Music

Wade in the Water

arr: Clayton J. Foor

L: O God, may we live as careful stewards, guardians of this precious gift, protectors of the health of this planet, builders of resilient communities, and cultivators of life giving relationships that promote peace and unity.

A: Thanks be to God! Amen!

Please be seated

The Prayers of the Community

Trusting in the liberating and reconciling love of God, let us pray for all people and all creation.

A brief silence.

L: Holy One, you are the strength of your church. Inspire the proclamation of our *Pastor, Tracy & our Bishop, Becca* by the power of the Spirit so that all the baptized are bold to share your expansive and affirming good news with all. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: The heavens declare your glory, and the sky proclaims your handiwork. Where creation groans because of human misuse, waste, and neglect, bring healing and renewal. Open us to heed creation's lament so that all creatures can thrive and sing your praise. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: Your statutes are just, and your commandments are clear. Direct leaders of nations, cities, and towns to pursue justice and equity for our neighbors who are hurting, vulnerable, and held captive to unjust systems. Strengthen us in our resolve to build your beloved community on earth as it is in heaven. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: You call us together as one body in Christ, and you create each member with unique gifts and identities. Renew our commitment to celebrate the diversity among us as people of all gender identities and expressions, sexual and romantic orientations, and racial and ethnic identities. Empower this assembly to recognize and uplift the voices and skills of those who are overlooked in the mission of your church. Shape us into an adaptive, resilient community that does not relent in proclaiming your good news and caring for one another. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: Your teaching revives the weary soul. Inspire faith formation ministries that foster in us a sense of wonder and curiosity. Make us attentive to your word, and fashion us into a people who never stop asking questions and who never stop learning more about your word and your world. Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With the body of Christ around us, we rejoice for the witness of the body of Christ who has gone before us. We give thanks for the saints of this community, for leaders of the early church and for all your holy ones whose lives bore witness to your ever-expansive love and whose example inspires us to do the same.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

L: We entrust these our prayers, spoken and silent, and our sighs too deep for words, to your abundant mercy, through Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

***The Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

A: And also with you.

P: We practice consent in our community to help create opportunities for respect and health. As we pass the peace ALL people have the right to choose if they would like a verbal greeting, handshake, or hug.

*As a Reconciling in Christ congregation, we welcome all because God welcomes all,
and we recognize that our differences are gifts to our communal life.*

***The Offering Prayer**

P: Generous God, we give you praise! You liberate us from sin and death by the abundance at this table. Multiply these gifts and fill us with your spirit, so that we may embody Christ and en flesh your radical freedom. Amen.

A: Amen.

*The offering plates will be available on the table in the Narthex.
Please place your offering there, as you leave.*

*The Great Thanksgiving

L: God is here!

A: The Spirit is with us!

L: Lift up your hearts!

A: We lift them to our God!

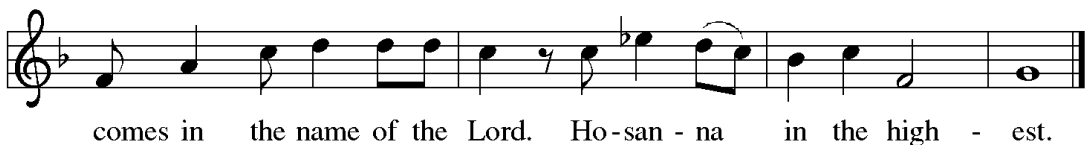
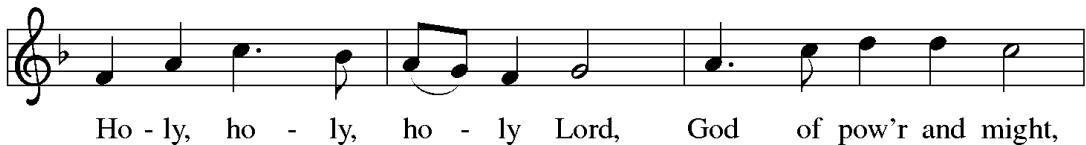
L: Let us give thanks to the Holy One and Holy Three!

A: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

L: It is indeed our duty and our joy, that at all times and in all places we give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful Creator, for you sent your child to be the light and life for the world. Through that child you showed us how to love and be loved, how to enact justice, and how to work for peace. And so, with all God's children, with all living things on this world, with earth and sea and stars, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW Setting 3



L: All thanks and praise are yours, O God, for in Christ you became incarnate in a human body. By your flesh we are freed from sin, death, and all that holds us captive. You have been revealed to us as one who breathes, and you breathe into us new life.

L: Therefore, we breathe your loving Spirit:

Moment of silence to breathe prayers of praise and longing.

L: With all of creation, we cry out:

A: Breathe on us, that we may live! (Ezekiel 37:9)

L: On the night Jesus was sharing one final meal with his followers before being betrayed and arrested, he picked up some bread from the table, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to all those at the table with him, telling them: Take and eat this bread. It is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.

Then, after they had finished eating supper together, he picked up a cup of wine, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, telling them: This cup of wine is the sign of a new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me.

L: Groaning in expectation with all of creation, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

A: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

L: Breath of God, in this bread and cup you bring new life to this resilient community.

A: Breathe on us, that we may live!

L: May your Spirit intercede for us with sighs too deep for words, so that we might be made one body in Christ.

A: Breathe on us, that we may live!

L: Revive our faith, infuse us with your peace, and reveal to us your justice, so that we might witness to the resurrection in all that we say and in all that we do.

A: Breathe on us, that we may live!

L: All thanks and praise to you, O God, Holy One and Holy Three.

A: AMEN!

*Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

A: **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.**

The Celebration of Holy Communion

*Lamb of God

ELW Setting 3

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.

The Invitation to Communion

P: Wisdom has prepared the food, poured the wine, and set her table.
She calls and we respond:

A: **Come, all are welcome to eat and drink.** (Proverbs 9: 2, 4-5)

Please come to the communion rail and kneel (or stand). We will receive communion by intinction. Receive the bread, dip into the wine or white grape juice, then take and eat.

The Communion Music

ELW 496

One Bread, One Body

Refrain

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of
bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y
through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,

Refrain

wom-an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath-ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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***The Communion Blessing**

P: God of grace and mercy, in this holy meal you have fed us with wisdom, forgiveness, and grace, and we are full. By your Spirit send us out to become what we have received—new life in Christ—for the world.

A: **Amen.**

Please be seated

Community Announcements

***The Blessing**

P: Let nothing disturb you. Let nothing make you afraid.
All things are passing. God alone never changes.
Patience gains all things. If you have God you will want for nothing.
God alone suffices. *(Teresa of Avila)*

† May the blessing of God, Holy One and Holy Three, be with us today and every day, building us into a resilient community that practices justice and radical inclusion.

A: **Amen.**

*The Sending Song

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

ELW 538

En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,

pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.

Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain

un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;

me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.

A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America
English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace to practice resilient justice.

A: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Grace

Carolyn Hamlin

Worship Assistants

Reader & Communion Assistant: *Steve Stinebaugh*

Crucifer: *Bruce Torkelson*

Usher(s): *Bruce & Nat Torkelson*

Presiding Ministers: *Bishop Becca Middeke-Conlin*

Pastor Tracy Megli

Music Director: *Clayton Foor*

Special Musicians: *Nat Torkelson, Jeni Lipe, Pr. Tracy Megli*

Cantor: *Pr. Tracy Megli*

First Lutheran church **strives to inspire hope**
for a wounded world;

Gathers in worship
that both **uplifts** and **challenges**;

And **builds life-affirming relationships**
inside and outside the walls of our building.

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