
WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.



First Lutheran Church

Tiffin, Ohio

June 16, 2024

“The 4th Sunday after Pentecost”

Father's Day

PRELUDE

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

Dennis Eliot

Please stand.

THE CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

C: **Amen.**

L: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sins:

A time of silence and self reflection is provided.

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. 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. 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.**

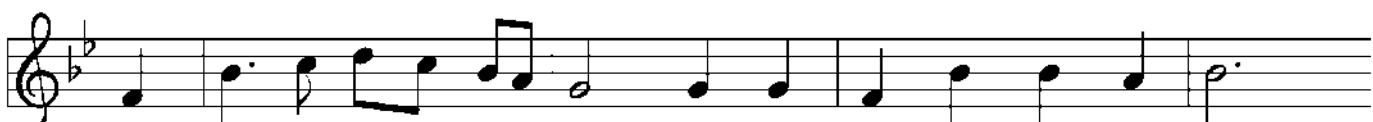
GATHERING HYMN

694

SING TO THE LORD OF HARVEST



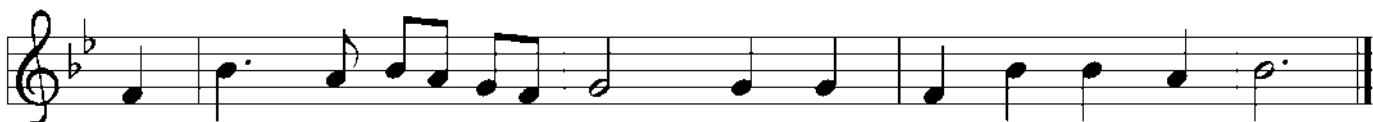
1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest your songs of love and praise;
2 God makes the clouds drop fat - ness, the des - crts bloom and spring,
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good-ness gave,



with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise;
the hills leap up in glad - ness, the val - leys laugh and sing.
the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.



by him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;
God fills them with his full - ness, all things with large in - crease,
Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,



sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love.
and crowns the year with good - ness, with plen - ty and with peace.
and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

Music: WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN, Johann Steurlein, 1546-1613

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.**

THE GATHERING LITANY

L: You are the treasured people of the Lord.

C: **A people holy to the Lord our God.**

L: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart, teach them to your children.

C: **Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

L: For one does not live by bread alone,

C: **But by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's
peo-ple on earth.____ Lord God, heav - en-ly
king,____ al-might-y God and Fa-ther,
we wor-ship you,____ we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry.____ Glo - ry to

God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ,

on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord

God, Lamb of God, you take a -

way the sin of the world: have mer - cy, have

mer-cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right

hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, _____ you a -
 lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the
 Fa - ther. A - men. _____

Glo ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to God's peo - ple on earth. _____

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together, O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world.

C: **Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

A READING FROM EZEKIEL

17:22-24

R: A reading from Ezekiel the 17th chapter.

²²Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord.

I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.
I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

R: The Word of the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

A READING FROM 2 CORINTHIANS

5:6-10[11-13] 14-17

R: A reading from 2 Corinthians the 5th chapter.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. ^[11]Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are ⁷also well known to your

consciences. ¹²We are not commanding ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.] ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. ¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

R: The Word of the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

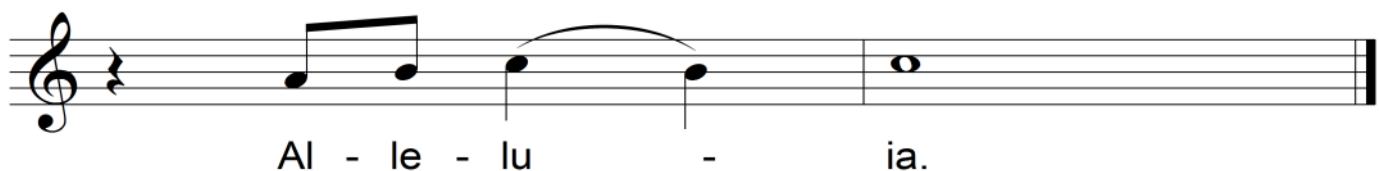
Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.



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



You have the words of e - ter - nal life.



Al - le - lu - ia.

A READING FROM MARK

4:26-34

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 4th chapter:



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

P: ²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.” ³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!



Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

TODAY'S REFLECTION

Pastor Bill Schultz

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

465

AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT



Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat - tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when



Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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THE CREED

L: In Christ, we have heard the word of truth, the gospel of our salvation.

C: **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

L: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

C: **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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We respond to each petition.

L: Merciful God,
C: **Receive our prayer.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

You are encouraged to share the Peace of Christ with those around you as you feel comfortable.

OFFERING & ORGAN MEDITATION

As *THE GRAINS*

Edwin T. Childs

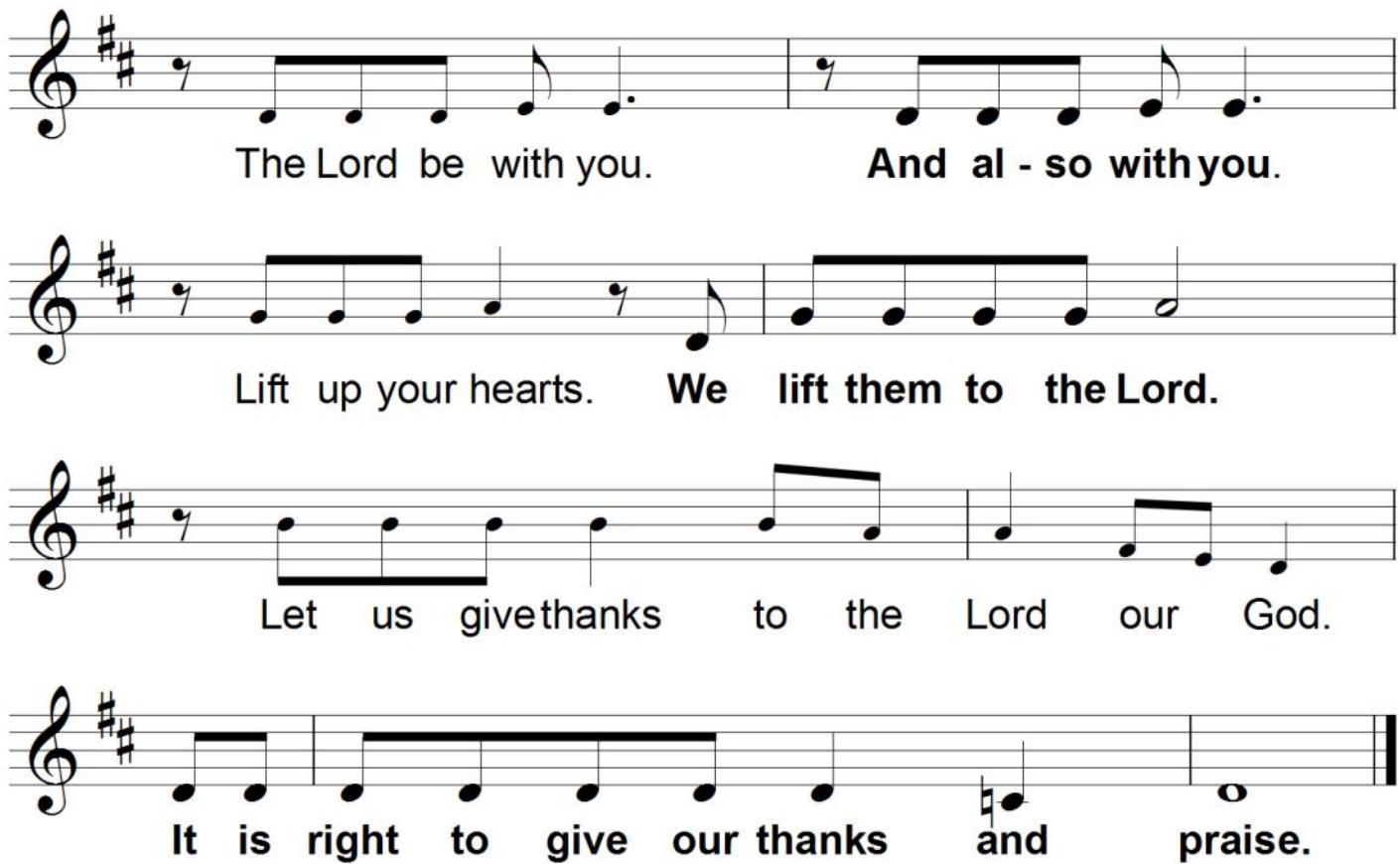
As the Grains of Wheat

Please stand.

THE PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION

L: Let us pray. 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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major, common time. The lyrics are integrated into the music as follows:

- Staff 1: The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
- Staff 2: Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
- Staff 3: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- Staff 4: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord,

Lord God of Pow'r and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed,

bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - - san - na in the high - est.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In your mercy for our fallen world, you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal light and life.

We give thanks to you for the gift of salvation that you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in this holy supper.

C: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: In the night 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 to remember 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 to remember me.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

C: **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.**

Please be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Communion is distributed in two manners at First Lutheran.

- *You may commune in your pews. Individual communion kits are available at the Narthex Doors. Pastor will share a blessing and all communing in place will commune together.*
- *You may come forward, where you will receive the bread from pastor and a small cup of wine from the worship assistant. Cups can be disposed of in a basket located by our projector.*

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy. Lamb of God, you

take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy - cy.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

468

AROUND YOU, O LORD JESUS



1 A - round you, O Lord Je - sus, your own you gath - er still
2 We hear your in - vi - ta - tion, and heed, O Lord, your call;
3 We are your own for - ev - er; un - til our fi - nal breath



to share the feast you give us with grace our lives to fill.
your word of con - so - la - tion is spo - ken here to all.
we will be true and nev - er—in joy, in grief, in death—



You say to us so lov - ing - ly, "Take, eat! This is my
It draws us to your lov - ing heart; it brings to us your
de - part from you, for you are still a - mong your peo - ple



bod - y! Take, drink! This is my blood!"
bless - ing, which nev - er will de - part.
dwell - ing, as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. composite

Music: O JESU, ÄN DE DINA, H. Thomissön, *Den danske Psalmebog*, 1569

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Please stand.

THE TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: 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.**

THE BENEDICTION

P: May God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be with you now and forever.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff begins with a treble clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp. It features a series of quarter notes and rests. The lyrics "A - men, A - men," are written below the staff. The bottom staff continues the musical line, also in treble clef and common time, with a key signature of one sharp. It includes a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, a fermata over the second note, and a final note. The lyrics "A - - - - men." are written below this staff.

SENDING SONG

640

OUR FATHER, BY WHOSE NAME



1 Our Fa - ther, by whose name all par - ent - hood is known,
2 O Christ, your - self a child with - in an earth - ly home,
3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, bind our hearts in u - ni - ty



in love di - vinc you claim each fam - 'ly as your own.
with heart still un - de - filed to full a - dult - hood come:
and teach us how to find the love from self set free;



Bless moth - ers, fa - thers, guard - ing well, with con - stant love as
our chil - dren bless in ev - 'ry place that they may all be -
in all our hearts such love in - crease that ev - 'ry home, by



sen - ti - nel, the homes in which your peo - ple dwell.
hold your face and, know - ing you, may grow in grace.
this re - lease, may be the dwell - ing place of peace.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt.

Music: RHOSYMEDRE, John D. Edwards, 1806–1885

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THE SENDING

L: Go in peace!
P: You are the body of Christ!
C: **Thanks be to God!**



POSTLUDE

HARVEST GIFTS

Charles L. Lenz

Partita on HARVEST GIFTS

Five Solos for Organ

I. Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

Today's Worship Leaders

Cantor: Jayce Porter
Facebook Camera: Deb Nominee
Reader: Shelley Ross
Slide Show Operator: Jonathan Nominee
Worship Assistant: Shelley Ross
Guest Pastor: Pastor Bill Schultz

Contact Us

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Pre-School Dir. Jane Frederick
daycarejane@gmail.com

This Week's Calendar

Sunday June 16

10:00 am Worship on The 4th Sunday of Pentecost

Monday June 17

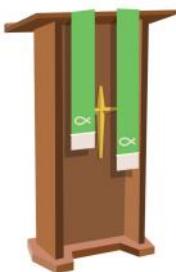
1:30 pm Bookworms

Next Sunday June 23

10:30 am Worship on The 5th Sunday of Pentecost

Today We Welcome

Welcome
Pastor Bill Schultz



Today we welcome Pastor Bill Schultz as he leads us in worship. Thank you for being with us this Sunday!

Please Note

Pastor Bailey will be out of the office this week for some Continuing Education at Lakeside. If there is a "pastoral emergency" please contact Pastor Karsten at Trinity UCC.



Phone: (419) 447-3191



The West Ohio Food Bank will be here

Thursday, June 27th

Distributing begins at 1 p.m.

If you or someone you know is in need of food assistance please share the invitation to come and let the WOFB help fill their food pantries.

Mark Your Calendars

Joint Service at Trinity UCC

On Sunday, June 30th we will gather for Worship at Trinity UCC. Worship will begin at 10 am.

Come and join with First Presbyterian, Trinity UCC, and Old Trinity as we celebrate our unity of Christ.

Joint



Worship Service

Congregational Chat

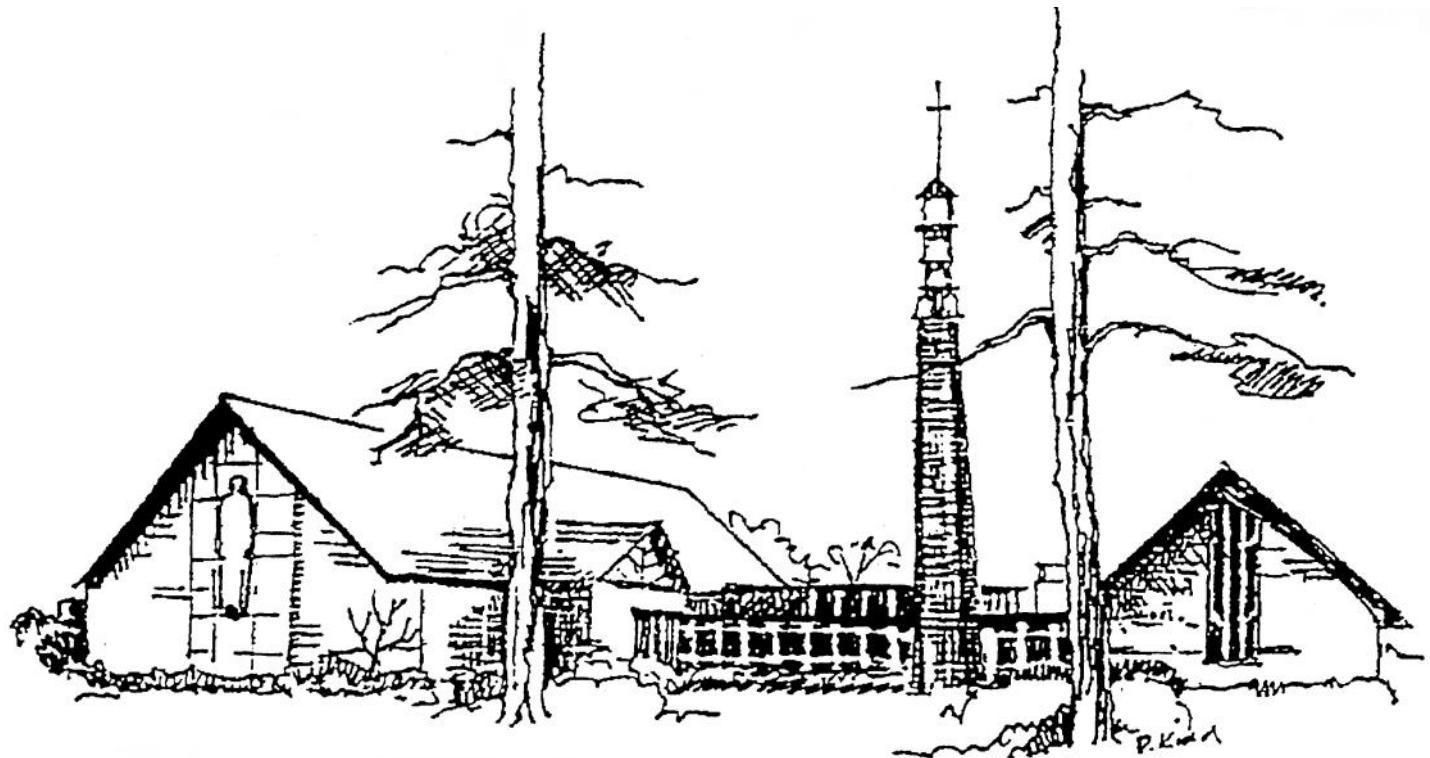
Everyone is encouraged to stay following worship on July 7th for a "Congregational Chat"



Our Church Future

Come and hear some of the many things that Council is working on as we continue to plan for the future of First.





Our Mission Statement

“God is among us!”
**“We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel,
forgive, reconcile and trust God for all that we need.”**