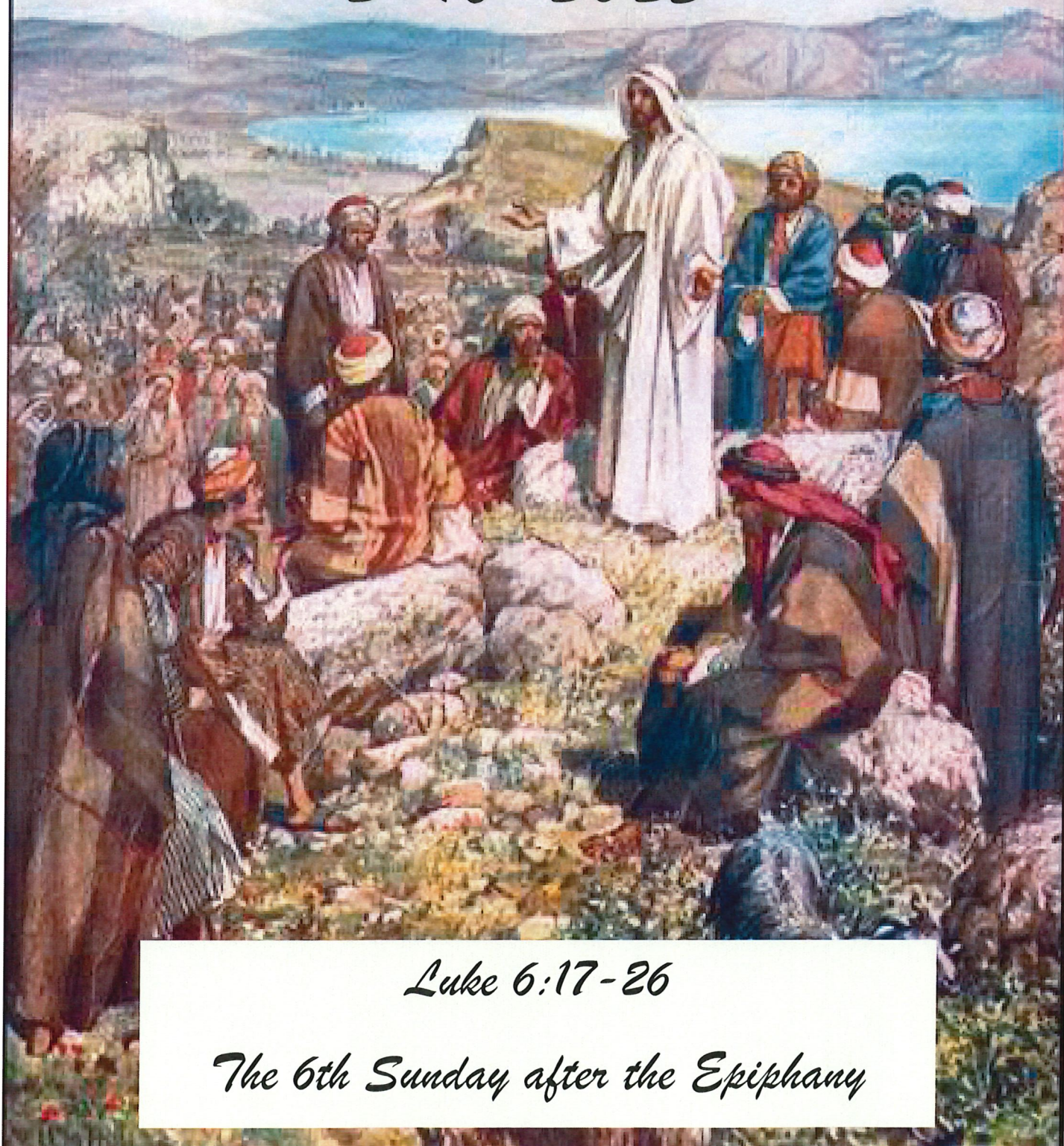


First Lutheran Church

2-16-2025



Luke 6:17-26

The 6th Sunday after the Epiphany

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the “blessed are” and the “woe to” are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

BLEST ARE THEY

Charles Lenz

*Partita on BLEST ARE THEY
I. Theme - III. Moderato*

GATHERING

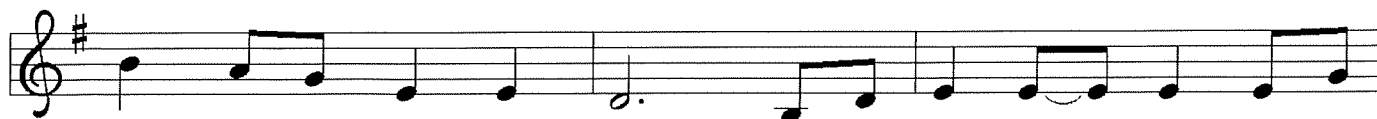
(Please stand)

GATHERING SONG

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat

Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional

Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

REETING

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 17:5-10

R: A reading from Jeremiah, the seventeenth chapter.

⁵ Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the Lord test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-20

R: A reading from first Corinthians, the fifteen chapter.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

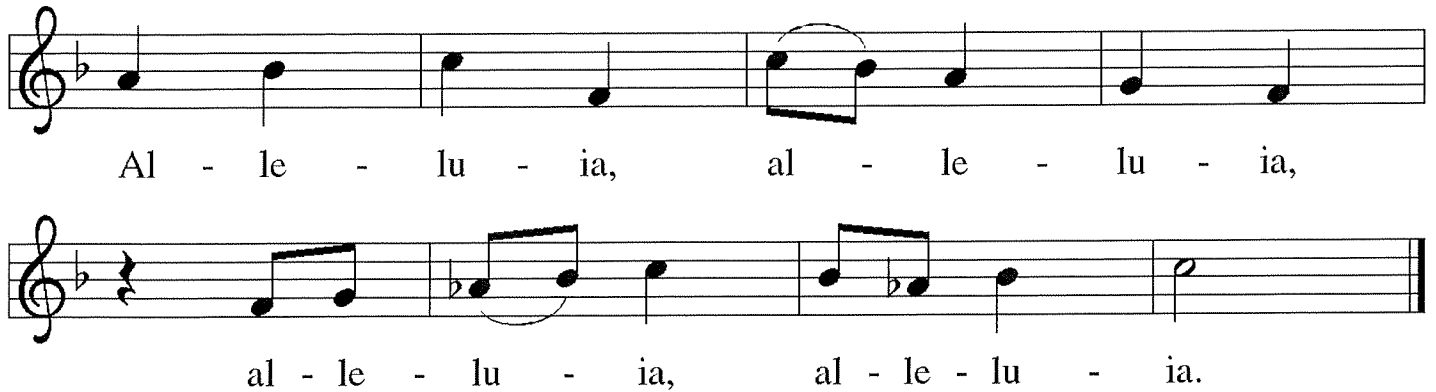
²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

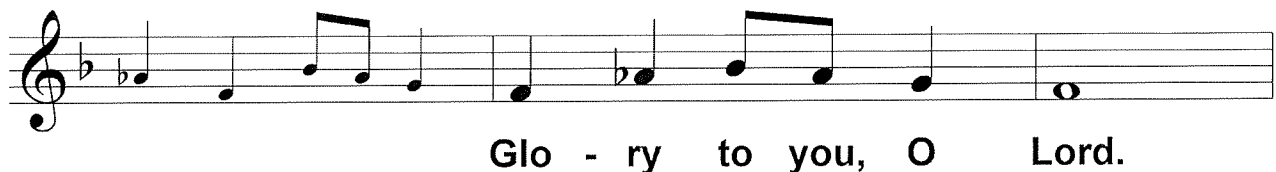


Cantor: Rejoice, and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven. (Luke 6:23)

GOSPEL

LUKE 6:17-26

P: The holy gospel according to Luke, the sixth chapter.



⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you,

revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.



(Please be seated)

SERMON

REVEREND MARK SCHURING

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Blest Are They

Re - joice and be

Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you.

Re - joice and be glad!

Yours is the king - dom of God!

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the lyrics 'Re - joice and be' with a melodic line of quarter and half notes. The second staff contains 'Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you.' with a similar melodic line. The third staff contains 'Re - joice and be glad!' and the fourth staff contains 'Yours is the king - dom of God!'. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with some phrases spanning across bar lines.

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: David Haas

Text and music © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

APOSTLES' CREED

P: Living together in trust and hope, we profess our faith as expressed in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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.

(Please kneel)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P: God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

**C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world.
Forgive us for the ways we act**

with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.
Show us your loving kindness.
Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.
Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance:
 "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
 I have called you by name. You are mine."
In + Christ, you are forgiven.
In the Spirit, you are made free.
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

(Please stand)

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Please be seated)

MEAL

OFFERING AND MEDITATION

Olive Dungan

Eternal Life
A Prayer by St. Francis
Nicholas Saxton, tenor

(Please stand)

OFFERING PRAYER

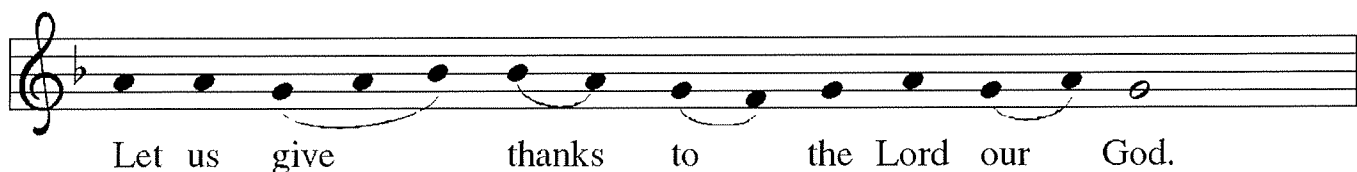
L: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

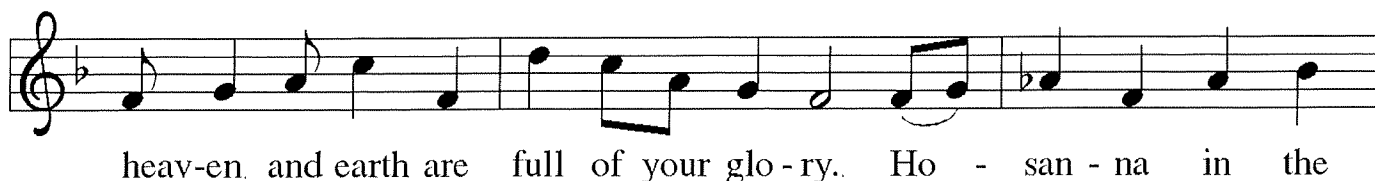
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always.

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





high - est.. Bless - ed. is he who comes in the name of the Lord.. Ho -



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

P: 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: 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)

COMMUNION

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION IN TWO MANNERS

† *You may commune in your pews.*

Individual communion kits are available at the Narthex doors.

*The presiding minister will share a blessing,
all communing in-place will commune together.*

† *You may come to the Table, to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.
A basket is available for disposal of your individual communion cups.*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

COMMUNION SONGS

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.

We Come to the Hungry Feast



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever
Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

(Please stand)

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: Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,

C: Amen.

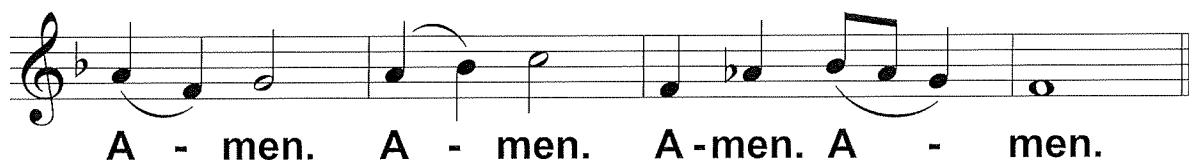
SENDING

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

C: Oh God, your everlasting love for us is always trustworthy and sure. We are grateful for the goodness you have shown us through the years, and we ask now for confidence to go forward into the future. Bless our community of faith, bless our healing, bless the changes that are before us, bless our call process and the pastoral leaders who will shepherd us through this time of transition. We thank you now for the wisdom you will show us as we align with your will, and servant or servants you are already preparing to send us in your blessed time. Help us to keep looking to you to define our ministry and our future. In his name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Spirit of the triune God bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.



SENDING SONG

God of Grace and God of Glory



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace.
P: Live in hope.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

BLEST ARE THEY Charles Lenz
Partita on BLEST ARE THEY
VI. Toccata

This Week's Calendar

Sunday February 16

10:00AM Church Service

Meet & Greet Pastor Schuring

Installation of Council Members

Monday February 17

10:00AM Bible Study @Willows

1:30PM Bookworms

5:15PM Bells of Praise

Wednesday February 19

5:30PM Council Meeting

Thursday February 20

12-6 Blood Mobile

Sunday February 23

10:00AM Church Service

Events for the Week

Bookworms will be meeting
Monday,

Feb 17th at 1:30 pm



**GIVE
Blood**

Blood Mobile

Feb. 20th 12-6

**Please register for
appointment**

Thank you to Nicholas Saxton for the beautiful tenor solo he blessed us with during the offering ceremony.



WOFB

**FEB. 27th starting
at 1 pm**

Sharing Kitchen

Dates for our participation in the Sharing Kitchen are Feb. 24 & 27

There is a sign up sheet located on the wall near the Dietz Room if you would be willing to volunteer.

Cookie Sign up sheets are located on the Dietz Room wall. Fellowship time is before and after Church Service. Approximately 4 dozen cookies are needed each week.



Contact Us



First Lutheran Church

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419-447-1323

www.firstlutherantiffin.com
firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com

Interim Pastor

Pastor Mark Schuring (740) 360-2306
theskipster55@gmail.com

Emergency Pastor

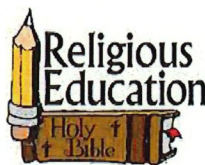
Pastor Doug DeVos (419) 271-6770
ddevos@buckeye-express.com

Our Worship Leaders

Altar Guild: Deb & Jonathon Nominee
Cantor: Elijah Shiley
Facebook Camera: Tim Ross
Host: Nominee Family
Reader: Beth Margraf
Worship Assistant: Jonathan Nominee
Director of Music: Curtis L. King
Pastor: Pastor Mark Schuring

Catechism Classes

Rick Greene and Mike Porter will be hosting Catechism Classes. If anyone is interested



Please contact either one at

Rick Greene: canacab@sbcglobal.net
or 419 937-7378

Mike Porter: Michael.r.porter12@gmail.com

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.”

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