

**Luke 24:44 KJV**

*And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.*

# **First Lutheran Church**

**May 17, 2026**

# **Seventh Sunday of Easter**

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In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth.

The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast.

We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

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## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PRELUDE**

*DIADEMATA*

*Jerry Westenkuehler*

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

*The assembly stands.*

## **GATHERING**

*Softly spoken*

PM: Christ is Risen!

**C: He is Risen, Indeed!**

*In a regular voice*

PM: Christ is Risen!

**C: He is Risen, Indeed!**

*Lifting our voices toward heaven.*

PM: Christ is Risen!

**C: He is Risen, Indeed!**

**Alleluia!**



**ALL** 1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
*Women* 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,  
**ALL** 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,  
**MEN** 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave  
**ALL** 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
 whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;  
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.  
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,  
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.  
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

## **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

PM: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

PM: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

**C: Amen.**

PM: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

PM: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

PM: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

PM: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,

and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,

now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **GREETING**


PM: 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.**

## FESTIVAL CANTICLE

*Refrain*



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



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

*The Cantor will sing the verses.*

1. *Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.*

### **Refrain**

2. *Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.*

### **Final Refrain**

*Final refrain*



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



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.



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

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

PM: Almighty God, your blessed Son, our Savior Jesus Christ,  
ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things.  
Mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised,  
he abides with us on earth to the end of time,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

**+ + CHILDREN MAY ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL**

## **FIRST READING**

*ACTS 1:1-11*

*Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.*

AM: A reading from Acts, the first chapter.

<sup>15</sup> I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup> so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup> God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup> And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

AM: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God. <sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

AM: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*

### ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

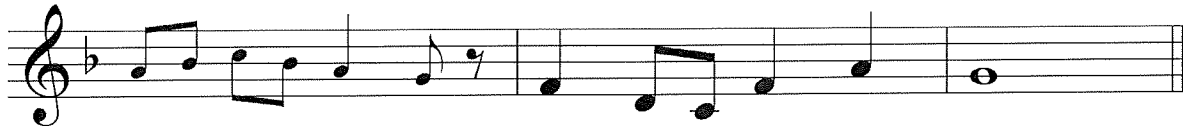
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*The Cantor sings the verse.*

*Go and make disciples of all nations, | says the Lord; I am with you always, to the end | of the age. (Matthew 28:19-20)*

*On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.*

PM: The gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

<sup>44</sup> [Jesus said to the eleven and those with them,] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,<sup>46</sup> and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day<sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.<sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things.<sup>49</sup> And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”<sup>50</sup> Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.<sup>51</sup> While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.<sup>52</sup> And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,<sup>53</sup> and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

PM: The gospel of our Lord.



Praise to you O Christ!

*The assembly is seated.*

**REFLECTION**

**PASTOR MARK SCHURING**

*The assembly stands.*



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the secp - ter his the throne;  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in sor - row now;  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o - tent we own;



Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your foot - stool, heav'n your throne.



Hark! The songs of peace-ful Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood:  
 Though the clouds from sight re - ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er,  
 As with - in the veil you en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest,



"Je - sus out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by His blood.  
 shall our hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"  
 here on earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

### NICENE CREED

PM: In trust and hope we profess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God,  
 the Father, the Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth,  
 of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
 the only Son of God,  
 eternally begotten of the Father,  
 God from God, Light from Light,  
 true God from true God,  
 begotten, not made,**

of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*The assembly kneels.*

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

PM: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

AM: Gracious God, your Son Jesus ascended to fill all time and space and is present with all people. By your Holy Spirit, lead your church and its leaders in faith, hope, and love, and in sharing the presence of Christ.

*Each petition concludes:*

PM: Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

PM: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**C: Amen.**

*The assembly stands.*

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

PM: The peace of Christ, be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## MEAL

### OFFERING AND ORGAN MEDITATION

BRYN CALFARIA

Michael Burkhardt

*Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor*

*The assembly stands.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

AM: Merciful God,

accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.

You have set a table before us,

a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more.

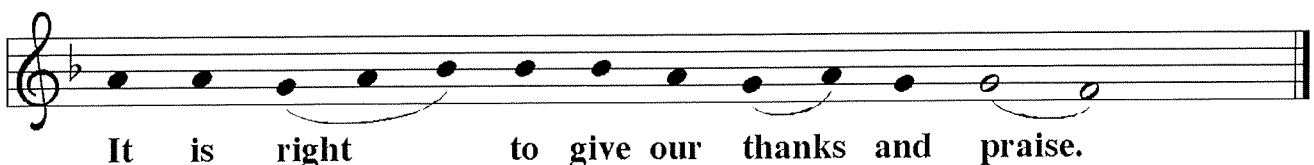
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,

that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love.

In the name of Jesus,

C: **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



## PREFACE

PM: 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,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
who enthroned forever at your right hand  
intercedes for us as our great high priest.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter  
and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The musical score is written on five staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and". The second staff continues: "might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -". The third staff continues: "san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.". The fourth staff continues: "Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -". The fifth and final staff continues: "san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." and ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the 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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PM: 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

PM: 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.

## LAMB OF GOD



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the prayer: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you". The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across two notes.

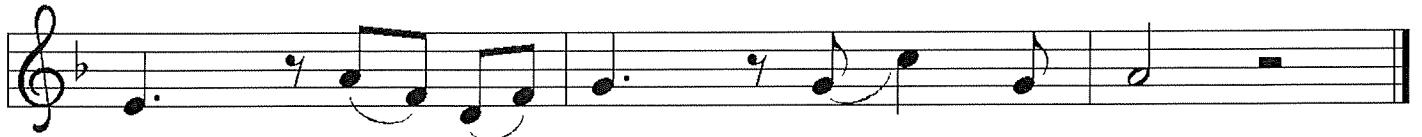
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



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, grant us peace.

*The assembly is seated.*

*Communion is distributed in two manners*

✝ *You may commune in your pews.*

*Individual communion kits are available at the Narthex doors.*

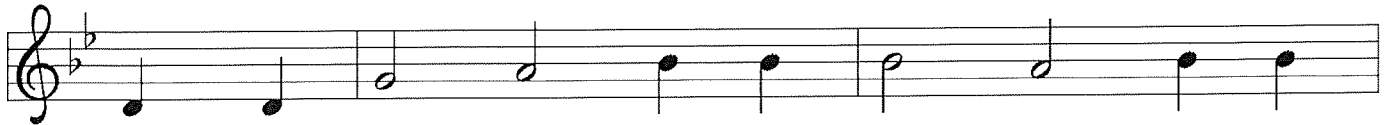
*The presiding minister will share a blessing,  
all communing in-place will commune together.*

✝ *You may come to the Table, to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.*

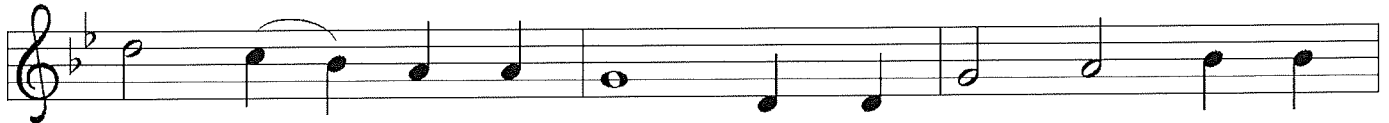
*A basket is available for disposal of your individual communion cups.*

### ***INVITATION TO COMMUNION***

PM: Come to the table of new life.  
Receive the risen Lord.



1 Lord, en - throned in heav'n - ly splen - dor, first - be -  
 2 Though the low - liest form now veil you as of  
 3 Pas - chal Lamb, your of - f'ring, fin - ished once for  
 4 Life - im - part - ing heav'n - ly man - na, strick - en



got - ten from the dead, you a - lone, our strong de -  
 old in Beth - le - hem, here as there your an - gels  
 all when you were slain, in its full - ness un - di -  
 rock with stream - ing side, heav'n and earth with loud ho -



fend - er, lift - ing up your peo - ple's head. Al - le -  
 hail you, branch and flow'r of Jes - se's stem. Al - le -  
 min - ished shall for - ev - er - more re - main, Al - le -  
 san - na wor - ship you, the Lamb who died, Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus, true and  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! We in wor - ship  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! cleans - ing souls from  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! ris'n, as - cend - ed,



liv - ing bread! Je - sus, true and liv - ing bread!  
 join with them; we in wor - ship join with them.  
 ev - 'ry stain; cleans - ing souls from ev - 'ry stain.  
 glo - ri - fied; ris'n, as - cend - ed, glo - ri - fied!

*The assembly stands.*

**TABLE BLESSING**

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

C: **Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

AM: Holy One,  
through this meal you have made your home among us  
and are making all things new.  
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,  
to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations.  
In the name of Jesus,

C: **Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

PM: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
+ bless you now and forever.

Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in a single system. Both staves are in treble clef and have a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The first staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B-flat4, and C5. The second staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B-flat4, and C5. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.' are written below the notes. The word 'Al' is under the first G, 'le' under the second A, 'lu' under the third B-flat, and 'ia!' under the fourth C. The word 'A' is under the first G of the second staff, and 'men.' is under the second A. A slur is placed over the 'A' and the first 'men.' in both staves.

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

PM: We pray together.

**C: Oh, God, your everlasting love for us is always trustworthy and sure.**

**We are grateful for your goodness and we ask now for confidence  
to go forward into the future.**

**Bless our community of faith, bless the changes that are before us,  
bless our pastoral leaders who will shepherd us  
through this time of transition.**

**We thank you for the wisdom you show us.**

**Help us to keep looking to you to define our ministry and our future.**

**Receive our prayer, O God, through Jesus Christ,  
our strength and salvation.**

**Amen.**



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall ring:  
 2 "You see him now, as-cend-ing high up to the por-tals of the sky?"  
 3 O ris - en Christ, as-cend-ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac - cord:



Al le lu ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod,  
 "Here af - ter Je - sus you shall see  
 You are, while end - less ag - es run,



As - cends un - to the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 re - turn - ing in great maj - es - ty."  
 with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**DISMISSAL**

AM: Go in peace.

PM: Praise the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Gilbert M. Martin

*A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!*



# Events in Review



If you have a prayer request for today, please raise your hand during announcements and a host will give you a green card to fill out.

We will be honoring our graduating seniors on June 14th.



If you know of anyone we should include, please contact Diane Greene.

<u>Sunday</u>		<b>May 17</b>
10:00AM		Easter 7 Service
<u>Monday</u>		<b>May 18</b>
10:00AM	No	Bible Study at Willows
1:00 PM		Bookworms
<u>Tuesday</u>		<b>May 19</b>
6:00 PM		Pre-School Program
<u>Wednesday</u>		<b>May 20</b>
6:00PM		Council Meeting
<u>Thursday</u>		<b>May 21</b>
<u>Friday</u>		<b>May 22</b>
<u>Saturday</u>		<b>May 23</b>

<u>Sunday</u>		<b>May 24</b>
10:00 AM		Pentecost—wear <b>RED</b>
<u>Monday</u>		<b>May 25</b>
		<b>Memorial Day</b>
10:00 AM	NO	Bible Study at Willows
<u>Tuesday</u>		<b>May 26</b>
<u>Wednesday</u>		<b>May 27</b>
<u>Thursday</u>		<b>May 28</b>
1:00 PM		West Ohio Food Bank
<u>Friday</u>		<b>May 29</b>
<u>Saturday</u>		<b>May 30</b>



The Celebration of Life party for Jean Covert has been postponed for a date later to be announced.

Altar Flowers are given for the

## Celebration of Life of **Jean Covert**

By Her Family



The Covert family would also like to thank, Jeannette Conley for her guidance and inspiration during Jean's life transition.

### May Monthly Scroll

It's available on line and on table in hallway



WEAR RED FOR  
**Pentecost**  
**May 24th**

### LAWN MOWER OF THE WEEK

May 21—Rick Nominee



Geranium order forms for Pentecost are available on the hallway table.

Please sign up by Today

## Contact Us



## First Lutheran Church

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[firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com)

## Our Worship Leaders

Altar Guild	Donna Brueggemeier & Deb Hohman
Cantor:	Nick Saxton
Facebook Camera	The Rosses
Host	
Reader:	Shelley Ross
Worship Assistant	Shelley Ross
Director of Music:	Curtis L. King
Minister:	Pastor Mark Schuring

## Interim Pastor

**Pastor Mark Schuring**

(740) 360-2306

[theskipster55@gmail.com](mailto:theskipster55@gmail.com)

## Emergency Contacts

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LINDA WARREN	419 618-5207
RICK GREENE	419 937-7378
CURTIS L. KING	419 937-7142
GLORIA STACY	419 934-3023
RICK SHOLL	419 939-3436

## 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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May 17, 2026