



First Lutheran Church

We are believers seeking to invite all into the caring, sharing and growing ways of Christ.

Growth of the Kingdom of God

August 25 & 26, 2018

Prelude
Welcome/Announcements
Blessing of the New School Year

Hymn ***Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*** ELW 807

Prayer of the Day

God of all creation, we celebrate how your Good News grows everywhere and in all people. Help us reflect your Gospel of grace in all that we say and do. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message (Sunday)

Reading Ephesians 4:1-16 pew Bible p. 1068
"The word of the Lord" Response: ***Thanks be to God!***

Gospel Acclamation ***Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*** ELW 172

Gospel Reading Mark 4:26-29 pew Bible p. 916
Response after the announcement: ***Glory to you, O Lord.***
Response after the reading: ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

Hymn ***Just a Closer Walk with Thee*** ELW 697

Sermon

Hymn ***Blest Be the Tie That Binds*** ELW 656

Apostles' Creed (inside back cover of hymnal)

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

Our Father, which 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 debts, As we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever! Amen.

Offering

Offertory ***We Give Thee but Thine Own*** (v. 1, 4) ELW 686

Benediction

Sending Hymn ***The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*** ELW 551

Postlude



Announcements

August 25 & 26, 2018

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Brian and Lorinda Coudron in memory of David Peters (Lorinda's son) and Mel Coudron (Brian's father).

Prayer List: John Doyle, Curt Sorum, Sierra Waege (granddaughter of Dorothy and Harlen Barck), Brian Brandt, Susan Atkinson, Tonya Ormberg, Rob Yant, Pat Leary, Casey Porisch (great nephew of Karl & Shirley Porisch), Lois Dellwo (sister of Linda VanOverbeke), Vi Thomasson, Brian Gelster & Family (deployment), Val Krogstad, David Valentin (son of Jim & Joanne), Darlene Newman (sister of Janet Landby), Marilyn Green (sister of Shirley Anderson-Porisch), Jenifer Klein's sister, Carla, Judy Benton (mother of Karen Meister), Ken Wilson, Don Ebbinga (father of Mary Mortland), Dave Koster.

Thank you for serving!	5:30pm	9:30am
Acolytes		Morgan Bjella
Greeters	Sue Strautz	Jason, Amber, & Leo Swenson
Ushers	Steve Sandquist	Bob & Sandy Fenske, Marlin Winkelman
Lectors	Barb Sandquist	Rick Purrington
Music	Rosie Sorum	Rosie Sorum
Coffee Servers		Bob & Corlys Knudson
Video and Projection	Trey Weber	John Marshall, Dan Marks
Altar Guild	Kathy Brandt, Sue DeSaer, Valerie Krogstad, Jill Schroeder, Kathy Tjosaas	
Van Driver	Dan Marks	

Sunday August 26

9:30am Worship - Blessing of the New School Year

Monday August 27

6:30pm Beginning Experience

Tuesday August 28

9:00am Senior Coffee
10:15am Staff Meets

Wednesday August 29

6:30pm TLC Wed Teacher Training
7:40pm TLC Wed Helper Training

Thursday August 30

5:30pm Bible and Brew

Friday August 31

12:00pm Office Closes

Saturday September 1

5:30pm Worship

Sunday September 2

9:30am Worship

News & Notes

First Lutheran Church will be having a Blessing of the New School Year Milestone celebration. We are inviting all in Education to come forward and children to come with backpacks or another kind of student bag.

TLC Teacher and Helper Trainings this Week:

There are several TLC Teacher & Helper Trainings scheduled this week. If you are volunteering in one of these roles, please make every effort to attend!!!! Getting the correct information and the tools you need to teach will get First Lutheran's 2018-19 TLC year off to a GREAT start!!

New Member Orientation

Are YOU interested in becoming a member of the family of faith called First Lutheran Church? ...then, we'd like to say 'Welcome Home!' We'll have a one-session orientation that puts the WELL in welcome, giving you all you need to be well informed, well connected, and well energized for our spiritual journey together as a family under God.

So please choose **one** of the upcoming New Member Orientation sessions to attend...

- Wednesday, September 12 @ 6:30pm
- Sunday, September 17 @ 9:45am

The New Member Orientation Sessions will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Contact the church office @ (507) 532-2429 or firstluth@iw.net if you or someone you know is planning on attending. Childcare will be provided, just please let us know if you will need childcare. New Members will be Welcomed during the following worship services: Wednesday, October 10 at 5:15pm, Saturday, October 13 at 5:30pm and Sunday, October 14 at 8:30am & 10:45am.

Sunday, September 9th from 8:30 am to 11:30am Dad's Belgian Waffle Fundraiser

The First Lutheran Education Committee will be sponsoring this event with the proceeds going toward the purchase of Education Curriculum. Tickets are \$7.00 in advance and \$8.00 at the door. Children 5 and under eat free. Carry-out plates available. Come and enjoy these mammoth size waffles, delicious toppings, sausage, and a beverage along with wonderful fellowship; all while supporting a great cause! Tickets are for sale in the Church Office.

Hy-Vee Cards are available for purchase in the church office! Proceeds go to the 2019 Senior High Mystery Mission Trip.

Seasonal Decorating opportunity Do you enjoy decorating for the holidays? If so, we could use the help of a few staff that would like to co-coordinate the seasonal decorating in the Sanctuary. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

Volunteering for Meals on Wheels is a great way to make a huge impact in a short amount of time. First Lutheran has the opportunity to deliver meals Sept 4-7 and 10-14. Each route takes 30-45 minutes beginning at 10:45. For more information or if you would like to volunteer- please sign up on the Social Ministries bulletin board or contact Dorothy Krogen @ 612-710-0390 and cwkajk@hotmail.com

Esther Circle will be kicking off the 2018-2019 season with their first gathering on Monday evening, September 10th at 7:00 pm in Room 8 (Movie Room). The group meets the first Monday of each month (through May) for approximately an hour. If you have been thinking about joining a circle/bible study group, please consider coming to check it out. This year's bible study is ***1 Peter...A Living Hope in Christ***. Walk through 1 Peter with Jen Wilkin in this 9 session, video-driven Bible study. A study book will be available that night for \$10.00. Come and feel welcomed and gain a working knowledge of God's Word and the bible as a whole.

The Social Ministries Committee here at First Lutheran is taking on a new project to help underprivileged children in other countries. Samaritans Purse is a world wide Evangelical organization that receives shoe boxes filled with gifts and delivers them to children in need. Each box will be an opportunity for a boy or girl to experience the love of God in a tangible way and hear the Gospel. We also would need a small donation of \$9 to cover the cost of shipping each box. On the table in the narthex is a handout you can take to read more about this ministry and ideas for gifts to purchase. Here are a few suggestions: doll, stuffed animal, shoes, car toys, other small toys, socks, hair clips, flashlights with batteries, school supplies, toothbrushes, bar soap, and a personal message would be nice. Please donate gifts that would be appropriate for 5-8 year olds. Parents that are shopping for school supplies can purchase a few extras and donate to this great cause. Look for sales now and for the months to come as we will be continuing this project in the future. You can also go to the website, Samaritans Purse and click on Operation Christmas Child for more information. A tote in the narthex will be available for your donations. Gifts of money please can be taken to the church office. Boxes will be packed during God's Work Our Hands day on October 14th. Thank you in advance for helping with this special cause.

Today's Readings

Ephesians 4:1-16

4 I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. ⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it is said, 'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.' ⁹(When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

"The word of the Lord"

Response: Thanks be to God!

Mark 4:26-29

26 He also 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.'

Response after the announcement:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Response after the reading:

Praise to you, O Christ.

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