

**Traditional Worship
January 1, 2023
10:30 AM**



**First Evangelical Lutheran Church
19419 Royalton Road
Strongsville, Ohio**

MISSION STATEMENT

*To live in the powerful example of Jesus, and
to discover new pathways for spiritual growth.*

Welcome!

**If you are a visitor today, welcome to worship.
We hope to see you again soon!**

Worship Schedule for Next Week

Sunday, January 8, 2023

9:00 Contemporary Worship

10:15 AM Sunday School

11:15 AM Traditional Worship

To contact the Church,

Call the office at 440-238-7890

or email firstchurchalive@hotmail.com

Secretary Office Hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 to 12:00 PM

Pastor Kathy - 440-666-8758

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Setting 3

* Please *turn off all electronic devices* during our time of worship.

WELCOME to you all this morning. May God bless us as we gather and raise our hearts and voices in thanks and praise to our God. We celebrate the Eucharist this morning. All baptized believers in Jesus Christ are welcome to come to the Lord's table. Those who have not yet been instructed are welcome to come for a blessing. Communion is continuous at two stations.

PRELUDE

Two Chorale Preludes

David Gooding

Johann Sebastian Bach

PRAYER of PREPARATION Gracious God, as we welcome this new year, help us to welcome you within our hearts and lives. Amen

Stand

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation.

C Amen.

P Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of life,
C **you promise good news of great joy for all people,
and call us to be messengers of your peace.
We confess that too often we hoard our joy,
our resources, and our security.
We nurture conflict and build barriers.
We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation.
Have mercy on us.
Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.
Where we are reluctant, give us courage.
Where we are cynical, restore our trust.
Renew us with your grace
and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.
Amen.**

P Hear the good news:
We are children of God and heirs of God's promises
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
In + Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.
Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth
shall know the salvation of God.
C **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG ELW #287 *“Let All Together Praise Our God” (verses 1-4)*

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.**

This Is the Feast

Refrain

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.

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PRAYER of the DAY

P Let us pray. O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

FIRST READING: Isaiah 63:7-9

God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or an angel. God's own presence brings salvation. The prophet and all who read these words join in celebrating God's gracious deeds. God trusts that God's people will not act falsely.

I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their savior in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

After the reading: R The Word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:10-18

Through Jesus' suffering and death, the trail to eternal salvation has been blazed for us. We do not fear death, because he has conquered the power of death. Thus Christ, our merciful and faithful high priest, has the final say over the destiny of our lives.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham.

Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

After the reading: **R** The Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd Chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 2:13-23

Now after [the wise men] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod.

This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead. Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

*"Happy New Year"
Pastor Kluck*

Stand

HYMN of the DAY ELW #632 *"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"*

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**

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

P With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

After each portion of the prayers:

P Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

P Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

C Amen

Sit

PRESENTATION of the GIFTS

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

MUSIC

Reflection

David Gooding

Ellen Mathews

Stand

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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- P** God of abundance,
receive and bless these gifts we have offered.
Join our hearts with the song of the angels,
and gather us at your table of celebration.
Strengthen us to share with all the world
the abundance of your grace upon grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.
- C** Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Preface Dialogue

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise ...
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy". It consists of four staves of music in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,". The second staff continues: "heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -". The third staff: "san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who". The fourth staff: "comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

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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

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

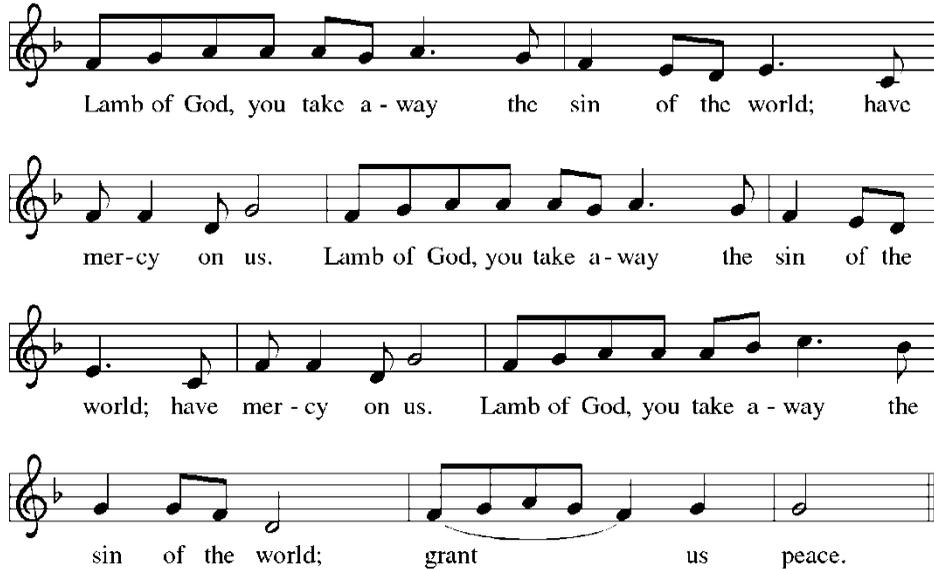
Sit

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
*and each person may respond: **Amen***

(The wafers on the center pedestal are gluten free.)

Lamb of God



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.

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Stand

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

P God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P God bless you and keep you,
+ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG **ELW #282** *"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"*

DISMISSAL

P Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fugue from the Parish Mass

David Gooding

Francois Couperin

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WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday, January 2

AA at 7:30 PM

Tuesday, January 3

Toastmaster's at 7:00 PM

Al Anon at 7:00 PM

PRAYER CONCERNS

Death in the Family

Prayers for the Dean Family as they mourn the death of Curt's brother, Jack

Hospitalized/Home and Recuperating

Sheryl Clark, Gene Knaack, Rob Shoens, Adrian Woods, Jeff and Dragana Knaack, Dennis Bailey, Darlene Cassidy, Craig Kaiser, Audie Kiplinger, Marj Gray, Thomas Lloyd, Carrie Deal, Evan Hartman, Karil Piskur, Richard Jacob, Pastor Kathy

On-going Prayers

Natalie David, Peter Mazzeo, Roger Puls, Margaret Pavlechis, Linda Stanley, Abbey Uline, Nighman Family, Heidi Balicki, Holly Mulkerin, Helen Hartford, Henry Meinberg, Amy, Dianne Mosley, Pat Sauernheimer, Carla Kulka, Mick McGinnis, Michael, Tia (Simpson) Russell, Dara, Stacey, Ron and Mary Jane Warzel, Tony Cavello, Ken Otto, Lori Thomason, The Fox Family, Susan Carlson

Homebound

Gene and Mary Jane Knaack, Irene Urbansok, Thelma Taylor, June Beck, Marj Wilder

Thank you to the following volunteers:

Reader

Alan Evangelista

Communion Assistants

Barb Krueger and Carolyn Roman

Ushers

Alan and Dawn Evangelista

Altar Guild

Trish Nolder, Sheri Gist, Beth David

IN LOVING
memory

The Altar Flowers are given to the
Glory of God by
Claudia Lenarz
in loving memory of Dan Lenarz
on the occasion of what would
have been his 80th birthday.

Attendance Last Week

10:30 AM – 18

Christmas Eve – 4:00 PM – 151

Online - 32

Christmas Eve – 8:00 PM - 162

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS

A heartfelt THANK-YOU to the many congregation members that donated an abundance of non-perishable food items, monetary gifts, and their time during the busy holiday season to maintain the long-standing tradition at First Lutheran Church of helping those in need. Volunteers of all ages helped pack food baskets that provided a holiday meal to over 400 people served by the Cuyahoga County's Children Who Witness Violence Program, Southwest Hospital's Hospice Service Program, Habitat for Humanity, families within the Kids Hope USA program that needed a little extra help, and members of our community. A special thank-you goes out to the Beyond the Walls Church food bank in Elyria who donated a very generous amount of food and the confirmation youth, under the direction of their mentors, who collected a large amount of food from area neighborhoods.

RESUMPTION OF CONFIRMATION AND BIBLE BONANZA

Confirmation will begin again on Monday January 9 and Bible Bonanza will resume on Thursday, January 12.

STRONGSVILLE FOOD BANK

Peanut Butter and Jelly and Soup are the biggest needs for January. Thank you for your continued generosity.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Don't forget that if you have any questions or concerns during this transitional time, you may contact your Council or Cabinet representatives:

Darren Whitford: 330-524-3670 dgwhitford1114@gmail.com

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Ken Holda: 440-665-2836 kenjholda@gmail.com

Gary Walters: 216-645-8472 gwaltersoh@yahoo.com

Dawn Zima: 440-821-6545dzima@cox.net