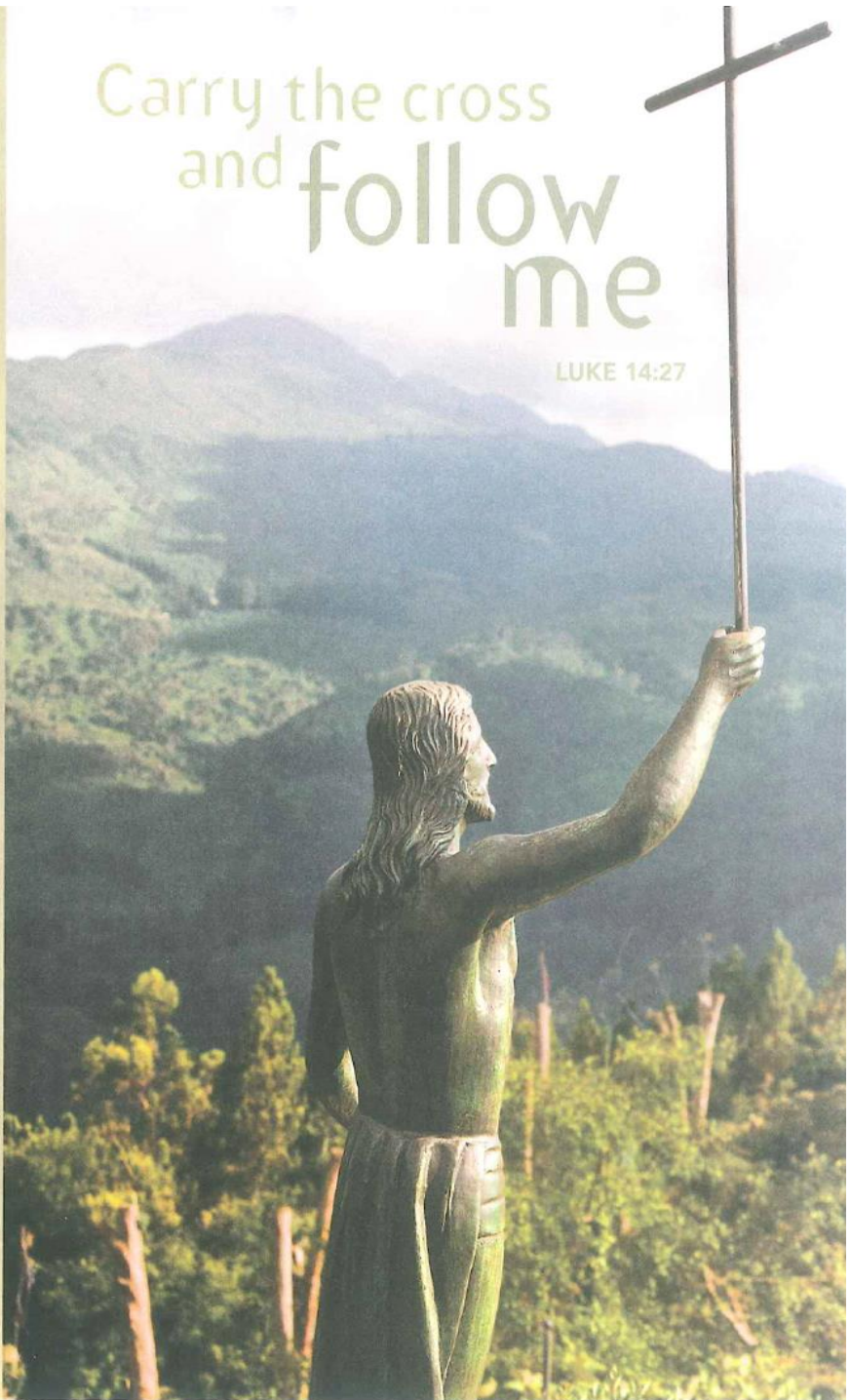


Carry the cross
and follow
me

LUKE 14:27



Called by the Spirit, we serve Christ, sharing God's love with all.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEBSITE: 1stlutherantopeka.org

1234 Fairlawn Road, Topeka, KS 66604 Church office: (785) 272-5302 CDO office: (785) 272-5999

Ministers

Senior Pastor

Coordinator of Stewardship and Outreach

Children's Day Out (CDO) Director

Caring for Kids 1st Director

Organist

Director of Music

Director of Handbell Choirs

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

Bookkeeper

Nursery Attendant

Missionaries in Russia

Missionaries in Guinea

All Members of First

Pastor Jenny Jackson

Pastor Bob Dealey

Julie Lamott

Julie Bradley

Jerry Anderson

Mark Fuller

Linda Anderson

LaDonna J. Little

Jill Loomans

Cindy Crawford

Tahira Schmidt

Rev. Bradn & Natasha Buerkle

Jim & Dawn Anderson

WE WELCOME all who worship with us today! We extend a special greeting to our visitors and invite you to worship with us again soon. Please make yourselves known to our pastor and people.

COME TO THE FELLOWSHIP TIME BEFORE AND AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Gather in the Nave Lounge to enjoy refreshments, talk with fellow worshippers, greet people you don't know, make new friends, enjoy your time at First and share the love of Christ.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION Lutheran Christians believe that in the sacrament of Holy Communion, by the power of God's Word and Holy Spirit, we receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ, along with the bread and wine, for our forgiveness and salvation. If you share in this belief, you are welcome to participate with us. Non-communing children and adults may come forward to receive a blessing. White grape juice is available, as well as gluten free wafers. If you desire to receive communion at your pew, please alert an usher during the prelude.

A NOTE TO PARENTS: First Lutheran Church welcomes children of all ages to be a part of our worship services. Children's Bibles are located in the pews and a number of items are available on a cart in the Nave Lounge to help them (and you) have a pleasant worship experience. We hope you enjoy these activities in church and at home!!

CHILDCARE: If you prefer, you may leave your preschool children in our well-equipped, staffed nursery during the service. Or, if you need to take a walk with your child, our speaker system provides audio of the service in the Nave Lounge and Library.

WHEELCHAIR available in the north entranceway or in the church office.

EARPHONES for the hearing impaired and **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS**.

PLEASE, NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE MAIN WORSHIP CENTER.

THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOLY COMMUNION, EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING ONE

5:00 P.M. & 10:00 A.M.

SEPTEMBER 7 & 8, 2019

Before worship, talk to God. During worship, let God talk to you. After worship, talk to your fellow worshipper.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE *“Lift High the Cross”*

1. Hymn 2. Allegretto 3. Meditation 4. Scherzo 5. Finale

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

CHIMES

Turn and face the back of the church. As the procession passes, turn and face the front of the church.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal, the builder of the city that is to come.

C: Amen.

P: If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God our helper,

C: we confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news.

C: Amen.

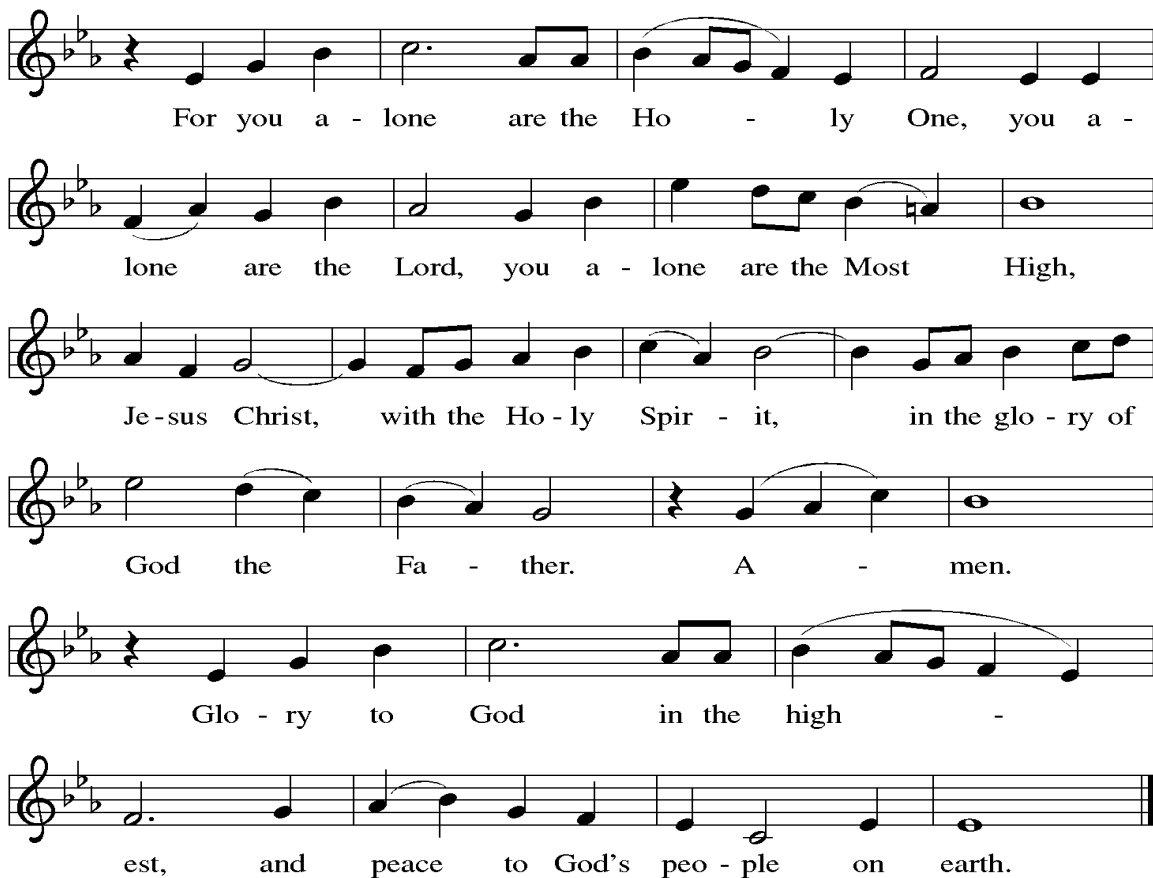
660 GATHERING SONG *“Lift High the Cross”*

GREETING

P: Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - migh - ty God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 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 on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



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: Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Congregation shall sit.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

Children of the heav’nly Father, safely in his bosom gather;
Nestling bird or star in heaven, such a refuge ne’er was given.

(10:00) PEACE P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: **And also with you.**

The ministers and the assembly may greet one another with a gesture of Christ’s peace, and may say these or similar words: Peace be with you.

WORD

God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung, and preached.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the Lord; or choose death by following other gods.

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

SECOND READING: Philemon 4-9

While Paul was in prison, he was aided by a runaway servant named Onesimus. The servant’s master, Philemon, was a Christian friend of Paul. Paul told Onesimus to return to his master and encouraged Philemon to receive Onesimus back as a Christian brother.

⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

ALLELUIA VERSE

page 102

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

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke the 14th chapter. **C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33

Jesus speaks frankly about the fearsome costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, ²⁶"Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

P: This is the Gospel of Our Lord. **C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Congregation shall sit.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "God's Work, Our Hands"

See Bulletin Page 13

CONSECRATION OF EDUCATION MINISTERS

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

(5:00) APOSTLES' CREED

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Sustained and nurtured by our generous God, we gather as one to pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

A: Turn our hearts, O God. Make us attentive to your call to take up the cross-shaped way of life, and to share your good news with a world in need. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Turn our hearts toward life in all its infinite varieties. We pray especially for all vanishing and endangered creatures who struggle to find a home in this world. Open our eyes to the value of our interconnected relationships within your natural world. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Turn our hearts toward all who yearn for calm and fairness. Where there is violence and conflict, grant peace. Where there is disparity, grant justice. Where there is hatred and fear, grant compassion and empathy. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Turn our hearts toward all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. We pray for those in bondage to sin, addiction, poverty, physical slavery or human trafficking, and those incarcerated or detained. For those in any need we pray (*especially—see bulletin page 12*). Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

The Assisting Minister offers additional prayers.

A: Turn our hearts toward the ministries of our congregations that feed the hungry, share with the needy, advocate for the silenced, and work for your justice. Embolden our hearts to labor without fear. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Turn our hearts toward your eternal reign. We give thanks for our sisters and brothers who have died, trusting the promise of life forever with you. Marked by the cross of Christ, inspire us by their examples to live in faith. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Assured by your promise to hear us, we lay our prayers before your throne of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

(5:00) PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: **And also with you.**

The ministers and the assembly may greet one another with a gesture of Christ's peace, and may say these or similar words: Peace be with you.

Congregation shall sit.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING *Please place attendance form in the offering plate.*

"Go Ye Into All the World"

Senior Choir

(W.J. Skeat)

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

692 OFFERING SONG *"We Are an Offering"*

OFFERING PRAYER

A: God our provider,

C: **we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it. Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table, and with them the offering of our lives. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

page 107

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

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

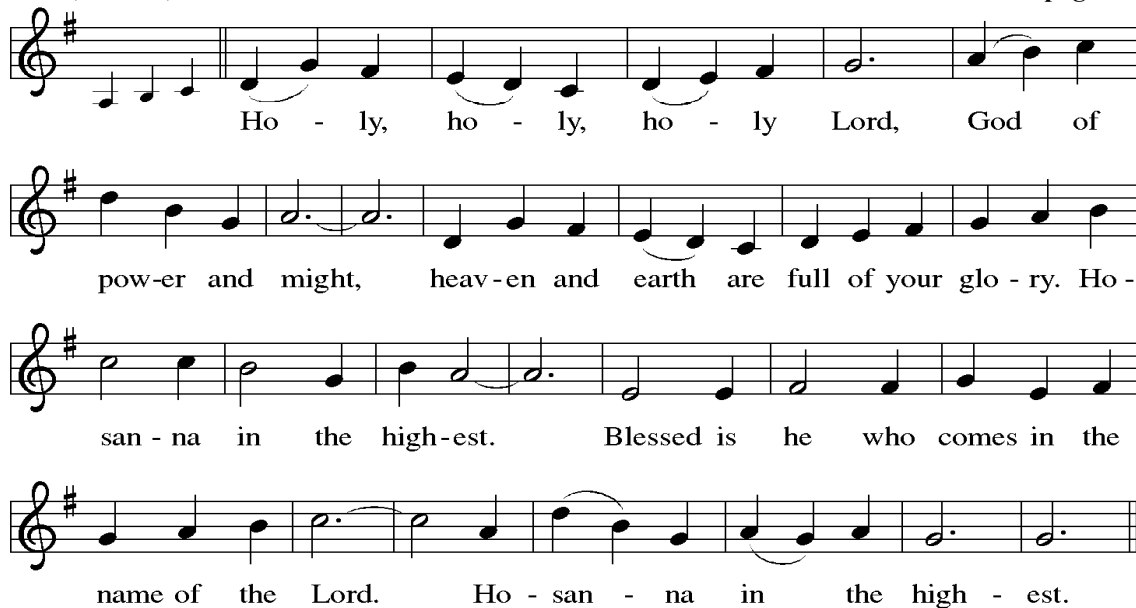
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

page 108



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. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

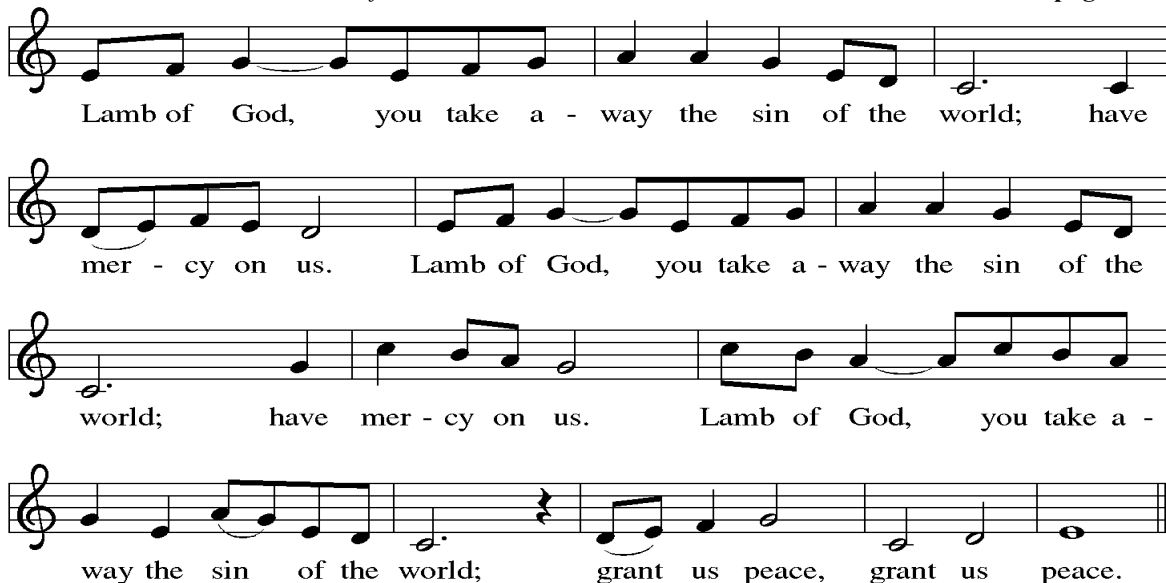
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

P: This is God's table and you are God's people. Come and be fed.

Congregation shall sit.

COMMUNION SONG "Lamb of God"

page 112



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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY

String Ensemble

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Congregation: Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P: Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Almighty God † bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever.

C: Amen.

As the cross passes, please turn and face the back of the church.

722 SENDING SONG "O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate"

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE “Hornpipe”

(G. F. Handel)

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WELCOMED INTO THE CHURCH FAMILY THROUGH BAPTISM ON SUNDAY:

Ava June Jurgens her parents are **Justin & Ashley** and her sponsors are her grandmothers,
Cindy Rodman and Sonya Woolery.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given by *Martha Donohoe* in memory of her mother, *Maxine Larrick* and
by *Orvin Grondahl* in celebration of *Debbie’s Birthday*.

ETERNAL CANDLE FOR SEPTEMBER is given by *Martha Donohoe* in memory of her dear mother,
Maxine Larrick.

PARENTS’ take this bulletin home for a fun game with your kids! Have them search through the bulletin and circle or highlight **this week’s word: BIBLE.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

Jennifer Carney (Stormont-Vail Hospital), Phillip Sanders (home), Barb Bangert (home), Tahira Schmidt & baby Ryland (home & Stormont-Vail Hospital), Martha Donohoe (home), Betty Nelson (home), Mark Fuller (home), Twila Zeigler (home), Ann Sanders (home), Rob Peterson (home), Breck Edds (home), Ann Johnson (Kelly House), Vera Pearce (home), Ken Sherbert (home), Charlotte Weddle (CDO Teacher), Julie Bradley (Caring for Kids 1st Director), Brennan Soukup (Julie Bender’s cousin), Carlotta Ullman (Trudi Myers’ great niece), Vicci Livgren (friend of Anita Wolgast), Sharon Treptow (Jill Loomans’ stepmother), Susan Berry (co-worker of Dick Schaeffer), Shirley Taylor (Linda Harold’s cousin), Jerry Manning (friend of Nancy Sherbert), C.A. Brunkhorst (Ann Sanders’ father), Ken Buch (Verla’s son), Micah Ewing (friend of the Lubers), Joan Stahlman (Joyce Koenig’s sister-in-law), Lynette Kottas (Eileen Caspers’ mother), Pete Godlove (Michelle Black’s father), Dan Lykins (cousin of Nancy Sherbert), Nancy Isley Wolfe (friend of the Wolgasts), Ben Beery (friend of Haden Roark), Jerome Gutierrez (Dolores Ussery’s nephew), Heather Roesch (Tracy’s sister-in-law), Norm Stahl (friend of Carolyn Olson), Katelynn Herring (Jeanie Schuler’s great-niece), Bob Avery (friend of Carolyn Olson), Robin Michael (daughter of friend of Nancy Vaughn), Mary Lou Brunkhorst (Ann Sanders’ mother), Linda Myers (Trudi’s daughter-in-law), David Metzenthin (Bud & Lois’ son), Annika Lundgren (friend of the Engelhardts).

OUR CONDOLENCES to **Maureen Krumins** on the death of her mother, Helen Call.

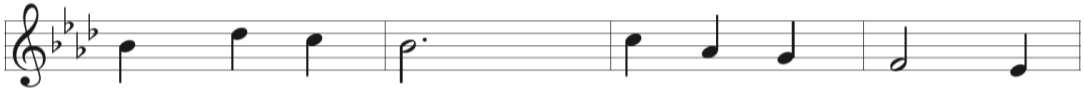
GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your Gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson

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LAY MINISTERS TODAY	RALLY DAY 10:00 am
Assisting Minister	Robert Hanna
Lector	Jeff Montague
Candlelighter / Crucifer	AJ Hamby / Haden Roark
Communion Assistants	David & Patricia Drake
Presenting the Gifts	Einck Family
Council Member Team	Bill Barker / Bill Barker
Altar Guild	Patricia Drake, Nancy Vaughn
Ushers	Ted & Elna Ensley
North Door Greeters	Nancy Besta, JoAnn Stanley
South Door Greeters	Glenn & Eileen Caspers
Coffee Host	POTLUCK
Bus Driver & Host/Hostess	Marvin & Penny Boleski
Saturday Lector / Altar Guild / CA	Dick Nelson / Nancy Sherbert / Tina Lewis
Stephen Minister 9/9-15/2019	Joyce Mark

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

September 15th – Fourteenth Pentecost	10:00 am
Assisting Minister	Jonathan Black
Lector	Robert Hanna
Candlelighter/Crucifer	Loren Finney / Madison Liby
Communion Assistants	Patricia Drake, Ted Ensley
Presenting the Gifts	Denny & Darlene Payne
Council Member Team	Catherine Esquibel / LaVerne Engelhardt
Altar Guild	Karen & Bob Wollin
Ushers	Marvin & Penny Boleski
North Door Greeter	Bonnie Phillips
South Door Greeter	Linda Harold
Coffee Hosts	Schultz Family
Bus Driver & Host/Hostess	Joe Montague, Leslie Malone
Saturday Lector / Altar Guild / CA	Rob & Nancy Peterson / Nancy Sherbert / Hope Krug
Stephen Minister 9/16-22/2019	Judy Hedeon

PLEASE FIND YOUR NAME TAG OUT IN THE NAVE LOUNGE.

✠ IN THE FIRST PLACE THIS WEEK ✠

Children's Day Out Preschool (CDO) schedule: M, T, W & F 9am-3pm Thursday 9-11:30 am

TODAY

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

RALLY DAY

8:40 a.m. – Adult Education

9:00 a.m. – Youth Bell Choir Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. – Children's Choir Rehearsal

9:40 a.m. – Senior Choir Warm-up

10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion

11:15 a.m. – RALLY DAY POTLUCK &

ALPHA WORSHIP

4:00-8:30 p.m. – Parish Hall in Use

Monday, September 9

Library Lady Visits CDO

10:00 a.m. – Overview of the Old Testament w/ PB

12:30 p.m. – Staff Meeting

5:45 p.m. – Property Committee

6:30 p.m. – Church Council Meeting

6:30 p.m. – Caring for Kids 1st Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Boy Scout Troop 175 (PH)

Tuesday, September 10

Library Lady Visits CDO

8:00 a.m. – Men's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

2:00 p.m. – Stephen Ministry Leaders

6:30 p.m. – Den Meetings (115 & 116)

7:00 p.m. – On a Mission from God Class w/ PB

Wednesday, September 11

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever

6:00 p.m. – Read, Pray, Sing Gathering (Chapel)

7:00 p.m. – Safety & Security Team Meeting

Thursday, September 12

10:00 a.m. – Adult Bible Study at Thornton Place

6:30 p.m. – Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. – Senior Choir Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. – Adult Learning Committee

Friday, September 13

Pastor Jenny at meeting at Synod Office

Saturday, September 14

9 a.m.-4 p.m. – Kansas Book Fair at the State Capital

Lowell Chellberg is a featured author

Camp Tomah Shinga Quilt Auction

5:00 p.m. – Holy Communion (Chapel)

Sunday, September 15

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

CUB SCOUT POPCORN SALES

8:40 a.m. – Adult Education

9:00 a.m. – Youth Bell Choir Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. – Children's Choir Rehearsal

9:40 a.m. – Senior Choir Warm-up

10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion

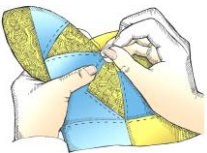
11:15 a.m. – Sunday School PreK-HS & Adult

LESSONS SEPTEMBER 14 & 15

Exodus 32:7-14 Psalm 51:1-10 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-10

PARISH NOTICES

**THE 2019 PARISH DIRECTORY IS AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME CENTER.
PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH ANY CHANGES OR ADDITIONS.**



WHAT-SEW-EVER has work sessions **EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING (9:00 a.m. to Noon)** to increase **PRODUCTION OF THE QUILTS** created for Lutheran World Relief (shipped out in November) and other service agencies in Topeka. You are welcome to join in the fun while providing warmth for those in need. If you have questions, call Carolyn Olson at 272-6428.



TODAY is RALLY DAY!!!



SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

8:40 Adult Education

10:00 Worship

11:15 RALLY DAY POTLUCK!

Following the worship service, Let's Eat!!! and celebrate the start of another year of Faith Formation in the church. **People with last names A - G bring a salad, H - P bring a dessert, and Q - Z bring a protein dish to share.** There will be games for kids AND adults.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH, 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

We will meet at 11:15, following worship for faith formation and fun.

Classes will begin September 15th.

Sunday School is offered for children in Preschool through 12th grade.

On the first Sunday of each month, we will have **ALPHA**, Children's Worship. Children and youth will gather in their regular class and then go to our indoor or outdoor chapel, weather permitting. **Our first Alpha will be October 6th with a stuffed animal blessing.** Kids can bring their favorite stuffed animal and one (or more) to give away to kids in our community.



NEW ADULT EDUCATION CLASS BEGINNING TODAY



Starting on Rally Sunday, George Bales will lead an adult Bible study called **"Responding to God's Grace"**. The goals of this study are to help participants reflect on God's intentions in creating the world, human beings, and the human community and to consider what it means to be created "in the image of God". **Classes will be held in Room 204 starting at 8:40 a.m.**

On Sunday, September 15th, a second class will start using the book **"WHY? Making Sense Of God's Will"** by Adam Hamilton. It will be **offered at 8:40 a.m. in the Chapel.**

We look forward to another year of growing together in faith!

NEW MEMBER CLASS: "You Belong" September 29th at 12:15, October 2nd at 7:00 p.m., and October 6th at 12:15. We welcome all who are interested in joining First Lutheran's church family to participate in this 3 session class. We will explore the Lutheran faith, the ministries at First, and how your Spiritual Gifts are needed in this Body of Christ. Please contact Pastor Jenny (633-3985) if you plan to attend. Christ welcomes us and we welcome you.



Pastor Bob Dealey is offering a six-session class entitled “**AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT**” on **Monday mornings**, from 10:00–11:30 a.m., beginning **September 9th**. Class participants will receive a general overview of the Old Testament and some Bible study resources to encourage more in-depth study.

If you are interested in exploring your sense of vocation as a Christian, you are invited to attend an eight-session class entitled “**ON A MISSION FROM GOD**”, which will be offered on **Tuesday nights**, beginning **September 10th**, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Class members will also explore different ways in which they can live out their faith throughout their daily lives.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND/OR TO REGISTER, please contact Pastor Bob Dealey by phone at (785) 272-5302 or by email at Rtdealey@sbcglobal.net. Thank you.

MEN'S TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY meets the **2nd and 4th Tuesday morning of the month at 8:00 A.M.** in **Room 204** of the Luber Education Wing. See you there! **ALL MEN OF FIRST ARE INVITED** to join in the study/discussions. **Any questions contact Gary Anderson.**

WELCOME!

Our **BIBLE STUDY, held at Thornton Place Retirement Residence**, which has faithfully met and touched many lives for the past 17 years, is again extending a welcome to our First Lutheran members to come join us as we journey through the Bible's New Testament. We **meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday mornings each month.** For more information, call **JoAnn Stanley** at 785-478-3628.

CAMP TOMAH SHINGA QUILT AUCTION **Saturday, September 14th, 2019**

Camp Tomah Shinga, 7821 E Lyon Creek Road, Junction City, KS

11:00 a.m. Quilts on Display 12:00 p.m. – Lunch is Served 1:00 p.m. – Auction begins

All are welcome to come for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and supporting outdoor ministries!

Additional info and RSVP at tomahshinga.com

Please see the Welcome Center for paperwork on donating a quilt.



MUMS ARE COMING!

Blooms of red, orange, yellow, white, pink, and violet **MUMS** will be available for pickup on **Saturday, October 5th between 8:00 and 11:30 AM** in the Parish Hall at FLC. The price per pot will be **\$6.50**. **Place your order with Cindy Lear** at cwlear@prodigy.net or call 271-0140 by **September 22nd**. Thank you for your continued support of the **BETHANY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**.

REMEMBER THE "BLESSING BOX" NEEDS FILLING.



If you can help **LET'S HELP** on the **third Wednesday** of **any month** we'll see you at **200 South Kansas Avenue**. **The next date for helping is September 18th**. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact **Gary Anderson** at 246-3229. *First Lutheran Let's Help Team*

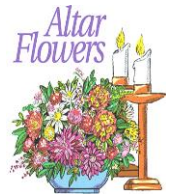


DOORSTEP IS OPEN MONDAY – FRIDAY, 8:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

We are located at 1119 SW 10th Street (10th & Buchanan).

We ask that you do not leave donations outside our building when we are not here. They often become a parking lot mess. Thank you!

SEASONAL EFFECTS BY MARK LAMANTIA began providing our **altar and pulpit flowers** as of August 1st. Mark has been a floral designer for more than 40 years in Topeka. After many years at the same cost, we also had a **price increase to \$25 per vase and \$50 for pulpit flowers**. If you have previously committed to providing flowers but no longer wish to do so because of this increase, please contact **Jeanie Schuler** 785-845-7964 as soon as possible.



**WE CARE
CARD MINISTRY**

The **OUTREACH COMMITTEE** invites you to join in the **WE CARE CARD MINISTRY** by sending cards to your family, friends, and church family.

THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO SHARE:

PICK UP PACKETS of handmade cards found in a basket in the Nave Lounge. Each packet contains six cards, and there is no charge for them. We ask you to send the cards to anyone to brighten their day. If you have any questions, contact **Joyce Koenig**.

SPECIAL CONCERNS CARD MINISTRY GATHERING We are looking for people to gather around coffee and cards to write words of encouragement specifically to our homebound members and those on our prayer list. We will work together to ensure all are reminded that their church family loves and cares for them. If you would like to participate in this group, contact the church office or **Diane Dukat**.



WITH Our Savior's and Trinity ELCA

Friday, September 20th

5:00 pm – 8:30 pm

At Lake Shawnee

Shelter House #4

Dinner around 5:30

Our congregation is supplying

DESSERTS!

A Centering Promise

The words from Jesus today might make us squirm a bit, and we might prefer to gloss over them. *Hate* our family members? Hate life itself? Give up *all* our possessions? It all sounds so extreme. But then again, Jesus is not known to mince words or soften the edges of his speech to suit our comforts. How do we begin to live into this life that Jesus demands?

Perhaps we should consider the question in a slightly different way: If we strip away everything from our lives, what remains? What rests at the core of all the other stuff? In our baptism, this question was answered once and for all, though we may forget it or even doubt it at times: Jesus is at the core of all we are and all we do. The cross rests at the center of who we are and all that we have.

Our possessions and even our healthiest relationships will continually try to mask or overtake the cross that marks our lives. We become convinced that our identity rests in our possessions and relationships. That's the nature of sin. But Jesus reminds us today that the cross centers all we do, all we have, and all we are—and that carrying the cross centers us in that gift.

The promise here is found in Jesus' command, "Follow me." He doesn't say, "Lug the cross around by yourself." He says, "Carry the cross and follow me" (Luke 14:27). The *follow me* is a gift. The *follow me* invites us to action alongside the one who first carries the cross for us. The *follow me* promises that we will never be alone. The *follow me* leads us to a new way of life centered in Christ.