

Ephesians 6:11

“Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil”



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 29, 2021

Prelude

Sweet Hour of Prayer

by William B. Bradbury

The Way of Peace

by Anthony Giamanco

*The Processional Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

(ELW) No. 858

*The Confession and Forgiveness

(ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*The Apostolic Greeting

(ELW) page 138

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.

*The Kyrie (*sung response*)

(ELW) page 138

P:, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: O Lord, mercifully continue to purify and defend Your Church. Since she cannot stand firmly without Your power, govern her always by Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalms 119:129-136

¹²⁹Your decrees are wonderful; therefore I obey them with all my heart.

¹³⁰**When Your word goes forth it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.**

¹³¹I open my mouth and pant; I long for Your commandments.

¹³²**Turn to me in mercy, as You always do to those who love Your name.**

¹³³Steady my footsteps in Your word; let no iniquity have dominion over me.

¹³⁴**Rescue me from those who oppress me, and I will keep Your commandments.**

¹³⁵Let Your countenance shine upon Your servant and teach me Your statutes.

¹³⁶**My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep Your law.**

Second Reading

Ephesians 6:10-20

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*The Gospel Acclamation (*sung*)

(ELW) page 142

**C: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words
of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

* The Gospel

Mark 7:14-23

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

*The Hymn of the Day

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

(ELW) No. 504

*The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting.
Amen.**

*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

You Are Mine

arr. David Haas

*The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

(ELW) No. 188

*The Lord's Prayer

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.

Announcements

*The Benediction *(sung response)*

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

(ELW) No. 623

*FLC Sending Hymn

Be The Love of Christ

arr. Michael Showalter

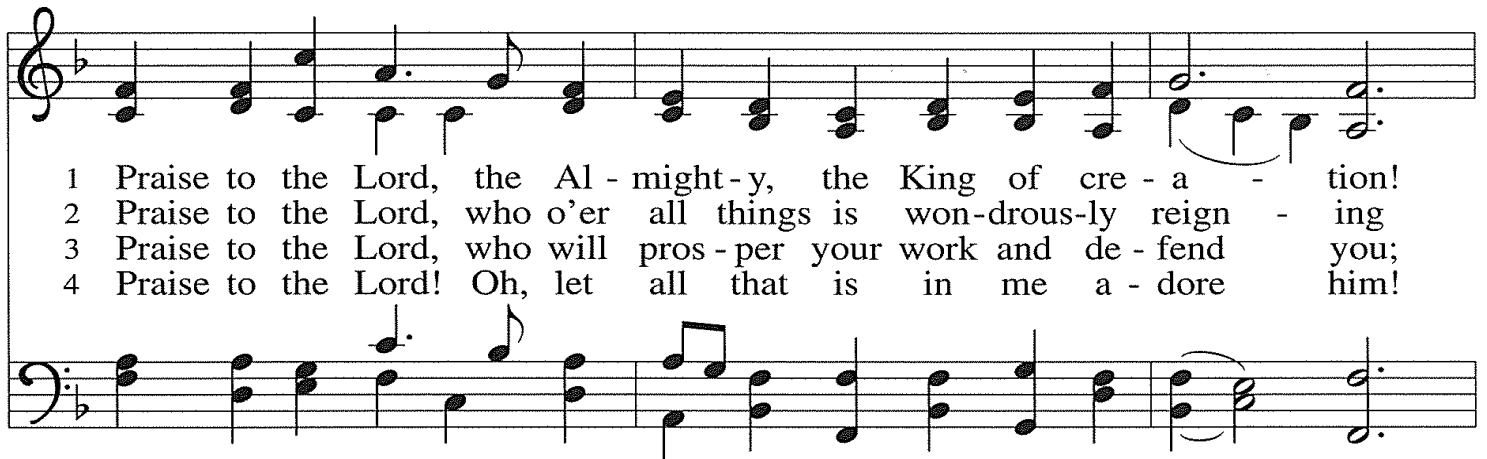
Roger Thornhill

*The Dismissal *(response)*

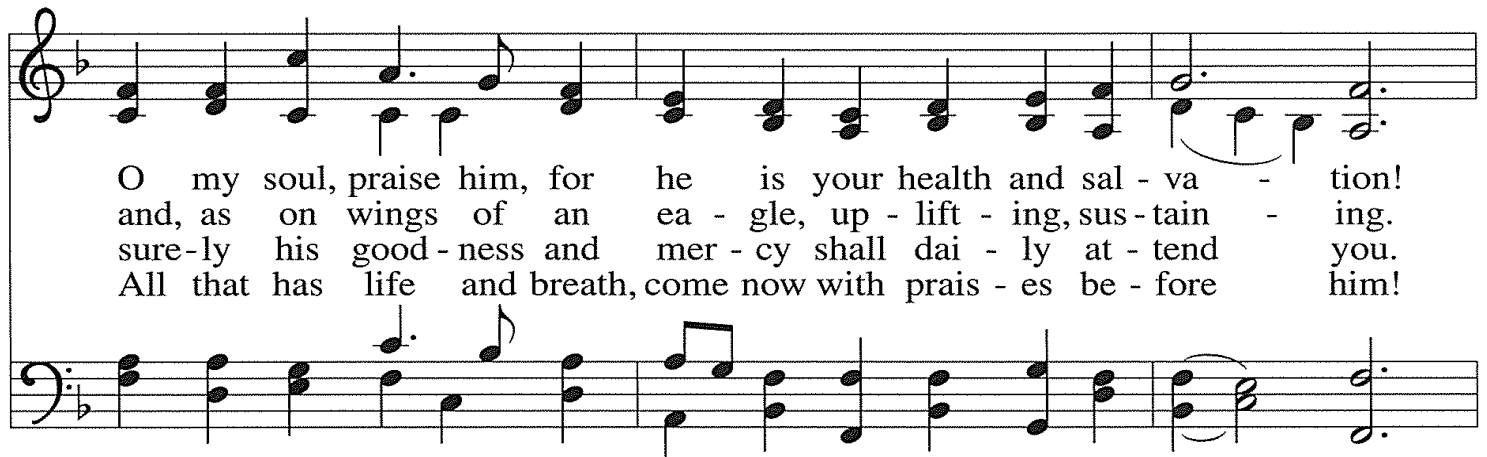
C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

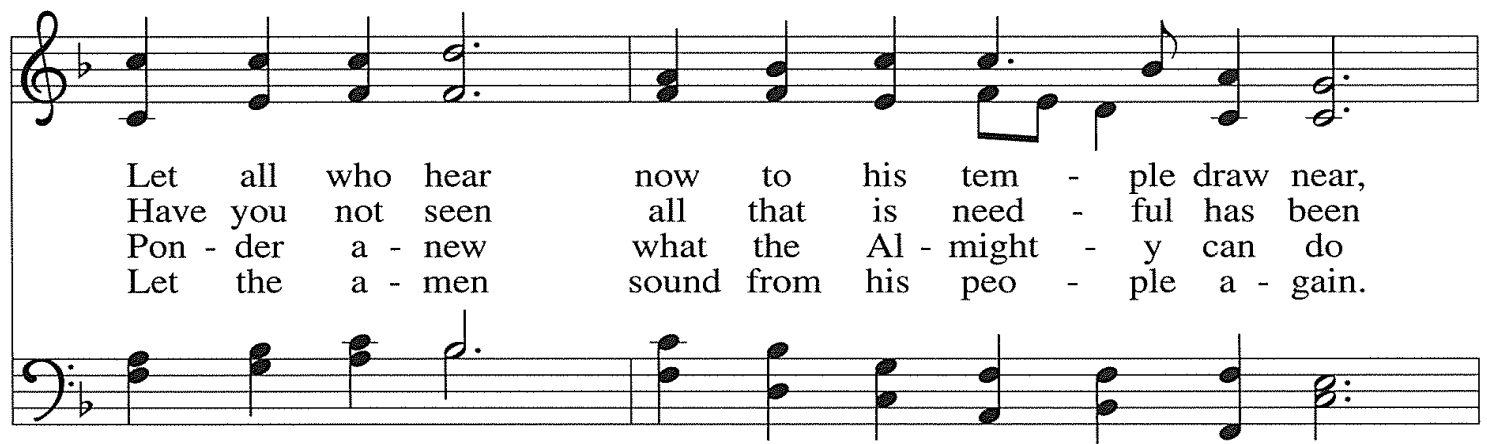
Lord of All Hopefulness



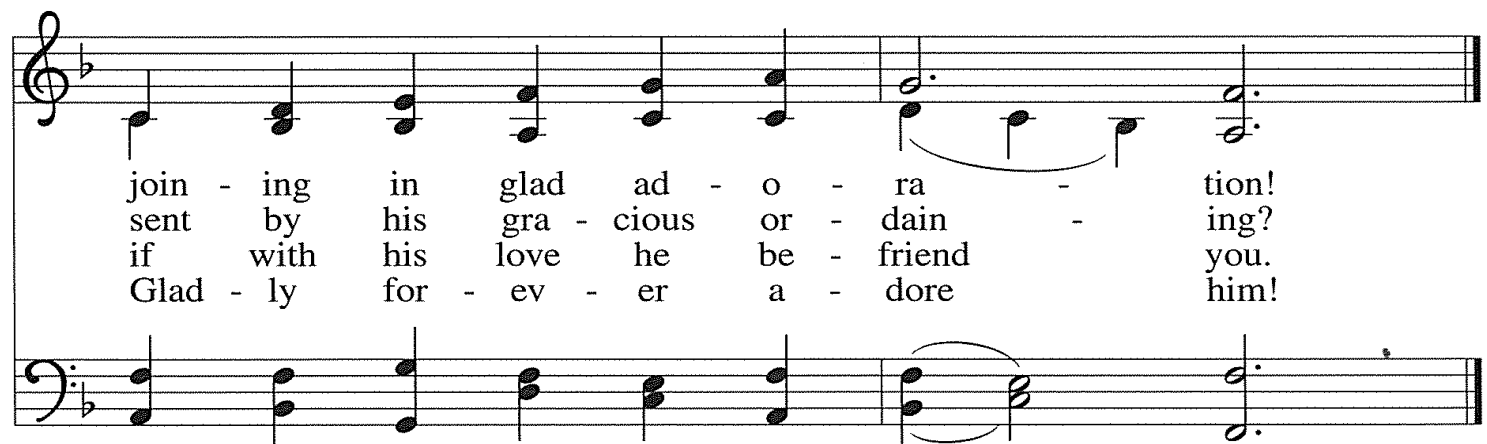
1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 sure-ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.

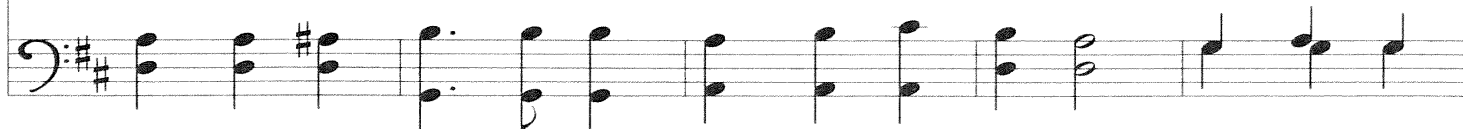


join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



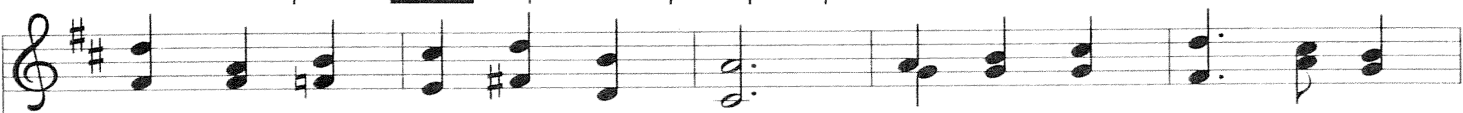
shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



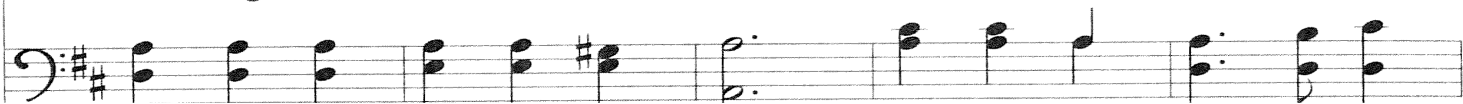
pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Refrain*

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.



A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first system of the hymn features a treble and bass staff in B-flat major (two flats). The melody is primarily composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are printed below the staff.

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

The second system continues the melody with similar rhythmic patterns. The lyrics are printed below the staff.

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

The third system continues the melody. The lyrics are printed below the staff.

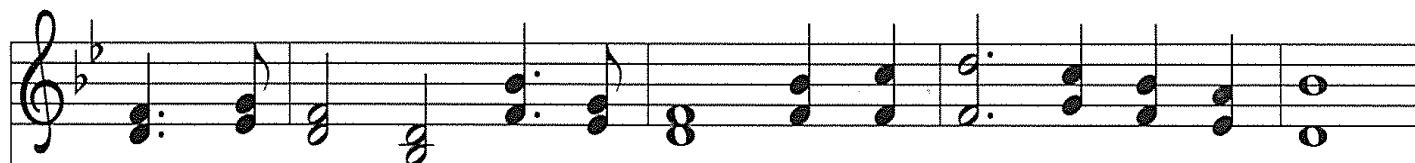
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

The fourth system continues the melody. The lyrics are printed below the staff.

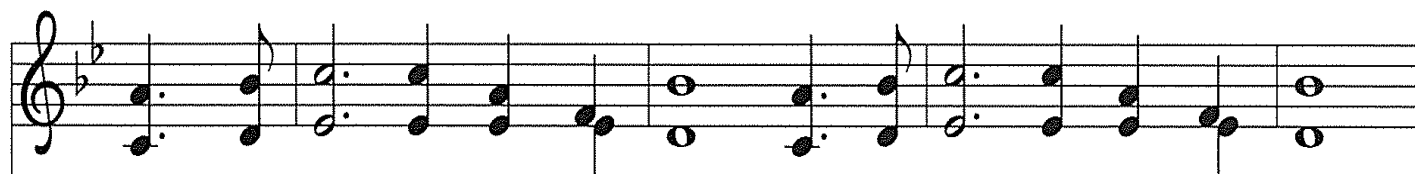
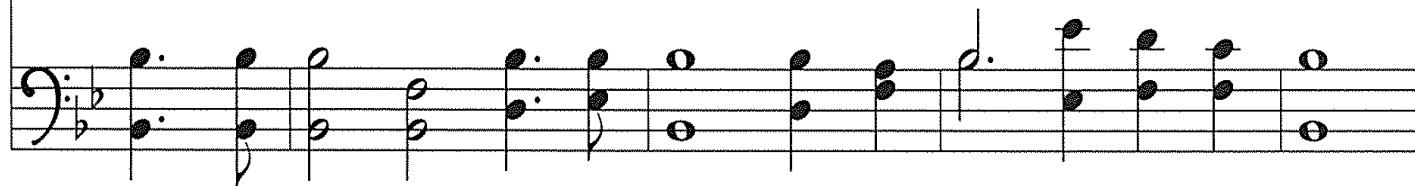
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The fifth system concludes the hymn with a final cadence. The lyrics are printed below the staff.

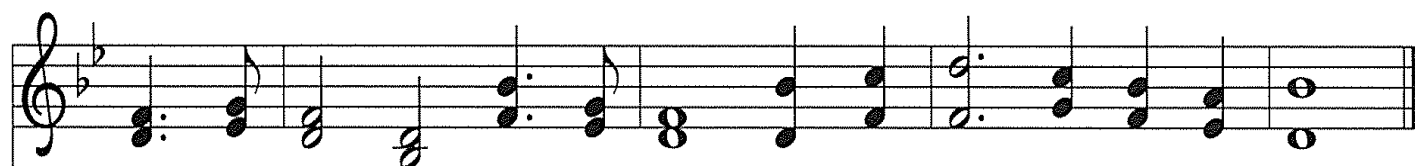
Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



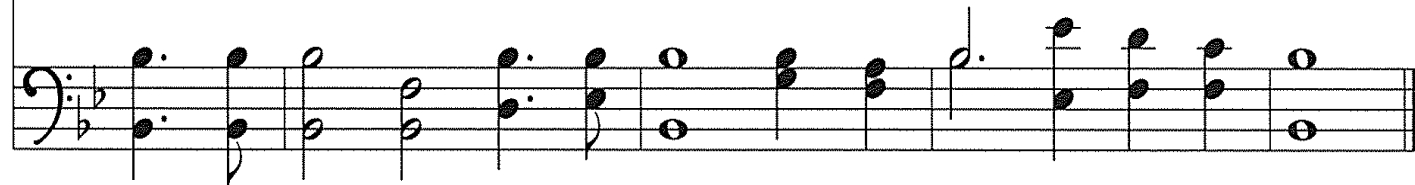
1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.



First Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

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revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Organist and Music Director: Kristina Schuerle

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God.

The Lay Reader is Kimberly Grewe.

Acolytes are Elijah & Lillah Clark.

Counters/Greeters today are K. Luketich and S. Rea.

Welcome to our Visitors! The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

Dartball on August 31st at Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs for infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

Bell Choir Practice on Sunday from 1-2 & Thursday from 7-8 PM.

The Flower Chart for 2021 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date.

Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2021. Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2021. Please sign up.

Please remember to continue contributing donations to our girls in Ethiopia.
Please consider this as a call to help others in need.

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Betty Johnson, Janet Burke, Maureen Curry, Eveline Reihner, Rocky and Carol, Shari Kienzle, Joanne Reck, Chiquita, Patricia Zablony, Stacy Carroll, Byron Christian, Tillie Shawin, Billie Sue Serbak, Susan Westott, Fred Dupas, baby Isaac Christian, Sandy Hebrank, Lynn Hudak, Allan Zimmerman, the Pollana family, Ashley McCartney, Amy Verderber, Sylvia Sunstrum, Kevin Ryan, Bob Cable, baby Ryan David Mayer, Danielle Pinkerton, Dan, Fritz Group, Amy, Lucy & Dave Mehaffey, Stephanie Kennedy, Jessi, Bill Hisiro, Richard, Ruby Rogers, Becky, Mel & Klaus Behrens, Jim Lacko, Joanne Reck, Joyce Streater, and Nikki and family.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

PA Mental health support and referral line

1-855-284-2494

WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE

1-877-225-3567

WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE

724-228-6832

SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE

724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY)

FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

Church Offering Change: In order to keep everyone safe we have changed how we collect the Sunday Offering. We do not have our ushers pass the plates around. Instead, we have one offering plate located by the last pew and one by the choir loft. Please place your offering in one of those plates. Feel free to place your offering in the plates during our Offertory if you did not do so on the way in.

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

August 29, 2021 — Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

“Put on the whole armor of God...” (Ephesians 6:11)

The apostle Paul said, “I have been crucified with Christ....and I live in the flesh by faith in the Son of God” (Gal. 2:20). Whoever belongs to Christ crucifies the flesh. But because we have not yet died, we still sin. We still get angry, feel envy, impatience, and sexual desire. But these feelings are not carried out because the flesh is crucified by repressing it with spiritual disciplines and by walking with the Spirit. We are instructed, encouraged, and comforted by the Word of God, by faith, and by prayer, which helps us to refuse to yield to our desires. When we resist, we nail our flesh, passions, desires, and our sins to the cross of Christ, with Christ, who takes them as his own. Though our “flesh” is still alive, it cannot accomplish what it wishes because it is nailed to the cross by its hands and feet.

We dress ourselves with faith, hope, and the sword of the Spirit. We fight back at the flesh; and with these nails it is fastened to the cross, so that against its will it is forced to be subject to the Spirit. Eventually, when we die, we will put it off completely, forever. In the resurrection we will have new flesh that is pure, without any passions, evil desires, or sin. We have gone from sinner to saint.

We put on the breastplate of righteousness so the chest is protected against flaming darts (vs. 16). This gives us courage and a good conscience, which is righteous because we rely on God's armor. When we are attacked by the flaming darts, we feel guilt and disgrace. The shield helps us from becoming fearful by putting our trust in God alone.

We need the helmet of the Savior, Jesus Christ. He made himself into a helmet when he said to us, “Remember the word that I said to you” (John 15:20). A helmet gives the head protection and we can feel secure and peaceful when thinking of the things that are happening to us also happened to Jesus.

We take the sword (not the sheath!), which is the word of God, and strike out against the flaming darts with the sharp blade of spiritual understanding. We have the word of God deep inside our hearts, protected under the breastplate, and we strike at the slings and arrows that are attacking us. Thanks be to God! Amen.

