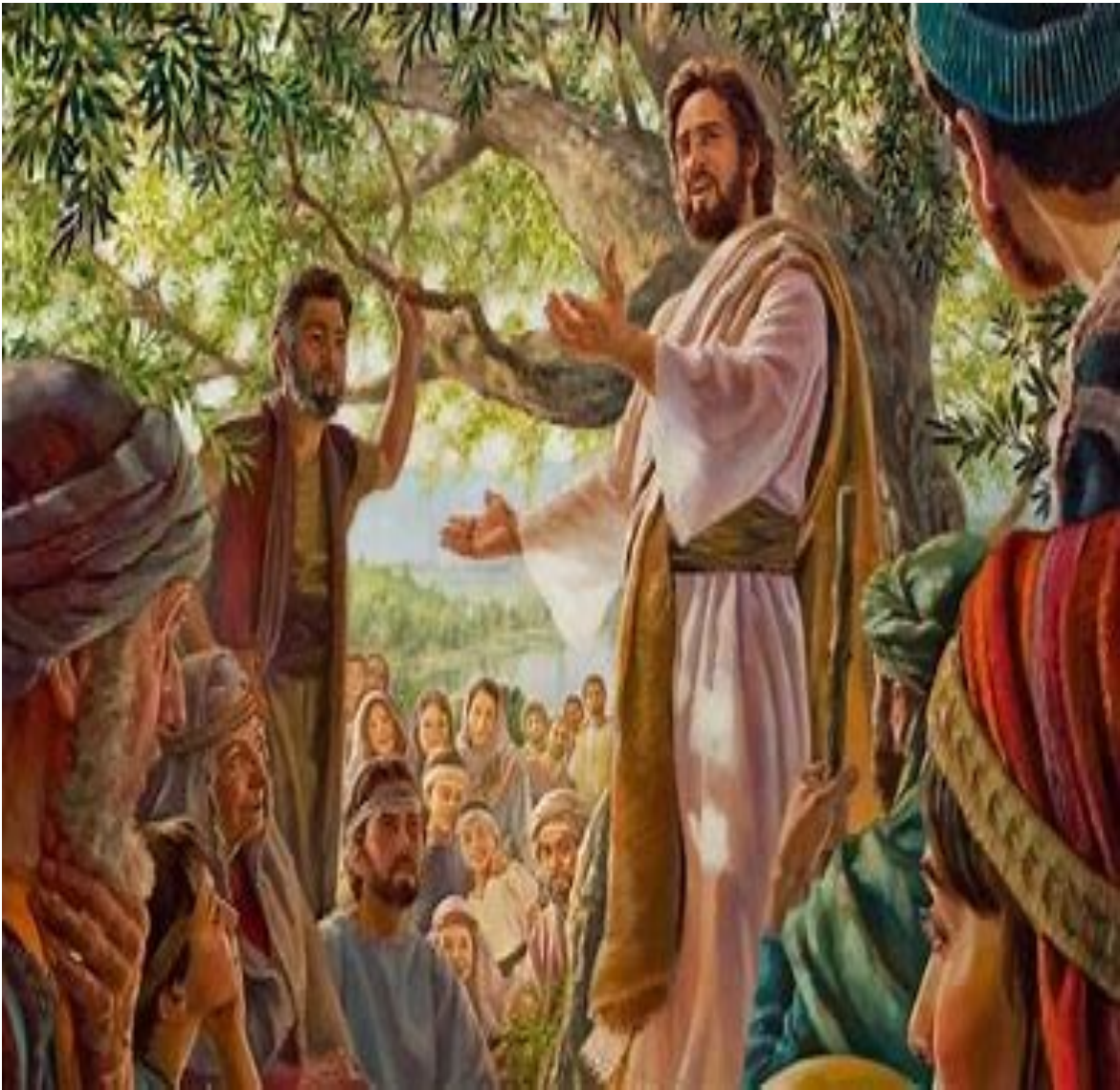


John 15:1

Jesus said "I am the true vine, and  
My Father is the vinedresser"



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



\*The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

**C: O God, You make the minds of the faithful to be of one will. Grant that Your people would love what You command and desire what You promise, that, among the manifold changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalm 150

<sup>1</sup>Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise him in His mighty heavens!

**<sup>2</sup>Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His excellent greatness!**

<sup>3</sup>Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp!

**<sup>4</sup>Praise Him with tambourine and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe!**

<sup>5</sup>Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!

**<sup>6</sup>Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!**

Second Reading

1 John 4:1-11 [12-21]

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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

\* The Gospel

John 15:1-8

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

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

Children's Sermon  
(children leave for Sunday School)

Pastor Grewe

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

\*The Hymn of the Day

*If You Will But Trust in God to Guide You*

(ELW) No. 769

\*The Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**I 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

\*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

\*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

\*The Offertory

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

(SBH) No. 27

\*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

*On Our Way Rejoicing*

(ELW) No. 537

\*The Dismissal (*response*)

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

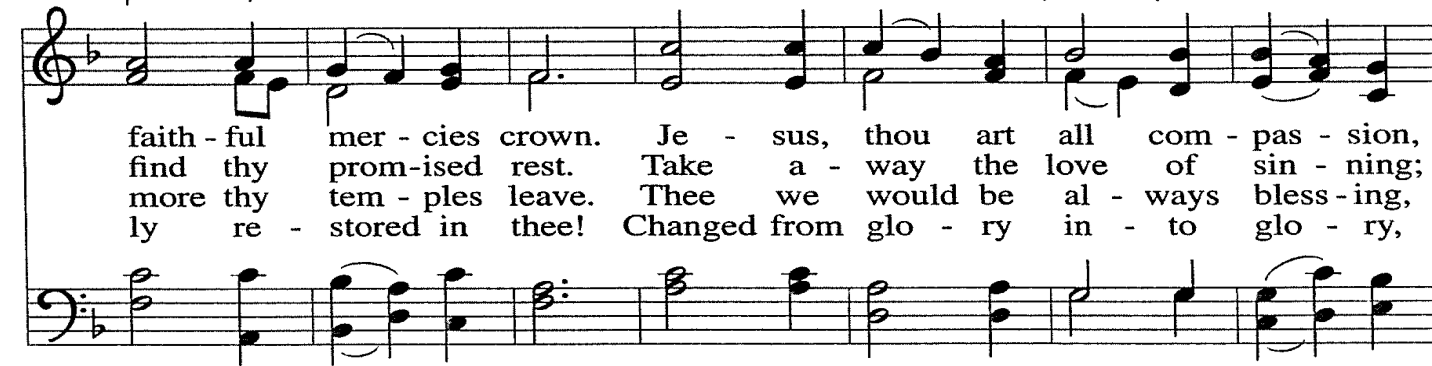
## Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



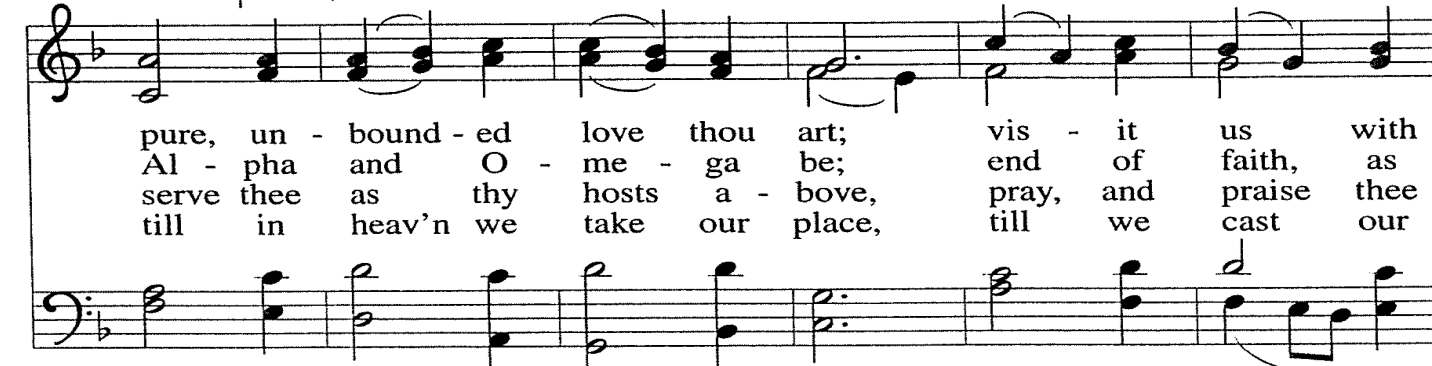
1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

# Beautiful Savior

838

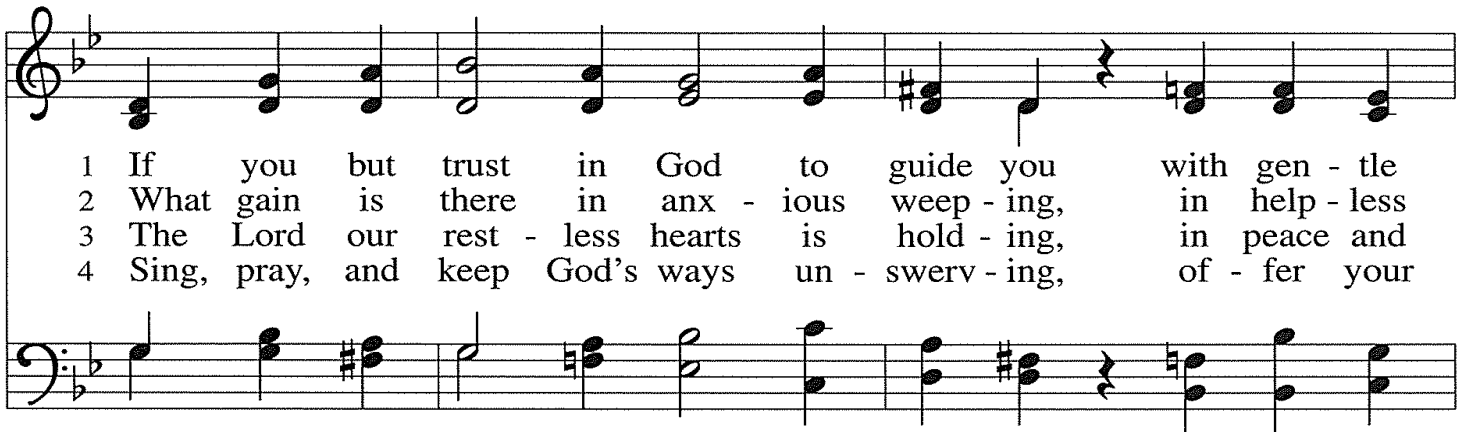
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!  
robed in the flow'rs of spring;  
bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,  
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
than all the an - gels in the sky.  
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

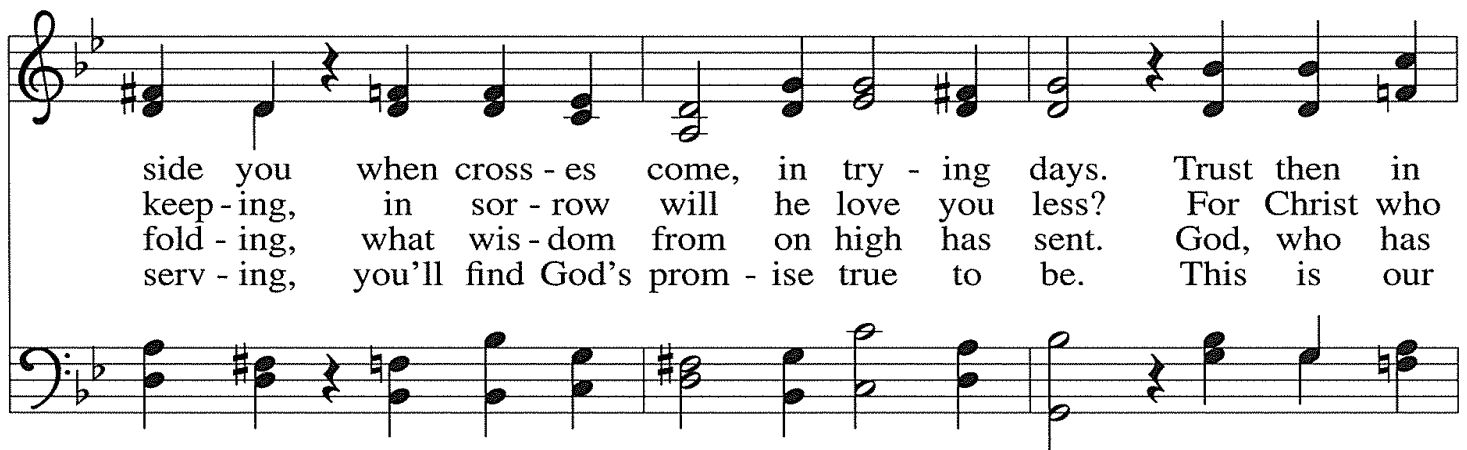
## If You But Trust in God to Guide You



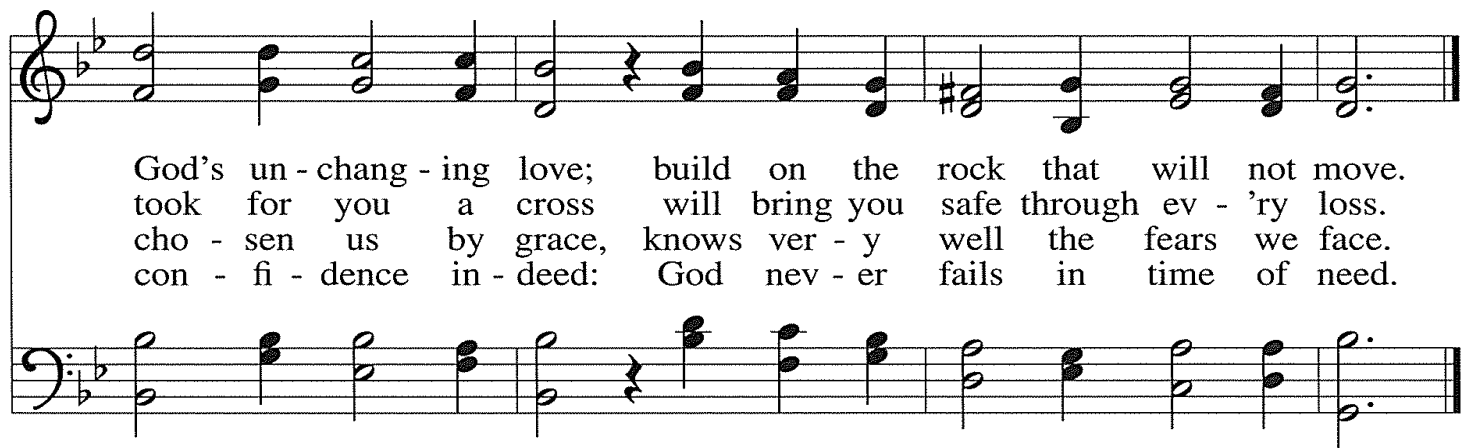
1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle  
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less  
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and  
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -  
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's  
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -  
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in  
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who  
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has  
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.  
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.  
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.  
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.



# The Communion

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

The first system of musical notation for 'The Communion'. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 'Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -'.

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

The second system of musical notation. The melody continues in the treble clef, and the bass line continues in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 'new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -'.

way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly

The third system of musical notation. The melody continues in the treble clef, and the bass line continues in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 'way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly'.

Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of

The fourth system of musical notation. The melody continues in the treble clef, and the bass line continues in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 'Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of'.

thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it.

The fifth and final system of musical notation. The melody concludes in the treble clef, and the bass line concludes in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 'thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it.'

## On Our Way Rejoicing

1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.  
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;

Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.  
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;

Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;  
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,

who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?  
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

*Refrain*

On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,

hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

**First Lutheran Church**

92 W. Walnut St., Washington, PA

724-225-4040

e-mail: [secretary@flcwash.church](mailto:secretary@flcwash.church)

Online services posted weekly on website: [www.flcwash.church](http://www.flcwash.church)

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

[revrob@flcwash.church](mailto:revrob@flcwash.church)

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Matthew Cimino, Organist

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

**The Lay Reader** is Dennis Schmidt.

**Acolytes** are Jacin and Trevor Flowers..

**Counters/Greeters** today are H. Quedenfeld and S. Berry.

**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.

**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.

**The Flower Chart for 2024** 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 2024.** 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 2024.** 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.**

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**Please pray for those in need of healing:**

Janet Burke, Shari Kienzle, Susan Westott, baby Isaac Christian, the Pollana family, Sylvia Sunstrum, Fritz Group, Eric Group, Danielle Sherman, Amy Verderber, Tillie and Larry, Lou Mayne, Judy, Debbie, Sayward, Jim H., Barbara Mounts, Chiquita Pearson, Tim and Sharon, Judy Coble, Gary Conti, Linnese, Karen and John, Neil Bassi, Phyllis Daniels, Simon Thorp, Josh, Becky Wood, Apollos Yocca, Alex Houck, Bridgette, Rhonda Hendrickson, Ron Erdmann, Belinda, Wilda Durbin, Stacy Carroll, Leann Vitteck, Isabella & family, James, Lori Mauer, Jennifer Brown, Mark Black, Kenny & Josh Carl, Cindi and John Moore, Sean Shearer, Ed Dupas, Sandy Salerno, Gavazzi family, Janelle Henderson, Rex Gibson, Mike Phipps, Holly Davis, Pat Dupas, Rich Luketich, Gwen Roberts, Judy Dombrowsky, Chris Maust, Firefighter Zach Correll, Bonnie Bird, Judi, Lenny and Sandy.

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.

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**Hope for Ethiopia funds are low, please donate.**

**Adult Catechism** class is on Tuesday at 11 and 7 pm. We are discussing the book we read over the summer. All are welcome. We look forward to you joining us in our discussion.

**Adult Sunday School** is held before our Church Service starting at 9:45 am in the church library. Come join us.

**Bell Choir** rehearsal is Monday at 6:30 pm. We would love for you to join us. Please see Kris Briggs if you are interested, [kkbrgs1@gmail.com](mailto:kkbrgs1@gmail.com). All are welcome.

Our **Dartball team** is looking for more members. Practices are Tuesdays at 7 pm. No experience is needed. Come join us for fun and fellowship. We hope to see you soon. Please contact Dennis Schmidt for information.

**Chess Club** meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm. All are welcome from beginners to experienced. We hope that you will join us for fellowship and fun. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

## **MOTHER'S DAY BANQUET**

It is time for the women, daughters and friends of First Lutheran Church to enjoy an evening of food, fellowship, and fun to honor Mother's Day.

We will meet on May 13 at 6:30 PM in the Delfini Room, formally Danny's restaurant, in Meadowlands, Pa. There are no steps!

Danny will cater and as always serve a delicious meal.

Tickets will be \$20.00 for adults, \$10.00 for children 6-12 and 5 and under free.

Reservations are due by May 5th.

Please see these ladies at church or call them at home:

Linda Coleman - 724-225-8011

Joanne Marker - 724-228-4716

Ruby Rogers - 724-663-5134

Sonie Rea - 724-222-3037

We hope to see everyone at dinner.

Sonie

**Listening for the Promise**  
**Weekly Devotional**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter— April 28, 2024**

“Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.” - 1 John 4:11 -

Love is a gift from God; without Him it is impossible for us to love. We love because God first loved us, and God calls us through His love to love others. Sure, nonbelievers love. According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, love is strong affection for another arising out of kinship or personal ties; attraction based on sexual desire; affection based on admiration, benevolence, or common interests. All human beings are capable of love.

There's another definition of love, a more difficult kind of love. It is the unselfish, loyal, and benevolent concern for the good of another: as the fatherly concern of God for humankind or brotherly concern for others. It is especially difficult to love strangers and enemies. How do we love those who do not love us back? We look to God. He loved us so much that He gave up His own Son. Now, He calls us to this sacrificial love. This love is impossible without God.

John writes, “In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” Jesus, the Son of God, suffered the humiliation of the cross, quietly died for our sake, paying the price for our sin. This is the Gospel message: that God so loved us that He sent His only begotten Son into the world that we might live through Him.

Love is sacrificing oneself for the sake of another; hate is sacrificing another for our own sake. If we think so highly of ourselves that we can ignore or reject the cries of our brothers and sisters, it is impossible for us to love God. God comes to us in and through the needs of others. We have the opportunity to love God by offering a drink to those who thirst. We love God by sharing our lunch with those who are hungry. The sick, imprisoned, unclothed, and homeless provide more opportunities for us to love God. We love God when we love them with our whole selves, our resources, and our actions. God's love is not meant to be kept to ourselves, hidden from the world. He loved us with the most sacrificial love there is so that we will love our neighbors with unselfish, loyal, and benevolent concern for their own good.

