



First Lutheran Church Wednesday Midweek Worship
May 17, 2023
+ WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME +

OPENING SONG **Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKOoeTbjSel>

WELCOME

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you have welcomed all people into your kingdom. Remove from us the barriers that we build to keep people from you, so that all might live in your grace and peace. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+ WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD +

SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 5:1-11

¹Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

SONG **Let Us Break Bread Together**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UF0izK8j27w>

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith

**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.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Each petition ends with the words, "Hear us, O God" and our collective response is **"Your mercy is great"**.

PEACE

The sharing of the Peace reminds us of the first words the Risen Christ spoke to his disciples. We share that peace with one another (a simple wave in this case) as a gesture of the peace we have received from Christ, as we share the words:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your regular offering ensures that God's life-giving ministry through this community continues. You are able to make your offering using the baskets located by the baptismal font and online via our website (firstlutheranec.org ... select the [GIVE](#) option tab at the top of the screen) or our mobile app. When making your offering online, you may choose to make it either as a recurring one that fits your particular circumstance (weekly, monthly, etc.) or as a one-time offering. You can also mail your offering to the church office (3604 Chatham Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042). In addition to sharing your financial gifts, today you might also choose to give thanks for the ways you offer your gifts to the world, or how others share their gifts in ways that enhance your life.



First Lutheran Church, Generosity Statement

We **believe** that we are created in the image of a loving, generous God who creates us to live in relationships of love and generosity.

We **commit** to living lives of generosity, welcoming, growing, and sharing in God's grace, and using the abundance God provides to meet the needs of others.

We **invite** all disciples to experience the joy of fearless generosity, giving our time, talents and treasure so that each of us, our community, and the world might be transformed through the ministries of First Lutheran Church.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

+ WE SHARE CHRIST'S MEAL +

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy are you. God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest!

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

. . . be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

COMMUNION

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

Amen.

+ WE ARE SENT FORTH FOR SERVICE +

BLESSING

SONG

Build a Longer Table

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NrstV-4iGw8>

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

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