

Order of Service for Worship in the Home and for Zoom
23rd Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2020
10:00 a.m.

Reminder: we are meeting in person in the building following Covid-19 precautions.

Zoom requires a password to join the worship service. The password for First English's worship is 408299.

Are You Online? Join Zoom Worship!

Please email Caitlyn in the office at officefelc@zoominternet.net to be added to the email list for a link to the service.

Not Online? Join Us Over the Phone!

+1 301 715 8592 US
Meeting ID: 956 305 5281
Password: 408299

If you are planning to return to in-person worship services, please let Caitlyn know that you no longer need to receive the bulletin in the mail.

GATHERING

WELCOME & TEMPLE TALK

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father and of the Son + of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our 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.

HYMN "Wake, Awake for Night is Flying"

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.
grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
bliss be - yond all dream-ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun-d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite
Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
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GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray: O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON *zoom/in person worship*

THE WORD

FIRST READING **Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25**

In the Near East, covenant means "agreement" or "alliance." It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.

¹Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ²And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. ^{3a}Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

¹⁴"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

¹⁶Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

¹⁹But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. ²⁰If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." ²¹And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" ²²Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." ²³He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." ²⁴The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey." ²⁵So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 78:1-7 *read responsively*

¹Hear my teaching, O my people;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

²**I will open my mouth in a parable;**
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times—

³that which we have heard and known, and what our forebears have told us,
we will not hide from their children.

⁴**We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD,**
and the wonderful works God has done.

⁵The LORD gave a decree in Jacob and established a law in Israel,
commanding our ancestors to teach it to their children;
⁶**that the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn;
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;**
⁷so that they might put their trust in God,
and not forget the deeds of God, but keep God's commandments.

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We welcome the gospel:

Alleluia! Keep awake and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

The Holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹²But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON *online*

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

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for God's power to come upon the church, the world, and all in need, responding to each petition with words, "hear our prayer."

Holy Creator, delight us with the autumn beauty of your earth. At this change of seasons, give the animals what they need for survival. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Holy Peacemaker, give peace to our conflicted nation. Quell all attempts at violence and halt the desire for retribution. Cure our nation from prejudice of every kind. Teach us how to abide together as one diverse people. Restore families and friendships torn apart by political differences. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Holy Sovereign, grant that all newly elected officials of government will work faithfully for the common good. Give them wisdom, honesty, and humility. Illumine their convictions with a spirit of cooperation.

If the next president has been named: Bless especially President-elect *name*. Pour upon him and upon all his advisors a right spirit of dedication to justice and truth.

If the next president has not yet been named: Give to our nation patience as it awaits the presidential election results.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Holy Protector, bless the observance of Veterans Day. Bring armistice to areas of conflict and keep safe the military who serve in harm's way. Give to all the armed forces a dedication to defend the common good. Heal the wounds, both physical and emotional, experienced by active and retired service members. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Holy Healer, bring health and wholeness to those who are sick, those who live with chronic pain, and the thousands who daily contract COVID-19. Console those who feel lonely or abandoned. Protect those living in resettlement camps.

Uphold medical care workers, especially in third-world countries. We pray especially for those we name here before you.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Holy Beloved, form us into a people close to your heart, and receive now our silent petitions:

A longer period of silence.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Holy and immortal One, we remember before you all who have died in the faith, especially the military and the civilians who died in armed conflicts, and those we name before you here.... At the end, bring us with them to be with our Lord forever. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers for the same of him who lived, died, and rose for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.
Amen.

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,
that we should always sing of your glory,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For you are the hope of the nations, the builder of the city that is to come.

Your love made visible in Jesus Christ

brings home the lost, restores the sinner, and gives dignity to the despised.

In his face your light shines out, flooding lives with goodness and truth,
gathering into one in your kingdom a divided and broken humanity.

Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation
we glorify your name, forever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks and gave it to all to eat, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

Grant us your peace, Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The gifts of God for the people of God!

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

“NOW, LORD...” read responsively

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:

your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation

which you have prepared in the sight of ev’ry people:

a light to reveal you to the nations

and the glory of your people Israel.

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord’s face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace. **Amen.**

HYMN

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Sandy Lefebvre	Assisting Minister
Susan Farrell	Reader
Sandy Lefebvre	Crucifer
Sue Morrow	AV Assisting Minister
Brandon Stein	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Signe Mitchell	Organist
Susan Farrell and Jan Nieto	Ushers
Jim and Jeanette Cunningham	Counters
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Tracy Gullickson, in memory of Randy.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 11/9	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting
Tuesday, 11/10	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wednesday, 11/11	11:00 AM	Staff Meeting
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thursday, 11/12	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting
	7:30 PM	Choir Practice
Saturday, 11/14	12:00 PM	NA Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christian Education - Outdoors at Lutherlyn! All Sunday school students are invited to meet at Dogwood Shelter from 11:30 to 1 p.m. on Sundays Nov. 8, 22, and Dec. 13. If you are in worship in person, we will caravan out together. Please wear playclothes, outdoor shoes, and a mask. A bagged lunch will be available. Please RSVP to Sharon at sharonfelc@zoominternet.net.

Meals on Wheels Baking Sunday is November 15th! If you are interested in making a baked good donation, please bring them to church on Nov. 15th. If you are worshipping via Zoom, Judy Vilcheck will be at the First English door to collect donations from 11 am until 12 pm. Just drive by and drop off your dessert!

Christmas Flowers Orders! If you would like Christmas flowers, please place your order with the church office (724) 283-2378 or officefelc@zoominternet.net by Sunday, December 6th. Options include: Poinsettia - \$6.25 (red, pink, white, burgundy, jingle bells or marble), Cyclamen - \$8.30 (red, pink, white, or purple), or Christmas Cactus - \$4.15

Community Dinner is accepting donations of venison through Hunters Sharing the Harvest. For information about how to donate, please visit shareadeer.org or contact the church office (724) 283-2378 or officefelc@zoominternet.net.

The 2021 Flower Chart is posted in the Social Hall. If you are not attending in-person worship and would like to sign-up for a date in 2021, please let the church office know (724) 283-2378 or officefelc@zoominternet.net.

PRAYERS

Edna Hartman, Jim Buehler, Justin Buehler, Cyndy Halin, Gene Fozard, Cindy Regis & her daughter Angie, Josh, Aryl Bashline, Sara and Rob, Dave and Diana Braun, David and Gina & family, Ida Miller, Shirley Sellers, Crystal, the family of Mary Heist, Gayle Wynn, Mary Maloney, the family of Ryan Warheit, the family of Scot Taylor, Claude, Audrey & Jonah Clark, Ed Beck, the family of Jim Templet, all those affected by the wildfires in California and Colorado, the family of Edgar Nieto, the family of Marjorie Ellis, Anita, the family of Frances Cypher, Jamie and Kaitlin Sprague, Graham Cannon, Becky Wyckoff, Larry Hamil, Jan Nieto, the family of Mildred Dollhopf, Sandy Snyder, David and Emma Lee Hartle, the family of Hailey Matheson, Ryan, Forest and Marietta White, Christine Pflugh, Asyiah, the family of Nancy, the family of Jean Purvis, Joyce Hall, Bruni Bilowich, Karen Vavro, Doug Horner, Sandy, Lisa, Wendy, Rhonda, Judy M., Mary Ellen, Claudia, Karen, Kitty Walker, Hope & Bruce Keeler, Gina Ambrosio, Elizabeth, Jena Wright, Tad Sellers, Ralph D'Antonio.

NEXT WEEK'S READING

Judges 4:1-7

The judgeship of Deborah

Psalm 123

Our eyes look to you, O God, until you show us your mercy. (Ps. 123:2)

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Be alert for the day of the Lord

Matthew 25:14-30

The story of the slaves entrusted with talents