



**First English Lutheran Church**  
**241 N. Main Street, Butler, Pennsylvania 16001**  
**724-283-2378**  
**[www.firstenglishbutler.org](http://www.firstenglishbutler.org)**

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*First English Lutheran Church is a welcoming,  
worshiping community rooted in Butler and making  
Christ known in word and deed.*

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**Welcome to all in the name of Christ!** Your presence blesses this congregation. If you would like to let us know about you, would you please either sign the guest books at the back of the sanctuary or fill out a communion card and place it in the offering plates located at the back of the sanctuary? We look forward to getting to know you!

**Prayer request cards** can be found in the pews and placed in the offering plate. Names will be added to the prayer list and your concerns will be shared with First English's prayer team. "Pray without ceasing!"

**Large print bulletins** are available from the ushers.

**For families with children:** Children's Church is suspended for the time being due to coronavirus concerns. For our young worshippers, we have bags with a "pew project" related to the scripture readings to keep hands busy during the sermon.

**Financial gifts** to support First English's ministry can be placed in the offering plates located at the back of the sanctuary. You can also give online by going to our website: [www.firstenglishbutler.org/giving](http://www.firstenglishbutler.org/giving)

**Greeting time** will take place outside following today's worship service.

Service of Holy Communion  
Third Sunday of Easter  
April 18, 2021  
10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

**PRELUDE**

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” - Johann Pachelbel  
“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!” - David Johnson, *arr.*

**WELCOME**

Alleluia, Christ is Risen!  
**He is risen indeed!**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of baptism:*  
In the name of the Father and of the Son + of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

O Lord our God, we give you thanks

For the new life you raise up in us

Through the mystery of our baptism—

The sorrow of the empty cross,

The surprise of the empty tomb,

The love that death could not destroy.

By the power of your Holy Spirit,

Poured out upon us in baptism,

Fill us with the joy of the resurrection,

So that we may be a living sign

Of your new heaven and new earth;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*zoom*

**PROCESSION OF THE CROSS**

*sanctuary*

*Worshippers in the building are invited to turn and follow the cross as it makes its way through the worship space.*

## **GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed.**

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. Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **THE WORD**

#### **FIRST READING      Acts 3:12-19**

*After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.*

<sup>12</sup>[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?<sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup>"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also

your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 4**      *read responsively*

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;  
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**<sup>2</sup>"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;  
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"**

<sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;  
the LORD will hear me when I call.

**<sup>4</sup>Tremble, then, and do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices,  
and put your trust in the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?"  
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>You have put gladness in my heart,  
more than when grain and wine abound.

**<sup>8</sup>In peace, I will lie down and sleep;  
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

**SECOND READING**    **1 John 3:1-7**

*God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.*

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is

lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation may stand.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**     *sung by choir*

**GOSPEL**            **Luke 24:36b-48**

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things."

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

*The congregation may be seated.*

SERMON

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

*The congregation may stand.*

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We 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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.

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.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

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

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Rejoicing in the risen Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Holy and righteous God, for the church, we pray: for our own congregation, for the churches of all our neighbors and around the globe, and especially for Christians in Nigeria and wherever martyrdoms threaten. Hear us, O God: **your mercy is great.**

For peace we pray: for the end of warfare, terrorism, and cruelty to the poor, for a respectful treatment of refugees and all who are incarcerated, hear us, O God: **your mercy is great.**

For justice we pray: for the willingness to work for the end of ethnic and economic prejudice, for relief and freedom for all who are oppressed, and especially for all court cases in this and every land. Hear us, O God: **your mercy is great.**

For all who are sick and suffering, we pray: for those who have no access to the coronavirus vaccines, for the children afflicted with the virus variants, for everyone who fears receiving medical advice and assistance, for those who live with chronic pain, for those whose pain is known only to you, and especially for those we name here before you. . . . Hear us, O God: **your mercy is great.**

For children we pray, especially those who have suffered sexual, emotional, or physical abuse at home, that they would receive needed intervention and healing from trauma, that all who are young may be able to lie down and sleep in safety and peace....Hear us, O God: **your mercy is great.**

For ourselves, when we believe and when we doubt, and for our dear ones for whom we pray... Hear us, O God: **your mercy is great.**



We remember before you all the witnesses of the resurrection, the saints of old, those who have died by violence or by illness, and especially our relatives and friends. Hear us, O God: **your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers into your heart of mercy for the sake of the holy and righteous one, Jesus Christ, our wondrous Redeemer.

**Amen.**

## MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

*The congregation may stand.*

### MEAL

#### OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior 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 at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to

eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the

witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your

name and join their unending hymn:

**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.**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.  
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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.  
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Finally, as Jesus has taught us, we are bold 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.**

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The gifts of God for the people of God. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**LAMB OF GOD**                      *sung by choir*

*The congregation may be seated.*

## SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

*Ushers will invite the congregation forward for communion. Please keep six feet of distance between you and the next group of communicants! Please cup your hands to receive the bread. You may reverence the cup of wine with a bow or with folded hands upon hearing the words, "the blood of Christ, shed for you."*

*The congregation may stand.*

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you have given the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

## THE SENDING

### BLESSING

May God, who has made from the dust of the earth, and who has redeemed you from the power of the evil one, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**                      *Here I Am, Lord*                      Red Book #574

## Here I Am, Lord



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

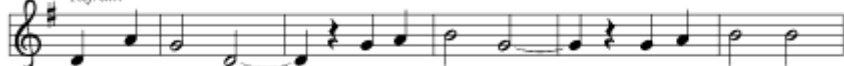


I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

### *Refrain*



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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RECESSION

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

“Sortie”

- L.J.T. Darwell

## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

|                             |                                      |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Pastor Kimberly van Driel   | <b>Presiding Minister</b>            |
| Sandy Lefebvre              | <b>Assisting Minister</b>            |
| Marlin Boltz                | <b>Reader</b>                        |
| Sandy Lefebvre              | <b>Crucifer</b>                      |
| Signe Mitchell              | <b>Organist</b>                      |
| Harry Cunningham            | <b>Senior Choir Director</b>         |
| Josh Kamerer                | <b>AV Assisting Minister</b>         |
| Holly Schubert              | <b>PowerPoint Assisting Minister</b> |
| Roxanne Glagola             | <b>Altar Guild</b>                   |
| Bob and Karen Domanski      | <b>Ushers</b>                        |
| Jim and Jeanette Cunningham | <b>Counters</b>                      |

*Flowers are given to the glory of God by Dan and Sue Morrow  
in memory of Wil Morrow.*

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

|                 |                      |  |
|-----------------|----------------------|--|
| Monday, 4/19    | 5:00 PM              | Community Dinner   |
|                 | 5:00 PM              | NA Meeting   |
|                 | 8:00 PM              | NA Meeting   |
| Tuesday, 4/20   | 8:00 AM –<br>5:00 PM | Butler County Children’s Center<br>Registration Event in Social Hall |
|                 | 5:00 PM              | NA Meeting   |
|                 | 7:00 PM              | Council Meeting  |
| Wednesday, 4/21 | 7:00 PM              | AA Meeting (Social Hall)   |
| Thursday, 4/22  | 5:00 PM              | NA Meeting   |
|                 | 7:30 PM              | NA Meeting   |
|                 | 7:30 PM              | Choir Rehearsal  |
| Saturday, 4/24  | 9:00 AM              | AA Meeting   |
|                 | 12:00 PM             | NA Meeting   |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Bible Study on Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> has been cancelled.**

**We are starting a new prayer list on May 1.** If you would like to keep someone on the prayer list, please list that person on the prayer list at the front desk or send an email to [officefelc@zoominternet.net](mailto:officefelc@zoominternet.net).

**Butler Meals on Wheels is having a fundraiser on April 20<sup>th</sup> from 4 - 6 p.m. at St. Peter's Anglican Church.** Dinners of beef pot roast and biscuit or cream chicken and biscuit (plus coleslaw and pie) are available for take-out for \$10.

**Lutherlyn's Spring Work Day is Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.** Lutherlyn provides all the tools (and a bagged lunch prepared by Chef Lisa to all volunteers! Sign-up online <https://www.lutherlyn.com/support/volunteer/workdays.html> or call (724) 865-2161.

**Registration for Summer Camp 2021 at Lutherlyn has begun!** Please visit [www.Lutherlyn.com](http://www.Lutherlyn.com) for dates, prices, details, and registration. For additional information, please contact the camp office at (724) 865-2161 or [registrar@lutherlyn.com](mailto:registrar@lutherlyn.com).

## PRAYERS

Larry and Mollie Hibbs and family, Jim and Lisa, Marc and family, Renee, Linda Hall and her family Ron, Jon, Tim & Jeff, the family of Frida Schoch, Jim Cunningham, Pastor John Cochran, Hunter, Graham Cannon, Rita Marzullo Wagner, Emma, Scott Hainley, the family of Edna Hartman, the family of Gina Ambrosio, Hazel Warheit, Eleanor Roth, the family of Gene Fozard, David and Michele, the Jones family, Jamie Goehring, Jason Beckwith, and Devin, Codi, Savannah, Alyssa & Ethan, Rachel Faulkner, the family of Pastor Christine and Mark Rotella, , Debbie Damiano, Frida Nelson, Pam and children, the family and friends of Jake, the family of Marian Boltz, the family of Zack, Sue Morrow, Joan, Joey Lash, Andrea Dubler, Janice Critchlow, Pastor Karl Schoch, Anne Ferguson, the family of Dan Hanczar, Jeanette Cunningham, Marsh Miller, Ida Miller, Helen Wagner, the Lawson family, the Bodnar family, Tyler Jacob Huey, Meredith, Mary and Eleanor, Larry, Frederick Miller, Jim Buehler, Justin Buehler, Cyndy

Halin, Cindy Regis & her daughter Angie, Josh, Aryl Bashline, Dave and Diana Braun, David and Gina & family, Tad & Shirley Sellers, Crystal, 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, the family of Edgard Nieto, the family of Marjorie Ellis, Anita, Jamie and Kaitlin Sprague, Becky Wyckoff, Larry Hamil, Jan Nieto, David and Emma Lee Hartle, the family of Hailey Matheson, Ryan, Forest and Marietta White, Christine Pflugh, Asyiah, the family of Nancy, Joyce Hall, Bruni Bilowich, Karen Vavro, Doug Horner, Sandy, Lisa, Wendy, Rhonda, Judy M., Mary Ellen, Claudia, Karen, Kitty Walker, Elizabeth, Jena Wright, Ralph D'Antonio.

### **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

**Acts 4:5-12**

*Salvation in the name of Jesus*

**Psalm 23**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

**1 John 3:16-24**

*Love in truth and action*

**John 10:11-18**

*Christ the shepherd*