



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

---

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

---

**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**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**April 25, 2021**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

- |                                    |                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| “The Lord is My Faithful Shepherd” | - Johann Pachelbel               |
| “Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won!”  | - Christian Fink                 |
| “Because He Lives”                 | - William J. Gaither             |
|                                    | Fred Bock, <i>arr.</i>           |
|                                    | Harry Cunningham, <i>pianist</i> |

**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. O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### THE WORD

#### FIRST READING

Acts 4:5-12

*Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.*

<sup>5</sup>The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom

God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is  
‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
it has become the cornerstone.’

<sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under  
heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 23**     *read responsively*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I  
shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

**SECOND READING**    **1 John 3:16-24**

*Jesus’ death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the  
very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially  
through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God’s commandments.*

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and  
we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God’s love  
abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in  
need and yet refuses help?

<sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and  
action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will  
reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for  
God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if  
our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we

receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation may stand.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**      *sung by choir*

**GOSPEL**            **John 10:11-18**

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, the tenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

**SERMON**

**MUSIC FOR MEDITATION**    “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”  
*sung by Heather and Bryan Helsel*

*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.

God of love, you sent Jesus to be our good shepherd. He leads and protects us even when we must frustrate him. In this pandemic time, when so many of our regular habits of being church together have been broken, teach us his eternal patterns of patience and gentleness. Help us through hard times of being the church together. Give us grace in dealing with fellow Christians who annoy us or whose choices puzzle us. Open our ears in all things to listen to the shepherd's voice. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of justice, according to your word we wait for a new heaven and a new earth where righteousness is at home and where all your people know your peace. As we wait, give us the grace to obey your commandments, to love one another, and to work for the renewal of society. Empower those who bring restorative justice into their daily work. Protect those who risk their lives to serve others and guard those with authority from abusing their power. Hear us, O God: **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you made sun and rain, wind, and snow to praise you and you gave us plants and trees for food. Give us seasonable weather so that crops may flourish and so that we may know your abundance. Watch over those who work the land and give wisdom to agricultural and climate scientists, so that we may rightly care for earth you gave us to keep and till. And give special mercy and consideration to regions of our world where there is famine and hunger. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of tenderness and compassion, your Son's name brings health and wholeness. Bless those who are sick or in pain with healing. Befriend those who are sad or lonely. Illumine the path of all who today walk through the valley of the shadow of death: those who are dying, those who mourn, and those who wonder whether life is worth living. Especially we name before you those most dear to us.... Pour



resurrection hope into our hearts as we pray. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers into your heart of mercy, gracious God, and where our words have fallen short, grant to us those things you see that we need, all for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**

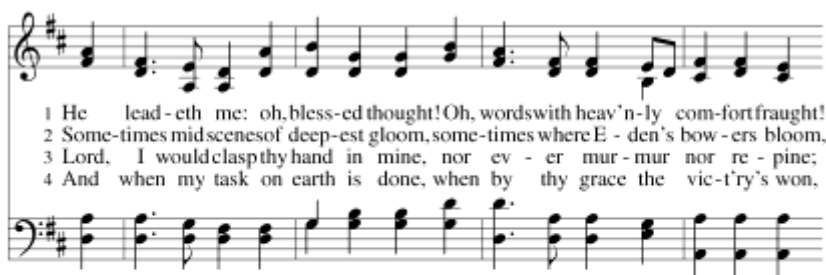
## THE SENDING

### 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**            *He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought*

## He Leadeth Me



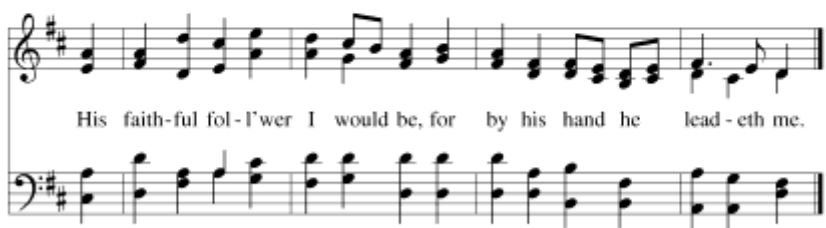
1 He lead-eth me: oh, bless-ed thought! Oh, words with heav'n-ly com-fort fraught!  
2 Some-times mid scenes of deep-est gloom, some-times where E - den's bow - ers bloom,  
3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine;  
4 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the vic-t'ry's won,



What - e'er I do, when - e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.  
by wa - ters calm, o'er trou-bled sea, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.  
con - tent, what - ev - er lot I see, since 'tis my God that lead - eth me.  
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jor - dan lead - eth me.



*Refrain*  
He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, by his own hand he lead-eth me.



His faith-ful fol - l'wer I would be, for by his hand he lead - eth me.

Text: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1834-1918  
Music: HE LEADETH ME, William B. Bradbury, 1815-1868

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”

- Alec Wyton

## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Kimberly van Driel	<b>Presiding Minister</b>
Sue Morrow	<b>Assisting Minister</b>
Amy Beiler	<b>Reader</b>
Judy Wadding	<b>Crucifer</b>
Kevin Mathias	<b>Organist</b>
Harry Cunningham	<b>Senior Choir Director/Pianist</b>
Marlin Boltz	<b>AV Assisting Minister</b>
Brandon Stein	<b>PowerPoint Assisting Minister</b>
Roxanne Glagola	<b>Altar Guild</b>
Bob and Karen Domanski	<b>Ushers</b>
Bob and Karen Domanski	<b>Counters</b>

*Flowers are given to the glory of God by Rose Cooper, in memory of loved ones,  
and by Larry and Mollie Hibbs, in memory of Terry Hibbs.*

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 4/26	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting
Tuesday, 4/27	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wednesday, 4/28	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thursday, 4/29	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting
	7:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, 5/1	9:00 AM	AA Meeting
	10:00 AM	DAR Meeting
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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).

**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

Nancy Hoehn, Judy O. and family, 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, Rachel Faulkner, the family of Pastor Christine and Mark Rotella, Debbie Damiano, Frida Nelson, 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, 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, Lisa, Wendy, Rhonda, Judy M., Mary Ellen, Claudia, Karen, Kitty Walker, Elizabeth, Jena Wright, Ralph D'Antonio.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

**Acts 8:26-40**

*Philip teaches and baptizes an Ethiopian*

**Psalm 22:25-31**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD. (Ps. 22:27)

**1 John 4:7-21**

*God's love perfected in love for one another*

**John 15:1-8**

*Christ the vine*