

First English Lutheran Church
241 N. Main Street, Butler, Pennsylvania 16001
724-283-2378
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

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

Service of Holy Communion
Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 9, 2021
10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Jesus Christ, Our Savior, Who Overcame Death - J.S. Bach
Elévation - Amédée de Vallombrosa
"Aria" from *Triptych for Organ* - Anthony Giamanco

WELCOME

Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

He is risen indeed!

RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM *page 227 in the front of the red book*

GATHERING HYMN *zoom*

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.
 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
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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 God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our 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 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98 *read responsively*

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of
Israel;

all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes
to judge the earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING **1 John 5:1-6**

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *sung by choir*

GOSPEL **John 15:9-17**

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

The congregation may stand.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

God of love, you call all people to abide in your love. Where our hearts have been hardened by cynicism, disappointment, or a need for control, give us hearts of flesh filled with compassion and grace. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Guide Demetrius and David as they grow and bless their parents and community of people that surround them as they fulfill the promises they have made to them in baptism. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Inspire nations throughout the world with a vision for the common good. Remove from human societies laws or policies that discriminate or humiliate, that all people may live in confidence and freedom. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Bless all mothers and those who give mothering care with patience and joy, and sustain those people who are reminded this day of unfulfilled hopes or unending grief. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Be present to all who need a special measure of your love and care this day, especially people who are sick, hungry, angry, or troubled by the sins and hurts of the past. We lift up before you those people who have asked for our prayers..... Hear us, O God:
Your mercy is great.

Bring the promise of resurrection hope into the hearts of all who grieve this day, and make the memories of those who have died into a blessing for our daily lives. We remember....and all those whom we name before you. 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 you 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

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing" Red Book #543

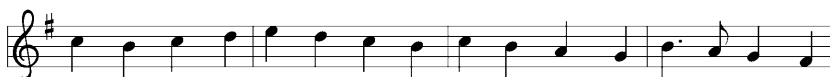
Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
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RECESSION

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Pastorale" from *Triptych for Organ*

- Anthony Giamanco

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Mollie Hibbs	Assisting Minister
Holly Schubert	Reader

Sharon Heist Miller	Crucifer
Kevin Mathias	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Senior Choir Director
Sue Morrow	AV Assisting Minister
Heather Helsel	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild
Bob and Karen Domanski	Ushers
Jack and Amy Beiler	Counters

*Flowers are given to the glory of God by Signe Mitchell,
in memory of Al Mitchell.*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 5/10	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting
Tuesday, 5/11	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wednesday, 5/12	11:00 AM	Staff Meeting
	3:00 PM	Kitchen Planning Meeting
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thursday, 5/13	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	7:00 PM	Ascension Service with Trinity
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting
	7:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, 5/15	9:00 AM	AA Meeting
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We rejoice that David Jeremiah Hall and Demetrius Anthony Hunter receive today the sacrament of Holy Baptism. David is the son of Summer Schnur and Noah Hall. His sponsors are Lacey Schnur, Alyssa Piche, Alexis Delawder, and Quay Schick. Demetrius is the son of Lacey Schnur and Jaihiem Hunter. His sponsors are Summer Schnur, Alyssa Piche, Ian Goodman, and Antonio DeVaughn. Lacey and Summer are granddaughters of the late Marsha Codisport.
Welcome to God's family, David and Demetrius!

There will be a meeting for those interested in planning for kitchen improvements on Wednesday, May 12th at 3 p.m. in the Social Hall.
All are welcome!

Join us at Lutherlyn on Sunday, May 23rd at 10 a.m. for outdoor worship followed by a catered picnic and fellowship at the Dogwood Shelter. Please RSVP to the church office by email officefelc@zoominternet.net or phone (724) 283-2378.

Beginning in June, we will no longer include printed hymns in the mail and email bulletins, but we will include the hymn names and numbers. We want to make sure everyone worshipping from home has a copy of the “red book,” *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. There are two options for obtaining a personal copy:

- Borrow one from First English and return it after the pandemic.
- Purchase a copy for your home for \$25!

The church office will arrange for the order and delivery of hymnals; please let us know which option you prefer by May 12th.

PRAYERS

Betty, Freda Hudson, Judy O. and family, Graham Cannon, Anne Ferguson, Claudia, Karen, Sandy, Anita, Joyce Hall, Kitty Walker, Nancy Hoehn, Tad & Shirley Sellers, Aryl Bashline, Jenna, Tom Olson, Pam Patterson, Renee, Linda Hall and family

If you would like to add someone on the prayer list, please send an email to officefelc@zoominternet.net.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Acts 1:1-11

Jesus sends the apostles

Psalm 47

God has gone up with a shout. (Ps. 47:5)

Ephesians 1:15-23

Eyes to see the risen and ascended Christ

Luke 24:44-53

Christ present in all times and places