

GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE WORD

FIRST READING 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

This reading describes some of the troubles in King David's family. His son Absalom has amassed an army and seized David's throne. Those loyal to David fight Absalom's forces and defeat them. David himself is chiefly concerned about the well-being of his son, even though that son has betrayed him.

⁵[King David] ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom." And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom.

⁶So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. ⁷The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. ⁸The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword.

⁹Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on. ¹⁵And ten young men, Joab's armor-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him.

³¹Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, "Good tidings for my lord the king! For the LORD has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you." ³²The king said to the Cushite, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" The Cushite answered, "May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man."

³³The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 130 *read responsively*

¹Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

²**O LORD, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

⁴**Yet with you is forgiveness,**

in order that you may be feared.

⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

⁶**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,**

more than those who keep watch for the morning.

⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;

with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

⁸**For the LORD shall redeem Israel**

from all their sins.

SECOND READING **Ephesians 4:25--5:2**

Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.

²⁵So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. ^{5:1}Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *sung by choir*

GOSPEL **John 6:35, 41-51**

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.

³⁵Jesus said to [the crowd,] "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ⁴¹Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴²They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" ⁴³Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me

unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

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

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts"

sts. 3 & 4

Red Book #658

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

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

For our congregation and for the church throughout the nation as we enter yet another phase of this pandemic, that God would feed us with the bread of life and so give us grace, wisdom, and patience, let us pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the children who attended our Vacation Bible School this week, and for their leaders, that their time together may bear witness to God's unconditional love, let us pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

For an end to falsehoods, lies, and disinformation that confuse and distort our common life, and for an increase in kindness, forgiveness, and mutual aid in this community and every place, let us pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all those who hunger: for food, for friendship, for love, for justice and righteousness, and for healing, that their needs may be satisfied, let us pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who looked to Christ to sustain them in this life and who now rest with him in heaven, let us give thanks, and that we with them may come to his heavenly feast, let us pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

“Sonata V. – Larghetto”
for Flute and Piano

- G.F. Händel

We thank Ellen Dodge for playing the flute as part of our worship today.

The congregation may stand.

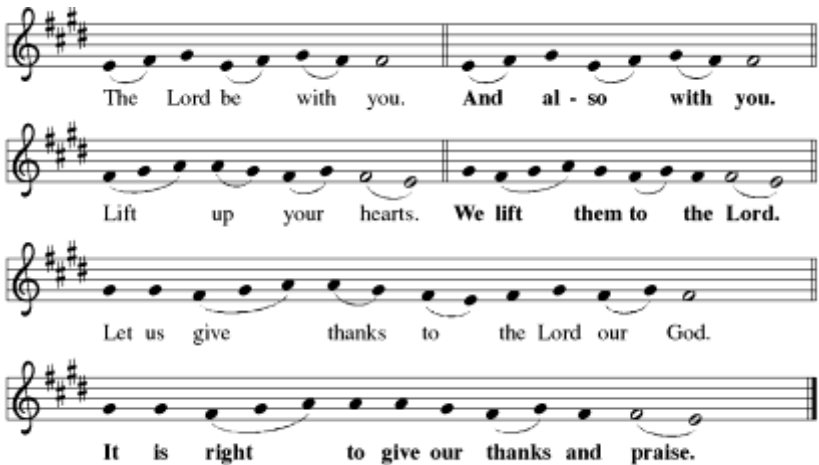
THE MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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...*(the presiding minister continues giving thanks)*...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord...*(the presiding minister continues giving thanks, concluding)*...Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The congregation may be seated.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to receive; please keep 6 feet of distance between you and the next group of communicants. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.

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

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 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

"Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor" Red Book #475

RECESSION

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing" - Flor Peeters

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Jim Cunningham	Assisting Minister
Judy Wadding	Reader
TBA	Crucifer
Signe Mitchell	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Senior Choir Director
Sue Morrow	AV Assisting Minister
Heather Helsel	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild
Bill and Judy Vilcheck	Ushers
Jim and Jeanette Cunningham	Counters

*Flowers are given to the glory of God by
the congregation of First English Lutheran Church.*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Caitlyn will be away on vacation beginning on Tuesday, August 10th
and will return on Tuesday, August 17th.**

Social Hour Hosts are Needed! If you would like to volunteer to be a host during our social hour after worship, please sign-up on the sheet in the Social Hall.

Join Us for a Picnic on Sunday, August 29th! Worship will be at First English, then we will gather at the Dogwood Shelter at Lutherlyn for a picnic and swimming! Meat, beverage, and place settings will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. Sign-up in the Social Hall or contact the church office (724) 283-2378 or officefelc@zoominternet.net.

The Butler VA needs clothing, socks, and shoes to help the Voluntary Services department keep up with the growing demand. Because of Covid, they are only able to accept donations of new items. Their greatest need is for plus-sized men's and women's clothing (XXL and up). Items can be brought to the church and Karen Cranmer will deliver them to the VA.

Social distancing markers have been removed from the two central sections of pews. Please reserve the far right (pulpit side) section of pews for those who wish to mask and keep social distance. Thank you!

PRAYERS

Eleanor Roth, Joe Roudebush, Joe and Linda, Hunter and Sean,
Raymond Sawyer, Dave Konesni, Donna, the family of Rita Wagner, the
family of Carol Duffus, Judy O. and family, Graham Cannon, Anne
Ferguson, Claudia, Karen, Anita, Joyce Hall, Kitty Walker, Nancy
Hoehn, Tad & Shirley Sellers, Aryl Bashline, Jenna, Tom Olson, Pam
Patterson

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 61:7-11

God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all nations

Psalm 34:1-9

Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD. (*Ps. 34:3*)

Galatians 4:4-7

We are no longer slaves, but children

Luke 1:46-55

Mary exults in the Lord