

Our Tree of Life



First English Lutheran Church

9 NW 3rd Street; Ortonville, MN 56278

320-839-2527

Rev. Denise Fossen

Lisa Berdan, Senior Choir Director

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson, Missionaries/Tanzania

Third Sunday of Easter

SERVICE OF THE WORD



9:00 am

April 23, 2023

PREPARATION

Prelude

Bells

Welcome and Announcements

Dignity Quilt Blessing*

P: Gracious God, as we place our hands on these Quilts, we join giver and receiver, recognizing the unity of all your people in the body of Christ. **C: We celebrate being the children of God.**

P: We give thanks for the variety of gifts that compose these Quilts: donations of fabric, thread and sewing machines, the faithful people who cut the squares, design the patterns, sew the tops, iron the fabric, make backs and fillers, tie and stitch the bindings, bring food to sustain the quilters, and contribute money. **C: We celebrate generosity.**

P: We give thanks for the fellowship of all who work together to make the Quilts, the laughter, the shared stories, the joy of crafting something with one's hands and heart for another and the time to reflect and wonder about the recipient. **C: We celebrate community.**

P: We send these Quilts as a sign of God's love, blessing, and dignity for each person who is covered in one, trusting that the Quilt will be a symbol of Christ's love to those who suffer, a reminder that each recipient is a beloved child of God. **C: We celebrate hope in the midst of life's trials.**

P: We ask that you bless the fruits of our labor that together we may minister to our neighbors in need. Bless all who give and all who receive, as we are sewn together in the unity of your Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Greeting & Sharing the Peace

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **C: Amen.**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism... the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation. **C: Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.**

Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

P: Satisfy the world's need through this... the Spirit reigns forever. **C: Amen**

GATHERING

Gathering Hymn *'That Easter Day with Joy was Bright'* #384

- 1 That Easter day with joy was bright; the sun shone out with fairer light when, to their longing eyes restored, th'apostles saw their risen Lord!**
- 2 O Jesus, king of gentleness, with constant love our hearts possess; to you our lips will ever raise the tribute of our grateful praise.**
- 3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in this our Easter festival, for you will be our strength and shield from ev'ry weapon death can wield.**
- 4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give to you, once dead, but now alive! To God the Father equal praise, and God the Spirit, now we raise!**

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt. Music: European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621.

Greeting

pg. 213

'Glory to God'

pg. 213

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest; glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest; glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest; glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest; glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth, and peace to God's people on earth.

Contributors: Thomas Pavlechko. Tune: © 2006, Augsburg Fortress Text: English Language Liturgical Consultation.

Prayer of the Day: Let us pray.

P: O God, **C: your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise *'Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing'* #385

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our king! To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's mighty stone is rolled away; let all the world rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Praise we in songs of victory that love, that life, which cannot die, and sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord, the life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

T Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt. Text © 1952, ren. 1986 Hymns Ancient & Modern, admin. Hope Publishing Company.
Music: Melchior Vulpius, 1570-1615.

WORD

First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

NT pg. 91

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 1:17-23

NT pg. 182

Children's Message

Pastor Denise Fossen

Special Music: *'Be Known to Us In Breaking Bread'*

Sr. Choir

Music by Jay Althouse. Words by James Montgomery & Jay Althouse.

Gospel Acclamation *'Alleluia. Lord to whom.....'*

pg. 216

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

Music: ©2006 Augsburg Fortress Publishers. Contributors: Thomas Pavlechko

Holy Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

NT pg. 68-69

P: The Holy Gospel according to... **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: The Gospel of the Lord... **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Denise Fossen

Hymn of the Day *'Around You, O Lord Jesus'*

#468

1 Around you, O Lord Jesus, your own you gather still to share the feast you give us with grace our lives to fill You say to us so lovingly, "Take, eat! This is my body! Take, drink! This is my blood!"

2 We hear your invitation, and heed, O Lord, your call; your word of consolation is spoken here to all. It draws us to your loving heart; it brings to us your blessing, which never will depart.

3 We are your own forever; until our final breath we will be true and never in joy, in grief, in death depart from you, for you are still among your people dwelling, as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. Composite, © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Music: H. Thomissön, Den danske Psalmebog, 1569.

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 for the People of God

P: Hear us, O God

C: Your mercy is great.

MEAL

Offering – collection and presentation

Offertory Hymn

'Shout to the Lord'

#821

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you. All of my days I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love. My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength; let ev'ry breath, all that I am never cease to worship you. Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing power and majesty, praise to the King. Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands; forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand. Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

Text & Music: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965. Text & Music © 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing, admin. in the USA & Canada by Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP) c/o Integrity Media, Inc.

Offertory Prayer

Thanksgiving for the Word Prayer

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Lord's Prayer

p. 221

SENDING

Benediction

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. **C: We will! Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn

'Christ is Alive!' vs. 1, 2, 4, 5

#389

1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

2 Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, but saving, healing, here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.

4 Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936. Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company. Music: T. Williams, Psalmody Evangelica, 1789.

Bells

Postlude

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* Modified 4/18/23 <https://emmanuelgraffon.wordpress.com/2013/04/13/quilt-blessing>

Revelations 22- Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.

If you have pastoral needs, please call Pastor Denise anytime at 763-516-2026.

Welcome to all visitors and guests! May the joy of Christ fill you as we worship today. Friendship Pads are at the ends of each pew (by middle aisle). Fill them out, pass them on to your neighbor(s), and send them back to the middle aisle. Please join us downstairs following worship for coffee and fellowship.

KDIO Radio Broadcast is sponsored by your gifts to the endowment fund. [Radio broadcast cards are available on the information kiosk in the narthex; cost is \$100/week].

OFFERING UPDATE: Here are the expenses for March: \$21,132.14. Here is what we received: \$16,905.26. We deficit spent \$4,226.88. You're also encouraged to visit our webpage for Online Giving at www.firstenglish.net.



Day of Love would take any military fatigues that you might be getting rid of. We will use them for quilts to be given to veterans.

May the God of All Consolation be with the family of Marla and Dick Strei and family on the passing of her father, Mick Boone.

The 7th & 8th grade projects are on display in the Narthex. Please take a moment and check them out.

Sunday School will be going to Fairway View after church service next Sunday.

The Ortonville Ambulance Relief Association are holding their annual pancake breakfast fundraiser today, April 23rd from 8 am -1 pm at the Ambulance Garage 232 1st St NW. It's a drive-thru only pick up service with a free will donation to help support the OARA and provide higher patient care in the Ortonville service area.

There is a Blood Drive in memorial of Tom Rademacher at the Community Center in Bellingham, MN Tuesday May 2nd, 12:30 pm -6:30pm. The goal is to get 42 units. To make an appointment call Audrey at (320) 568-2385.

We are looking for volunteers to prepare and serve coffee on Sundays going forward. Please contact the office or Kristi Ehrenberg if you are willing to help. ☕

The Synod Assembly is at Gustavus Adolphus College June 9-10. Please contact the church office to let someone know if you'd like to attend as a FELC delegate. Last year's assembly had to be cancelled due to a lack of participation, hopefully this is not the case for this coming year.

The Respite Friends program is a unique opportunity for people to learn the skills they need to comfortably and safely provide much needed short-term break (respite) for caregivers. It is a 2-hour training, no cost to you. Respite Friends has two available training days to choose from: Tues, May 9th 1-3:00 pm at the Fairway View Community Orpheum Theater or Wed, May 10th 10:00 am to noon at Grace Home. For further information and to register call Ann Holme at 320-500-2775, or at home: 320-273-2176, or go to www.startseniorsolutions.org. Funded by MN Dept. of Human Services. Enrollment at each session is limited so pre-registration is required.

– Parish Nurses

Our Special Lenten offerings raised \$2,995 for Katie's Kicks! Thanks!

Prairie Five Rides is looking for volunteers to drive community members to appointments and shopping. Call 877-757-4337 to volunteer to help them out!

Kid's Club's last day is this Wednesday, April 26th.

We are seeking to fill the FELC Youth Leader position. It will start at approx. 20-hours per week during school year, less in the summer. Limited evenings and weekend hours for youth ministry activities and chaperoning youth events and trips. There is potential for future growth in hours with program growth. If you, or someone you know is interested, please drop off resume and references at the church office or e-mail them to the pastor at pastor@firstenglish.net.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT for Ricky Anderson Jr., Carol Barrett; Ken Henneberg; Arlen LaCombe; Gail Olson; Harris Selvig; Brandi Tweeter; Paul Erdman; Beckett Foster; Baby Rosie Frank; Larry Helgeson; Natalie Henneberg; Baby McCoy Jipson; Zane Kilde; Brian Pribyl; Janice Redfield; David Scholberg; Jerry Stotesbery; and Terry Ward. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Swede & Janet Anderson; Ruth Hansen; Jim Hipple; Vivian Janssen; & Eleanor Nickolauson. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict. *If you would like a name added/removed, please contact the church office.*



REMINDER: Calendar and other important information is on our website at www.firstenglish.net and on the bulletin board (kiosk) in the narthex. The church office number is (320)839-2527.

Weekly Calendar

- Sun – 4/23** 9:00 am Service of the Word Worship – KDIO & FB Live
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship & Sunday School
- Mon – 4/24** **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
Pastor Denise Fossen Gone For the Day for Continuing Education
- Tues – 4/25** 8:30 am Day of Love
4:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at Fairway View
- Wed – 4/26** 9:30 am Channel 3 broadcast
3:30 pm Confirmation (7-8) & Kid's Club (**last day**)
4:30 pm Confirmation (9)
5:30 pm Youth Group & TV Broadcast
7:00 pm Senior Choir
- Fri – 4/28** 9:00 am Bulletins Printed
- Sun – 4/30** 9:00 am Service of the Word Worship – Noisy Offering –
Baptism of Marcus Hanson & Harlow Hintz – KDIO & FB Live
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship & Sunday School (**singing at FWV**)
10:20 am WAM Meeting
10:30 am Fairway View Worship Pre-Recorded



This Week's Ministry Assistants—April 23rd

Greeter: Dean & Anita Longnecker **Acolytes:** Brianna & Archer
Organist: Amy Adelman **Lector:** Barb Wiese
Tech Desk: Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson **Coffee Servers:** Becky & Jerry Parker
Ushers: Eugene Stotesberry, Jim Foster, Gale May, & Keven Berdan

Next Week's Ministry Assistants—April 30th

Greeter: Sandy & Tom Rice **FWV:** Marge Dragseth **Acolytes:** Miley & Bryson
Organist: Carol Ydstie **Lector:** Brent Zahrbock
Tech Desk: Dean Strand & Marina Thomson **Coffee Servers:** Dorry & Henningson
Ushers: Rodney Torgerson, Liz Ketz, Rob Randall, & Josh Wollschlager



April 23, 2023, Third Sunday of Easter

Luke 24:13-35

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Gracious God, the risen savior walked with his disciples and turned their grief into joy. Walk also with us along our path of service and cheer us with your presence. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:30-32)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Two travelers walked a lonely highway mourning their friend, mentor, and teacher. One quiet stranger would change everything.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Who in your community is hungry? How might feed them?
- What things are your eyes closed to, that you could be looking at in your own life? How might you face some of those things this week? Who can help you see and work through the difficult issues you face?
- For the littles: Who do you eat meals with? What's your favorite thing to talk about when you share a meal?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

Eat, share, and let Jesus be revealed to you. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Invite to dinner someone you don't know well – a coworker, your kids' friends' parents, someone homebound from your congregation, a lonely neighbor. Notice how Christ shows up simply by sharing a meal.



Go Deeper: Read and reflect on the readings for each day of the week.

Monday, Psalm 134; Genesis 18:1-14; 1 Peter 1:23-25

Tuesday, Psalm 134; Proverbs 8:32-9:6; 1 Peter 2:1-3

Wednesday, Psalm 134; Exodus 24:1-11; John 21:1-14

Thursday, Psalm 23; Exodus 2:15b-25; 1 Peter 2:9-12

Friday, Psalm 23; Exodus 3:16-22, 4:18-20; 1 Peter 2:13-17

Saturday, Psalm 23; Ezekiel 34:1-16; Luke 15:1-7