

*Our Tree of Life*



## First English Lutheran Church

9 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Street; Ortonville, MN 56278

320-839-2527

Reverend Denise Fossen

Lisa Berdan, Senior Choir Director

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson, Missionaries/Tanzania



### Fifth Sunday of Easter

ELW SETTING THREE

9:00 am

May 7, 2023

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### PREPARATION

Prelude

Bells

Welcome & Announcements

Senior Recognition

Presentation of Senior Gift

by the Board of Education

### GATHERING

#### Greeting & Passing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

**Confession and Forgiveness** P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are ...Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

P: Most merciful God, **C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

*'Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!'* vs. 1, 4, 5

#380

**1 Hallelujah! Jesus lives! He is now the Living One; from the gloomy halls of death Christ, the conqueror, has gone, bright forerunner to the skies of his people, yet to rise.**

**4 Jesus lives! Let all rejoice. Praise him, ransomed of the earth. Praise him in a nobler song, cherubim of heav'nly birth. Praise the victor king, whose sway sin and death and hell obey.**

**5 Hallelujah! Angels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise. Let your chorus swell the strain which our feeble voices raise: Glory to our God above and on earth his peace and love!**

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763-1841; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897, alt. Music: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812-1887.

Greeting

pg. 138

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day: P: Almighty God, **C: your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Piano Solo

Julia Wiik

## **WORD**

First Lesson: Acts 7:55-60

NT pg. 96

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

ELW Psalm 31

L: <sup>1</sup> In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

**C: <sup>2</sup> Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

L: <sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

**C: <sup>4</sup> Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**

L: <sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

**C: <sup>15</sup> My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

L: <sup>16</sup> Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10

NT pg. 182-183

Children's Message

Pastor Denise Fossen

Special Music

*'Follow Me'*  
By Tim Osiek (ASCAP)

Sr Choir

Gospel Acclamation

*'Alleluia'*

pg. 142

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

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel: John 14:1-14

NT pg. 83

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

*'You Are The Way'*

#758

**1 You are the way; to you alone from sin and death we flee; all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.**

**2 You are the truth; your word alone true wisdom can impart; you only can inform the mind and purify the heart.**

**3 You are the life; the rending tomb proclaims your conqu'ring arm; and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.**

**4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know, that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys eternal flow.**

Text: George W. Doane, 1799-1859, alt. Music: Psalter, Edinburgh, 1615.

Nicene Creed

p. 104

**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 *'Just a Closer Walk With Thee'* #697

*(Refrain): Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea; daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

**1 I am weak but thou art strong: Jesus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. (Refrain)**

**2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. (Refrain)**

**3 When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more; guide me gently, safely o'er to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. (Refrain)**

Text & Music: North American traditional

Offertory Prayer

P: Generous God, in this meal ...through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

## **SHARING THE MEAL**

The Great Thanksgiving (spoken)

p. 144

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*'Holy, Holy, Holy'*

pg. 144

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

By Peter Scholtes Copyright ©1966, 1970 F.E.L. Publications, Ltd.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

pg. 145

**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.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

© 2006, Augsburg Fortress Text: English Language Liturgical Consultation.

Distribution Hymn: *'We Come To The Hungry Feast'* #479

**1 We come to the hungry feast hungry for a word of peace. To hungry hearts unsatisfied the love of God is not denied. We come, we come to the hungry feast.**

**2 We come to the hungry feast hungry for a world released from hungry folk of ev'ry kind, the poor in body, poor in mind. We come, we come to the hungry feast.**

**3 We come to the hungry feast hungry that the hunger cease, and knowing, though we eat our fill, the hunger will stay with us; still we come, we come to the hungry feast.**

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943. Music: Ray Makeever. Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Distribution Hymn: *'Come, Let Us Eat'* #491

**1 (Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,) come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread. (Our Lord's body let us take together,) our Lord's body let us take together.**

**2 (Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,) come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured. (Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,) Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.**

**3 (In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest,) in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest. (In the presence of our Lord we gather,) in the presence of our Lord we gather.**

**4 (Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word,) rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word. (Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom,) Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.**

Text: Billema Kwillia, b. c. 1925, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1-3, alt. Text sts. 1-3 © Lutheran World Federation. Text st. 4 © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4: Hymns for Baptism and Holy Communion, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Music: Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Distribution Hymn: *'Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil'* #512

**Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood. When my heart is hard, break the stone away. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

Words by: Handt Hanson (b. 1950), Music: Handt Hanson, © 1985, Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

Eucharistic Blessing  
Post Communion Prayer

## **SENDING**

Benediction

P: The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **C: Amen.**

Dismissal

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

Closing Hymn                      'The Church's One Foundation' vs. 1, 4, 5                      #654

**1 The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord; she is his new creation by water and the word. From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride; with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.**  
**4 Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war, she waits the consummation of peace forevermore; till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest, and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.**  
**5 Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One, and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won. Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace, that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.**

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900, Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876.

Bells

Postlude

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*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 <sup>2</sup>through 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. <sup>3</sup>Nothing 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; <sup>4</sup>they 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 April: \$31,569.91. Here is what we received: \$23,851.22. We deficit spent \$7,718.69. A large portion of this was the purchase of the new office printer which we took out of operating reserve. You're also encouraged to visit our webpage for Online Giving at [www.firstenglish.net](http://www.firstenglish.net).



**Happy Birthday** to Marina Thomson whose birthday is on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.

**CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD'S BLESSINGS** be with Julia Wiik, as she graduates from Milbank High School May 14<sup>th</sup>!

**It's Senior Recognition Day!** Today, during service, Julia will be performing a piano solo piece for us. Also remember to join us for graduation cake during coffee fellowship following the service.



**Youth Group's last day** is this Wednesday and they'll be doing a ditch walk cleaning with pizza afterwards.

**MAY THE GOD OF ALL CONSOLATION** be with the family of Rick Anderson on his passing on May 4<sup>th</sup>. His funeral will be at First English Lutheran Church on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 11 am. There will be a visitation beforehand at 10 am.

**Are you interested in a MN Twins game** June 22<sup>nd</sup> against the Boston Red Sox? Tickets have been reserved in section 126-127. Most seats are under an awning in the shade. Transportation will be via a coach bus. Payment will be due when final prices are determined. If you're interested, please fill out a form for each person attending and place it in the finished surveys box at the entrance. Have any questions? Contact Deb Henningson @ 320-815-8522.

**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 9<sup>th</sup> 1-3:00 pm at the Fairway View Community Orpheum Theater or Wed, May 10<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.startseniorsolutions.org). Funded by MN Dept. of Human Services. Enrollment at each session is limited so pre-registration is required. – Parish Nurses

**Camp House Opening Weekend:** Green Lake Lutheran Ministries invites you to join them May 19-21 to help in giving the camp buildings a spring cleaning so they're ready for summer. The cost for lodging and food is covered by your hard work in helping them out. Let them know if you plan to join by emailing Gretchen Bachman at [gbachman@gllm.org](mailto:gbachman@gllm.org).

**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.



**Stonecroft Ministries Women's Connection** will be meeting on Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at Tabor Methodist Church in Big Stone City, SD. Speaker will be Debby Schmitz of Harvey, SD. Her topic is "Coping with Life's Changes." Special feature will be Marie Loutsch of Grant County Visiting Neighbor program and special music will be provided by Marilyn Gapor, a soloist singing one song in English and one in the National Language of the Philippines. The cost is \$6.00, and you can register with Carol Rabe at 605-862-8570 or just be a walk-in. Free nursery by reservation.

**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.

**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.*



### **This Week's Ministry Assistants—May 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Greeter:** Jim & Neva Foster  
**Organist:** Kathy Haukos  
**Lay Assistants:** Marge Dragseth & Lori Larson  
**Tech Desk:** Liz Ketz & Marina Thomson  
**Ushers:** Ev Johnson, Kevin Fossen, Jon & Kim Anderson

**Acolytes:** Justice & Mikaela  
**FVW:** Mary Lou Olson & Pat Collins  
**Lector:** Darin Ehrenberg  
**Coffee Servers:** Webers & Schmeichel

### **Next Week's Ministry Assistants— May 14<sup>th</sup>**



**Organist:** Carol Ydstie  
**Tech Desk:** Matt Karels & Marina Thomson  
**FWV:** Paula Reisdorph & Marilyn Chindvall  
**Ushers:** Glenn Henningson, Ron Athey, Art Vollmer, & Larry Dahle  
**Greeters:** Paula Reisdorph & Ev Johnson

**Lay Assistants:** Jim & Ranet Schmeichel  
**Acolytes:** Mason & Rylie  
**Lector:** Terry Kalberg  
**Coffee Servers:** TBD



**REMINDER:** Calendar and other important information is on our website at [www.firstenglish.net](http://www.firstenglish.net) and on the bulletin board (kiosk) in the narthex. Church office number is (320)839-2527.

### Weekly Calendar

- Sun – 5/7** 9:00 am Worship – Communion – Senior Recognition  
– KDIO & FB Live  
 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship, Graduation Cake, Sunday School  
10:10 am Mentor Meeting  
10:30 am Fairway View Worship Live
- Mon – 5/8** 10:00 am Staff Meeting  
7:00 pm Council Meeting
- Tues – 5/9** 8:30 am Day of Love  
10:00 am Visitation for Rick Anderson  
11:00 am Rick Anderson Funeral  
4:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at Fairway View
- Wed – 5/10** 9:30 am Channel 3 broadcast  
3:30 pm Confirmation (7-8)  
4:30 pm Confirmation (9)  
5:30 pm Youth Group **(Last Day Ditch Walk)**  
Channel 3 broadcast
- Fri – 5/12** 9:00 am Bulletins Printed
- Sun – 5/14** **MOTHER'S DAY**  
 9:00 am Worship – Communion – KDIO & FB Live  
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship & Sunday School  
10:30 am Fairway View Worship Pre-Recorded



May 7, 2023, Fifth Sunday of Easter

John 14:1-14

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



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

God of all, relieve our hearts of trouble, that we might live in joyful anticipation of eternal communion with you and all creation, and fill us with the power to act for peace and justice in your name, until that glorious day. Amen.



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

*"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:1-3)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus proclaims himself "the way, and the truth, and the life." His radical invitation to God's home is for all people.



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Tell of a time you were lost, either physically or emotionally. What do you do to find your way?
- Where do you think Jesus is leading you?
- For the littles: Have you ever been lost? How did you get found? Jesus promises to show us the way home.



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May God light your path home. Amen.**



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

**100,000 kids in the foster care system do not have a permanent home. Consider opening your heart and your home to one more of these precious kiddos. If that is too big a commitment, consider volunteering for your community's foster system.**



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

Monday, Psalm 102:1-17; Exodus 13:17-22; Acts 7:17-40

Tuesday, Psalm 102:1-17; Proverbs 3:5-12; Acts 7:44-56

Wednesday, Psalm 102:1-17; Proverbs 3:13-18; John 8:31-38

Thursday, Psalm 66:8-20; Genesis 6:5-22; Acts 27:1-12

Friday, Psalm 66:8-20; Genesis 7:1-24; Acts 27:13-38

Saturday, Psalm 66:8-20; Genesis 8:13-19; John 14:27-29