

*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

### **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

### **SERVICE OF THE WORD**



**9:00 am**

**July 23, 2023**

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### **PREPARATION**

Prelude

Bells

Welcome & Announcements

Vacation Bible School Announcement

### **GATHERING**

#### **Greeting & Passing of the Peace**

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

**Confession and Forgiveness** P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **C: Amen.**

P: Merciful God, **C: we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

P: Righteous God, **C: we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

P: God is a cup of cold water...in the name of † Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn 'Oh, Worship the King' vs. 1-3, 5 #842

1 *Oh, worship the King, all-glorious above. Oh, gratefully sing God's power and love; our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.*

2 *The earth with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, your pow'r has founded of old; established it fast by a changeless decree, and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.*

3 *Your bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light, it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.*

5 O measureless might, ineffable love, while angels delight to hymn you above, the humbler creation, though feeble their lays, with true adoration shall sing to your praise.

Text: Robert Grant, 1779-1838, alt. Music: William Croft, 1678-1727.

Greeting

pg. 213

'Glory to God'

pg. 213

*(Refrain):* **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.**

**1. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *(Refrain)***

**2. 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. *(Refrain)***

**3. 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.**

*Final Refrain:* **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: P: Faithful God, **C: most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

First Lesson: Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19

Psalm 86:11-17

ELW Psalm 86

L: <sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

C: <sup>12</sup> **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore.**

L: <sup>13</sup> For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

C: <sup>14</sup> **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.**

L: <sup>15</sup> But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

**C: <sup>16</sup>Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**

L: <sup>17</sup>Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame; because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Second Lesson: Romans 8:12-25

NT pg. 120

Children's Message

Pastor Denise Fossen

Special Music

*'I'll Fly Away'*  
Song by Albert E. Brumley

Darin Ehrenberg

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.**

Text & Music: ©1999 Augsburg Fortress Publishers. Contributors: Robin Cain

Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

NT pg. 11-12

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

*'Come, Ye Thankful People, Come'* vs. 2-4

#693

**2. All the world is God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield; wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown. First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear. Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.**

**3. For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his harvest home; from his field shall in that day all offenses purge away; give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast, but the fruitful ears to store in his garner evermore.**

**4. Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home. Gather then thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin, there, forever purified, in thy garner to abide. Come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home!**

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt. Music: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893.

Apostle's Creed

p. 105

**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 for the People of God

P: ... Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

### **MEAL**

#### **Offering Collection and Presentation**

Offertory Hymn

*'Love Divine, All Loves Excelling'*

#631

**1. Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.**

**2. Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest. Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.**

**3. Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.**

**4. Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee! Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788. Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887.

Offertory Prayer **C: Amen.**

Thanksgiving for the Word Prayer

pg. 220

Lord's Prayer

pg. 221

**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.**

## **SENDING**

### Benediction

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed †  
bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. **C: Amen.**

### Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the harvest. **C: We Will! Thanks be to God.**

### Closing Hymn

'On What Has Now Been Sown'

#550

**1 On what has now been sown your blessing, Lord, bestow; the pow'r is yours alone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in grace the harvest raise, and yours alone shall be the praise!**

**2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; accept what is your own and pardon what is ours. Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive and to your word a blessing give.**

**3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met before you here, may meet together thus when you and yours appear, and follow you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, Amen! Lord Jesus, come!**

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt. Music: John Darwall, 1731-1789.

### 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 June: \$23,275.18. Here is what we received: \$16,183.83. We deficit spent \$7,091.35. This resulted in a transfer from Operating Reserves of \$10,000. You're also encouraged to visit our webpage for Online Giving at [www.firstenglish.net](http://www.firstenglish.net). 

**Vacation Bible School is this week!** The children should bring a water bottle each day and they must wear tennis shoes (no sandals). They will need to check in each day and that person will be right at the entrance. The children will be putting on a program for everyone at 7:00 pm Thursday. All are invited to attend.

**Livia is Attending Green Lake Bible Camp** this week. Please add her to your prayers to have a safe and inspirational time this week.

**We are looking for volunteers** to prepare and serve coffee on Sundays going forward. Please contact the office if you are willing to help. If no one volunteers, we may not be able to have coffee fellowship after our services. 

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT** for Ricky Anderson Jr., Carol Barrett; Glenn Berdan; 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: Janet Anderson; Arvilla Bergseth; 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. 

**Salad Sunday:** The United Methodist Presbyterian Church of Browns Valley, MN will be sponsoring its annual Super Salad Sunday on July 30, 2023. The menu includes a variety of salads, egg salad and ham sandwiches and bars for dessert. Serving time is from 11:00 to 1:00. All this for only: Adults - \$10.00 & Kids (12 & under) - \$5.00!!

**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](mailto:pastor@firstenglish.net).

**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. The church office number is (320)839-2527.

### **This Week's Ministry Assistants— July 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Organist:** Carol Ydstie **Lector:** Kristi Ehrenberg  
**Tech Desk:** Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson **Acolytes:** James & Owen  
**Ushers:** Tami Lundberg, Marilyn Chindvall, Dick & Marla Strei  
**Greeters:** Marilee Haukos & Lori Larson **Coffee Servers:** Henningsons

### **Next Week's Ministry Assistants— July 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Organist:** Amy Adelman **Lector:** Barb Wiese  
**Tech Desk:** David Ellingson & Marina Thomson **Acolytes:** Bryson & Cameron  
**Ushers:** Rodney Torgerson, Tami Lundberg, Mel & Jackie Domine  
**Greeters:** Marilyn Chindvall & Kirsten Karels **Coffee Servers:** Nornes  
**FWV:** Marilyn Chindvall & Becky Parker

## **Weekly Calendar**

**Sun – 7/23** 9:00 am Worship – KDIO & FB Live  
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship

**Mon – 7/24 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
10:00 am Staff Meeting  
3:00 pm – 7:00 pm Vacation Bible School

**Tues – 7/25** 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm Vacation Bible School  
4:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at Fairway View

**Wed – 7/26** 9:30 am Channel 3 broadcast  
3:00 pm – 7:00 pm Vacation Bible School  
5:30 pm Channel 3 broadcast

**Thurs – 7/27** 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm Vacation Bible School  
7:00 pm – 7:30 pm VBS Program (All Are Invited To Attend)

**Fri – 7/28** 9:00 am Bulletins Printed

**Sun – 7/30** 9:00 am Worship – Noisy Offering – KDIO & FB Live  
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship  
10:30 am Fairway View Worship – Pre-recorded



July 23, 2023, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

*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 the harvest, we are, each of us, at times wheat and at times weeds. Nourish us in word and sacrament that we might grow in the way you would have us, trusting in your abundant grace and mercy for all that you have created. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.



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

*"The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!" (Matthew 13:41-43)*



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

The kingdom of God is vast and welcoming and valuable. There is room for us here, whether we are wheat or weeds.





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

**What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?**

**What does it mean that the kingdom of heaven is a reaping of “good seed” and “weeds”? Which are you? How do you know? Whose job is it to discern good from bad, and to reap?**

**How can you grow like the “good seeds” in Jesus’ parable? How might you make room in your life for others to grow alongside you?**

**For the littles: What does God’s kingdom of heaven look like? What will you find there? One day you will live there!**



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

**May God help you grow in faith and understanding. Amen.**



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

**Buy or grow a bonsai tree. As you tend it, remember Jesus’ parable, and the promise that God’s kingdom of heaven is ready for you.**



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

Monday, Psalm 139:13-18; Genesis 32:3-21; Revelation 14:12-20

Tuesday, Psalm 139:13-18; Genesis 33:1-17; Galatians 4:21-5:1

Wednesday, Psalm 139:13-18; Genesis 35:16-29; Matthew 12:15-21

Thursday, Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Genesis 29:1-8; 1 Corinthians 4:14-20

Friday, Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Genesis 29:9-14; Acts 7:44-53

Saturday, Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Gen. 29:31-30:24; Matthew 12:38-42