



First English Lutheran Church

9 NW 3rd Street; Ortonville, MN 56278

Lisa Berdan, Senior Choir Director

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson, Missionaries/Tanzania



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ELW SETTING TWO

9:00 am

August 25, 2024

PREPARATION

Prelude

Bells

Welcome & Announcements / Temple Talk

GATHERING

Greeting & Passing of the Peace

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

Confession and Forgiveness *All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **C: Amen.**

P: God, our provider, **C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

P: Beloved people of God: in Jesus...loved into abundant life. **C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn 'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty' #858

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation! Let all who hear now to his temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!

2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining. Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by his gracious ordaining?

3 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you; surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do if with his love he befriend you.

4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the amen sound from his people again. Gladly forever adore him!

Greeting

pg. 120

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: Holy God, **C: your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

Psalm 34:15-22

ELW Psalm 34

L: ¹⁵ The eyes of the LORD are up-on the righteous, and God's ears are open to their cry.

C: ¹⁶ **The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.**

L: ¹⁷ The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them and delivers them from all their troubles.

C: ¹⁸ **The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those whose spirits are crushed.**

L: ¹⁹ Many are the troubles of the righteous, but the LORD delivers them from every one.

C: ²⁰ **God will keep safe all their bones; not one of them shall be broken.**

L: ²¹ Evil will bring death to the wicked and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

C: ²² **O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants, and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.**

Lesson: Ephesians 6:10-20

NT pg. 151

Children's Message

Lois Bergeson

Noisy Offering

Special Music

'Let There Be Peace on Earth'
With Marge Dragseth signing lyrics

Jim Foster

Gospel Acclamation

'Alleluia'

pg. 124

Holy Gospel: John 6:56-69

NT pg. 75

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

Lois Bergeson

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.

Backpack Blessing

L: Lord, you have brought us to the start of a new school year.

C: And so we bring these backpacks and their owners to your altar.

L: Just as you instructed your ... Word and love to the nations,

C: Bless these children as they carry these backpacks on the journey, filled with the tools they need to learn more about your world and work.

L: Just as you were God's gift... to bring salvation to fill the world,

C: May the contents of these backpacks fill and nourish the minds of these faithful young disciples so they may be an abundant blessing of your love to others.

L: Just as these backpacks will be carried... whenever they go to school,

C: Go with them when they head to classes each day, O God, and be with them in the classroom, the hallways, the cafeteria and the playground that they may know that they are your hands of love wherever they go.

L: When these backpacks are opened at the start of each day,

C: Open these students' intellects to the many things you have to teach them and give them an eye for the blessings you have lovingly placed across the day which you have made.

L: When these backpacks are closed,

C: Help these students to retain the information they have been given in school and apply it to their daily lives, so that they may let it frame their experiences.

L: In all these things, Lord...who carry them be beacons of your eternal love,

C: Called by you to share your love and your good Word to classmates, teachers, friends, and family.

L: Help these students to....in your love and surrounded by your care,

C: And that you guide and direct them lovingly as they journey through life.

L: Help these students to... talents and skills with which you have gifted them,

C: And to use them to your glory.

L: In this hope, therefore, I bless.... hearts and love one another.

C: Amen.

MEAL

Offering Collection and Presentation

Offertory Hymn

'For the Beauty of the Earth'

#879

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

(Refrain): Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.

2. For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light: *(Refrain)*

3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: *(Refrain)*

4. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild: *(Refrain)*

5. For each perfect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n; for thyself, best gift divine, to our world so freely giv'n: *(Refrain)*

Text: Folliot S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt. Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872.

Offertory Prayer **C: Amen.**

Prayers for the People of God

P: Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer

pg. 134

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

Blessing

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever **C: Amen**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: We will! Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn 'O Jesus I have Promised' #810

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; remain forever near me, my master and my friend. I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side, nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.

2. Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near. I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear. My foes are ever near me, around me and within; but, Jesus, then draw nearer to shield my soul from sin.

3. Oh, let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will. Now speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; now speak and make me listen, O Guardian of my soul.

4. O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you that where you are in glory your servant shall be too. And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; oh, give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816-1874, alt. Music: Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1693.

Bells

Postlude

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Psalm 139:14. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

In other words, "created to be..."

Thanks to Lois Bergeson and Liz Ketz for leading us today in worship.

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.

KDIO Radio Broadcast is by Jim & Ranet Schmeichel in honor of their 25th Wedding Anniversary which was August 21st. [2024 & 2025 Radio broadcast cards are available on the information kiosk in the narthex; cost is \$100/week].

OFFERING UPDATE: Here are the expenses for July: \$12,757.58.



Here is what we received: \$15,670.08. You're also encouraged to visit our webpage for Online Giving at www.firstenglish.net or scan the QR Code from the



offering cards or bulletins.

August's pink envelope emphasis is for the Baptism Chest Fund. You can find special pink envelopes for designated giving in a basket in the Narthex.

Happy birthday wishes go out to Evelyn Olson whose birthday is this Thursday the 29th.

Happy Anniversary wishes to Gene & Marcella Stotesbery on August 29th. They will be celebrating 65 years!

Today is Our Annual Backpack Blessing – Let's send our congregation's kids into the new school year assured of God's promises and our loving support! During the service, children will come forward for a special moment of prayer and blessing.



Sr. Choir will begin Wednesday, August 28th, at 7:00 pm. New members of all ages with a basic enthusiasm for music and desire to spend time with a fun, supportive group are always welcome and appreciated! If your summer plans prevent you from joining us in August or early September, join us any Wednesday at 7:00 pm in the choir room located on the lower level next to the fellowship hall.

Coffee Fellowship needs volunteers to continue. Please contact the office or sign-up in the fellowship hall if you're willing to help to prepare & serve coffee. If no one volunteers to serve, we won't have coffee fellowship that Sunday.



The picture directories are ready and can be picked up in the church office during the week, if you have not already done so. Each family photographed in the directory will be given one free directory. Members who were not photographed in the 2024 edition may purchase a directory for \$5. Thank you for your cooperation!

Women's Inspirational Spiritual Experience (WISE) is inviting women, ages 16 and over to gather with other women on a journey titled "ICU Wound Assessment and Plan of Care" presented by Meg Kubesh, a retired nurse. The event takes place at St. John's Catholic Church (Ortonville) on September 7th starting at 9 am (with a light breakfast) & going until 11 am.

We have leaders for our God's Work, Our Hands Sunday Activities, which include cleaning headstones at the cemetery, making muffins, making cards, making birthday bags, and a potluck lunch, if you would like to help clean headstones at the cemetery, please bring buckets, scrub brushes, and/or a putty knife/scrapper. Thanks!

Big Stone Memory Loss Connection presents "Aging, Dementia, Caregiving OH MY!" September 28th at the Clinton Memorial Building. There is no cost to attend. Please see the posted flyers for more info.

SHARED PASTOR: Members from FELC and Zion have had conversations with a pastor, Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, who is willing to provide shared pastoral duties with our two churches. She would conduct services for each congregation every other week so we would only have to fill every other Sunday with pulpit supply. She would also teach confirmation. We hope to combine the students from both congregations for confirmation. Our first service with her will be on September 15th.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT Carol Barrett; Jane Debner; Arlen LaCombe; Gail Olson; Harris Selvig; Beth Swanson; Brandi Tweeter; Monty Athey, Paul Erdman; Rosie Frank; Larry Helgeson; Natalie Henneberg; McCoy Jipson; Janice Redfield; David Scholberg; and Jerry Stotesbery. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Janet Anderson; Ricky Anderson; Arvilla Bergseth; Adeline Burgess; Ruth Hansen; Jim Hipple; Vivian Janssen; Roger Nornes; and Mary Lou Olson in Madison. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict. If you would like a name added/removed, please contact the church office.



The Silence and the Sound - A Community Christmas Musical Experience
While we may not be ready to say good-bye to summer, the Christmas season is all too soon upon us! For many of us, this means a celebration of memorable music. Singers of all ages and instrumentalists are welcomed and invited to be a part of our 3rd community Christmas musical experience to be held this year in concerts on Dec 7th and 8th at the Abbey of the Hills Inn and Retreat Center. The concerts will once again feature both small and large groups accompanied by talented musicians under the direction of Lisa Berdan. Large group practices will typically be held at 4:00 pm on Sunday afternoons at FELC. Optional practices will typically be Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 7:30. New this year is an opportunity for children ages 5-12 to have a part specially designed for them! (Practice times for them will be determined as the group forms.) An organizational meeting will be held Wednesday, August 28, 6:30 pm, at FELC. If you cannot attend that meeting, but still wish to be a part of this heartfelt event -- or if you have any questions -- please contact Lisa. Text 305-1123, call 273-2323, or email lisamberdan@gmail.com.

REMINDER: Calendar and other important information is on our website, www.firstenglish.net & our bulletin boards. The church office number is (320) 839-2527.



This Week's Ministry Assistants—August 25th

Organist: Carol Ydstie **Acolytes:** Madilyn & Ashton
Tech Desk: Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson **Lector:** Ellie Helgeson
Greeters: Scott & Julie Schneider
Coffee Servers: Dave & Deb Ellingson, Holly & Hayden Kannas
Ushers: Eugene Stotesbery, Jim Foster, Gale May, & Keven Berdan

Next Week's Ministry Assistants—September 1st

Organist: Kathy Haukos **Acolytes:** Bennett & Bryson
Tech Desk: Liz Ketz & Marina Thomson **Lector:** Brent Zahrbock
Greeters: Jim & Ranet Schmeichel
Coffee Servers: Sharon Carlson & Gayle Anderson
Ushers: Ev Johnson, Ron Athey, Eldon Knutson & TBD

Weekly Calendar

Sun – 8/25 9:00 am Worship Service (w/Lois Bergeson & Liz Ketz) –
 Backpack Blessing – Noisy Offering – Broadcast on KDIO & FB Live
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship
10:15 am WAM Meeting 

Tues – 8/27 8:30 am Day of Love
4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie's Diner (Fairway View)

Wed – 8/28 9:30 am Channel 3 broadcast
5:30 pm Channel 3 broadcast
7:00 pm Senior Choir

Fri – 8/30 9:00 am Bulletins Printed

Sun – 9/1 9:00 am Worship (w/Bishop Craig Anderson) – Communion
– Broadcast on KDIO & FB Live
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship
10:30 am Fairway View Worship (Pre-recorded)



LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday, September 11th:

3:30 PM on Acolyte Training. All 7th graders are expected to be at this. 8-12th it would be good to be here for a refresher so optional but highly recommended.

4:30 PM Confirmation Interview for Bryson

5:00 PM Confirmation Interview for Madilyn

5:30 PM Confirmation Interview for Brandon

6:00 PM Confirmation Interview for Miley



6:30 Parent Meeting for all confirmation students and their parents.

Rally Sunday will be held on September 15th.

Confirmation classes will begin on Wednesday, September 18th. 7th-8th grade will meet at 1:45 and 9th grade will meet at 2:45.

Bible Presentation will be held on September 22nd. This involves the 3 year olds and the 3rd graders.

Youth Group will begin meeting on Wednesday, September 25th at 5:30-7:00 PM. All 7-12 grade students are encouraged to attend.

Sunday School will be having a Scavenger Hunt on Sunday, September 29th at the Wildlife Refuge.