



## First English Lutheran Church

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

Rev. Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, Pastor

Lisa Berdan, Senior Choir Director

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson, Missionaries/Tanzania



July 27, 2025

**Seventh Sunday After Pentecost**  
**CONTEMPORARY – FAVORITE HYMN SUNDAY**

9:00 am

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### PREPARATION

Prelude (Favorite Hymns), Bells

Welcome & KDIO Announcements

### **Peace:**

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

### **GATHERING**

**Call to Worship:** *(based on Psalm 138)*

O Lord our God, we come together with songs of praise in our hearts,  
because of your unfailing love and faithfulness.

**Even though we struggle with life's issues, your mercy blesses us.**

Listening God, we come together with prayers of thanks in our hearts,  
because you hear and answer our prayers.

**Even though life is sometimes difficult, your strength blesses us.**

Welcoming God, we come together in reverent worship filling our minds,  
because your faithful love endures forever.

**Even though we are fragile people who sometimes feel lost and  
abandoned, God's love blesses us and never changes. Thanks and praise  
be to our glorious God for ever and ever. Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

*Favorite Hymn*

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

P: Jesus, teacher and Lord, when we hear your criticism of the behavior of  
the scribes and the Pharisees, we wonder what has changed. People still  
place unwarranted burdens on others, still demand preferential treatment,  
still abuse positions of leadership. We are ashamed to confess that this does  
not only happen in society at large, it happens also within the church.

**C: Forgive our participation in practices which inflate our egos at the  
expense of others.**

*Pause for silent reflection*

P: Jesus, forgive us when we parade our piety and expect favored treatment, forgetting that you emptied yourself of power so that you could be the servant and Savior of all.

**C: Forgive us when we care more for impressive outward appearances rather than inner dispositions shaped by tolerance and love.**

*Pause for silent reflection*

P: Jesus, forgive us for any behavior which is experienced or perceived as hypocritical— any actions which lack integrity and justice.

**C: Renew and refresh us with your gentle and selfless Spirit, Lord, so that we know what it is to be your followers not only in name, but in reality. Amen**

### **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (based on Colossians 2: 13-14)

Brothers and sisters, hear the good news: God has forgiven us all our sins, erasing the record that stood against us and utterly wiped out the damning evidence which hangs over our heads, rendering if powerless by nailing it over his own head on the cross. In Christ, you have new life. In Jesus, therefore, you are forgiven, and set free to begin again.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Hymn of Praise**

*'Glory to God in the Highest'*

pg. 148

### **Prayer of the Day:**

P: Almighty and ever-living God. **C: you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **WORD**

First Lesson: Genesis 18:20-32

OT pg. 11

L: Word of God, Word of Life **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 138

ELW Psalm 138

L: <sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

**C: <sup>2</sup> I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

L: <sup>3</sup> When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

**C: <sup>4</sup> All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

L: <sup>5</sup> They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

**C: <sup>6</sup> The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.**

L: <sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

**C: <sup>8</sup> You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

L: Word of God, Word of Life **C: Thanks be to God.**

Special Music

*'Seek Ye First'*

Malia Karels singing  
with Marge Dragseth signing

Second Lesson: Colossians 2:6-19

NT pg. 155-156

L: Word of God, Word of Life **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message  
Noisy Offering

Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

Gospel Lead In

*'Open My Heart to Your Love' vs. 1*

DRM pg. 217

Holy Gospel: Luke 11: 1-13

NT pg. 55

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 Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

Sermon Song

*Favorite Hymn*

### **AFFIRMATION: In Spite of Questions**

#### **I Believe**

In spite of many unanswered questions, I believe.

**I believe in the living God, the joy of the universe,**

**who is the pulse and purpose of all things seen and unseen,**

**who from the dust of earth calls up living beings to be children of eternity,**

**who through countless ages has provided for us many liberators**

**and tirelessly seeks to bring victory out of defeat and life out of decay.**

**I believe in Jesus the Christ, God's true Son,**

**who is bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh,**

**who took upon himself the healing of the human race,**

**who bearing the burden of our sins went to Golgotha carrying his cross,**

**who was betrayed, crucified, dead and buried in a borrowed tomb,**

who on the third day was found to be gloriously alive,  
meeting with those who trust him and serve him to the end of the world.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit of God,  
within and among all who cherish Christ and his way,  
who brings hope out of despair, love out of apathy, and joy out of sorrow,  
who unceasingly regenerates and reforms the church  
that it may always be the contemporary body of the risen Christ,  
loving the world through prayer, word and deed.  
I believe that even I am caught up in the resurgent life of Christ Jesus,  
and that nothing in life or death can separate me from his love and joy.  
In spite of unanswered questions, **yes I believe. Amen!**

### **MEAL**

Prayer Song

*'Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying'*

WOV #775

#### **Prayer for Others based on the Lords Prayer:** *(inspired by the Lord's Prayer)*

P: People of God, as we come to prayer let us remember that we do not have to twist the arm of a reluctant God to seek good things for this world, nor find ways to persuade a distant God to come near and listen to us. Let's us pray...

#### **C: Our Father who art in heaven**

P: How blissful it is to imagine heaven on earth. But lives are always endangered. Poverty consumes many, hunger and disease destroy many. The bodies of young people are for sale. Mothers and fathers are migrating to foreign lands seeking freedom and dignity and new opportunities. God, grant to us the experience of heaven on earth.

#### **Hallowed be your name**

Your name is holy, your people are holy. You created us in your image. But the dignity of the poor are crushed by those who oppress through laws and rules. Remind rulers of the earth they are called to serve the vulnerable in fairness and truth.

#### **Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

We know that your kingdom is a kingdom of love, justice and of peace. A kingdom of righteousness and abundance for all. Do not allow us to be deceived by the standard of this world, where unjust wars rule and greed powers over the nations. Let your will be done soon, and vanish the would-be-kingdom of empire power, until we can finally learn, heaven is possible here on earth.

#### **Give us this day our daily bread**

The bread that we eat today satisfies our hunger. But those who make the bread in many countries have empty stomachs. How can we be happy when our body is full while many are wanting? We have been told those who do not work should not eat. But do those who work hard have too little to eat, while those who amass wealth by greed have plenty to throw away? So let us bring to mind now those

people who have daily needs unanswered; those who are ill, or suffering; those who we lift from our hearts... especially...

**Forgive us our debt, as we forgive debtors.**

We offer our self-criticisms. When we have failed to love You and our neighbor, renew us and enable us to make up whatever we have failed to do. Give us hearts that can share your grace by forgiving others, for your grace is sufficient enough to correct our mistakes. Sustained our courage that we will not be manipulated by those who have wronged, exploited and oppressed us. Let us be humble like a dove and make us wise as a serpent.

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Lead us not to resignation in our work for justice and peace. Let not cynicism rule us, but lead us to a deeper steadfastness to overcome evil in our midst. Let your power of love revive us to love our neighbor as ourselves forever and ever.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory are yours forever.  
Amen.**

## **Offering Collection and Presentation**

### **Offering**

#### **Offertory Hymn**

*Favorite Hymn*

### **Offertory Prayer**

P: May the offerings brought this day be used as seeds, planted faithfully and nurtured lovingly so that God's way may be realized anew in this world. Magnify the gifts we offer to feed the hungry and sustain the poor for your kingdom. **C: Amen**

### **SENDING**

#### **Commission & Benediction** *(based on Colossians 2: 6-7)*

Just like you receive Christ Jesus the Lord, so go on living in him—in simple faith. Allow Him to shape your lives. Let your roots grow down deep into Him, and let Him build you up on a firm foundation. Be strong in the faith—just as you were taught—and let your lives spill over with thanksgiving. And may the amazing grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of God, and the intimate presence of the Holy spirit be with you all. **C: Amen.**

*Pastor Leaves*

### **Announcements**

#### **Dismissal**

L: Go in peace... blessed by God. **C: We will. Thanks be to God.**

Sending Hymn

*Favorite Hymn*

Bells

Postlude

*1 Corinthians 13:13 (MSG) But for right now, until that completeness, we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation: Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love.*

**Pastor Cheryl's Summer Hours:** Mondays (FELC Pastor Office 9 am to 3 pm), Tuesdays (Zion Lutheran 11 am to 5 pm), Wednesdays (FELC Pastor Office 11 am to 5 pm, & Thursdays (FELC Pastor Office 9 am – 3 pm), or by appointment. Contact her anytime via text (605-237-1501) or email at CMQRondeau@outlook.com.

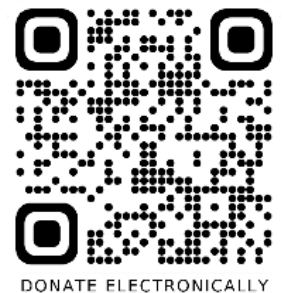
**Welcome to all visitors and guests!** May the joy of Christ fill you as we worship today. Friendship Pads are at the ends of each pew (by middle aisle). Fill them out, pass them on to your neighbor(s), and send them back to the middle aisle.

**KDIO Radio Broadcast** is sponsored by Garry & Ethel Swenson in memory of LaVon Gerber and by your gifts to the Endowment Fund. [2025 & 2026 Radio broadcast cards are available in the narthex; cost is \$100/week].

**OFFERING UPDATE:** You're encouraged to visit our webpage for Online Giving at [www.firstenglish.net](http://www.firstenglish.net) or scan the QR Code from the offering cards or bulletins.



	June 2025	Year-to-Date 2025
Offerings/Gifts:	\$15,449.82	\$106,132.21
Zion Receivable:	\$3,192.06	\$16,391.62
Total Revenue:	\$18,641.88	\$122,523.83
Expenses:	\$18,494.76	\$118,104.63
Balance:	\$147.12	\$4,419.20



**July's pink envelope emphasis is for Families in Need.** You can find special pink envelopes for designated giving in the Narthex.

**Happy Birthday wishes go out** to Sharon Carlson, whose birthday is Aug. 2nd.

**The council voted to have meetings on Wednesday nights.** Our next council meeting is coming up. It will be August 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm.

**Pastor Cheryl's installation to our churches will be during our services** on Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Attending Green Lake Bible Camp this week are** Jacob Fladhammer and Baylor Kellen. Please add these youth to your prayers to have a safe and inspirational time this week.



**The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be in Bellingham** at the Community Center July 29th from 1 to 6 p.m. Appointments for a regular or Power Red donation can be made by calling Audrey at (320) 568-2385. You can also schedule your own appointment by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

**Zion Lutheran Church invites you to their Pie & Ice Cream Social** on August 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00-7:00 pm. The menu includes Bar-B-Que, Hot Dogs, Chips, Homemade Pie, Ice Cream, Pop & Coffee. 100% of proceeds to go to Big Stone Lake Area Food Shelf & Trojan Take Out.



**We are looking for a 20 hr. a week youth director.** You can learn more on our website (under about FELC -> church updates) or our Facebook page (it's pinned). Even if this position is not right for you, please share this opening with anyone who might be interested or who might know someone who might be interested.

**Stonecroft Ministries Women's Connection** will be meeting on Tues., Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at Big Stone Tabor Methodist Church. The speaker will be Patricia Bishop of Sioux Falls on the topic, "Who am I, Why am I Here." The special feature will be John Thomas of Ortonville and Remi, a therapy dog. John will give a history of Remi and the training of therapy dogs.



The music will be Deanna Larson of Ortonville gifting us with flute music. The cost is \$6.00, and you can register with Paula Reisdorph at 320-760-9583 or just be a walk-in. Free nursery by reservation. ALL ARE WELCOME!

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT** for Angie Aschwege, Kelly Athey, Arlen LaCombe, Gail Olson, Harris Selvig, Beth Swanson, Brandi Tweeter, Jean Zielike; Monty Athey, Paul Erdman, Rosie Frank, Larry Helgeson, Natalie Henneberg, McCoy Jipson, Janice Redfield, David Scholberg, and Jerry Stotesbery. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Ricky Anderson, Arvilla Bergseth, Adeline Burgess, Jim Hipple, Vivian Janssen, Nola Lockwood, Roger Nornes; Aletta Simonitch; and Mary Lou Olson in Madison. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict especially Jacob Hamann, Colin Hartman, Tyler Ruby, and Thomas Halverson; and our South African students Sanelisiwe Dlamini and Andiswa Mbatha. If you would like a name to be added/removed, please contact the church office.



**This Week's Ministry Assistants — July 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Organist:** Carol Ydstie

**Greeters:** Ethel & Garry Swenson

**Acolytes:** Bailey & Rylie

**Tech Desk:** Terry Kalberg & Marina Thompson

**Lector:** Ellie Helgeson

**Ushers:** Tami Lundberg, Marilyn Chindvall,  
Glenn & Deb Henningson

## Next Week's Ministry Assistants — August 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Organist:** Kathy Haukos      **FWV: TBD**      **Greeters:** Jackie & Mel Domine  
**Lay Assistants:** Jim Foster & Amanda Stattelman      **Lector:** Jim Schmeichel  
**Acolytes:** Katelyn & James      **Tech Desk:** Cody Backstrand & Marina T.  
**Ushers:** Gale May, Dean Strand, Vern Nickolauson, & David Ellingson

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

**Sun – 7/27** 9:00 am Worship – Favorite Hymns – Noisy Offering  
– Broadcast on KDIO & Facebook Live

**Mon – 7/28** 11:00 am Staff Meeting

**Tues – 7/29** 8:30 am Day of Love  
4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie's Diner (Fairway View)

**Wed – 7/30** 9:30 am Channel 3 Broadcast  
5:30 pm Channel 3 Broadcast

**Fri – 8/1** 9:00 am Bulletins Printed  
10:00 am Baptism of Lincoln Ray Athey, Cohen Lee Athey, &  
Reagan Erin Athey

**Sun – 8/3** 9:00 am FELC-Zion Joint Worship (**at FELC**) – Communion  
– Broadcast on KDIO & Facebook Live



10:30 am Fairway View Worship (pre-recorded)  
4:00 pm – 7:00 pm Pie & Ice Cream Social at Zion Church





**FEEL THE LOVE**

Sponsored by THE LII LENNOX FOUNDATION

Help us Help Someone in our Community!

Nominations close August 31st, 2025

Installation takes place October 3, 2025

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