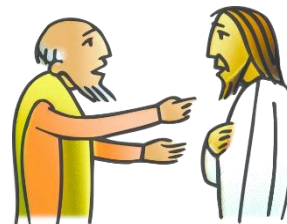




**First English Lutheran Church**  
9 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Street; Ortonville, MN 56278  
Rev. Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, Pastor  
Lisa Berdan, Senior Choir Director  
**Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**CONTEMPORARY**



**August 23, 2026**

**9:00 am**

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**PREPARATION**

Prelude, Bells

Welcome

**Announcements**

**Peace:** P: The peace of the Lord be with you always...

**C:** And also with you.

**GATHERING**

**Call to Worship:**

P: Let us come together in worship of our loving Savior as we sing...

Baptismal Song 'Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters' vs 1-2 #445

**1. Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow. Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago. Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light. Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.**

**2. We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed. Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread. God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares, one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.**

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947. Music: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985.

Text: ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company. Arr. ©1985 Augsburg Fortress.

**HOLY BAPTISM**

pg. 227

**Kylar Jean Otto and Wyatt Zachary Otto**

P: In baptism our gracious heavenly Father...Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Kylar Jean and Wyatt Zachary....covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsor's Respose: *I do.*

P: People of God, do you promise to support Kylar Jean and Wyatt Zachary and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

**C: We do.**

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God, the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

P: Oh Lord, Pour out your Holy Spirit... whom you have been baptized.  
P Let us pray,

### **Laying Hands**

P: Oh Lord, sustain Kylar and Wyatt...now and forever. **C: Amen.**

### **Anointing**

**Kylar Jean Otto**, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **C: Amen.**

**Wyatt Zachary Otto**, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **C: Amen.**

### **Baptismal Candle**

P: Kylar - Wyatt, Let your light...welcome our new brothers in Christ.

**C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

Baptismal Song Continues      'Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters'  
**3. Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways! To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise! We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit born. By your grace, our lives we offer Recreate us; God, transform!**

Invocation: With Open Arms: (based on Matt 15: 21-28 & Rom 11: 1-2, 29-32)

P: With open arms You welcome all who call on Your name—... For You alone are God—worthy of all praise and worship, now and to the end of time. **C: Amen.**

## **Gathering Hymn**

*“Favorite Hymn”*

## **Call to Reconciliation**

P: While we may yearn to be like Jesus... saving presence in our lives.

## **Unison Prayer of Confession** *(inspired by Matthew 22: 37-39)*

**C: Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you; you call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped up in our own concerns. We have gone along with evil, with pride, quarrelling, and divisiveness.**

**Holy God, help us to face up to ourselves, so that, as you move toward us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Silence is kept*

## **Assurance of Pardon**

P: It's not money, but our...transforms us into God's children.

**C: It is more than just how we think. In mercy and grace, our hearts, our lives, our spirits are transformed and made new.**

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **Hymn of Praise**

*“Favorite Hymn”*

## **Prayer of the Day:**

P: Let us pray, **C: O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Special Music

Amazing Grace

ASL signing by Marge Dragseth, Sung by Becky Parker and  
accompanied by Lisa Berdan

## **WORD**

First Lesson: Exodus 1:8—2:10

OT pg. 38

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

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.**

Second Lesson: Romans 12:1-8

NT pg.123

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

### Children's Message

**Gospel Lead In**

*'Favorite Hymn'*

Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

NT pg. 14

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'*

### MEAL

**Prayers of Intercession** (based on Ex. 1:8 - 2:10; Rom. 12:1-8; Matt. 16:13-20)

P: Gracious God, in love You created us, and..., knowing that You hear us, and will respond.

*Silence for reflection*

P: *(petition ends with)* ...Gracious God, hear our prayer,

**C: and in Your love, answer.**

P: Finally, God, we pray for ourselves—members... Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. **C: Amen**

## **Offering Collection and Presentation**

**Offertory Hymn**

*'Favorite Hymn'*

**Prayer for the Dedication of the Offering** *(based on Romans 12:1-8)*

P: Let us pray

**C: In deep gratitude for all that You have done for us, we offer ourselves and our gifts to You— living sacrifices of worship and praise. Transform our hearts and minds from the inside out; show us what is good and pleasing in Your sight, so that we may be quick to recognize Your call, and quick to respond. In the name of Jesus, our Messiah and Lord, Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer**

pg. 154

**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**

**Commission & Benediction** *(based on Psalm 138)*

P: As you go into the coming days, remember:...Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and among you in the days ahead and forever!

**C: Amen.**

**Dismissal:**

P: Go in peace... God's steadfast love endures forever.

**C: We will. Thanks be to God.**

**Sending Hymn**

*'Favorite Hymn'*

Bells, Postlude

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*John 10:27 "My sheep hear my voice; I know them and they follow me."*

**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 (unless up at FWV/or visiting members) or by appointment. Contact her anytime via text (605-237-1501) or email at CMQRondeau@outlook.com.

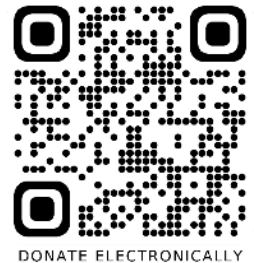
**Welcome to all visitors and guests!** May the joy of Christ fill you as we worship today. Friendship Pads are at the ends of each pew (by middle aisle). Fill them out, pass them on to your neighbor(s), and send them back to the middle aisle.

**KDIO Radio Broadcast** is sponsored in part by your gifts to the Endowment Fund and Garry & Ethel Swenson in memory of Arlen LaCombe. [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.



|                  | <u>July 2026</u> | <u>Year-to-Date 2026</u> |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Offerings/Gifts: | \$15,409.47      | \$118,301.38             |
| Zion Receivable: | \$3,466.42       | \$24,322.36              |
| Total Revenue:   | \$18,875.89      | \$142,623.74             |
| Expenses:        | \$19,758.80      | \$143,405.97             |
| Balance:         | - \$882.91       | - \$782.23               |



**August's pink envelope emphasis is for Baptism Chests.** You can find special pink envelopes for designated giving in the Narthex.

**Happy Birthday wishes** go out to Evelyn Olson whose birthday is Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Congratulations and God's Blessings to** Tiffany and Matthew Otto on the baptism of their twins, Kylar & Wyatt Otto. Their sponsors are Emily Giese, and Mark & Shelby Otto.

**There will be a community shredding event at FELC** on Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. If you have sensitive information and haven't wanted to just throw it away, now is your chance to come and get it shredded.

7 boxes maximum. Your cost is a free-will donation to the FELC Elevator Repair Project.



**3 South African students are sponsored by the Noisy Offering.** Each student's tuition is \$300 a year. Your generosity helps us meet these obligations. Please remember to bring your change next Sunday.

**Our Annual Backpack Blessing is August 30<sup>th</sup>** – Let's send our congregation's kids into the new school year assured of God's promises and our loving support! Please join us at our 9:00 am worship service so we can include all our young people in our prayers as they return to school. Children should bring along their school backpacks for this special backpack blessing event. During the service, children will come forward for a special moment of prayer and blessing.

**Parents & Students Confirmation Orientation set for 6 pm September 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

Any high school age student who has not attended confirmation and would like to may also enroll in the program through arrangements with Pastor Cheryl. An independent study option is available for older youth who desire to complete the requirements. Instruction for 2026-27 begins on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> and 4:30 pm for 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Classes on early out days are held at 1:45 pm with 9<sup>th</sup> graders at 2:45 pm. A registration form is on the first page of the August newsletter and will be on the Youth Facebook group page to download and complete prior to orientation night.

Signup sheets will also be available that evening for parents to sit in to class, offer snacks, offer food for the 5:30 pm youth meal.

**Fall First Communion Classes Registration Open:** Children in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade on up from First English and Zion Lutheran are invited to participate in First Communion Classes this fall. Students are required to attend two hour-long classes. Classes will be held at First English on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> beginning at 3:30 pm depending on the grade of the child. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will meet at 3:30. 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders will meet at 4:30. Please see the August newsletter for more information.

**New Member Sunday will be October 4<sup>th</sup>.** If you're interested in becoming a member reach out to Pastor Cheryl or someone on the Evangelism Committee. We also have forms in the Narthex that you can fill out and return to the office.

**Larry's Refrigeration & Lennox are partnering to help someone in need,** with a donated furnace or air conditioner. One household in our area will be chosen for Larry's Refrigeration and Heating, Inc to install a free furnace or A/C. Anyone can nominate a household or non-profit in need by simply completing a form online at [feelthelove.com](http://feelthelove.com). Nominations close August 31<sup>st</sup>. See posted flyers for more information.

**FELC Benefit Auction:** As many of you know, our elevator underwent repairs this past spring to meet state code. The cost of the repairs took a large sum out of our reserve. We are hoping this auction can be a way to add some back to it to help secure our future. Items (or services) can

be either donated or if you have something larger you are thinking of selling but need some money from it, they can be added to the auction as a consignment item. Consignment items will have a 10% commission deducted. Good news is that the commission that's deducted now becomes a donation to the church and would be tax deductible. All monies received during the auction for donated items would be tax deductible as well.

You do not need to be a member of the church either, if you have friends or family that may have items they are wanting to sell let them know what we're doing. We all have something sitting around we no longer need or use, let us sell it for you. You can contact Mark Block, Darin Ehrenberg, or the church office with items or services you are thinking about donating (or selling).

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT** for Matt Carlson, Marilyn Chindvall, Gail Olson, Burt Pansch; Monty Athey, Corin Dale, Alvin Dexter, Dustin Hanson, Larry Helgeson, Courtney Jorgensen, and Jerry Stotesbery.  AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Ricky Anderson, Arvilla Bergseth, Adeline Burgess, Jim Hipple, Vivian Janssen, Evelyn Olson, Aletta Simonitch, Janice Redfield in Clinton and Mary Lou Olson in Madison. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict; and our Haitian student, Ycherson Soh and 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 — August 23<sup>rd</sup>**

|                                   |                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Organist:</b> Marilyn Hanson   | <b>Tech Desk:</b> Liz Ketz & Cameron Anderson                         |
| <b>Greeters:</b> Sandy & Tom Rice | <b>Lector:</b> Jim Schmeichel                                         |
| <b>Acolytes:</b> Lola & Liam      | <b>Ushers:</b> Gale May, Jim Foster, Art Vollmer<br>& Gene Stotesbery |

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

|                                                                     |                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>Organist:</b> Lisa Berdan                                        | <b>Greeters:</b> Lori Larson & Carol Newman |
| <b>Tech Desk:</b> Marge Dragseth & Cody Backstrand                  | <b>Lector:</b> Sara Mattison                |
| <b>Acolytes:</b> Dawson & Gibson                                    | <b>FWV:</b> TBD                             |
| <b>Ushers:</b> Tami Lundberg, Josh Wollschlager, Dick & Marla Strei |                                             |

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

**Sun – 8/23** 8:30 am Kitchen in use by Giese-Otto Family  
**Before** Service: Coffee & Fellowship in the Narthex  
9:00 am Worship Service – Favorite Hymns –  
Kylar & Wyatt Otto Baptisms – Broadcast on KDIO & Facebook Live  
10-11:00 am Giese-Otto Family Brunch in Fellowship Hall

**Tues – 8/25 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

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

**Wed – 8/26** 9:30 am Channel 3 Broadcast  
10 am – 1 pm Document Shredding in FELC Parking Lot  
11 am Staff Meeting  
5:30 pm Channel 3 Broadcast



**Thurs- 8/27** Ortonville School Starts



**Fri – 8/28** 9:00 am Bulletins Printed  
5-6:00 pm Longnecker Wedding Rehearsal

**Sat – 8/29** 4-4:30 pm Owen Longnecker & Karli Reiffenberger Wedding

**Sun – 8/30** 9:00 am Worship Service – Backpack Blessing – Noisy Offering – Broadcast on KDIO & Facebook Live  
10:30 am Fairway View Service (pre-recorded)



## Join us for



There will be a shorter service beginning at 9:00 AM. We will then be dismissed from the service to go and work on Projects to aid our community. Here is a list of some options. Members from various boards will be heading up each event. Marge Drasgeth will serve as the contact person so if you have other ideas or questions just get a hold of her.

- Christian Ed & Stewardship will lead muffin making and delivering for the hospital, EMTs, and police workers.
- Youth & Family will lead the ditch walk cleanup of our stretch on Hwy 75.
- Lay Ministry will lead headstone cleaning at Mound Cemetery.
- Properties will coordinate a food drive/needs collection. Consider donating to Someplace Safe and Main Street Industries here at the church. There is a drop off box in the Narthex. We are looking for items like Dental Hygiene products (toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, dental floss, etc.), Bathing products (shampoo, conditioner, body wash/soap, etc.), Menstrual products (tampons, disposable pads, etc.), Deodorant, Lotion, Chapstick/Lip Balm, Nail Clippers/Nail Files, Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Combs/Brushes, Diapers/Wipes, Cleaning products, Art Supplies (markers, colored pencils, crayons, pens), Word search books/Seek and Find, Fidgets & Post it Notes. Also, any food items that you would like to have taken to the Food Shelf.
- Evangelism will coordinate the Potluck meal and there will be recycled cards available to make cards for individuals. The potluck meal will consist of BBQs which will be provided, and each person is asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share.