

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Wapakoneta, Ohio



Reformation Sunday
October 31st, 2021

WELCOME TO FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Your presence today makes us more complete. Thank you for being here with us and worshipping with us.

We welcome you to our table for Holy Communion. We invite all baptized Christians who believe that Christ is truly present in the meal to join us. All those who don't receive communion in their church are invited to receive a blessing.

Children of all ages are welcome and are encouraged to participate.

Worship Leaders & Assistants

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God
by Mark & Chris Nagel.

Today's **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Mark and Chris Nagel.

MINISTERS for This Week

Audio/Visual	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Acolyte (taper / crucifer).....	Makenzie Schneider / Doris Fisher
Lector	Marsha Jackson
Ushers.....	Jim Kantner & Steve Stienecker
Worship Assistant.....	Georgeann Stienecker
Musician	Darla Frame
Pastor.....	Vicar Deb Monnin
Nursery.....	Open
Fellowship Cleanup	Charlene Curry & Cyndi Zwiebel

This worship service is live streamed and recorded and
is published on YouTube and Facebook.

* Please rise if able.

Introduction to the day

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

A Mighty Fortress by Martin Luther arr. Joel Raney

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

*** PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

Lift High the Cross (ELW 660)

*** GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

*** KYRIE (ELW p. 184)**

*** CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 187)**

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rebecca Van Meter

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 188)**
Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia.

*** GOSPEL: John 8:31-36**
The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Vicar Deb Monnin

*** HYMN OF THE DAY**

Built on a Rock (ELW 652)

*** APOSTLES' CREED**

Let us confess our faith in the risen Christ through the Apostles' Creed.

**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 OF INTERCESSION**

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*** PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please take a moment to share the Lord's peace and grace with one another by greeting each other with a wave, smile, or peace sign.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*** TITHES AND OFFERING**

During this time we would like to thank you for the work you have been doing, for the support and care you provide and for the gifts you share. As we are not passing the offering tray, please place your noisy offering and regular offering in the trays in the back. We want to thank you for the generous gifts that you have mailed in or brought in today.

*** OFFERING**

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

*** OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

*** GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*** HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 190)**

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow'r and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

*** THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

*** LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 191)

**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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.**

SONGS AFTER COMMUNION

Blest Are They (ELW 728)

The Church's One Foundation (ELW 654)

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word (ELW 517)

*** AS WE ARE BLESSED**

Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in
God's grace now and always. **Amen.**

*** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

***SENDING SONG**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (ELW 504)

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord for where your treasure is,

There your heart will be also. *Matthew 6:21*

POSTLUDE

Praise Him! Praise Him! by Chester G. Allen arr. Mark Hayes

MINISTERS for Next Sunday, November 7th

- Audio/Visual Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
- Acolyte (taper / crucifer)..... Matthew Kline / Deven Whetstone
- Lector Luke Kline
- Ushers..... Katie McCullough & Jim Zwiebel
- Worship Assistant..... Deanna Ronan
- Musician Karen Luginbuhl
- Pastor Vicar Deb Monnin
- Nursery..... Open
- Fellowship Cleanup Denise Kantner and Chris Nagel

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>NWOS Benevolence</u>
09/26/2021	15	58	\$1,195.00	\$10.00
10/03/2021	7	53	\$3,032.50	\$78.00
10/10/2021	9	66	\$2,726.00	\$158.00
10/17/2021	8	67	\$1,654.00	\$143.00
10/24/2021	7	62	\$2,853.25	\$38.00

Our Prayer Corner

Those who would love a visit or a card...

The Gardens	Sharon Meyer
The Manor:	Jim & Evelyn Reinhart, Dick Chenoweth
Otterbein at St. Marys:	Dorothy Dickman
At Home:	Corky Slife, Betty Hague

We especially remember in our prayers...

The Family and Friends of Morris Hickerson, Teresa Bambauer, Rita Barrera, Calvin Binkley, David Blackburn, Cory Crawford, Mike Green, Brenda (a friend of Steve & Georgeann's), Bryan Katterhenry, Janelle Krites, Kenny Koch, Brenda Lippincott, Rex Lippincott, Trey Mena-Linderman, Judy Metz, Leeann Whetstone, Julio Sanchez, Adam Schulze, Alex Shirey, and Seth Thuman.

We remember in our prayers...our military serving at home and abroad, under represented and oppressed people, EMTs, firefighters, police officers, healthcare workers, and our veterans.

We remember in our prayers...our college students: Amanda Bailey, Cameron Bowersock, Daniel Hunt, D.J. O'Neill, Lillian McPeek, Katie Ronan, and Haley Schattschneider.

If we are missing anyone in our prayer corner, please call or email the office and let us know. If there is anyone who wishes to be removed, please do the same.

What's Happening at First English....

Personal contact information...if there has been a change in your family's contact information, please contact the church office by email at wapakelc@bright.net or by calling the office at 419-738-3911.

Organist/Pianist Needed: We are looking for a person to lead our music once a month or every Sunday. Do you know of someone who would like to play for us? Please reach out to the church office or direct individuals to the church website, myfelc.org, as detailed information has been placed on the home page.

Advent Calendar Making is November 7th All youth are invited to help make Advent calendars for our homebound members, which will be delivered by Vicar Deb and our Visitation Team. We will be gathering in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. A second opportunity to make Advent calendars will happen on November 28th after the Advent Meal.

All Saints Sunday is November 7th On this day we will remember and honor all of the saints of this congregation who now live in the light that is Christ Jesus and in the Kingdom of God. We will read aloud during worship the names of all of our friends and family members who have passed in the past year (since November, 2020). We will print in the church bulletin the names of all of the saints of the congregation who have passed into the Church Triumphant. Please email the names of the saints you want to honor to the church office at wapakelc@bright.net or call the office at 419-738-3911.

Advent Meal is November 28th FELC will be hosting a potluck style Advent meal in the Fellowship Hall on November 28th following our worship service. Meat will be provided, but participating households are asked to please bring a covered dish. Our youth will be making Advent calendars following this time of fellowship.

Men's Night Men's night will be held at 6:00pm on Thursday, November 11th at The Wooden Shoe in Minster.

Ladies' Night Ladies' Night will be held at 6:30pm on Tuesday, November 16th at JT's in St. Marys.

Adult Sunday School is meeting in the parlor at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. We would love for everyone to join our discussion and fellowship. Please contact Rebecca Van Meter if you are interested in joining us via Zoom or Facetime. All are welcome!

Confirmation Class: We will meet on Wednesday Evenings from 6:30pm to 7:30pm at First English. On the last Wednesday of the month we meet with the youth and their parent or adult mentor to review together. Please pray that our young people and table leaders will have an exciting and enlightening year!

Prayer Warriors We, the youth of First English Lutheran Church, have initiated a prayer journey with God called Prayer Warriors. Prayer Warriors pray for and uplift each other, the only thing is, your Prayer Warrior doesn't know who is praying for them and you won't know who is praying for you. There is a form below (also at the back of the Sanctuary) that you can fill out and place in the Prayer Warrior jar. In a couple of weeks, all participants will draw or be given the name of another Prayer Warrior from the jar. The identify of the person you are praying for is between you and God alone. We ask that you spend time in prayer every day, praying for your fellow Warrior. We also invite you to send your Warrior cards of encouragement. During the next month or so we will have designated Sundays when you can bring in a small gift or card for your prayer warrior and receive a small card or gift from your Prayer Warrior. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to me about it, I would love to talk about this mission to reunite our church. Please support us and pray always! Bailey Van Meter
baileyvanmeter@icloud.com 419.905.8284.



Wednesday prayer You are welcome to join us as we pray together on Wednesdays. Pastor Melodi and others pray at Trinity, Moulton at noon and Vicar Deb will be praying at First English at 5:00pm on Wednesdays. We typically meet in the parlor for 45 min to an hour and share our Highs, Lows, and God moments and then we pray together. Please come and pray with us! Come when you can – every week or once a month or just when you can.

Wapak Loaves & Fishes Meals need to be reserved by calling 567-204-6708 and can be picked up in the alley behind the Fellowship Hall from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm. Please remain in your vehicle and the meals will be brought to you.

Noisy Offering for the month of October: Operation Shoebox

Offering pans are located in the chapel and at the back of the church. Donations are accepted during the entire month.

Please Pray For & Consider donating to those in need: We pray for people around the world suffering from the effects of natural disasters and political unrest. Please prayerfully consider contributing to the *ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response* to support global efforts to aid those in need.

Yes! I want to be a Prayer Warrior!

Your Name: _____

Favorite Things: _____

How can we pray for you? _____

A little note about me: _____

FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events

Sunday, October 31 st		REFORMATION SUNDAY
	9:00 a.m.	Youth and Adult Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship – Vicar Deb Monnin
-----2022 Budget Requests Deadline-----		
Monday, November 1 st	6:00 p.m.	Finance Meeting at Astro Lanes
	7:00 p.m.	Overeaters Anonymous
Tuesday, November 2 nd	6:30 p.m.	Fellowship Meeting
Wednesday, November 3 rd	12:00 p.m.	Prayer at Trinity Moulton
	5:00 p.m.	Prayer at FELC (Parlor)
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class
	7:30 p.m.	Ladies Choir
Thursday, November 4 th	4:30 p.m.	Loaves & Fishes
Friday, November 5 th	7:30 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous
Sunday, November 7 th		All Saints Sunday
	9:00 a.m.	Youth and Adult Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship – Vicar Deb Monnin
	11:15 a.m.	Advent Calendar Making (Youth)
Monday, November 8 th	6:30 p.m.	Worship and Music Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Overeaters Anonymous
Tuesday, November 9 th	6:30 p.m.	Loaves & Fishes Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 10 th	12:00 p.m.	Prayer at Trinity Moulton
	5:00 p.m.	Prayer at FELC (Parlor)
	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class
Thursday, November 11 th	4:30 p.m.	Loaves & Fishes
	6:30 p.m.	Men's Night @ The Wooden Shoe
Friday, November 5 th	7:30 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous

First English Lutheran Church

A Congregational of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)
107 W. Mechanic Street, Wapakoneta, OH 45895
(419) 738-3911 www.myfelc.org
Church email: wapakelc@bright.net
Office: 9:00am – 12:00pm

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Youth and Adult Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Mission Statement

The mission of First English Lutheran Church is to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and love one another as He has loved us.

Church Staff & Volunteers

Pastor	Vicar Deb Monnin, deb.monnin@myfelc.org ; 937-726-0579
Church Secretary	
Sunday School	
Superintendent	Niki Oren; niki_oren@hotmail.com ; (567) 712-8674
Audio-Technology	Dave Curry; dscy@bright.net ; (937) 307-8596 Jeff Ritchie; jritchie002@woh.rr.com ; 419-296-3794
Financial Secretary	Georgeann Stienecker; nksoccer@nktelco.net
Treasurer	Susan Miller; sugartime@bright.net
Custodian	Diane Schlosser
Council President	Chuck Curry; 763-312-9217; curry074@umn.edu
Council Vice Pres.	Rebecca Van Meter
Council Secretary	Denise Kantner
Council Member	Cari Frame
Council Member	Jeff Ritchie
Council Member	Eric Wisener
Council Member	Dave Clift
Council Member	Teresa Fisher
Council Member	Brenda Shoffstall
Youth Rep.-Council	Makayla Frame