

**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Wapakoneta, Ohio**

*And a voice came
" from heaven,
You are my Son,
the Beloved;
with you I am
well pleased."*

Luke 3:22 NRSV



**Baptism of Our Lord
January 9, 2022**

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 Bernice Shaddock in thanks for Pastor Steve and Pastor Neil Brady for pastoral care.

Today's **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God by the Van Meter Family in celebration of Brian and Rebecca Van Meter's 22nd anniversary on January 8th.

MINISTERS for This Week

Audio/Visual	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Acolyte (taper / crucifer).....	Makenzie Schneider
Lectors	Georgeann Stienecker
Ushers	Dave Krites & Brian Van Meter
Worship Assistant.....	Deanna Ronan
Musician	Karen Luginbuhl
Pastor	Pastor Doug Meyer
Nursery.....	Roseann Whetstone
Altar Guild.....	Sara Young & Angie Bowersock
Fellowship Cleanup	Deanna Ronan & Lisa Kirby

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

* Please rise if able.

Introduction to the day

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

God Himself is Present by Joachim Neander

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who creates us,
redeems us,
and calls us by name.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children.
We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves.
We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome.**

Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

Rejoice in this good news:

In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

Amen.

*** GATHERING SONG**

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise (ELW 310)

*** 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, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, 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

Pastor Doug Meyer

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

¹But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

³For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you;

⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—

⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 29:

- ¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- ²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**
- ³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- ⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**
- ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- ⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- ⁷The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.
- ⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
- ⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"
- ¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned asking forevermore.**
- ¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

A reading from Acts.

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
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: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Pastor Doug Meyer

*** HYMN OF THE DAY**

Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized (ELW 304)

*** 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**

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*** 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.

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 that you provide and for the gifts that you share.

*** 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**

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light.

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.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

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

In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

COMMUNION SONG

**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.**

SONG DURING COMMUNION

For by Grace You Have Been Saved (ELW 598)

Spirit of Gentleness (ELW 396)

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart (ELW 800)

*** 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**

We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

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**

O Living Bread from Heaven (ELW 542)

*** DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Immortal Invisible by Lani Smith

MINISTERS for next Sunday, January 16th, 2022

Audio/Visual Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
 Acolyte (taper / crucifer)..... Carly Craft / Grayce Swaney
 Lectors Luke Kline
 Ushers..... Ken Frame & Jon Schmidt
 Worship Assistant..... Char Curry
 Musician Darla Frame
 Pastor..... Vicar Deb Monnin
 Nursery.....
 Altar Guild..... Sara Young & Angie Bowersock
 Fellowship Cleanup Deanna Ronan & Lisa Kirby

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>NWOS Benevolence</u>
12/12/2021	11	86	\$3,050.00	\$265.00
12/19/2021	19	115	\$13,612.00	\$31.00
12/24/2021	6	127	\$831.00	
12/26/2021	6	43	\$6,297.00	\$3.00
01/02/2022	8	39	\$2,102.00	\$38.00

OUR PRAYER CORNER

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

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

We especially remember in our prayers...

The Residents of Boulder County, Colorado affected by the Marshall wildfire, Rita Barrera, Theresa Bruno, Calvin Binkley, David Blackburn, Makayla Brandyberry, Rob Brincefield, Cory Crawford, Mike Green, Bryan Katterhenry, Janelle Krites, Brenda Lippincott, Rex Lippincott, Dennis McCormick, Judy Metz, Sharon Meyer, Julio Sanchez, Adam Schulze, Alex Shirey, Seth Thuman, and Leann Whetstone.

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....

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.

Church Directories The new church directories have arrived and are ready to be picked up from the table in the hallway between Melching Hall and the sanctuary.

Confirmation Class: Confirmation will resume at 6:30 pm on **January 5th at Trinity Moulton**. If you need a ride, please contact Vicar Deb.

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!

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. We will not be meeting at FELC from December 22nd to January 12th.

Noisy Offering for the month of January: God's Storehouse

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

Greeters Needed We would like to return to the practice of posting greeters at the entrance to Melching Hall. Sign-up sheets have been placed in the hallway between the sanctuary and Melching Hall.

Staffed Nursery Volunteers Needed Sign-up sheets to volunteer in the nursery during worship services have been placed in the hallway between the sanctuary and Melching Hall.

Men's Night Out

Men's Night will be held on Thursday, January 13th, at 6:00pm at Astro Lanes.

Ladies' Night Out

Ladies' Night Out will be held on Tuesday, January 18th, at 6:00 p.m. at Astro Lanes

Prayer Warriors Update 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 by spending time in prayer every day praying for their fellow Warrior and occasionally sending them little gifts or notes of encouragement.

If you want to participate, just fill out the slip and leave it in the basket provided. Slips are located at the back of the sanctuary, on the kitchen counter in the fellowship hall, and in the Melching Hall lobby. The youth will be collecting slips through January 9th and you will receive your new Prayer Warriors on January 16th.

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

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.

2021 Tax Statements 2021 Tax Statements will be available for pickup outside of the Chapel beginning Sunday, January 16th. If you did not receive a tax statement, please contact Georgeann Stienecker at the church office 419-738-3911 or nksoccer@nktelco.net

Altar Flowers and Altar Candle Calendar The 2022 Alter Flowers and Alter Candle sign-up calendar has been placed in the Mechanic St. entrance to the sanctuary. The date you want is probably available. Thank you in advance for volunteering!

Annual Report Items Due January 21st Year end committee reports and all other items for inclusion in the 2021 Annual Report to the Congregation are due into the church office by January 21st.

Changes to the Worship Service You may notice some changes to our regular worship service in the coming weeks. First, the congregation will sing the entire Kyrie instead of the call and response format between the cantor and the congregation that we have been using. Second, we will be changing our liturgical setting on January 16th. In order to get accustomed to the new versions of the liturgy, the congregation will be singing with a recording of the new liturgical setting during worship services.

FELC is Hiring

Position: Bookkeeper Part-Time

Job Duties

First English Lutheran Church is in need of a bookkeeper to accurately process and document all donations, interest payments, invoice payments, reimbursement requests, payroll and payroll tax payments, and account transfers in QuickBooks. The bookkeeper will also be responsible for reconciling all bank accounts, closing the monthly, quarterly, and yearly ledger, performing all required monthly, quarterly, and annual financial reports, and performing other activities as directed.

Working Conditions

The bookkeeper works in the church's financial office with the Financial Secretary and Treasurer and reports to the Treasurer, Pastor, and Church Council.

This is a part-time position and does not require a set schedule, but many of the bookkeeper's duties do have associated deadlines which must be met.

The performance of the bookkeeper's duties should require, on average, 2-4 hours per week.

Qualifications

Candidates for this position should be familiar with computers, computer programs such as Excel, Word, and QuickBooks, data entry, financial record keeping principles, account reconciliation processes, financial reporting, payroll and tax forms, and must possess excellent attention to detail.

Candidates must be authorized to work in the United States without sponsorship and will be asked to submit to a background check and drug test prior to being hired for this position.

Pay and Benefits

The salary for this position will be commensurate with education and experience and will reflect the expected time commitment.

Benefits are not available for this position.

To Apply

To apply to this position, please email your resume to wapakelc@bright.net and reference "bookkeeper" in the subject line. If you have any questions regarding this job posting please contact the church office at 419-738-3911.

FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events

Sunday, January 9 th		Baptism of Our Lord
	9:00 a.m.	Youth and Adult Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship – Pastor Doug Meyer
Monday, January 10 th	7:00 p.m.	Overeaters Anonymous
Wednesday, January 12 th	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 @ Trinity Moulton
	7:30 p.m.	Ladies' Choir
Thursday, January 13 th	4:30 p.m.	Loaves & Fishes
	6:00 p.m.	Men's Night @ Astro Lanes
Friday, January 14 th	7:30 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous
Sunday, January 16 th		2 Epiphany
	9:00 a.m.	Youth and Adult Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship – Vicar Deb Monnin
Monday, January 17 th	Noon-6pm	Red Cross Blood Drive
	7:00 p.m.	Overeaters Anonymous
Tuesday, January 18 th	6:00 p.m.	Ladies' Night @ Astro Lanes
Wednesday, January 19 th	12:00 p.m.	Prayer at Trinity Moulton
	5:00 p.m.	Prayer at FELC (Parlor)
	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation at Trinity Moulton
Thursday, January 20 th	4:30 p.m.	Loaves & Fishes
Friday, January 21 st	7:30 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous

First English Lutheran Church

A Congregation 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

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.

Sunday Schedule

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

Church Staff & Volunteers

Pastor	Vicar Deb Monnin, deb.monnin@myfelc.org ; 937-726-0579
Church Secretary	
Bookkeeper	
Financial Secretary	Georgeann Stienecker; nksoccer@nktelco.net
Sunday School	
Superintendent	Niki Oren; niki_oren@hotmail.com ; 567-712-8674
Custodian	Diane Schlosser
Music Director	Darla Frame
Audio-Technology	Dave Curry; dscy@bright.net ; 937-307-8596 Jeff Ritchie; jritchie002@woh.rr.com ; 419-296-3794 Noah Kirby; noah.w.kirby@gmail.com ; 419-905-8243

Church Council

President	Chuck Curry; curry074@umn.edu ; 763-312-9217
Vice Pres.	Brenda Shoffstall
Secretary	Denise Kantner
Treasurer	Georgeann Stienecker
Council Member	Rebecca Van Meter
Council Member	Jeff Ritchie
Council Member	Dave Clift
Council Member	Teresa Fisher
Council Member	Jon Schmidt
Youth Rep.-Council	Luke Kline