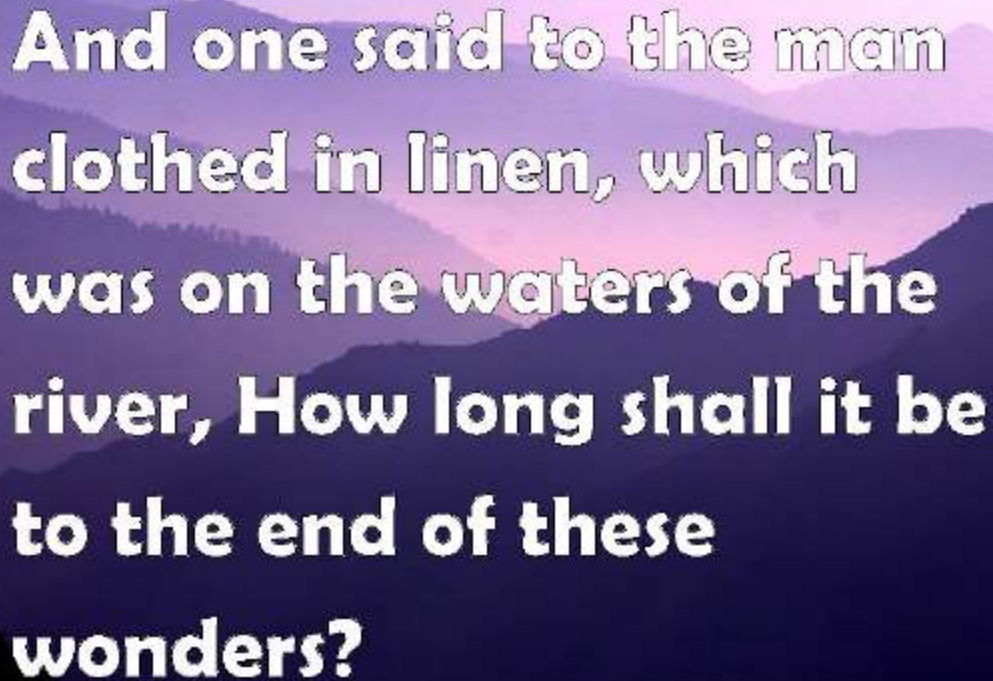


**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Wapakoneta, Ohio**



**And one said to the man  
clothed in linen, which  
was on the waters of the  
river, How long shall it be  
to the end of these  
wonders?**

**—Daniel 12:6**

**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter  
May 21, 2023**

# WELCOME TO FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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

## Sunday Schedule

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

## Worship Leaders & Assistants

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God by the people of God.

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God by Frank and Nancy Heffner in  
honor of our church family.

## **MINISTERS for This Week**

|                         |                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Audio/Visual .....      | Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie       |
| Acolyte.....            | Makenzie Schneider              |
| Lector .....            | Jon Schmidt                     |
| Ushers.....             | Ken Frame & Jon Schmidt         |
| Worship Assistant.....  | Deanna Ronan                    |
| Musician .....          | Darla Frame                     |
| Preacher.....           | Pastor Melodi Hagen             |
| Greeter .....           |                                 |
| Altar Guild .....       | Darla Frame & Deanna Wisener    |
| Fellowship Cleanup..... | Darla Frame & Brenda Shoffstall |

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

\* Please rise if able.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

## GATHERING

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Jesus Loves Me* by William Bradbury arr Albin C Whitworth

### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. 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.**

### \* GATHERING SONG

*A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!* (ELW 393)

### \* 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.**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Life!

**People: A wonderful gift of God!**

Leader: Life!

**People: God's gift at birth!**

Leader: Life!

**People: God's gift through the new birth!**

Leader: Life with God!

**People: A present possession!**

Leader: Life with God!

**People: A future inheritance:**

**ALL: Life! God's wonderful Gift!**

**\* CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 204)**

**\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Let us pray. O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**LADIES' CHOIR**

*Michael, Row the Boat Ashore* African-American folk song  
arr Earlene Retz

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*Rebecca Van Meter*

**WORD**

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

**FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14**

*A reading from Acts.*

<sup>6</sup>When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going

and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35**

<sup>1</sup>Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered;  
let those who hate God flee.

<sup>2</sup>**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;  
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of  
God.**

<sup>3</sup>But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;  
let them also be merry and joyful.

<sup>4</sup>**Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds;  
I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

<sup>5</sup>In your holy habitation, O God,  
you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

<sup>6</sup>**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;  
but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

<sup>7</sup>O God, when you went forth before your people,  
when you marched through the wilderness,

<sup>8</sup>**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God,  
the God of Sinai,  
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

<sup>9</sup>You sent a bountiful rain, O God;  
you restored your inheritance when it languished.

<sup>10</sup>**Your people found their home in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

<sup>32</sup>Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;  
sing praises to the Lord.

<sup>33</sup>**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;  
you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

<sup>34</sup>Ascribe power to God,  
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.  
<sup>35</sup>**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,  
giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

## **SECOND READING: Daniel 12:5-13**

*A reading from Daniel.*

<sup>5</sup>Then I, Daniel, looked, and two others appeared, one standing on this bank of the stream and one on the other. <sup>6</sup>One of them said to the man clothed in linen, who was upstream, "How long shall it be until the end of these wonders?" <sup>7</sup>The man clothed in linen, who was upstream, raised his right hand and his left hand toward heaven. And I heard him swear by the one who lives forever that it would be for a time, two times, and half a time, and that when the shattering of the power of the holy people comes to an end, all these things would be accomplished. <sup>8</sup>I heard but could not understand; so I said, "My lord, what shall be the outcome of these things?" <sup>9</sup>He said, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are to remain secret and sealed until the time of the end. <sup>10</sup>Many shall be purified, cleansed, and refined, but the wicked shall continue to act wickedly. None of the wicked shall understand, but those who are wise shall understand. <sup>11</sup>From the time that the regular burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that desolates is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred ninety days. <sup>12</sup>Happy are those who persevere and attain the thousand three hundred thirty-five days. <sup>13</sup>But you, go your way, and rest; you shall rise for your reward at the end of the days."

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)**

### **\* GOSPEL: John 17:1-11**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup>"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on

behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **MESSAGE**

*Pastor Melodi Hagen*

### **\* HYMN OF THE DAY**

*I Come With Joy (ELW 482)*

### **\* THE APOSTLES' CREED**

Let us profess our faith using the words of 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**

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world and all in need.

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

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

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

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

**\* 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.

*The offering baskets are located by the bulletins.*

*You may drop your offering in the basket before or after worship.*

**\* OFFERING HYMN**

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182)*

**\* OFFERING PRAYER**

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

**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... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\* HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207)**

**\* WORDS OF INSTITUTION (ELW p. 130)**



**\* 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 and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

**COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God* (ELW p. 208)**

**SONGS DURING COMMUNION**

*Thine the Amen* (ELW 826)

*As the Deer* (On Screen)

*O Word of God Incarnate* (ELW 514)

**\* 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. Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. **AMEN.**

**\* PRAYER FOR COUNCIL**

**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**

*Crown Him With Many Crowns* (ELW 855)

**\* DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**Thanks be to God.**

**MINISTERS for next Sunday**

|                         |                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Audio/Visual .....      | Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie       |
| Acolyte.....            | Deven Whetstone                 |
| Lector .....            | Marsha Jackson                  |
| Ushers.....             | Luke Kline & Clayton Fisher     |
| Worship Assistant.....  | Susan Miller                    |
| Musician .....          | Darla Frame                     |
| Preacher.....           | Pastor Doug Meyer               |
| Greeter .....           |                                 |
| Altar Guild .....       | Darla Frame & Deanna Wisener    |
| Fellowship Cleanup..... | Darla Frame & Brenda Shoffstall |

**OUR PRAYER CORNER**

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

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Auglaize Acres            | Dennis McCormick                             |
| Otterbein at Cridersville | Sharon Billiter, Rex Lippincott, Betty Lietz |
| Otterbein at St. Marys    | Dorothy Dickman                              |
| The Gardens               | Betty Hague, Dale Thomas                     |

***We especially remember in our prayers...***

The Family and Friends of Linda Taylor,  
 Tracy Anderson, Don Cole, Dominic Cousins, Jacob Cox, Janice Etkorn,  
 Connie Kantner, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Rex Lippincott,  
 Lynne Loebach, Sasha Maslov, Dennis McCormick, Cathy & Desmond Miller, Nici Rapp,  
 Sue Schoonover, Pam Schulz, Adam Schulze, Alex Shirey, Donna Stowell Dague,  
 Seth Thuman, Dale & Mary Ann Thomas, Tony Wallace, Eddie Whetstone,  
 Hannah Wood, Angela, and Paul.

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.

*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.*

## WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Views</u> | <u>Attendance</u> | <u>Current Giving</u> | <u>NWOS Benevolence</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 04/16/2023  | 8            | 75                | \$1,635.99            | \$153.00                |
| 04/23/2023  | 16           | 73                | \$1,222.00            | \$3.00                  |
| 04/30/2023  | 14           | 67                | \$1,540.00            | \$0.00                  |
| 05/07/2023  | 14           | 68                | \$3,385.00            | \$76.00                 |
| 05/14/2023  | 14           | 70                | \$1,869.00            | \$63.00                 |

2023 current budgeted expenses are \$210,480.66, or \$4,047.71 per week.

FELC can now accept online donations through the church website thanks to our partnership with Tithe.ly online giving. Just visit [myfelc.org](http://myfelc.org) or scan the QR code to the right. From the church website click on the green GIVE button and follow the prompts.

Thank you for your support!



### ***What's Happening at First English....***

#### **Noisy Offering for the month of MAY: Wapakoneta Area Tornado Relief**

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

**Alive Music Festival** The high school youth group (current 8th-12th graders) will be attending the Alive Music Festival in Mineral City, Ohio. We will be leaving July 12th and returning very late on July 15th. If you are interested, please talk to Rebecca.

**Family Life Center Walk for Life is June 3<sup>rd</sup>** Help the Family Life Center reach out with a message of help and hope to at-risk women. Please sign up to be a Walker in this year's Walk for Life! Join us at the Walk for Life on Saturday, June 3rd from 9:30 AM-11:30 AM at the Wapak Track on 400 W. Harrison Street in Wapakoneta.

**Vacation Bible School Registration Has Begun!** VBS is June 5-9. Registration forms are available at the church and in the church office. Completed registrations are due by May 22<sup>nd</sup> to guarantee that your child receives a shirt.

**Peder & Allison Eide Concert May 31<sup>st</sup>** We heard them at Youth Quake and now Peder and Allison Eide are coming to Jackson Center, Wednesday May 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:30-9:30pm. All youth, families, and friends are encouraged to attend this **free event**. If you are interested in carpooling, please contact Rebecca Van Meter.

**Flat Jesus is Back!** Get yours at the back of the sanctuary or chapel.

**Bingo at the Acres** FELC will resume Bingo at the Acres on May 9<sup>th</sup> from 2-3pm. FELC will host Bingo every second Tuesday of the month going forward. If you would like to help with this social outreach ministry please contact Brenda Shoffstall.

**Summer Camp** Please consider sending your child(ren) to HopeWood Camp this summer. HopeWood, formerly Lutheran Memorial Camp, is one of the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry in Ohio (LOMO) camps. Camp Mowana was also a part of the LOMO camps. There are many weeks to choose from. This is a great opportunity to grow your child's faith. Please let Rebecca know if you are registering your child for camp.

### **FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events**

|                                    |                   |   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup></b> | <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b><br>Worship-Pastor Melodi Hagen |
| Tuesday, May 23 <sup>rd</sup>      | 6:30 p.m.         | Ladies' Night at The Side Rail  |
| Wednesday, May 24 <sup>th</sup>    | 5:00 p.m.         | Girl Scouts (Basement)  |
| Thursday, May 25 <sup>th</sup>     | 4:30 p.m.         | Loaves & Fishes Community Meal  |
| <b>Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>Pentecost Sunday</b><br>Worship-Pastor Doug Meyer                  |
| Wednesday, May 31 <sup>st</sup>    | 5:00 p.m.         | Girl Scouts (Basement)  |
| Thursday, June 1 <sup>st</sup>     | 4:30 p.m.         | Loaves & Fishes Community Meal  |

### **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](http://www.myfelc.org)

Church email: [wapakelc@bright.net](mailto:wapakelc@bright.net)

Office Hours: 11:00am – 1:00pm

### **Mission Statement**

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

### **Church Staff & Volunteers**

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Pastor                           | Vicar Deb Monnin, <a href="mailto:deb.monnin@myfelc.org">deb.monnin@myfelc.org</a> ; 937-726-0579    |
| Office Administrator             | Chuck Curry  |
| Christian Ed &<br>Youth Director | Rebecca Van Meter  |
| Bookkeeper                       | Anderson Accounting  |
| Financial Secretary              | Georgeann Stienecker; <a href="mailto:nksoccer@nktelco.net">nksoccer@nktelco.net</a>                 |
| Music Director                   | Darla Frame  |
| Audio-Technology                 | Dave Curry; <a href="mailto:darcy@bright.net">darcy@bright.net</a> ; 937-307-8596                    |
| Council President                | Brenda Shoffstall, <a href="mailto:shoffstall08@yahoo.com">shoffstall08@yahoo.com</a> , 419-233-1956 |