

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Wapakoneta, Ohio



The thief comes only to
steal and kill and destroy;

I came so that they would have life,
and have it abundantly.

John 10:10, NASB

5th Sunday of Easter
May 7, 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
9:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. Youth Sunday School
9:45 Youth Choir
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 in honor of Kathy Thompson for her birthday and Mother's Day. Love, your children, in-laws, grand and great grand babies!

MINISTERS for This Week

Audio/Visual	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Acolyte.....	Harrison Anderson
Lector	Sandy Brading
Ushers.....	Ken Frame & Bruce Monnin
Worship Assistant.....	Darla Frame
Musician.....	Karen Luginbuhl
Preacher.....	Vicar Deb Monnin
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

Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.

GATHERING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Be Thou My Vision by Paul Manz

* 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

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! (ELW 385)

* 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)



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

BELL CHOIR

Come to Worship arr Dan R Edwards

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rebecca Van Meter

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

A reading from Acts.

⁴²[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25

A reading from 1 Peter.

¹⁹It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²"He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

* GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his

voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Vicar Deb Monnin

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us (ELW 789)

*** THE NICENE CREED**

Let us profess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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)



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***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,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 208)



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

In the Singing (ELW 466)

Now We Join in Celebration (ELW 462)

The King of Love My Shepherd Is (ELW 502)

The Lord's My Shepherd (ELW 778)

Children of the Heavenly Father (ELW 781)

*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.

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)

POSTLUDE

Come to the Water by John Foley

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

MINISTERS for next Sunday

Audio/Visual	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Acolyte.....	Doris Fisher
Lector	Makayla Frame
Ushers.....	Dave Krites & Brian Van Meter
Worship Assistant	Jon Schmidt
Musician	Darla Frame
Preacher.....	Vicar Deb Monnin
Greeter	Brenda Shoffstall
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
The Manor	Jim Reinhart
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...

Tracy Anderson, Don Cole, Dominic Cousins, Jacob Cox, Janice Etzkorn, Connie Kantner, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Rex Lippincott, Lynne Loebach, Sasha Maslov, Cathy & Desmond Miller, Nici Rapp, Sue Schoonover, Pam Schulz, Adam Schulze, Alex Shirey, Donna Stowell Dague, Seth Thuman, Dale & Mary Ann Thomas, 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>
03/26/2023	10	82	\$1,641.00	\$18.00
04/02/2023	22	115	\$4,095.00	\$44.00
04/09/2023	17	133	\$3,565.00	\$93.00
04/16/2023	8	75	\$1,635.99	\$153.00
04/23/2023	16	73	\$1,222.00	\$3.00

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 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....

Sunday School Preschool-elementary Sunday School is held in the large Sunday School room at 9:15am & following Sunday worship. Youth choir practice begins at 9:45am. Middle school-high school youth meet in the basement from 9:15-9:45am. See you then! The last day of Sunday School for this school year is May 21, 2023.

Wedding Dress Donation for Morgan's Place On Sunday, March 19 our members heard a Temple Talk by Mollie Verdier telling us about **Morgan's Place**, whose mission is to assist bereaved families throughout the grieving process when experiencing the loss of a baby. A part of their mission involves making burial outfits for the babies from used wedding gowns. We would like to invite anyone who has a gown they no longer need or want to store to consider donating it to Morgan's Place for this very important mission. The dresses can be brought to the church and we will see they get to Mollie and her volunteer seamstresses to use. Our Quilting Group will be making blankets for donation to Morgan's Place as well.

Postal Service Food Drive to benefit God's Storehouse and Mercy Unlimited will be held on Saturday, May 13th. If you wish to participate, please leave bags containing donated items under your mailbox. Items needed include; hygiene items, shampoo, canned meat, boxed cereals, bottled juices, and laundry and dish detergent. Please check the expiration date on cans. Thank you for helping us to help those in need!

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 3rd 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.

Bingo at the Acres FELC will resume Bingo at the Acres on May 9th 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.

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 22nd to guarantee that your child receives a shirt.

Peder & Allison Eide Concert May 31st We heard them at Youth Quake and now Peder and Allison Eide are coming to Jackson Center, Wednesday May 31st from 5:30-9:30pm. Eric and Anna Hagen (Pastor Melodi's husband and oldest daughter) have worked hard to bring Peder and Allison to the first ever Community Faith Night at the Jackson Center Community Days celebration. All youth, families, and friends are encouraged to attend this **free event**. If you are interested in carpooling, please contact Rebecca Van Meter.

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 in an amazing setting. FELC has always strongly supported our youth attending LOMO camps. FELC will pay the majority of our active youth to attend camp, leaving you to pay just \$100 for your first child attending, and just \$50 for each youth after that. Please let Rebecca know if you are registering your child for camp.

FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events

Sunday, May 7th	10:00 a.m.	5th Sunday of Easter
		Worship-Vicar Deb Monnin
Monday, May 8 th	6:30 p.m.	Worship & Music
Wednesday, May 10 th	5:00 p.m.	Prayer in the parlor
		Girl Scouts (Basement)
Thursday, May 11 th	4:30 p.m.	Loaves & Fishes Community Meal
	6:00 p.m.	Men's Night @ La Neta
Sunday, May 14th	10:00 a.m.	6th Sunday of Easter
		Worship-Vicar Deb Monnin
Wednesday, May 17 th	10:00 a.m.	Quilting
	5:00 p.m.	Prayer in the parlor
		Girl Scouts (Basement)
	7:30 p.m.	Ladies' Choir
Thursday, May 18 th	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
Church email: 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.

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
9:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. Youth Sunday School
9:45 Youth Choir
10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Church Staff & Volunteers

Pastor	Vicar Deb Monnin, deb.monnin@myfelc.org ; 937-726-0579
Office Administrator	Chuck Curry
Christian Ed & Youth Director	Rebecca Van Meter
Bookkeeper	Anderson Accounting
Financial Secretary	Georgeann Stienecker; nksoccer@nktelco.net
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	Brenda Shoffstall, shoffstall08@yahoo.com , 419-233-1956
Vice Pres.	Teresa Fisher
Secretary	Dave Clift
Treasurer	Georgeann Stienecker
Council Members	Rebecca Van Meter, Jeff Ritchie, Denise Kantner, Jon Schmidt, Darla Frame