

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Wapakoneta, Ohio



Easter Sunday
March 31st, 2024

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. Youth and Adult Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Youth Choir

10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Worship Leaders & Assistants

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God by Jim & Denise Kantner,
Angie & Joe Kraft, and Alaina & Mike Vecchio in honor of
Dale and Mary Ann Thomas' 70th wedding anniversary.

MINISTERS for This Week

Audio/Visual	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Acolyte	Harrison Anderson
Lector	Marsha Jackson
Ushers	Steve Stienecker & Jim Kantner
Worship Assistant	Deanna Ronan
Musician	Darla Frame
Cantor	Darla Frame & Jennie Grundey
Pastor	Pastor William Schultz
Greeter	Dave & Chris Clift
Altar Guild	Marsha Jackson & Char Curry
Fellowship Cleanup	Marsha Jackson & Char Curry

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

* Please rise if able.

**Thank you to everyone who provided the beautiful flowers
that fill our sanctuary this Easter Sunday!**

- Dave & Char Curry** 1 Lily
In loving memory of Charles & Mabel Jackson and Don & Clara Curry.
- Bonnie Davidson** 1 Hyacinth, 1 Tulip
In loving memory of Karen Beard.
In loving memory of Janet Clark.
- Brian & Catherine Fisher** 2 Hyacinth, 1 Tulip, 1 Daffodil
In honor of Austin, Clayton, Doris, and Vivian.
- Darla & Ken Frame** 2 Hyacinth
In loving memory of Paul & Norma Rickert.
In loving memory of Don & Betty Frame.
- Jennie & Jason Grundey, Luke, Matthew, and Jack** 1 Hyacinth, 1 Tulip
In loving memory of Jason Kline.
In honor of our grandparents.
- Marsha Jackson** 1 Daffodil
In loving memory of Charles, Mabel and Flossie Jackson.
- Ken & Carlene Koch and Diane Hollingsworth** 2 Hyacinth
To the Glory of God.
- Becky Kohlrieser** 1 Tulip
In loving memory of Rex Lippincott
- Deana Kramer** 1 Hyacinth
In honor of my mom, children and granddaughters.
- Dave & Connie Krites** 1 Hyacinth
In honor of our first great-grandchild Henry Calvin Boggs.
- Mary, Mike & Robin Klock** 1 Tulip
In loving memory of Don.
- Susan Miller & Jeff Ritchie** 1 Hyacinth
In loving memory of Thomas G. Miller and Thomas H. Miller.
- Jon & Carrie Schmidt** 1 Lily, 1 Tulip
In memory of Kathi Thompson, Tracy Anderson, and Helen Patterson.
- Marc & Brenda Shoffstall** 2 Hyacinth, 1 Tulip
In memory of our parents, Earl & Irene Hall and Curtis & Joanne Shoffstall and
my sister Dixie Roeder.
- Marisa Yocum** 1 Lily, 1 Hyacinth
In honor of my children and grandchildren.
In memory of Trell, Millie, and Howard Yocum.

GATHERING

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

He is risen. **He is risen indeed.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Were You There? Trad hymn arr Marilyn Ham

* A NEW BEGINNING

Quiet dawn... – Still grief... – Incredible sorrow.

The Son of Man lies dead, killed by human greed and fear.

Cool morning sun ... – Awakening life.

The garden is now Christ's home, the tomb his dwelling.

The guards stir... – the sun climbs in the sky... – Life begins again.

Jesus lies in sleep this third day since his death.

It is life that shatters the peace... – Blinding light... – Incredible Energy!

Frantic guards run in fear from the face of God.

Angels... – Brilliance... – God's power made manifest!.

The stone is moved. The body is gone!

The impossible becomes reality!.

Life conquers death!

Loving friends come to the garden to offer final farewells.

A familiar hand reaches out again. A loving voice says, "I am here. Know me!"

Oh, my Lord Jesus, it is you!

The Lord is risen Indeed!

Incredible Joy... – Supernal wonder... – God's Son is alive again!

No grave can keep this body down! Alleluia!

* GATHERING SONG

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (ELW 365)

* 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.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 204) *Glory be to God*

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

Joy in the Morning by Natalie Sleeth

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rebecca Van Meter

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

A reading from Acts

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

²Let Israel now declare,
"God's mercy endures forever."

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:**

“The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD | is exalted!

The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!”

¹⁷**I shall not | die, but live,
and declare the works | of the LORD. R**

¹⁸The LORD indeed pun- | ished me sorely,
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the | gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks | to the LORD.**

²⁰“This is the gate | of the LORD;
here the righ- | teous may enter.”

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me
and you have become | my salvation. R**

²²The stone that the build- | ers rejected
has become the chief | cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has | this been done;
it is marvelous | in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the | LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be | glad in it. R

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

* **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil (ELW 512)*

GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Pastor Bill Schultz

*** HYMN OF THE DAY**

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done (ELW 366)

*** 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

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

Each petition will end with *Hear us, O God.*
Please respond with **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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

Please be seated. As the ushers come forward, 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.

OFFERATORY

Sweet Hour of Prayer by William Bradbury arr Joel Raney

* OFFERING HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182)

* OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through 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...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

*** WORDS OF INSTITUTION (ELW p. 190)**

*** 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

Lamb of God (ELW p. 208)

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

*We Eat the Bread of Teaching (ELW 518)
That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright (ELW 384)
I Know That My Redeemer Lives (ELW 619)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

HALLELUJAH CHORUS

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**

The Day of Resurrection! (ELW 361)

*** DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Rejoice, the Lord Is King by John Darwall arr Mark Hayes

MINISTERS for Next Week

Audio/Visual Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Acolyte Nolan Roode
Lector Richard Yocum
Ushers Steve Stienecker & Jim Kantner
Worship Assistant Marsha Jackson
Musician Karen Luginbuhl
Pastor Pastor Mick Althouser
Greeter
Altar Guild Catherine Fisher & Amelia Sterner
Fellowship Cleanup Georgeann Stienecker & Connie Krites

OUR PRAYER CORNER

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

Otterbein at Cridersville	Sharon Billiter
Otterbein at St. Marys	Dorothy Dickman
The Gardens	Betty Hague, Dale & Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz

We especially remember in our prayers...

James Benshoff, Olivia Brinkley, Lily Carlson and her parents, Nancy Carter, Dominic Cousins, Se'vie Daniel, Emily Fisher, Ted Gibson, Ben Jauert, Connie Kantner, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Rex Lippincott, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Mitchell Metz, Desmond Miller, April Nance, Jenny Oliver, Charleigh Pangle, Noah Schlosser, Sue Schoonover, Pam Schulz, Alex Shirey, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf Eddie Whetstone, Jim & Cyndi Zwiebel, Angela, and Skyler.

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.

Our Current College Students

Please consider sending them a card or words of encouragement.

Makayla Frame	Hannah Kirby	Bailey Van Meter
BGSU	BGSU	Concordia-Ann Arbor

Please contact their parents or the church office for their mailing addresses.

Thank You's

Thank you all for the wonderful luncheon after Dad's celebration of life. Also big thanks to all who visited him over the years! Love,

The Bicknell's and the Lippincott's

THANK YOU all for the cards, visits and well wishes helping us celebrate our 70th wedding anniversary. We enjoyed hearing from everyone and you helped make our day more special.

Dale & Mary Ann Thomas

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>NWOS Benevolence</u>
02/25/2024	14	75	\$2,345.00	\$3.00
03/03/2024	15	107	\$3,945.00	\$0.00
03/10/2024	11	103	\$1,985.00	\$0.00
03/17/2024	10	64	\$2,185.00	\$113.00
03/24/2024	17	70	\$1,890.01	\$3.00

2024 current budgeted expenses are \$128,507.08, or \$2,471.29 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....

Noisy Offering for MARCH: Generations of Love Wapakoneta Offering pans are located in the chapel and at the back of the church. Donations are accepted all month.

Collection for Auglaize County Crisis Center Starting in April we will start collecting food items each month for the Auglaize County Crisis Center. In past we use to collect items based off of a monthly dinner theme. For April we will collect Italian meal items. These items can be types of pasta, sauce, pizza dough mix, pizza sauce, pepperoni, can ravioli/spaghetti-o's for the kids, items for minestrone soup, dressing for salad, grated parm cheese, etc. The crisis center is also in need of basic personal hygiene items.

Please put your items on the counter in the library for us to deliver weekly or bi-weekly.

Men's Night will be April 11th at 6pm at Astro Lanes.

Ladies Night will be on April 16th at 6pm at TBD.

FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events

Sunday, March 31st	10:00 a.m.	Worship – Pastor William Schultz
Wednesday, April 3 rd	12:00 p.m.	Prayer at Trinity
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		Bell Choir
Thursday, April 4 th	4:30 p.m.	Loaves and Fishes
Sunday, April 7th	10:00 a.m.	Worship – Pastor Mick Althaus
		Worship Committee Meeting after worship
Tuesday, April 9 th	6:30 p.m.	Christian Education meeting
Wednesday, April 10 th	12:00 p.m.	Prayer at Trinity
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation
	7:30 p.m.	Ladies' Choir
Thursday, April 11 th	4:30 p.m.	Loaves and Fishes
	6:00 p.m.	Men's Night at Astro Lanes

First English Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of 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.

Church Staff & Volunteers

Office Administrator	Chuck Curry
Bookkeeper	Anderson Accounting
Treasurer	Georgeann Stienecker; nksoccer@nktelco.net
Music Director	Darla Frame
Audio-Technology	Dave Curry; darcy@bright.net ; 937-307-8596