


FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Wapakoneta, Ohio

*Trinity*  
**SUNDAY**



"Very truly, I tell you,  
we speak of what we  
know and testify to what  
we have seen."

John 3:11, NRSV

**Holy Trinity Sunday**  
**May 26<sup>th</sup>, 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. Adult Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God by Church Council in honor of our confirmands, Harry Anderson, Doris Fisher, and Deven Whetstone.

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Brian & Rebecca Van Meter in celebration of Eli's birthday on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and Bailey's birthday on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **MINISTERS for This Week**

|                          |                                 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Audio/Visual .....       | Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie       |
| Lectors .....            | Joyce Brincefield               |
| Ushers.....              | Luke Kline & Clayton Fisher     |
| Worship Assistant.....   | Char Curry                      |
| Musician .....           | Susan Miller                    |
| Pastor.....              | Bailey Van Meter                |
| 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

When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

## GATHERING

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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Lobe den Herren* by Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW P. 94)

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

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!* (ELW 413)

### \* 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 (PSALM 136:1-3)**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

**For his steadfast love endures forever.**

Give thanks to the God of gods,

**For his steadfast love endures forever.**

Give thanks to the Lord of lords,

**For his steadfast love endures forever.**

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

**\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*Rebecca Van Meter*

**WORD**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8**

*A reading from Isaiah.*

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

<sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 29

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup>**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD  
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup>**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup>The 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!"

<sup>10</sup>**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

<sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people;  
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

## SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-17

*A reading from Romans.*

<sup>12</sup>Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—  
<sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the  
deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of  
God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have  
received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing  
witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of  
God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be  
glorified with him.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil (ELW 414)*

## **GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **MESSAGE**

Bailey Van Meter

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

*Holy God, We Praise Your Name (ELW 414)*

## \* 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

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

Each petition will end with *God of Grace*,  
Please respond with **hear our prayer**.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living 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

*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.

**\* OFFERING HYMN**

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182)*

**\* OFFERING PRAYER**

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.**

**\* 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.**

**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 Beautiful for Spacious Skies (ELW 888)*

**\* DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**



## MINISTERS for Next Week

|                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Audio/Visual .....       | Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie |
| Lectors .....            | Richard Yocum             |
| Ushers.....              | Ken Frame & Richard Yocum |
| Worship Assistant.....   | Darla Frame               |
| Musician .....           | Karen Luginbuhl           |
| Pastor .....             | Pastor Jeff Moorlock      |
| Greeter .....            |                           |
| Altar Guild.....         | Jon & Carrie Schmidt      |
| Fellowship Cleanup ..... | Jon & Carrie Schmidt      |

## 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, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz |

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

James Benshoff, 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, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Mitchell Metz, April Nance, Jenny Oliver, Charleigh Pangle, Diane Schlosser, Pam Schulz, Alex Shirey, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf, Harold Wallace, 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.*

## WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Views</u> | <u>Attendance</u> | <u>Current Giving</u> | <u>NWOS Benevolence</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 04/21/2024  | 8            | 74                | \$3,129.88            | \$25.00                 |
| 04/28/2024  | 12           | 60                | \$1,758.00            | \$40.00                 |
| 05/05/2024  | 19           | 71                | \$2,953.00            | \$50.00                 |
| 05/12/2024  | 15           | 70                | \$1,792.00            | \$130.00                |
| 05/19/2024  | 12           | 80                | \$2,905.52            | \$50.00                 |

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](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 MAY: Heal the Heroes Project** Offering pans are located in the chapel and at the back of the church. Donations are accepted all month.

**Worship Music** We need your help! If you or someone you know would like to record a song, or sing or play live music for our prelude, let Darla know. Also, if you know someone who plays the organ or piano that might be interested in serving as our "organist" one or two Sundays a month, please let Darla know. Thank you so much!

**Benevolence Donations** Effective April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, all donations designated as benevolence will be sent to the North American Lutheran Church.

**Snack Donations for Vacation Bible School** Please consider donating items for snacks for Vacation Bible School. A list of needed items has been placed on the table in the church library. If you would like to donate, please write your name next to that item on the list and drop it off in the church library before Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Thank you!

**Collection for Auglaize County Crisis Center** We are collecting food items each month for the Auglaize County Crisis Center based on a monthly dinner theme. May's theme is Italian dinner. The crisis center is also in need of basic personal hygiene items. Please put donations on the counter in the library for us to deliver weekly or bi-weekly.

**FREE Growing Community in Faith Event** This Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm, your family is invited to an evening of praise music, prayer, and free food at Worship Night at the Entertainment Tent at the Jackson Center Community Days celebration. This event is being put on by Growing Community in Faith, a partnership between several churches from Auglaize, Shelby, and Logan Counties.

**Church Office Closed Memorial Day** The church office will be closed in observance of Memorial Day on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. Please consider attending the Memorial Day parade in Buckland at 10am and the Memorial Day event at Veteran’s Park at 12:30pm.

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

|                                    |                   |                                      |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>Worship – Bailey Van Meter</b>    |
| Monday, May 27 <sup>th</sup>       |                   | Memorial Day – Office Closed         |
| Wednesday, May 29 <sup>th</sup>    | 12:00 p.m.        | Prayer at Trinity                    |
|                                    | 5:30 p.m.         | Worship at Jackson Center Comm Days  |
| Thursday, May 30 <sup>th</sup>     | 4:30 p.m.         | Loaves and Fishes                    |
| <b>Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>Worship – Pastor Jeff Morlock</b> |
| Monday, June 3 <sup>rd</sup>       | 9am – 12pm        | Vacation Bible School                |
| to Friday, June 7 <sup>th</sup>    |                   |                                      |
| Thursday, June 6 <sup>th</sup>     | 4:30 p.m.         | Loaves and Fishes                    |

## **First English Lutheran Church**

A Congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

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**

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Office Administrator | Chuck Curry; <a href="mailto:wapakelc@bright.net">wapakelc@bright.net</a> ; 763-312-9217 |
| Bookkeeper           | Anderson Accounting  |
| Treasurer            | Georgeann Stienecker; <a href="mailto:nksoccer@nktelco.net">nksoccer@nktelco.net</a>     |
| Music Director       | Darla Frame  |
| Audio-Technology     | Dave Curry; <a href="mailto:dlyc@bright.net">dlyc@bright.net</a> ; 937-307-8596          |