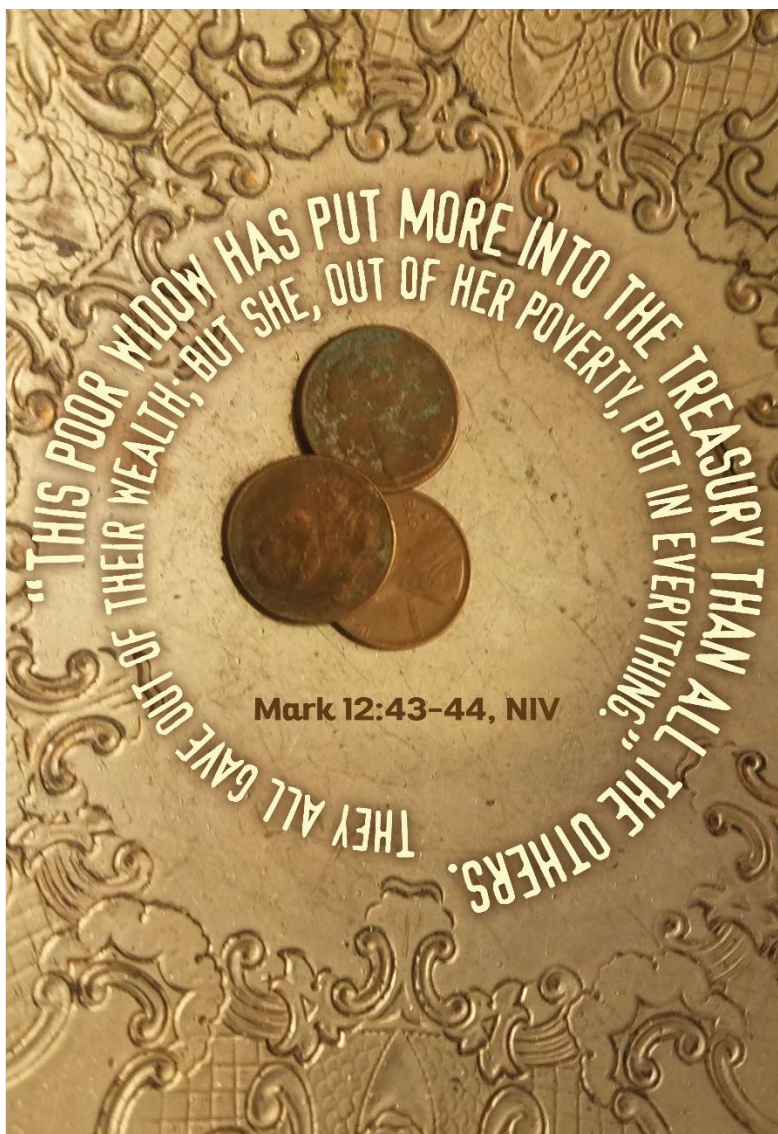


**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Wapakoneta, Ohio**



**25<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost  
November 10<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 invite all baptized Christians who believe that Christ is truly present  
in the meal to join us for Holy Communion when served.

Children of all ages are encouraged to participate in worship.

## Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Adult & Youth Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God by  
Sharon Veit in memory of her son, Michael and her sister, Connie.

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Bonnie Davidson  
in memory & honor of her family members in the military and  
in appreciation to all who have served our country in uniform.

## MINISTERS for This Week

Audio/Visual .....	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector .....	Chris Nagel
Ushers .....	Dave Krites & Brian Van Meter
Worship Assistant .....	Makayla Frame
Musician.....	Greg Tabler
Pastor .....	Jennie Grundey
Greeter.....	Ken Frame
Acolyte .....	Vivian Fisher
Fellowship Cleanup.....	Marsha Jackson & Char Curry
Altar Guild .....	Marsha Jackson & Char Curry

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

\* Please rise if able.

## Introduction to the day

Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

## GATHERING

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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### \* 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

*Jesus Shall Reign (ELW 434)*

### \* 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**

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**

Glory be to God (ELW p. 204)

**\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Rebecca VanMeter

**WORD**

**FIRST READING: 1 Kings 17:8-16**

A reading from 1 Kings.

<sup>8</sup>The word of the LORD came to [Elijah,] saying, <sup>9</sup>“Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” <sup>10</sup>So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” <sup>11</sup>As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” <sup>12</sup>But she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” <sup>13</sup>Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup>For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth.” <sup>15</sup>She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. <sup>16</sup>The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM:146

<sup>1</sup> Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

<sup>2</sup> **I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;**

**I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.**

<sup>3</sup> Put not your | trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there | is no help.

<sup>4</sup> **When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,**

**and in that day | their thoughts perish.**

<sup>5</sup> Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,

whose hope is in the | LORD their God;

<sup>6</sup> **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;**

**who keeps promis- | es forever;**

<sup>7</sup> who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.

The LORD sets the | captive free.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down;**

**the LORD | loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD cares | for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup> **The LORD shall | reign forever,**

**your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!**

## SECOND READING: Hebrews 9:24-28

A reading from Hebrews.

<sup>24</sup> Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

<sup>25</sup> Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; <sup>26</sup> for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup> And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, <sup>28</sup> so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

\* **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

**\* GOSPEL: Mark 12:38-44**

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

<sup>38</sup> As [Jesus] taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup> and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! <sup>40</sup> They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

<sup>41</sup> He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup> A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup> Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup> For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**MESSAGE**

Jennie Grundey

**\* HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Take My Life, That I May Be* (ELW 685)

**\* 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

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

Renew your church, O God. Make us servants to one another for the sake of the gospel. Instill a heart for service and a passion for justice in our bishops, deacons, pastors, and lay leaders. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew your creation, O God. Sustain the earth and seas and all that is in them. Kindle in us a reverent awe for all creatures great and small, and strengthen us in our pursuit of climate justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew the nations, O God. Heal our nation's veterans from the unseen wounds of war. Tend to their trauma and soothe burdened consciences. Guide leaders of the world to end conflicts and pursue peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew your people, O God. Protect those in our communities who are vulnerable or ill especially Sharon Billiter, Dorothy Dickman, Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Staff and Students at Concordia University at Ann Arbor, Lee Albright, James Benschhoff, Janet Case, Dominic Cousins, Emily Fisher, Ted Gibson, Ben Jauert, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Nixon Palte, Pam Schulz, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Evelyn Sprague, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, Simar, Tasha McPeek, Kathi and Eloise Katterhenry. Accompany persons who are unemployed or underemployed, children who are in foster care, and those who live alone. Watch over and uphold them. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew this congregation, O God. Give us clarity in our mission and boldness in our witness. Bless our ministries that attend to basic needs of any who lack sufficient resources, that all may live with dignity. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Happy are those whose help was in you. We give thanks for all your faithful ones who praised you as their God all their life long. As we eagerly wait for you, inspire us by their lives of service. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, 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.

### OFFERTORY

#### \* OFFERING HYMN

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182)*

#### \* OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, 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.**



**\* CALL COMMITTEE PRAYER**

Dear heavenly father, **thank you for all you have done and will do for us. We continue to strive to do your will as we pray for a spiritual leader for our church. Please help us with the patience you require of us as we wait for your perfect timing. Our trust is in you, Lord. May we be worthy of your love. In your name, we pray. Amen**

**\* SENDING SONG**

*For the Fruit of All Creation (ELW 679)*

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**MINISTERS for Next Week 11-17-24**

Audio/Visual .....	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector .....	Carly Craft
Ushers.....	Ken Frame & Jon Schmidt
Worship Assistant.....	Susan Miller
Musician .....	Recordings
Pastor.....	Michelle Kouse
Greeter .....	Needed
Acolyte .....	Amelia Roeger
Fellowship Cleanup .....	Denise Kantner & Joy Kantner
Altar Guild.....	Denise Kantner & Joy Kantner

**OUR PRAYER CORNER**

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

Manor at Celina	Sharon Billiter
Otterbein at St. Marys	Dorothy Dickman
The Gardens	Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz

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

Sharon Billiter, Dorothy Dickman, Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Staff and Students at Concordia University at Ann Arbor, Lee Albright, James Benshoff, Janet Case, Dominic Cousins, Emily Fisher, Ted Gibson, Ben Jauert, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Nixon Palte, Pam Schulz, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Evelyn Sprague, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, Simar, Tasha McPeek, Kathi and Eloise Katterhenry.

We remember in our prayers our military serving at home and abroad, underrepresented 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</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
10/13/2024	10	58	\$2,218.91	\$110.00
10/20/2024	8	78	\$2,544.91	\$25.00
10/27/2024	10	66	\$1,385.91	\$10.00
11/03/2024	11	75	\$5,149.69	\$175.00

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 NOVEMBER: Lutheran Military Veterans & Family Ministries**

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!

**Collection for the Women's Crisis Center** We are collecting food items each month for the Auglaize County Crisis Center based on a monthly dinner theme. November's theme is Thanksgiving meal items. 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.

**Men's Night** will be meeting at 6:00pm on Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at Ken Frame's house. All men are welcomed and encouraged to join!

**Ladies' Lunch** will be meeting at 11:30am on Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at Whaling Knife in downtown Wapakoneta by the movie theatre. All women are welcomed and encouraged to join!

**THANK YOU** to all those that attended the Congregational Workshop on November 2<sup>nd</sup>!

**Community Dinner at St. Joe's** on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 11am-1pm. Carry-out meals will be served from 12:30pm-1pm only. Use the Blackhoof St. entrance.

**Wapakoneta Community Thanksgiving Dinner** Thursday, November 28, has invited First English to provide 10 pies. The request is for ready to serve pies that do not need refrigeration (as oven and refrigerator space are limited). Pies may be dropped off until 9 pm on Wednesday or from 6 to 9 am on Thursday at the St. Joseph Parish Life Center. Please let FELC office know if you are able to do.

**Operation Christmas Child 2024** This year there are self-stick labels for the boxes which are on a table in the back of the Chapel area. They have a code which you can scan to follow your box(es) after paying the \$10.00 shipping cost online. This is optional, you can use the label without scanning. The shipping fee for each box is again \$10.00. If you do more than one box, you can put the cost of shipping for as many boxes as you fill in just one box. If you cannot cover the cost of shipping, but still want the privilege and fun of filling a box, please let Hilary know and we will take care of the shipping. As always, there are suggestions as to what to fill the boxes with, and what is not allowed in your boxes, on a list on the table in the Chapel. What a blessing this is in the lives of the receivers and more important, as we the givers. Thank you.

**Christmas Decorating** Following worship service on November 24<sup>th</sup>, please stay and help decorate the sanctuary, many hands make light work.

**Call Committee Checklist for seeking a Pastor:**

- ✗ At the time of learned pastoral vacancy, the congregation council arranges for regular supply or interim, working with the Mission District dean.
- ✗ Form a call committee in accordance with congregational constitution – uneven # of persons with a cross-section of the congregation is helpful-elect Chair of the Committee.
- ✗ Call Committee downloads NALC Call Process Manual for call committee members.
- ✗ Call Committee chair contacts the NALC Call Process Coordinator to schedule a conference call for orientation/training. Met on September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- ✗ Call Committee engages in Bible Study in the Call Process Manual. Meeting on Wednesdays at 6:45pm.
- ✗ Call Committee chair will contact Mission District dean to arrange and complete The Congregational Workshop in preparation for the Call Process.
- ✗ Chair contacts their Mission District dean to arrange and complete the Congregational Workshop – November 2, 9am-2:00/2:30pm.
- Call Committee completes the Congregational Profile and emails it to NALC Call Process. ...

**CALL COMMITTEE PRAYER:** Please say throughout the week.

Dear heavenly father, **thank you for all you have done and will do for us. We continue to strive to do your will as we pray for a spiritual leader for our church. Please help us with the patience you require of us as we wait for your perfect timing. Our trust is in you, Lord. May we be worthy of your love. In your name, we pray. Amen**

## FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events

<b>Sunday, Nov 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Adult &amp; Youth Sunday School</b>
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Worship – Jennie Grundey</b>
Wed, Nov 13 <sup>th</sup>	5:30pm	Confirmation
	7:00pm	Women's Choir
Thurs, Nov 14 <sup>th</sup>	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
	6:00pm	Men's Night @ Ken Frame's House
<b>Sunday, Nov 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Adult &amp; Youth Sunday School</b>
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Worship – Michelle Kouse</b>
		<b>Women's Choir</b>
Tues, Nov 19 <sup>th</sup>	11:30am	Ladies' Lunch at Whaling Knife
Wed, Nov 20 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Quilting
	5:30pm	Confirmation
	6:00pm	Bell Choir
Thurs, Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	4:30pm	Loaves & 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: M-F, 8:30am – 12:30pm

### 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	Hilary Roeger; <a href="mailto:wapakelc@bright.net">wapakelc@bright.net</a> ; 419-738-3911
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:darcy@bright.net">darcy@bright.net</a> ; 937-307-8596