

**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Wapakoneta, Ohio**



# **Jesus Removes Demons**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
February 2, 2025**

# 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 Marc & Brenda Shoffstall in hopes of an early Spring.

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Hilary, Mike & Elanor  
in celebration of Amelia's 13<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## MINISTERS for TODAY

Audio/Visual .....	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector .....	Richard Yocum
Ushers .....	Ken Frame & Richard Yocum
Worship Assistant .....	Deanna Ronan
Musician.....	Karen Luginbuhl
Pastor .....	Jennie Grundey
Greeter.....	Needed
Acolyte .....	Vivian Fisher
Altar Guild .....	Amelia Sterner & Catherine Fisher
Fellowship Cleanup.....	Brenda Shoffstall & Darla Frame

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

\* Please rise if able.

## Introduction to the day

The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.

## GATHERING

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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Aria by Paul Manz*

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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**

*God of Grace and God of Glory (ELW 705)*

**\*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 to God (ELW p. 185)*

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**BELL CHOIR**

*Christians, We Have Met To Worship*

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Rebecca Van Meter

## WORD

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

### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 1:4-10

A reading from Jeremiah.

<sup>4</sup> Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, <sup>5</sup> “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you;

I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” <sup>6</sup> Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” <sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. <sup>8</sup> Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.” <sup>9</sup> Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth.

<sup>10</sup> See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

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

### PSALM 71: 1-6

<sup>1</sup> In you, O LORD, have I | taken refuge;  
let me never be | put to shame.

<sup>2</sup> **In your righteousness, deliver me and | set me free;  
incline your ear to | me and save me.**

<sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to | keep me safe;  
you are my crag | and my stronghold.

<sup>4</sup> **Deliver me, my God, from the hand | of the wicked,  
from the clutches of the evildoer and | the oppressor.**

<sup>5</sup> For you are my hope, | O Lord GOD,  
my confidence since | I was young.

<sup>6</sup> **I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother’s  
womb you have | been my strength;  
my praise shall be al- | ways of you.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12: 31 - 13: 13**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>31</sup>But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. <sup>13</sup><sup>1</sup>If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. <sup>4</sup>Love is patient, love is kind, love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup>It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup>Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. <sup>9</sup>For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, <sup>10</sup>but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. <sup>11</sup>When I was a child I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. <sup>12</sup>For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. <sup>13</sup>And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia* (ELW p. 188)

**\*GOSPEL: Luke 4: 31-44**

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

<sup>31</sup>He went down to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and was teaching them on the sabbath. <sup>32</sup>They were astounded at his teaching, because he spoke with authority. <sup>33</sup>In the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, <sup>34</sup>Let us alone! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God. <sup>35</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" When the demon had thrown him down before them, he came out of him without having done him any harm. <sup>36</sup>They were all amazed and kept saying to one another, "What kind of utterance is this? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and out they come!" <sup>37</sup>And a report about him began to reach every place in the region.

<sup>38</sup>After leaving the synagogue he entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked him about her. <sup>39</sup>Then he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. Immediately she got up and began to serve them.

<sup>40</sup>As the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various kinds of diseases brought them to him; and he laid his hands on each of them and cured them. <sup>41</sup>Demons also came out of many, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Messiah.

<sup>42</sup>At daybreak he departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowds were looking for him; and when they reached him, they wanted to prevent him from leaving them. <sup>43</sup>But he said to them, "I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other cities also; for I was sent for this purpose." <sup>44</sup>So he continued proclaiming the message in the synagogues of Judea.

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

**MESSAGE**

Jennie Grundey

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

*O Zion, Haste* (ELW 668)

## **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.**

## **\*PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

God of eternal wisdom, we pray for your church, which is being transformed by your word. Bless the church with your wisdom and guidance. Let us notice and take part in the new thing you are doing. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your creation sustains us and all living creatures. Grant us humility to acknowledge the ways we bring harm to the earth. Grant us courage to make effective change so that all lands and living things prosper.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**



Embolden leaders of nations, corporations, and all in authority, that they lovingly tend those in their charge. Help them to respond to all who cry out in need.  
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Provide for those whose hunger runs deep due to isolation, loneliness, or illness *especially* Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Kathy Link, Staff and Students at Concordia University at Ann Arbor, James Benshoff, Janet Case, Dominic Cousins, Ted Gibson, Ben Jauert, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Nixon Palte, Pam Schulz, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Ed Meckstroth, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, Bonnie Davidson, JJ Truesdale, Kathi, Nancy Bush, Anne J., Sue Bartlett, Anthony Holcome, Ike Schnell, and Wanda Nuss. And those we speak out loud or in our hearts. (Brief silence). Send your Spirit so that all are filled with your presence and experience welcome from their communities.  
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the young people in our congregations. May their voices be celebrated. Give youth a place of honor and value among us.  
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We remember those who have gone before us. Let their faithful example continue to bear witness to us all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **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 provided, and for the gifts you share.

### **OFFERTORY**

*When Morning Gilds the Skies by Hal Hopson*

### **\*OFFERING HYMN**

*Let The Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW p. 182)*

### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer 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.

### \*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

### \*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

*Go, My Children, with My Blessing* (ELW 543)

### DISMISSAL

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

## Weekly Attendance and Offerings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
01/05/2025	18	37	\$2,740.00	\$20.00
01/12/2025	17	61	\$1,281.06	\$25.00
01/19/2025	13	64	\$10,407.56	\$115.00
01/26/2025	19	52	\$1,355.00	\$0.00

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!



## MINISTERS for Next Week 2-9-25

Audio/Visual .....	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector .....	Carly Craft
Ushers .....	Dave Krites & Brian Van Meter
Worship Assistant .....	Susan Miller
Musician.....	Greg Tabler
Pastor .....	Pastor Mick Althausen
Greeter.....	Joy Kantner
Acolyte .....	Nolan Roode
Altar Guild.....	Amelia Sterner & Catherine Fisher
Fellowship Cleanup.....	Brenda Shoffstall & Darla Frame

## OUR PRAYER CORNER

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

The Gardens	Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz
Homebound	Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry

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

Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Kathy Link, Staff and Students at Concordia University at Ann Arbor, James Benshoff, Janet Case, Dominic Cousins, Ted Gibson, Ben Jauert, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Nixon Palte, Pam Schulz, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Ed Meckstroth, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, Bonnie Davidson, JJ Truesdale, Kathi, Nancy Bush, Anne J., Sue Bartlett, Anthony Holcome, Ike Schnell, and Wanda Nuss.

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.*

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

**Noisy Offering for the month of JANUARY: Women's Crisis Center** Offering pans are located in the chapel and at the back of the church. Donations are accepted all month.

**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. February's theme is Mexican. 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.

**New Ministry!** FELC will be collecting clean empty plastic grocery bags for our Prison Ministry. Allen/Oakwood Correctional incarcerated persons are making mats for the homeless. There is a collection container located at the back door.

**Spiritual Movement Classes** We will be hosting Spiritual Movement Classes- Stretch & Strength in our fellowship hall on Monday and Wednesdays at 5:15pm & Saturdays at 8:15am until they are able to move back to their previous location at St. Joe's. This is a healthy opportunity to move the body at all levels and everyone is welcomed.

**Flower/Candle Calendar & Greeter Sign Up Sheet** The 2025 Flower/Candle Calendar is up and ready for members to sign up! Please check your calendar and pick a Sunday or two to help the church out. The Greeter Sign Up sheet is up and ready for volunteers through March. Greeters come a bit early to service and welcome everyone to church with a smiling face and a handshake/hug/hello. Thanks in advance! And thank you to those that have signed up.

**Christ Candle** The Christ Candle in the front of church is to symbolize God's presence and light. On designated days, it will be lit by the usher before church service, and it will be extinguished after service is over and the congregation has left by usher. The Christ Candle has its own schedule of when it should be lit, which includes baptisms, funerals and certain days in the church calendar. Schedule is located at back of church, back of sanctuary or can be provided by office.

**Souper Bowl** Next Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am-1pm, join us for Souper Bowl Community Luncheon. Meals are Adult \$10, Kids (3-12 yrs old) \$5 and 2 & under are Free. You will be able to purchase tickets before church, out in Melching Hall. Meals include Soup, Sandwich and Dessert! There will be raffles for several Gift Baskets (including OSU coolers). Tickets will be sold at the door the day of event.

**SOUPER BOWL COMMUNITY LUNCHEON**  
**FEBRUARY 9, 2025 11:30-1PM**  
**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**ADULTS \$10 KIDS 3-12 \$5**  
**2 & UNDER FREE**



It's About Great Soup For You!

**Meal includes Soup, Sandwich and Dessert!**  
**Soups:** Chili, White Chicken Chili, Chicken Noodle, Vegetable Beef, Vegetarian, Tomato Tortellini  
**Sandwiches:** Shredded Chicken and Hot Dogs  
**Whole Pies:** \$15 **Pints of Soup:** \$5  
**Carry outs Available**

**CALL COMMITTEE PRAYER** Please pray the prayer 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, Feb 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Adult Sunday School</b>
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Worship – Jennie Grundey – Bell Choir</b>
Mon, Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup>	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
Wed, Feb 5 <sup>th</sup>	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
	5:30pm	Confirmation
Thurs, Feb 6 <sup>th</sup>	9-11:30am	God’s Store House
	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
Fri, Feb 7 <sup>th</sup>	9-11:30am	God’s Store House
Saturday, Feb 8 <sup>th</sup>	8:15am	Spiritual Movement Class
	9-11:30am	God’s Store House
<b>Sunday, Feb 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Adult &amp; Youth Sunday School</b>
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Worship–Pastor Mick Althausen SOUPER BOWL LUNCHEON</b>
		<b>Tickets sold at door or before church</b>
Mon, Feb 10 <sup>th</sup>	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
Wed, Feb 12 <sup>th</sup>	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
	5:30pm	Confirmation
	7:00pm	Women’s Choir
Thurs, Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>	9-11:30am	God’s Store House
	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
Fri, Feb 14 <sup>th</sup>	9-11:30am	God’s Store House
Saturday, Feb 15 <sup>th</sup>	8:15am	Spiritual Movement Class
	9-11:30am	God’s Store House
<b>Sunday, Feb 16<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Annual CONGREGATIONAL Meeting</b>

## **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

Bookkeeper

Treasurer

Music Director

Audio-Technology

Hilary Roeger; [wapakelc@bright.net](mailto:wapakelc@bright.net); 419-738-3911

Anderson Accounting

Cari Frame; [felc.finance@myfelc.org](mailto:felc.finance@myfelc.org)

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