

**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Wapakoneta, Ohio**



...Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid;
from now on you will be catching people." Luke 5: 10

**5th Sunday after Epiphany
February 9, 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** (Candy Bouquet) are given to the Glory of God
by Brenda Shoffstall in great appreciation to our youth
who are always eager to help her when she asks. Enjoy!

MINISTERS for TODAY

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 Althausser
Greeter.....	Joy Kantner
Acolyte	Nolan Roode
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 fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called.

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.**

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**

Holy God, We Praise Your Name (ELW 414)

***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**

This is the Feast (ELW p. 187)

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rebecca Van Meter

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8

A reading from Isaiah.

¹In 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. ²Seraphs 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. ³And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And 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!"

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The 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." ⁸Then 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.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹ Now 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, ² through 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.

³ For 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, ⁴ and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But 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. ¹¹ Whether 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**

Alleluia (ELW p. 188)

***GOSPEL: Luke 5:1-11**

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

¹ Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, ² he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. ⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." ⁶ When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." ¹¹ When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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

MESSAGE

Pastor Mick Althausser

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Here I Am, Lord (ELW 574)

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.**

***PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

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

Open the hearts of all leaders, especially those who serve in the armed forces, that they respond to their commission with wisdom and patience. Ensure that all who serve are kept safe in body, mind, and spirit. We pray for an end to all war and armed conflict. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Fill with your compassionate presence all who are suffering from addiction, mental illness, injury, or illness of any kind *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). Draw helpers to their side so that they find relief from their burdens. 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

***OFFERING HYMN**

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182)

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

(ELW p. 190)

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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 to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God (ELW p. 191)

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

Come, Share the Lord (Screen)
Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak (ELW 676)
Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult (ELW 696)

***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. O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*CALL COMMITTEE PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for your abundant blessings you give us daily. Be with our congregation as we prayerfully consider our next pastor. Prepare our congregation's hearts and minds for a spiritual leader that will help us grow closer to you and that teaches your Word. Prepare our next pastor and their family for the call to come to our church and congregation. We pray that you give us strength where we are weak and give us hope and faith where we have doubts. And above all, help us to feel your love and presence always but especially throughout this call process. In Jesus' 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** *Will You Come and Follow Me: The Summons* (ELW 798)

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>
01/12/2025	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
02/02/2025	25	52	\$2,880.00	\$125.00

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!



MINISTERS for Next Week 2-16-25

Audio/Visual	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector	Nancy Hefner
Ushers	Ken Frame & Jon Schmidt
Worship Assistant	Makayla Frame
Musician.....	Recordings
Pastor	Michelle Kouse
Greeter.....	Needed
Acolyte	Kaidence Schmidt
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 FEBRUARY: California Wildfires 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.

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.

Men's Night is scheduled for 6:00pm on Thursday, February 13th at the Woody's in Kettlersville.

Ladies' Lunch is scheduled for 11:30am on Tuesday, February 18th at Side Rails.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL Meeting Please join us for our Annual Congregational Meeting NEXT Sunday, **February 16th** following service. You will be receiving agenda and information for meeting through email unless you have specified with office to receive by mail.

Auglaize County Right to Life Are you being called to help volunteer? There is a big need for volunteers, especially with all the activities that ACRL put together. If you are interested, see list of volunteer descriptions on bulletin boards around church or see office for more details.

Souper Bowl TODAY, Sunday, February 9th, 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



TICKET

Raffle for Several Gift Baskets Including OSU Coolers

Images For Illustration Only
 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 God, thank you for your abundant blessings you give us daily. Be with our congregation as we prayerfully consider our next pastor. Prepare our congregation's hearts and minds for a spiritual leader that will help us grow closer to you and that teaches your Word. Prepare our next pastor and their family for the call to come to our church and congregation. We pray that you give us strength where we are weak and give us hope and faith where we have doubts. And above all, help us to feel your love and presence always but especially throughout this call process. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events

Sunday, Feb 9th	9:00am	Adult & Youth Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship—Pastor Mick Althauser
		SOUPER BOWL LUNCHEON
		Tickets sold at door or before church
Mon, Feb 10 th	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
Wed, Feb 12 th	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
	5:30pm	Confirmation
	7:00pm	Women's Choir
Thurs, Feb 13 th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
	6:00pm	Men's Night at Woody's in Kettlersville
Fri, Feb 14 th		Happy Valentine's Day! God loves You!
	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Saturday, Feb 15 th	8:15am	Spiritual Movement Class
	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Sunday, Feb 16th		Annual CONGREGATIONAL Meeting after service
	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship – Michelle Kouse –
		Women's Choir
Mon, Feb 17 th		Happy President's Day!
	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
Tues, Feb 18 th	11:30am	Ladies' Lunch at Side Rails
Wed, Feb 19 th	10:00am	Quilting Group
	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
	5:30pm	Confirmation
	6:00pm	Bell Choir
Thurs, Feb 20 th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
Fri, Feb 21 st	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Saturday, Feb 22 nd	8:15am	Spiritual Movement Class
	9-11:30am	God's Store House

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

Church email: 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; 419-738-3911

Anderson Accounting

Cari Frame; felc.finance@myfelc.org

Darla Frame; darlaframe@gmail.com

Dave Curry; dscy@bright.net; 937-307-8596