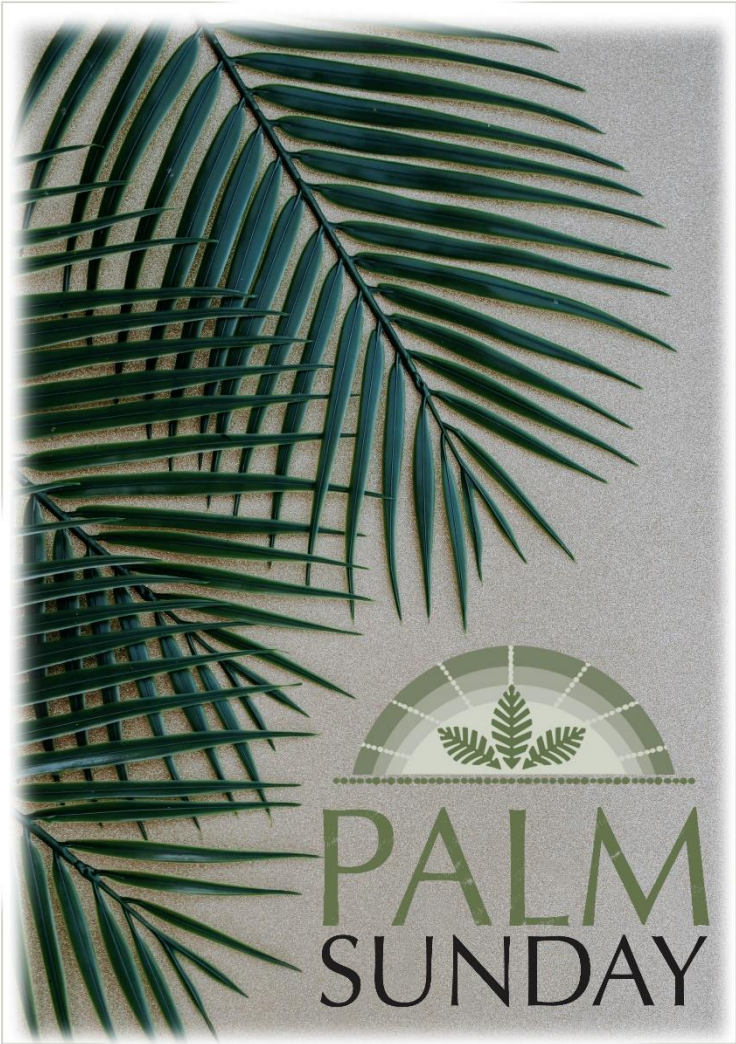


**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Wapakoneta, Ohio**



**Palm Sunday
April 13, 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 Mark & Chris Nagel in celebration of all the April birthdays in their family.

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God
by Mark & Chris Nagel in honor of their wedding anniversary this month.

MINISTERS for TODAY

Audio/Visual	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector	Nancy Heffner
Ushers	Dave Krites & Brian Van Meter
Worship Assistant	Makayla Frame
Musician.....	Darla Frame
Pastor	Michelle Kouse
Greeter.....	Dave & Chris Cliff
Acolyte	Faith Whetstone
Altar Guild.....	Brenda Shoffstall & Darla Frame
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

Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Hosanna, He Comes! All Glory, Laud & Honor
by Melchior Teschner arr Penny Rodriguez

ACCLAMATION

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna in the highest.**

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: John 12:12-19

¹²The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord — the King of Israel!" ¹⁴Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: ¹⁵"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" ¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. ¹⁷So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. ¹⁸It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. ¹⁹The Pharisees then said to one another, "You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!"

***PROCESSIONAL SONG**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor (ELW 344)

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

Hosanna! **Hosanna!**

Hosanna! **Hosanna!**

Hosanna! **Hosanna!**

Let us pray. **We praise you O God, as our great king and redeemer. Just as you received the palm branches as you entered the holy city in triumph, bless now these palm crosses and all who wave them today. Grant us grace to follow you Lord to the cross, trusting that through your death and resurrection we too may receive new life. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rebecca Van Meter

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 32:36-39

A reading from Deuteronomy.

³⁶Indeed the LORD will vindicate his people, have compassion on his servants, when he sees that their power is gone, neither bond nor free remaining. ³⁷Then he will say: Where are their gods, the rock in which they took refuge, ³⁸who ate the fat of their sacrifices, and drank the wine of their libations? Let them rise up and help you, let them be your protection! ³⁹See now that I, even I, am he; there is no god besides me. I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; and no one can deliver from my hand.

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

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11

A reading from Philippians.

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

MESSAGE

The Passion

The Passion of Our Lord

A. The Preparation and the Eating of the Last Supper

Narrator: Now, the feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called the Passover. And the Temple priests were seeking how to put Jesus to death; for they feared the people.

I. Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve; he went away and conferred with the temple priests and officers how he might betray Jesus to them. And they were glad and engaged to give him money. So, Judas agreed, and sought an opportunity to betray Jesus to them in the absence of the multitude.

N: Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So, Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it.”

People: **“But where, Lord? Where will you have us prepare it, and what are we to do?”**

N: He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house which he enters, and tell the householder, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I am to eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished; there make ready." And they went and found it as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover. And when the hour came, Jesus sat at the table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I shall not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took the bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them saying. "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise, he took the cup after supper saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But behold the hand of him who betrays me is with me at the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!"

People: **And they began to question, "Who, Lord? Who is to betray you? Is it I? Is it I?"**

N: He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. Oh, it would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

I: Judas, who betrayed him said, "Is it I, Master?"

N: Jesus said to him, "You have said so."

II: Simon Peter was indignant. But not II! he said. And he declared, "Though they all fall away from you, I will never leave you."

N: "Peter, truly I say to you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times."

II: Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will never deny you!"

People: **And so said all the disciples, over and over again.**

B. The Agony in the Garden

Go to Dark Gethsemane (one verse only)

(ELW 347)

People: (sing):

**Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's power;
Your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour;
Turn not from his grief's away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.**

N: And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."

People: **Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us, deliver us.**

N: And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, "Father, if thou are willing, remove this cup from me; never the less, not my will, but thine be done."

People: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done. Thy will be done. Thy will be done-**

N: And when he rose from prayer he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them, "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

People: **Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, even the evil within ourselves.**

I: While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him.

N: But Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"

I: Judas said, "Hail, Master."

People: **When the disciples saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?"**

II: And one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear.

N: But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched his ear and healed him.

People: **Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

N: Jesus said to those who had come out against him, “When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour and the power of darkness.” Then they seized him-

C. The Judgment

Go to Dark Gethsemane (second verse only)

(ELW 347)

People: (sing):

**Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.**

N: Then they seized Jesus and led him away, bringing him to the High Priest’s house.

II: Peter followed at a distance; and when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

People: **Then a maid, seeing him sit in the light, said, “This man also was with him.”**

II: But Peter denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.”

People: **And a little later someone else saw him and said, “You also are one of them.”**

II. But Peter said, “Man, I am not.”

People: **An hour later someone insisted, saying, “Certainly this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.”**

II: But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are saying!”

N: And immediately, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter.

II: And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and he wept bitterly.

N: Now the men who were holding Jesus mocked him and beat him; they blindfolded him and demanded:

People: **“Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?”**

N: And they spoke many other words against him, reviling him. When the day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together and led him to their council;

People: **And they said, “If you are the Christ, tell us.”**

N: But he said to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I ask you now, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God-“

People: **And they said, “Are you the Son of God, then?”**

N: And he said to them, “You say that I am.”

People: **And they said, “Blasphemy! What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips. Blasphemy! Oh, blasphemy!”**

D. Dawn Friday: Jesus Before Pilate

N: Then the whole company of them arose, and brought Jesus before Pontius Pilate.

People: **And they began to curse him saying, “We found this man perverting our nation, and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ the King!”**

III: And Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

N: And he answered him, “You have said so.”

III: And Pilate said to the Chief Priests and the multitudes, “I find no crime in this man.”

People: **But they were urgent, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout Galilee even to this place.”**

III: And when Pilate heard that he was a Galilean, of Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod.

N: Where he was violently accused, and treated with contempt and mocked, and arrayed in gorgeous purple, and then sent back again.

III: Pilate said to the rulers of the people, “You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and after examining him, behold, I did not find him guilty of any of the charges against him. Behold, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore chastise him and release him-

People: **But they all cried out together, “Away with this man! Away! Away! Release to us Barabbas-“**

N: Barabbas! – A man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and for murder-

III: Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus-

People: **But they shouted out, “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!”**

III: Why? What evil has he done? I’ve found no crime in him deserving death. I’ll chastise him. I’ll release him-

People: **But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified!**

N: And their voices prevailed.

III: So Pilate gave sentence that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been jailed for murder. But Jesus he delivered up to their will.

E. Friday Morning: Crucifixion

Go to Dark Gethsemane (third verse only)

(ELW 347)

People: (sing):

**Calvary's mournful mountain climb; there adoring at his feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.**

All Men: And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.

All Women: And there followed him a great multitude of women who bewailed and lamented him-

N: But Jesus, turning to them, said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breast that never gave suck!' for if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it dries!"

Solo: Darla Frame

Were You There

N: Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place which is called the Skull, there they crucified him and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left.

Solo: Darla Frame

Were You There

N: And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

All Women: Forgive us our trespasses.

All Men: And they cast lots to divide his garments.

All Women: Forgive us our trespasses.

All Men: And the people stood by, watching. But the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; Let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God!"

All Women: **Forgive us our trespasses.**

All Men: **The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar.**

All Women: **There was an inscription over him: “This is the King of the Jews.”**

All Men: **Forgive us our trespasses. Forgive us, O Lord, our trespasses!**

I: One of the criminals who hanged with him railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!”

II: But the other rebuked him saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence, and we justly? But this man has done nothing wrong.” And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

People: **Forgive us our trespasses, deliver us from Evil. Thine is the kingdom-**

N: And Jesus said to him:

People: **And the power-**

N: “Truly, truly I say to you;”

People: **And the glory-**

N: “Today you will be with me in Paradise.”

People: **Forever and ever. Amen!**

Solo: Darla Frame

Were You There

N: It was now about the sixth hour and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed... And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from the top to the bottom... Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit!" And having said this, he breathed his last. And all the multitudes who had assembled to see the sight...

People: ...**when they saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts.**

All Women: **And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things-**

F. Late Friday Afternoon: Burial

Solo: Darla Frame

Were You There

III: Now there was a man named Joseph from the town of Arimathea, a righteous man, one looking for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb. Where no one had ever yet been laid.

N: It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning.

All Women: **The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments-**

N: On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

Tolling of the Bell

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**

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Guide your church this Holy Week as we follow in the servant way of Jesus. Protect those who face hostility or oppression for their faith. Humble those who would use faith to dominate others and reinforce their own power.

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Make your creation a living witness to Christ's passion and resurrection: in waving palms, shouting stones, fragrant vineyards, murmuring wheat, and revealing fire. Make us attentive to your holy presence in the world, that we may care for the earth you love. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Let your face shine upon the leaders of nations and let the same mind be in them as was in Christ Jesus, so that those with the most power may humble themselves to serve the most vulnerable.

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Sustain the weary with a word. Grant perseverance to political prisoners and to any who are exploited, unjustly accused, or wrongly convicted. Abide with all who are in jails, detention centers, or prisons. Console all who experience times of trial or suffering *especially* Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Marsha Henderson, Staff and Students at Concordia University at Ann Arbor, James Benschhoff, 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, JJ Truesdale, Sue Bartlett, Anthony Holcome, Ike Schnell, Roseann Schlegel-Whetstone, Roman Schlegel, Sue Hughes, Dan Havens, Jason Schneider, Jenn Douglas & Baby, Karen Stienecker, Shirley Hollis, George Lowther, Joyce Brincefield, Susan Bishop and Wanda Nuss. And those we speak out loud or in our hearts. (Brief silence). God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Give strength to those who will lead worship during Holy Week: pastors and deacons, altar guilds and sacristans, musicians and assisting ministers, ushers, and office staff. Instill in them awe and joy, that their service may reflect the love of Jesus. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks to you for our beloved dead, trusting that as the cross of Jesus led to the empty tomb, so you welcome those who have died into the paradise of your presence. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **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

Rock of Ages By Thomas Hasting arr Penny Rodriguez

***OFFERING HYMN**

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW p. 182)

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our 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, 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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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, Let Us Eat (ELW 491)
Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (ELW 335)
Beneath the Cross of Jesus (ELW 338)

***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. Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

*CALL COMMITTEE PRAYER

Heavenly Father, as we continue in the process of searching for a new pastor to lead our congregation, we ask for you to grant us wisdom and patience during the process. Guide us and help us make decisions that will be good for First English in the future, so that we may continue to do your work in the world. We ask this in Jesus' name. 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

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded (ELW 351)

DISMISSAL

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

Weekly Attendance and Offerings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
03/16/2025	21	78	\$2,347.41	\$135.00
03/23/2025	15	68	\$14,105.91	\$0.00
03/30/2025	14	52	\$960.00	\$0.00
04/06/2025	15	71	\$4,843.06	\$65.00

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 4-20-25, EASTER Sunday

Audio/Visual	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector	Marsha Jackson
Ushers	Ken Frame & Jon Schmidt
Worship Assistant	Char Curry
Musician.....	Darla Frame
Pastor	Pastor Bill Schultz
Greeter.....	Dave & Chris Clift
Acolyte	Nolan Roode
Altar Guild.....	Brenda Shoffstall & Darla Frame
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
Burton Ridge in Lima	Judy Kentner
Homebound	Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Marsha Henderson

We especially remember in our prayers...

Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Marsha Henderson, Staff and Students at Concordia University at Ann Arbor, James Benshoff, 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, JJ Truesdale, Sue Bartlett, Anthony Holcome, Ike Schnell, Roseann Schlegel-Whetstone, Roman Schlegel, Sue Hughes, Dan Havens, Jason Schneider, Jenn Douglas & Baby, Karen Stienecker, Shirley Hollis, George Lowther, Joyce Brincefield, Susan Bishop 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 APRIL: FAMILY LIFE CENTER OF WAPAK

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. April's theme is Breakfast. 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! Egg Carton Ministry Asking for all sizes of clean empty egg cartons. Please put them in the boxes in the church library. They will be used to distribute eggs to those in need.



Plastic Bag 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.

Carry-Inn & Egg Hunt is **TODAY, April 13th following service.** Fellowship Committee will be providing the meat: ham. Egg hunt will be divided into two groups: 1-4yr olds in basement & 5-10yr olds in sanctuary. And don't forget the Easter Bunny will be there!

Ladies' Night will be on Tuesday, April 15th at 6:00pm at Bob Evans. All women are welcome to join.

EASTER Sunday There will be no fellowship after Easter Sunday service so everyone can enjoy their families. Happy Easter! He is Risen! Hallelujah!

CALL COMMITTEE PRAYER *Please pray the prayer throughout the week:*

Heavenly Father, as we continue in the process of searching for a new pastor to lead our congregation, we ask for you to grant us wisdom and patience during the process. Guide us and help us make decisions that will be good for First English in the future, so that we may continue to do your work in the world. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Christ Candle Explanation We follow the NALC guidelines with lighting the Christ Candle. These are the times the Christ Candle will be lit: Easter and the Sundays after through Pentecost; Christmas Eve and the weeks after through Epiphany; Baptism; Funerals; All Saints Sundays and Christ the King Sunday. The Christ Candle will be lit ½ hour before the service starts by an usher. The Christ Candle will be put out by the usher after the dismissal at the end of church. There is a schedule at the back of the sanctuary and in back room of sanctuary.

Thank you to our readers for today's reading: The Passion

Narrator: Michelle Kouse

1st Reader: Char Curry

2nd Reader: Hilary Roeger

3rd Reader: Chad Sterner

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



HOLY WEEK We will be joining together again for Tri-Congregational Services.

Palm Sunday, April 13th, is with our congregation at FELC.

Maundy Thursday, April 17th, we will be hosting at 7pm. Ladies' Choir will perform. Acolyte-Amelia Roeger. Pastor Doug will be preaching

Good Friday, April 18th, will be at 7:00pm hosted by St. Paul's United Church of Christ, across the street. Pastor Bert Schultz will be with us.

Easter, April 20th, is with our congregation at FELC. Ladies' Choir will perform. Acolyte-Nolan Roode. Pastor Bill Schultz will be with us.

FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events

Sunday, Apr 13th		PALM SUNDAY
	9:00am	Adult & Youth Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship – Michelle Kouse – Carry-In Meal & Egg Hunt in Fellowship Hall
Mon, Apr 14 th	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
	6:00pm	Christian Ed Meeting
Tues, Apr 15 th	6:00pm	Ladies' Night at Bob Evans
Wed, Apr 16 th	10:00am	Quilting
	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
	5:30pm	Confirmation
	6:00pm	Bell Choir
	7:00pm	Ladies' Choir
Thurs, Apr 17 th		MAUNDY THURSDAY
	9-11:30am	God's Store House NO Loaves & Fishes
	7:00pm	Maundy Thursday Service @ FELC Tri-Congregational Service w/ St. Marks & St. Pauls Acolyte-Amelia Roeger; Ladies' Choir
Fri, Apr 18 th		GOOD FRIDAY
	9-11:30am	God's Store House
	7:00pm	Good Friday Service @ St. Pauls Tri-Congregational Service w/ St. Marks & St. Pauls
Saturday, Apr 19 th	8:15am	Spiritual Movement Class
	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Sunday, Apr 20th		EASTER SUNDAY – He is RISEN! Hallelujah!
	9:00am	Adult & Youth Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship – Pastor Bill Schultz – Ladies' Choir
Mon, Apr 21 st	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
Wed, Apr 23 rd	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
	5:30pm	Confirmation
Thurs, Apr 24 th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
Fri, Apr 25 th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Saturday, Apr 26 th	8:15am	Spiritual Movement Class
	9-11:30am	God's Store House



Upcoming Fundraisers!

Mark your calendar.

Dine-to-Donate at Sidney Culver's Monday, May 5, 2025 5:00 until 8:00 PM

Culver's calls it *"Make Your Meal Matter"*. A percentage of the cost of each meal will be donated to Morgan's Place. All meals count (dine-in, drive-through, carry-out).
(No need to present this flyer at time of purchase.)



Morgan's Place Day at the Dayton Dragons Sunday, June 22, 2025 Afternoon Game

Tickets are now on sale using the link :
<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Morgansplace3>
Half of each ticket price will be donated back to Morgan's Place. Please order as soon as possible as this may allow Morgan's Place to increase the number of tickets for our supporters. *Always a great family fun day!*



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