

**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Wapakoneta, Ohio**

*Those who
eat my
flesh and
drink my
blood have
eternal life,
and I will
raise them
up on the
last day ...*

John 6:54, NRSV



**6th Sunday of Easter
First Communion
May 10, 2026**

WELCOME TO FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Your presence today makes us more complete.

Thank you for being here and worshipping with us.

Children of all ages are encouraged to participate in worship.

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

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God
by Hilary, Mike, Amelia & Elanor Roeger
in memory of Ty G. Miller and Leota/Jerry Fritz
& all the wonderful blessings happening at FELC.

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God
by Amelia & Chad Sterner in celebration of
Faith Whetstone's birthday (12th) and for Mother's Day.

MINISTERS for TODAY

Audio/Visual.....	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Reader.....	Nancy Heffner
Ushers	Dave Krites & Dave Cliff
Worship Assistant.....	Makayla Frame
Musician	Darla Frame
Pastor	Pastor Lorenzo Thomas
Greeter	First Communicants
Acolyte.....	Faith Whetstone
Altar Guild.....	Darla Frame & Deanna Wisener
Fellowship Cleanup.....	Darla Frame & Brenda Shoffstall

*Please rise if able.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF THE PULPIT BIBLES

PRELUDE

The Gift Of Love by Hal Hopson

*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

Come, Thou Almighty King (ELW 408)

*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.**

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

This is the Feast (ELW p. 187)

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God, all good things can come from you alone; generously consider then our humble prayers. Inspire us to consider what is true, and direct us to accomplish what is right; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

BELL CHOIR

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rebecca Van Meter

WORD

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

FIRST READING: EXODUS 12: 1-8, 11-14

A reading from Exodus.

¹ The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴ And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶ and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight. ⁷ "Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸ They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs, they shall eat it.

¹¹ In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord's Passover. ¹² For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt. ¹⁴ "This

day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the Lord; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.

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

PSALM: 116: 8-14

We will read responsively.

⁸For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling;

⁹ **I will walk before the Lord
in the land of the living.**

¹⁰ I believed, even when I spoke:
“I am greatly afflicted”;

¹¹ **I said in my alarm,
“All mankind are liars.”**

¹² What shall I render to the Lord
for all his benefits to me?

¹³ **I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord,**

¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 10: 16-17

A reading from 1 Corinthians. ¹⁶ The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia (ELW p. 188)

***GOSPEL: JOHN 6: 52-59**

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

⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁵⁵ For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷ As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹ Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

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

MESSAGE

Pastor Lorenzo Thomas

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (ELW 392 vs 1,4,5)

***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,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to hell.**

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 again 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**

Let us lift our hearts and voices to the Lord in prayer, that he would be merciful to his people.

You abide with your church, O God. As you nourish and sustain all living things, by your Word and Sacrament nourish and sustain the whole body of Christ. Empower us with your Spirit, so that your people speak and live the love revealed in Jesus. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, strengthen the hearts of those who provide mothering care in any situation, so that Christ's love would be revealed in the generosity shown to all our children. Bless mothers and those who love with a motherly love. Comfort those whose mothers have entered into the saints in light and those who carry the pain of barrenness. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You abide with the needy, O God. Cheer the sorrowful, protect the orphan, support the grieving, and heal the sick. We pray particularly for those on the prayer list of this congregation: Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Jim Walls, Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Marsha Henderson, Judy Metz, Ted Gibson, Bryan Katterhenry, Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Seth Thuman, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, JJ Truesdale, Sue Bartlett, Roman Schlegel, Sue Hughes, Dan Havens, Jason Schneider, Bennett Douglas, Norma Jarrells, Jeanie Schnell, Michelle Kouse, Wanda Nuss, Tom Meyer, George Anderson, Jerry Dicus, Pastor Lorenzo & Anastasia Thomas, Kingdom Harvest Ministries and WHS-Fellowship of Christian Athletes. And anyone that we name out loud or quietly in our hearts. (Brief silence). Surround them with people who will show compassion. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You abide with the nations, O God. Reveal your truth, so that nations and peoples govern in peace and advocate for justice. Guide and direct leaders of nations that they may govern faithfully and with justice. We ask for peace in places where violence and oppression are a daily reality. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please take a moment to share the Lord's peace and grace with one another.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

TITHES AND OFFERING

Please be seated.

As the ushers come forward, we would like to thank you for the work you have been doing, for the support and care provided, and for the gifts you share.

OFFERTORY

There Is A Redeemer by Melody Green arr Jay Rouse

***OFFERING HYMN**

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW p. 182)

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we humbly offer to you the gifts of our treasures, talents, and time. Use them to your glory, and for the benefit of all your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **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

As we come to this time of Holy Communion, please let me extend to you an invitation to come forward and share in this Holy supper. You do not need to be member of this church or any Lutheran church to participate. If you have been baptized and profess faith in Christ Jesus, you are welcome. Jesus is extending this invitation and that is His only requirement. Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God (ELW p. 191)

FIRST COMMUNION

At this time, we welcome to the table our First Communion youth and their families as they receive for the first time the bread and wine, the body and blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Jack Grundey & Sawyer Yocum

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

One Bread, One Body (ELW 496)

Thy Holy Wings (ELW 613)

Children of the Heavenly Father (ELW 781)

***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**

Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. Send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

***BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace **Amen.**

***SENDING SONG**

Now Thank We All Our God (ELW 840)

***DISMISSAL**

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

First Communion Youth

Jack Grundey

The son of Jennie & Jason Grundey. Grandson of Charlie & late Janet Grundey, Joe & Steph Mosler and Jim & Dianne Kline. Brother to Luke & Matthew. He currently attends Wapakoneta Elementary School. Baptized on December 9, 2018. His interests include Soccer, Flag Football, Basketball, Running, all things Math, climbing trees, riding bikes/ATVs and Legos.

Sawyer Yocum

The son of Leiloni & Thomas Yocum. Grandson of Marisa Yocum. Brother to Knox & Isla. He currently attends Defiance Elementary School. Baptized on December 24, 2017. His interests include love of food/helping cook, love of animals/learning about them, riding dirt bikes, Baseball and Football. He hopes to play soccer this fall.



OUR PRAYER CORNER

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

The Gardens	Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz
Shawnee Manor	Judy Kentner
Primrose Assist. Living	Jim Walls
Homebound	Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Marsha Henderson, Judy Metz

We especially remember in our prayers...

Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Jim Walls, Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Marsha Henderson, Judy Metz, Ted Gibson, Bryan Katterhenry, Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Seth Thuman, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, JJ Truesdale, Sue Bartlett, Roman Schlegel, Sue Hughes, Dan Havens, Jason Schneider, Bennett Douglas, Norma Jarrells, Jeanie Schnell, Michelle Kouse, Elaine Carlson, Wanda Nuss, Tom Meyer, George Anderson, Jerry Dicus, Pastor Lorenzo & Anastasia Thomas, Kingdom Harvest Ministries and WHS-Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

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 MAY: DEAR DINAH Offering pans are located in the chapel and at the back of the church. Donations are accepted during the entire month. Dear Dinah is a Christ-centered ministry that shares the love and hope of Jesus with individuals impacted by human trafficking and exploitation through outreach, relationships and long-term support.

Loaves and Fishes: Meals need to be reserved by calling 567-204-6708 and can be picked up in the alley behind the Fellowship Hall from 4:30 to 5:30 pm.

Bingo at the Gardens in Wapakoneta at 1:30pm on the second Tuesday of the month. All are welcome to join and help!

Collection for Auglaize County Crisis Center We are **IN NEED of collecting** food items each month for the Auglaize County Crisis Center based on a monthly dinner theme: MAY Items-Fruit juices, rice, peanut butter, pasta sides & pizza kits. Please put donations on the counter in the library for us to deliver weekly or bi-weekly.

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.

Class of 2026 Will be recognized on May 24th. Join us in celebrating their accomplishments.

Confirmation of Faith We are delighted to have 5 youth Confirming their Faith on May 17th. Please join us for this special service and welcome our newest confirmed members: Vivian Fisher, Amelia Roeger, Nolan Roode, Kaidence Schmidt & Faith Whetstone. A reception will follow service with cake to celebrate their confirmation of faith, please join us!

Pool Party Join us **June 6th, 1pm-6pm**, at Chad & Amelia's house! Bring a snack to share, your own drinks, lawn chairs & a pop-up tent if you have one. Chad and Amelia Sterner are graciously letting us use their beautiful spacious pool. Contact Hilary/office with any questions.

MINISTERS for Next Week 5-17-26

Audio/Visual Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
 Reader Elanor Roeger
 Ushers Ken Frame & Chad Sterner
 Worship Assistant Michelle Kouse
 Musician Greg Tabler
 Pastor Pastor Lorenzo Thomas
 Greeter Confirmands
 Acolyte Jacob Schlosser
 Altar Guild Darla Frame & Deanna Wisener
 Fellowship Cleanup Darla Frame & Brenda Shoffstall

Weekly Attendance and Offerings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
04/12/2026	14	78	\$2,097.00	\$130.00
04/19/2026	14	71	\$1,703.00	\$35.00
04/26/2026	15	75	\$1,433.00	\$10.00
05/03/2026	12	63	\$9,565.00	\$230.00

Congregational Meeting Join us for a congregational meeting on **May 24th** following worship service. Information will be emailed/mailed closer to meeting date.



FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events

Sun, May 10th

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!

9:00am

Adult Sunday School

10:00am

Worship – Pastor Lorenzo Thomas

First Communion

Bell Choir

Acolyte-Faith Whetstone

Mon, May 11th

5:15pm

Spiritual Movement Class

Tues, May 12th

1:30pm

Bingo at The Gardens

Wed, May 13th

5:15pm

Spiritual Movement Class

Thurs, May 14th

9-11:30am

God's Store House

4:30pm

Community Loaves & Fishes

6:00pm

Men's Night @ Woody's in Kettlersville

Fri, May 15th

9-11:30am

God's Store House

Sat, May 16th

8:15am

Spiritual Movement Class

9-11:30am

God's Store House

Sun, May 17th

9:00am

Adult Sunday School

10:00am

Worship – Pastor Lorenzo Thomas

Acolyte-Jacob Schlosser

Confirmation of Faith

Mon, May 18th

5:15pm

Spiritual Movement Class

Tues, May 19th

5:00pm

Ladies' Night @ Do Good Restaurant

Wed, May 20th

10:00am

Quilting

5:15pm

Spiritual Movement Class

Thurs, May 21st

9-11:30am

God's Store House

12:00pm

National Day of Prayer Event

4:30pm

Community Loaves & Fishes

FELC is Hosting

Fri, May 22nd

9-11:30am

God's Store House

Sat, May 23rd

8:15am

Spiritual Movement Class

9-11:30am

God's Store House

Sun, May 24th

Congregational Meeting

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 – 12:00pm

Mission Statement

The mission of First English Lutheran Church is to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to love one another as He loves us.

Church Staff & Volunteers

Pastor

Rev. Lorenzo Thomas;

pastor.lorenzo@myfelc.org; 330-506-6025

Office Administrator

Hilary Roeger; wapakelc@bright.net; 419-738-3911

Bookkeeper

Anderson Accounting

Music Director

Darla Frame; darlaframe@gmail.com

Audio-Technology

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



FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wapakoneta, Ohio

*Our mission is to
spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ
and to love one another as
He has loved us.*