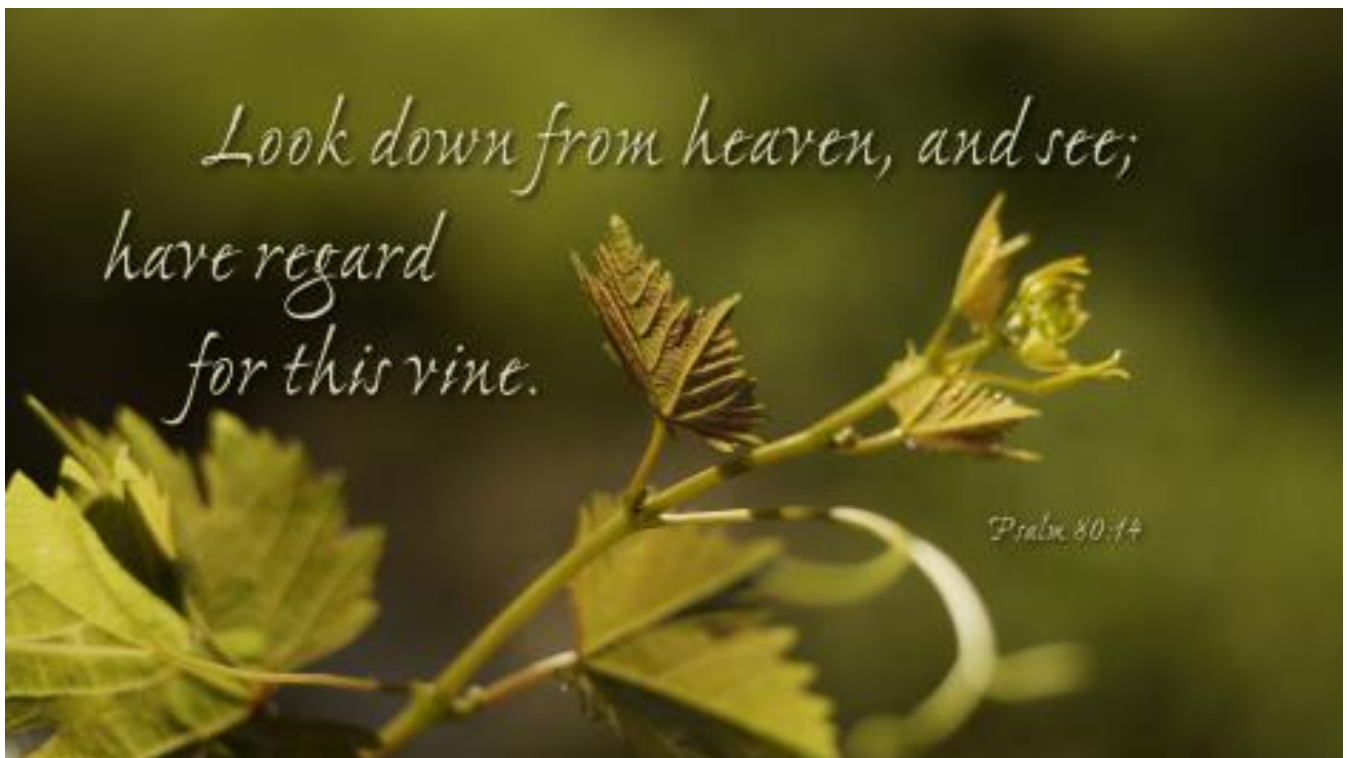


FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wapakoneta, Ohio



19th Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 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 Mark and Chris Nagel in Celebration of their granddaughters Nora's 8th
& Falyns, 7th Birthdays

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God
by Amelia and Chad Sterner, in celebration of Vivian's Oct. 3rd and
Clayton's Oct. 14th Birthdays.

MINISTERS for TODAY

Audio/Visual	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector	Richard Yocum
Ushers	Richard Yocum and Ken Frame
Worship Assistant.....	Jon Schmidt
Musician	Karen Luginbuhl
Pastor	Pastor Jeff Morlock
Greeter	Sandy Brading
Altar Guild.....	Marsha Jackson & Char Curry
Fellowship Cleanup	Marsha Jackson & Char Curry

*Please rise if able.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

God Himself Is Present By Michael

Burhardt

*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** *The Church Of Christ, In Every Age(ELW 729 v 1,2,5)*

*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. **Generously pardon and give peace to your faithful people, O Lord, that being cleansed from every sin, we may be free and glad to serve; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

BELL CHOIR

O God, Our Help, in Ages Past

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Cari Frame

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting;

and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

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

PSALM 80:7-18

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.

You prepared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs. You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.

Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.

They burn it with fire like rubbish; at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your Name. **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith —

that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia (ELW p. 188)

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:33-46

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

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? Therefore, I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

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

MESSAGE

Pastor Jeff Morlock

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Thine the Amen ELW 826 (v1,2,5,)

*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

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

Almighty God, strengthen and sustain all congregations who gather around your Word and Sacrament and venture forth to bring the Good News of your redemption to all. May we be humble in our serving, counting all as a loss which we do for ourselves and all as a gain that Christ does in our lives. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of all creation, may the fields yield a fruitful harvest and bring forth an abundance so that all may find sustenance from the bounty of the earth. Feed those around the world that have little or nothing to eat; provide assistance to teach people to grow food and feed their children. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we love because you first loved us. Grant strength to all married couples that their lives would be a blessing to those around them and that they would model your love for your people, as they live with you in the center of their lives. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who suffer with illness or pain, Restore them to health and wholeness and surround them with compassionate caregivers who remind them of your love for them and your never-failing presence.

I invite you now, either quietly or aloud to speak the names of someone in need of prayer. (Pause for silence and spoken names) Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Dear God, We ask you to be with pastor Lorenzo and his family during this time. 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

Chorale By-J.S.Bach

***OFFERING HYMN**

(ELW p. 182)

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

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)

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

COME, SHARE THE LORD (SCREEN)
JESUS LOVES ME (ELW 595)
LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH (SCREEN)

***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**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (ELW 803)

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the Good News. **Thanks be to God.**

MINISTERS for Next Week 10-11-26

Audio/Visual Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector Sandy Brading
Ushers Dave Krites & David Clift
Worship Assistant..... Jon Schmidt
Musician recordings
Pastor Pastor Mark Daniels
Greeter Bonnie Davidson
Altar Guild..... Marsha Jackson & Char Curry
Fellowship Cleanup Marsha Jackson & Char Curry

Weekly Attendance and Offerings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
09-20	16	68	\$1320.00	\$135.00
09-27	34	63	\$1145.00	\$ 10.00

OUR PRAYER CORNER

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

The Gardens	Betty Lietz
Otterbein-Cridersville	Jim Walls
Homebound	Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Marsha Henderson

We especially remember in our prayers...

Betty Lietz, Jim Walls, Marty Rostorfer, Marsha Henderson, Ted Gibson, Hunter Smith, Seth Thuman, Jim Zwiebel, JJ Truesdale, Jason Schneider, Bennett Douglas, Kay, Richard & Don Ault, Jerry Dicus, Diane Peterson, Connie Krites, Roman Schlegel, Jill Newland, Lynnette Swink Chestnut, Carol Horrom, Michelle Wannamacher, Carrie Schmidt, Mike Nuss, Carolyn Eakins, Allison Heffner & Baby Lydia and Pastor Lorenzo.

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 OCTOBER IS OPERATION SHOEBOX

Offering pans are located in the chapel and at the back of the church. Donations are accepted during the entire month.

Bingo at the Gardens in Wapakoneta **at 1:30pm** on the second Tuesday of the month. All are welcome to 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 October Items- Juice, Snacks, Baby Wipes, Brownie mix. 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.

Men's Night will be held on 6:00pm on Oct. 8th at Astro Lanes. All men are welcome and bring a friend.

Ladies' Lunch is scheduled for 12:00pm on Tuesday, Oct. 20th in St. Marys at Generations Cafe. All women are encouraged to come and bring a friend!!

FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events

Sun, Oct 04th	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship- Pastor Jeff Morlock
Thurs, Oct. 8 th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
	4:30pm	Community Loaves & Fishes
	6:00pm	Men's Night at Astro Lanes
Fri, Oct. 09 th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Sat, Oct. 10 th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Sun, Oct 11th	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship – Pastor Mark Daniels
Tues. Oct 13 th	1:30pm	Bingo at the Gardens
Thurs Oct 15 th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
	4:30pm	Community Loaves & Fishes
Fri. Oct. 16 th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Sat. Oct. 17 th	9-11:30am	God's Storehouse
Sun, Oct. 18th	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship
Tues. Oct. 20 th	12:00pm	Ladies' lunch at Generations Cafe
Wed, Oct. 21 st	10:00am	Quilting
Thurs, Oct. 22 nd	9-11:30am	God's Store House
	4:30pm	Community Loaves & Fishes
Fri, Oct. 23 rd	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Sat, Oct. 24 th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Sun Oct 25th	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship-Reformation Day Michelle Kouse

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 – 11:30am

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;

Bookkeeper

Anderson Accounting

Music Director

Darla Frame; darlaframe@gmail.com

Audio-Technology

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



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