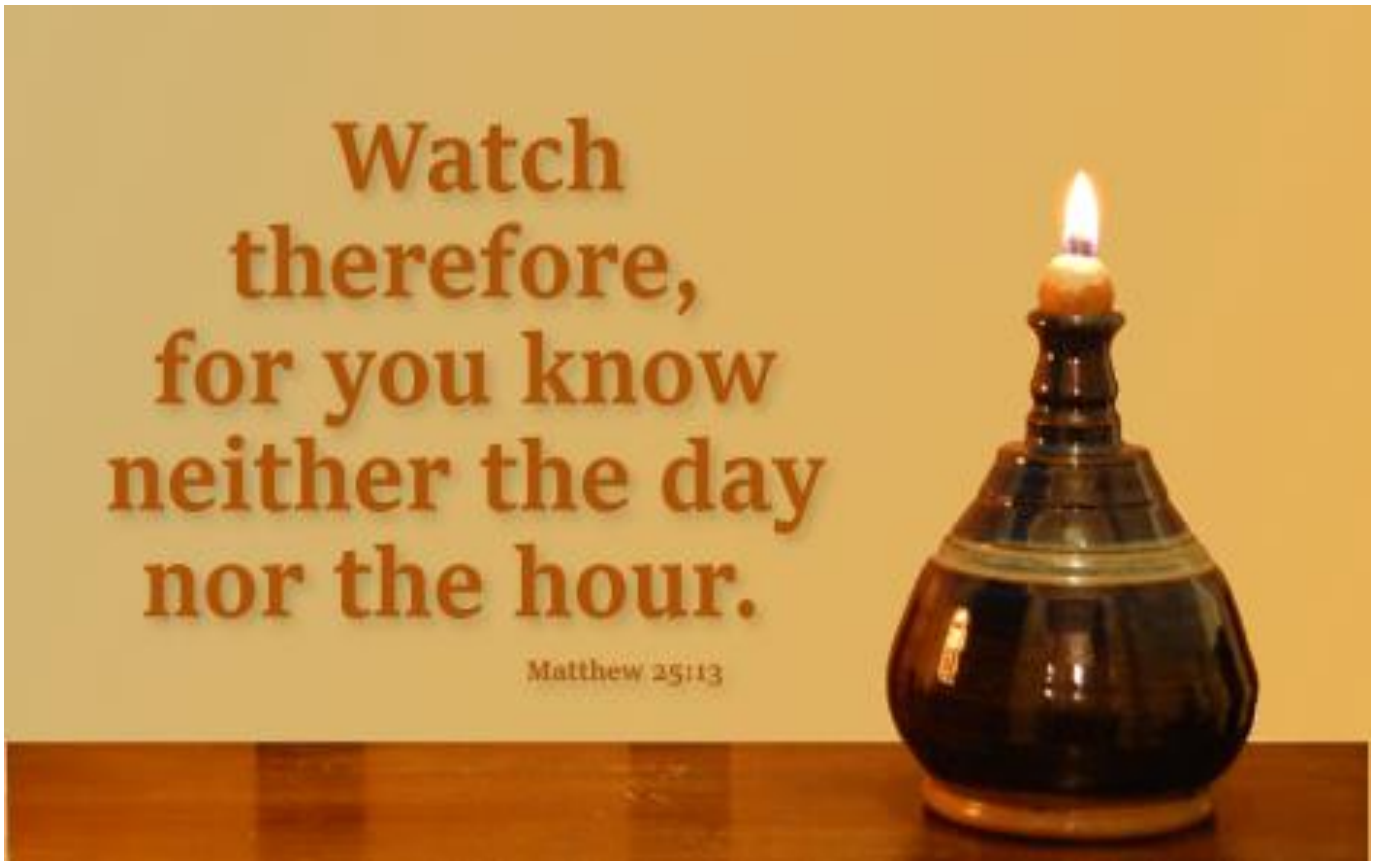
FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Wapakoneta, Ohio



24th Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 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.

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 Marsh Jackson in honor of Dave and Char Curry's wedding anniversary

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Marc and Brenda Shoffstall in honor and memory of all our Veterans.

MINISTERS for TODAY

Audio/Visual ..... Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector ..... Matt Ronan
Ushers ..... Dave Krites & Ken Frame
Worship Assistant ..... Darla Frame
Musician ..... Karen Luginbuhl
Pastor ..... Pastor Lorenzo
Greeter ..... Chris Nagel
Acolyte ..... Elanor Roeger
Altar Guild ..... Denise Kantner & Joy Kantner
Fellowship Cleanup ..... Denise Kantner & Chris Nagel

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

* Please rise if able.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *BE THOU MY VISION BY PAUL MANZ*

***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** *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (ELW 244)*

***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 .**Almighty, eternal God, show mercy to your children who humbly pray, that we who have no confidence in our worth may not be judged but tenderly received. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rebecca Van Meter

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

FIRST READING: Amos 5: 18-24
Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why would you have the day of the Lord? It is darkness, and not light, as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? "I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 70

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O Lord, make haste to help me.

Let those who seek my life be ashamed and altogether dismayed; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat over me turn back, because they are ashamed.

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great is the Lord!”

But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me speedily, O God.

You are my helper and | my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry.

SECOND READING: 1Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.
Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Alleluia* (ELW p. 188)

MATTHEW 25:1-13

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**
Jesus said to the disciples, “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE Pastor Lorenzo

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *Blessed Assurance (ELW 638)*

***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**
In the power of the Spirit, let us pray to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ on behalf of the Church, the world, and all people according to their need.

Everlasting God, your Son promised he would return to the earth one day. Help us to be ready for his return, that our lamps would be lit and our hearts would be open to Jesus' second coming. Remind us that because of our faith there is nothing to fear and everything to look forward to as Jesus will judge us innocent, having taken our place on the cross. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, ruler of us all, you desire that all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Let your blessing rest on our civic leaders and all whom you have placed in positions of authority, that your people may lead quiet and peaceable lives, godly and respectful in every way, free to pray and work in your service.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of the harvest, grant favorable weather for all the farmers who are bringing in the crops this season. Watch over them and prevent accidents or injuries as they work around large machines. Provide for our daily bread and make us truly grateful for all we have. Lord in your mercy**, hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, as a sign of your holy reign, grant that this congregation will identify with the suffering, the sorrowing, and the sick in both our local and global communities. By your Spirit empower us to seek ways to serve and reach out to those on the fringes in loving and tangible ways. I invite you now, either quietly or aloud to speak the names of someone in need of prayer and accept your eternal healing power. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the power of the Holy Spirit, we entrust our prayers and petitions into your hands, gracious Father, for the sake of your beloved 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 *SONG OF GOD'S PRESENCE BY PAUL ABELS*

***OFFERING HYMN** *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful* (ELW 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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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. He 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

Bread Of Life From Heaven (ELW 474)

When Peace Like a River (ELW 785)

O Jesus, I have Promised (ELW 810)

***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's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

***SENDING SONG** Soon and Very Soon (ELW 439)

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

OUR PRAYER CORNER

Those who would love a visit or a card…

The Gardens	Betty Lietz
Otterbein	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, Robert Brincefield, Mike Nuss, Becky Kohlreiser, Judy Metz,(Brother of David Clift, Dr. Robert Draeger),Carolyn Eakins, Allison Heffner & Baby Lydia, Teresa Fisher.

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.

Weekly Attendance and Offerings

Date	Views	Attendance	Current Giving	Benevolence
11-1-26	13	66	$ 3372.00	$220.00

What's Happening at First English….

Noisy Offering for the month of NOVEMBER: ANGEL TREE Offering pans are located in the chapel and at the back of the church. Donations are accepted during the entire month.

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.

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. November's List is: Cleaning Supplies, Trash Bags and Kleenex. 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.

God's Storehouse- God's Storehouse needs a favor from all of our Community Market shoppers. They have a program, called " Community Cash"and all you need to do is save your receipts from Community Market. You can turn them into Gods Storehouse and they will do the rest, or receipts can be dropped off in the can at the back foyer. Hours are 9-11:30 , Thurs, Fri, and Sat, or mail to GSH P.O. Box 72, Wapakoneta OH 45895.

Advent Calendar Making Join us following worship service today, **November 8th** in the Fellowship Hall to make Advent Calendars for our shut-ins and youth. All are welcome to help make.

Christmas Decorating will be following worship service **on November 22nd** Many hands makes light work and helping make the church look beautiful is good for everyone. 😊 Pizza will be provided for afterwards.

FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events

Sun, Nov 8th	**9:00am**	**Adult Sunday School**
	10:00am	**Worship – Pastor Lorenzo**
		Acolyte-Elanor Roeger
		Bell Choir
		Advent Calendar Making
Tues, Nov 10h	1:30pm	Bingo at The Gardens
Thurs, Nov 12th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
	6:00pm	Men's Night at Inn Between
Fri, Nov 13th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Sat, Nov 14th	9-11:30am	God's Storehouse
Sunday, Nov 15th	**9:00am**	**Adult Sunday School**
	10:00am	**Worship – Vicar Michelle Kouse**
		Acolyte- Jacob Schlosser
Tues, Nov 17th	6:00pm	Ladie's Night at Mason Jar
Thurs, Nov 19th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
Fri, Nov 20th	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Sat, Nov 21st	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Sunday Nov 22nd	**9:00am**	**Adult Sunday School**
	10:00am	**Worship- Pastor Lorenzo**
		Ladie's Choir
		Acolyte-Annie Yocum
		Decorating after Church
Thurs. Nov. 26th	11-1:00pm	Thanksgiving Community meal
		St. Joseph Parish Center

MINISTERS for Next Week 11-15-26

Audio/Visual.....Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector.....Doris Fisher
Ushers.....Ken Frame & Chad Sterner
Worship Assistant.....Deanna Ronan
Musician.....Greg Tabler
Pastor.....Vicar Michelle Kouse
Greeter.....Joy Kantner
Acolyte.....Jacob Schlosser
Altar Guild.....Denise Kantner & Joy Kantner
Fellowship Cleanup.....Denise Kantner & Chris Nagel

Church Staff & Volunteers

Pastor	Pastor Lorenzo Thomas; pastor.lorenzo@myfelc.org
Seminarian	Vicar Michelle Kouse
Bookkeeper	Anderson Accounting
Music Director	Darla Frame; darlaframe@gmail.com
Audio-Technology	Dave Curry; dlcy@bright.net; 937-307-8596

Veterans Day- November 11th



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



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