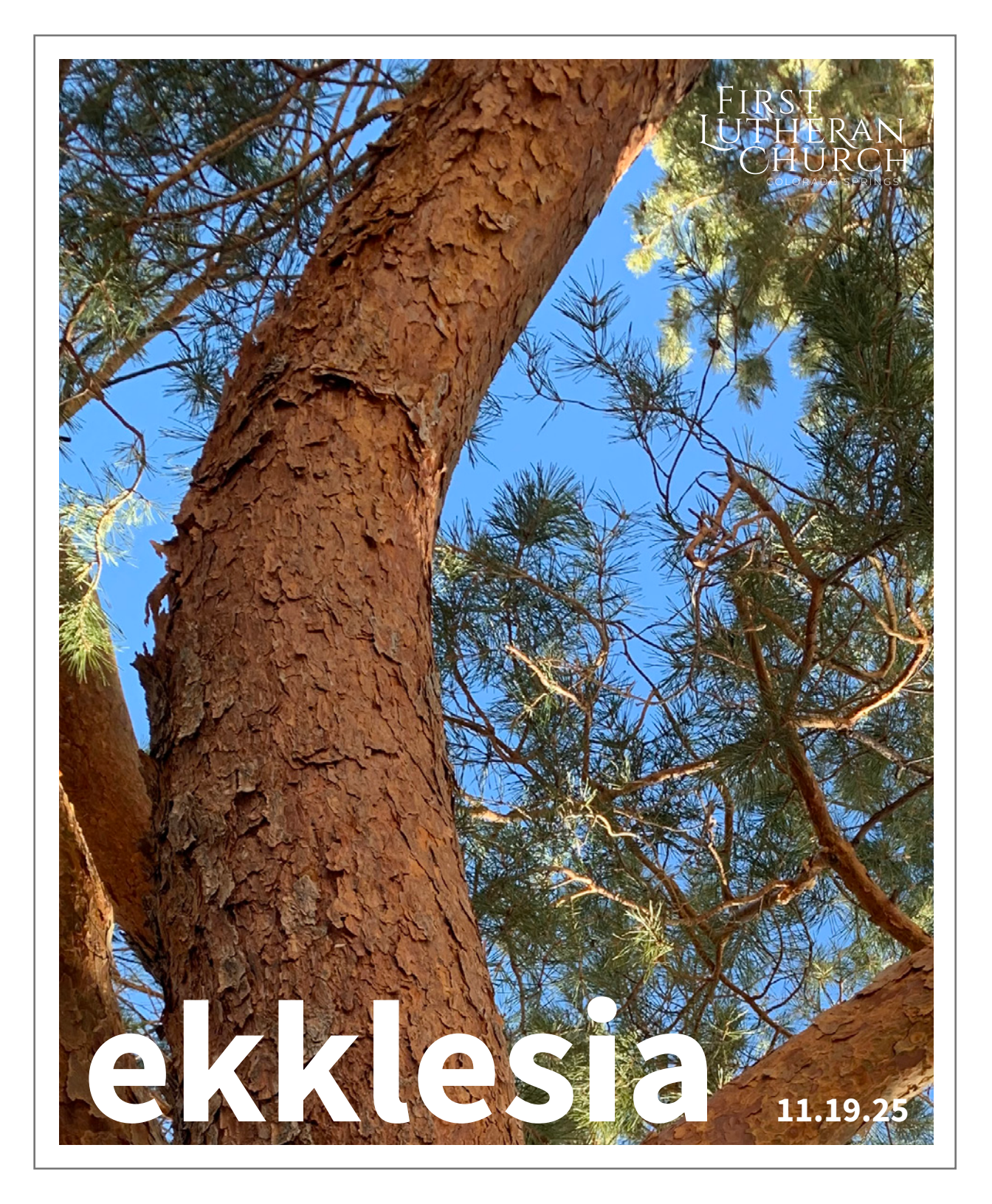




FIRST
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
COLORADO SPRINGS

ekklesia

11.19.25

FROM THE PASTOR

THIS SUNDAY IS the last Sunday of our church year. The church calendar begins with Advent and ends with Christ the King Sunday. Each Sunday has four assigned scriptures from the Revised Common Lectionary, and when we move to a new year we begin to focus on a new gospel. This year we've been focused mostly on the gospel of Luke. Starting on November 30, we will focus on the gospel of Matthew – although John's gospel shows up sporadically each year.

Christ the King Sunday isn't very old. It was instituted in 1925 after World War I, when Fascism and Communism and other authoritarianisms were on the rise. The world was becoming more secular and more atheistic, too. To speak to that climate, which hasn't changed much, the church instituted Christ the King Sunday. It's a call to remember who is in charge, who has power, who has authority in a world trying to claim those things for itself. As Christians we look to Christ as our king, and leader.

The word King is important here. Because we don't just look to Jesus as our spiritual leader, but also our political leader. By that I mean we are expecting a day when Jesus will be in charge of the world. He will make the laws that we live by. He will enforce those laws and rule over a kingdom. That is, he will exert power in a political way.

We believe, as it says in Philippians 2, that one day every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord. "Lord" is another political title. Every other way of governing, every other philosophy and ideology will one day bow before the way of Jesus. Communists, Socialists, Republicans, Democrats, Fascists, Theocrats, Oligarchs, Monarchs and all the rest will give way to the way of Jesus.

What we believe about the future ought to shape how we behave in the present. Christ the King Sunday is an opportunity for each of us to do some self-analysis. We all subscribe to various ideologies, political and social views. The question we should ask ourselves is, "Does my commitment to Christ rise above every other view I hold?" Another way to ask this, "Is Christ my King, or have I bowed before another?" The last Sunday of the year is a call for all of us to take stock and recommit ourselves to the one and only King, the Lord Jesus.



PASTOR TRAVIS NORTON

Sunday's Message

NOVEMBER 16, 2025

PASTOR TRAVIS NORTON

LUKE 21: 5 – 19

WHEN DID YOU learn that the world is a fragile place? There is a time in our lives when we are caught off guard by the destruction of something that seems indestructible. A time when something sacred falls or some system fails, and we come to the realization that everything we count on is at risk or under threat. Think back over your life, what was the event that made you realize this world is fragile? For many in my generation it was the explosion of the Challenger space shuttle. I was ten years old when that happened, this symbol of national pride and forward progress disintegrating on live tv shattered the innocence of many young people. If you're older than I am, it might have been the assassination of John F. Kennedy that first shook your trust in what will remain. If you're younger than I am, it was likely the 9/11 attacks on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon. For children today, it was the COVID pandemic that unveiled this world's vulnerability. Today it feels like our democracy is being stress tested. The longest government shutdown in our history, the increasing inability for our representatives to trust or even work with the opposing party. Extreme gerrymandering eroding the people's voice in their government. Our democracy seems pretty fragile these days and we know that empires, even ones as powerful as the United States of America don't last forever.

I've been seeing pictures from 20 of our members who toured Greece over the past two weeks. The thing that strikes me is that they are sending pictures mainly of ruins. A great society, the first democracy are mostly decaying buildings. Empires fall, democracies fail, kings and tyrants are overthrown, everything is subject to destruction. When the disciples

and Jesus were touring the temple, the disciples were in awe of the great structure. The temple was larger than the dome of the rock that now dominates the horizon in Jerusalem. It could be seen from miles away topped with gold rising 150 feet into the air, a symbol not only of the nation but of God's power and presence. Some of the stones that made the temple weighed over 100 tons. The disciples marvelled at it and were shocked when Jesus said it would all be destroyed, that the temple was fragile, not one stone would be left upon another. The threat to this symbol of the nation was already occupying Israel and a mere 40 years later they would destroy the temple that King Herod spent decades building. When the disciples asked Jesus to tell them when this would happen, he became apocalyptic. Jesus describes all the terrible things that would happen before the Second Coming. We call this the End Times. Having experienced the fragility of our world over and over again, we have this sense that one day it will all come tumbling down. The world seems on a path to destruction and Jesus confirms this to be the case. But his instructions to us are surprising, aren't they? He warns of wars and natural disasters and diseases all of which have happened several times over. But his instructions are counterintuitive. He says, 1. Don't be afraid, 2. Don't be led astray, 3. Be ready to testify. That's not how experts would tell you to prepare for disaster, war or disease or failed government. They would give very different instructions, things like 1. Store up provisions, 2. Make a survival kit, 3. Plan your escape or improve your home security. Jesus tells us instead to endure, stay faithful and be ready to preach the gospel. Stay calm and let your life and

words tell the truth about Jesus. This applies even when things get personal. Jesus warns about persecution and being arrested and tried and even executed. But he doesn't give any advice on how to avoid any of this but rather that we should expect it and use the opportunity to share our faith.

This is exactly what the disciples did. Remember Luke is also the author of the book of Acts which details the disciples doing exactly what Jesus told them that day by the temple. How many times was Peter arrested as he went about sharing the faith? And when he was imprisoned what do we find him doing: enduring, staying calm, and sharing the faith with fellow inmates, singing and praying while locked in chains, trusting in God to provide no matter the circumstances. Paul does the same as the other disciples. Tradition has it that each of them were killed for their faith as Jesus predicted. The world kept moving forward but their testimony and endurance changed lives, brought more people to faith and gave birth to the church.

The church is not a building but rather a people who have faith in Jesus and testify to the truth of God throughout the ages, especially in times of disaster, war and persecution. In every age we have the witness of Christian martyrs who have been unwavering in their faith even when their lives were threatened. They are an example to us to be strong in our own faith when it seems the world is ending, even if it's only our part of the world.

I remember when I was in middle school my mother was in a car that was hit by a drunk driver. Her best friend was killed, and my mom was rushed to the hospital. She spent several days recovering there but what I remember is her faith during that time. She felt called by God to use that time of disaster in her life to share her faith in Christ with all those who came to visit her in the hospital. That's what Jesus is telling us to do when tragedy strikes; when the world falls apart our job as Christians is to trust in God and share our faith.

The disciples want Jesus to give them times and dates about when the end will come, and people still get fixated on trying to figure how it will all happen.

Will Christians be saved from the time of trial or will we have to endure the chaos? I don't think it's helpful to debate stances like pre – or post – tribulation. Jesus doesn't answer our questions about timing or sequence, but instead Jesus tells us that it will often feel like the world is ending. Our job isn't to focus on when this all comes crashing down but instead to trust in God even in the worst of times and proclaim to the world a hope that endures through every difficulty. Jesus tells his disciples that after the worst things we can imagine will happen, he will return in glory and redeem his people. We believe that Jesus will return and he will repair and restore and redeem. It is that hope that allows us to endure every trial to resist the temptation to fear and to implore others to look to God. It sounds like a lot to ask, doesn't it? Usually when people suffer, we let them off the hook of any expectations out of pity and compassion. But people of faith live by a higher call. Our suffering, our hardship, our difficulties are not excuses for us to wallow in self-pity but rather reminders to trust in God and invite others to do the same.

I've been at many deathbeds, many more than I ever imagined. I was pretty naïve getting into pastoral ministry, I didn't even consider how big a part of my work would be ministering to the dying. But my faith is encouraged and strengthened when I am at the bed of a Christian who in their final breaths tell me about their love of God and their hope in Christ for salvation. I see their families gathered around in awe of the faith their loved one clings to even at the very end. Often their faith prompts a member of the family to return to church and renew their own faith. Some of you are suffering now with illness or hardship, loss of jobs, loss of relationships, death of loved ones. These all reveal the fragility of our world and feel like the end times Jesus describes. Your faith during this time in your life is your strength and your gift. Jesus tells us to remain in faith, to endure in faith, to watch in faith. It's not only for those who will be influenced by your example but also for you. What else do we have when our world falls apart except trust in God? It is that trust in God's provision that allows us to endure and persevere.

Jesus points his disciples toward the thing that will never fail them. Our God will be with us and even if we die, not a hair on our head will perish. How can he say that? Because of the promise of resurrection that we talked about last week. Because in God there is always life, the end of the story is always joy with our Lord. These words about the end times, the destruction of the temple and the call to persevere no matter what comes, these are the last things Jesus says before he is arrested, put on trial and killed on the cross. These aren't idle instructions for hypothetical situations. Jesus' own suffering comes next and he shows us the way of faith. When he is put on trial, he uses the time to tell the truth about God. When he is on the cross, he proclaims forgiveness and invites the thief next to him to faith and trust in God. When Jesus is dying, he doesn't despair but cries out to his father, "Into your hands, I commend my spirit." Jesus demonstrates trust that God will see him through death and back to life.

God will do the same for us. I don't know when the end of all things will come, I don't know if all the trouble we see now is part of that final story, but I do know that after all the pain and destruction there is Jesus, healing and restoring. Most of us will see our own endings before the end of all things. When that day comes, don't be afraid, don't be led astray, look for an opportunity to share your faith. That's what Christians do when the end comes. We proclaim hope in Jesus our Lord who comes after the end of all things. Amen.

ADVENT WREATH MAKING

NOVEMBER 30 | SUNDAY

GATHERING PLACE

Come and make an advent wreath during all coffee hours. All materials will be provided.

IMAGINE: THE WAY WE KNOW

GUIDED SPIRITUAL MEDITATION

"Jesus said ... 'I am the way...' " – John 14:6

Join us for a weekly 30–45-minute guided Scripture meditation, where we will craft a quiet place to anticipate and encounter the arrival of Jesus, The Way, into our world. If you've never experienced entering into the Bible to encounter Jesus through guided meditation, come and see how Jesus can meet you there.

In the Worship Center Tuesday evenings, December 2, 9, and 16, at 6 p.m., and Wednesday mornings, December 3, 10, and 17, at 11:30



REGISTER HERE TO RECEIVE THE ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

<https://mailchi.mp/flccs/advent>

SO GENEROUS CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who turned in a commitment card last week. We have now received **247 commitments** for **2026 totaling \$1,541,796.04**, bringing us to **67 percent of our goal**. Your participation is helping us plan faithfully and generously for the ministry ahead.

If you have not yet made your commitment, we invite you to do so soon. Below is a snapshot of the giving ranges where commitments are still needed.

MONTHLY GIVING RANGE	HOPED FOR COMMITMENTS	COMMITMENTS TO DATE
\$2000+	11	11
\$1000-1999	25	17
\$800-999	12	10
\$650-799	21	10
\$550-649	23	15
\$475-549	23	16
\$425-474	24	13
\$375-424	17	9
\$325-374	24	14
\$275-324	28	16
\$225-274	24	17
\$200-224	33	16
\$175-199	21	10
\$150-174	34	13
\$125-149	31	6
\$100-124	26	21
\$60-99	28	12
\$40-59	26	4
\$20-39	25	10
less than \$20	Many	7

Commitment cards can be completed online through QR code. Thank you for supporting the ministry of First Lutheran Church and for helping us live generously as a community!



CHERYL'S CORNER

USING THE TEND METHOD OF BIBLE STUDY

Our Daily Bread Ministries produces a podcast that quite often hit me with an “aha” moment. Their interview with Mariel Davenport was one such podcast. Mariel has an interesting story. She was an atheist as a young adult when a co-worker challenged her to read the Bible. Having the goal to read it and disprove it, God had other ideas. He lit a fire in her for His Word from day one. Mariel shared her TEND method of Bible study in this podcast; using the analogy of tending her garden. I've been using this method for a few weeks now and I've really been enjoying what God is teaching me so I thought I'd share it with you.

TAKE TIME TO PRAY

The Bible is God's word to us about Himself. When we approach the Word, it is important to come in prayer. It doesn't have to be complicated or lengthy, just a simple turning of our minds towards God and asking Him to show us wonderful truths in His Word as Psalm 119:11 teaches.



EXAMINE THE SCRIPTURE

After reading through the entire book or chapter we are going to be tending through to gain context; begin the TEND method by writing out the 1-3 verses you will TEND. Keep it true to the text, not paraphrasing.

NOTICE THE LESSONS

The Bible is primarily about God so the first question we can always ask of the text is “What does this teach about God?” Notice His character or names in the verses and what it's teaching. Then we can ask “In these verses, is there a SIN, PROMISE, ACTION, COMMAND, or EXAMPLE to notice as a lesson to the original reader?”

DO WHAT IT SAYS

Finally, we turn the lesson into a question we can answer with action. James 1:22 exhorts us to be doers of the Word, not hearers only, lest we deceive ourselves. Then answer the question with the action you will take and do what it says! Acting on God's word will be the seed in the soil that bears much fruit to His glory in your life.

I downloaded this information directly from Mariel Davenport's website <https://marieldavenport.com/>

CHERYL MAHON, DIRECTOR OF LAY MINISTRIES

MOMCO

NOVEMBER 25 | 9:30 A.M.

MomCo meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays in the Peel House Lounge, next to the coffee bar.

PRISON FELLOWSHIP ANGEL TREE MINISTRY – ELVES

CHRISTMAS PARTY | DECEMBER 7

Angel Tree Ministry for Prison Fellowship is starting its fourth year of serving the children of the incarcerated. First Lutheran has tripled the number of children that it serves (50 to 150). As part of that growth, we need lots of Elves! The Christmas Party is Sunday, December 7, and we need Elves to purchase or bake cookies, prepare and check gifts for distribution, prepare candy/fruit bags, decorate tables, and greet the Angel Tree Families on Sunday. Come join us and make a difference! <https://bit.ly/47oALPE>

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR OUTREACH PARTNERS

You can pick up a gift tag from one of the Gold Christmas Trees at the Welcome Center Desk. We are supporting Lutheran Family Services, Mosaic, Family Promise, and Prison Fellowship Ministries by purchasing Christmas gifts and/or gift cards for the children they serve. Be sure to record which tag(s) you took with the Welcome Center Host so that we can contact you if necessary.

DECK THE HALLS!

MAIN BUILDING

NOVEMBER 23 – NOVEMBER 26

DECORATE THE FENCE, STRING LIGHTS ON THE OUTSIDE EVERGREEN TREE - November 23, after the 11 a.m. service, lunch will be served

INSIDE DECORATING, Monday, November 24 – 26, 10 A.M. – 3 P.M.

Don't miss the opportunity to help decorate the main church building for Christmas this year! There is a lot to do, so please feel free to sign up more than just once! Your help is very much appreciated. Register here: <https://bit.ly/4qGHTjh>

PEEL HOUSE HOLIDAY DECORATING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16 – FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21 | 10 A.M. – 3 P.M.

Would you like to be a part of the magic that happens each year for the holiday in the Peel House? We can certainly use your assistance! Come make the ornaments dangle, the garland fluff, the mantles shine, and the trees light! Volunteers may come anytime between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. and enjoy Christmas cookies, punch, hot cocoa, and Christmas music while decorating trees and creating mantles. Please register using the following link <https://bit.ly/4qFfPN5> or call the church office at 719.632.8836.

ADVENT WREATH MAKING

NOVEMBER 30 | SUNDAY

GATHERING PLACE

Come and make an advent wreath during all coffee hours. All materials will be provided.



Thanksgiving

AT FIRST LUTHERAN

November | 27 | 12 p.m.



Join us in the Peel House! Bring a side to share.
Doors open at 11 a.m. and we will eat at noon!

Register here to attend:
<https://bit.ly/4hTkNBT>

BLESSING BAGS FOR THE UNSHELTERED

“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” – 2 Corinthians 9:8

Through the “Clean and Safe” program with Downtown Partnership, FLC volunteers are blessed to recognize the unhsheltered and see Jesus in them. During this Advent and Christmas season, we would like to encourage you to take a moment to stop and think about how blessed we are to have resources to share. FLC is collecting items to build Blessing Bags for the poor and needy of our community. Items such as hand-warmers, non-perishable snacks, warm socks, gloves, etc. can be dropped off in the large wooden boxes in the Gathering Place. Small denomination

fast food gift cards can be dropped off at the Welcome Center Desk. Our Knit and Crochet Ministry have been busy creating beautiful hats and scarves to decorate our annual “Tree of Warmth.” You are welcome to add purchased hats, scarves, and mittens to the “Tree of Warmth” as well. On December 14, all these items will be used to build our Blessing Bags “assembly line” style in the Gathering Place between worship services. Please stop by then to fill a bag, or two, or three. We invite you to take a bag, or two, or three home so that you may bless those in need that you might greet along your travels.

“Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, ‘Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.’” – Deuteronomy 15:11

DECEMBER OWLS

THE BROADMOOR HOTEL GINGERBREAD DISPLAY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16 | 11 A.M.

Please join us for an annual tour of The Broadmoor Gingerbread display. Come with us to see what the chefs will create out of 900 lbs of powdered sugar, 475 lbs of flour, 1801 eggs, and more!! The surprise display never disappoints!! We will then walk to Cafe Julie's for lunch, fellowship and shopping! Please register by using the following link

<https://bit.ly/3LnC6yL> or by calling First Lutheran at 719.632.8836. Register by Monday, December 15.

DECEMBER OWLS

CHEROKEE RANCH AND CASTLE CHRISTMAS TOUR

6113 N. DANIEL'S PARK ROAD, SEDALIA, CO

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 | 8:15 A.M

GUIDED TOUR | 10 A.M. | COST, \$22

The OWLs have visited this location before but never at the holidays with all the beautiful holiday decorations. Located in the heart of Douglas County, in Sedalia, Cherokee Castle is a rare example of a 15th Century Scottish castle. Built over 100 years ago, this historic castle houses a collection of world-class art, antiques and rare books. Cherokee Ranch embodies our western heritage while serving as headquarters for the Santa Gertrudis breed of cattle, first introduced to Colorado by Mildred Montague Genevieve "Tweet" Kimball, who purchased the property in 1954. Deadline to register is Tuesday, November 18. Reservations are nonrefundable. There is a limit of 30 guests so register quickly! Lunch is on your own at the Factory Shops area. Please register using the following link <https://bit.ly/3WD53cC> or by calling First Lutheran at 719.632.8836

DECEMBER OWLS – NEW

TRADITIONAL GERMAN CHRISTKINDLMARKET IN OLD COLORADO CITY BANCROFT PARK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22 | 3:15 – 6:30 P.M.

We would like to start a new annual tradition by attending the inaugural opening of the first authentic German Christkindlmarket to come to Old Colorado City. There are only four other authentic markets in the United States. The Old Colorado City Christkindlmarket will bring the magic of a traditional German Christmas market to Colorado Springs. With charming wooden huts, a heated tent with a stage for nightly entertainment, twinkling lights, and a joyous atmosphere, the market will draw visitors from near and far to celebrate the season.

<https://www.occchristkindlmarket.com>. Start your collection of Gluhwein cups now! Deadline to register: Monday, December 15, 2025. Register by using the following link <https://bit.ly/3JGaiVM> or by calling FLC at 719.632.8836.

FAMILY PROMISE

We plan to support Family Promise three different ways during the month of January 2026. We will hold an In-Gathering of household items and gift cards (more on that later in December). We will also be providing meals for the families throughout the month of January. Please sign up for your spot NOW! We can take meals to the Day House at 324 N Nevada three days each week; Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Delivery can be made anytime between 4 – 6 p.m. Meals should feed 12-15 people (3 – 5 adults and the remaining children). Please sign up to bring a meal in January here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoB4AA9AC28A3FEC52-49949464-meals#>

THE EMMAUS WAY

"God is a circle whose center is everywhere and whose circumference is nowhere."

— St. Bonaventure

One of our recent Psalm readings during worship was Psalm 16. In it are the words, "Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance" (vv. 5-6). With the idea of the possibility of religious experience still in the back of our minds (thanks to those who responded to my recent question!), please let me share with you what I consider to be one of mine.

Once, in one of my seminary classes, the instructor was sharing one of her own encounters with God when she had felt a strong sense of God's presence. In that context she spoke the words, "The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places." What she meant by

that was that the fullness of God was her inheritance: God was the place where she dwelled, God's being defined the boundary lines of the "portion" she had inherited.

It was one of those moments when someone else's words opened something

in me, too. I realized in that moment on a deeper level that God, in God's fullness, is our inheritance, given to us in Christ. What does that mean? It means we can never run out of what we really need. We can never exhaust our source of love, joy, peace, patience, and goodness. We will always have access to everything we need for abundant life, because we are planted and dwell within the One who is only life. We will never be able to flee from God's loving presence, because no matter where we go, God is already there. No matter what happens in life, we can never fall outside of God, because God's center is everywhere and circumference is nowhere: there is no "edge" to God's grace from which we can fall. We cannot ever be anywhere other than the very center of God.

The portion we have been given in Christ is God's very self. Everything is God's, so, in Christ, everything is also ours: "He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?" (Romans 8:32) If you have time this week and are willing, please take some imaginative time sitting in the very center of God, because ultimately, that is where you truly are. Let's rejoice in the beauty of our inheritance together.



LORI DUNCAN, MINISTER OF SPIRITUAL CARE

ADVENT TEA – TABLE HOSTESS

THERE ARE NO STRANGERS AT CHRISTMAS
SATURDAY | DECEMBER 6
10 A.M. – NOON | PEEL HOUSE

We are looking for 14 Table Hostesses to help decorate a table and host seven attendees at this year's Advent Tea. First Lutheran's Advent theme for the season is *The Way We Know* with our Advent Tea theme, *There Are No Strangers at Christmas*. This takes us on a familiar path celebrating our Christmas traditions and keeping in mind Jesus is the way we know where home is and how to get there. Strangers from afar came to celebrate the birth of Jesus...and all were welcome. Our hope this year is for others to be encouraged and welcomed as we focus on the way we know together.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF BEING A TABLE HOSTESS ARE THE FOLLOWING:

Decorate a 60" round table with a centerpiece, dishes, silverware, and tablecloth if you have them; otherwise, borrow them from the Peel House.

Decorate your table Friday, December 5, from 2 – 8 p.m.

Arrive Saturday, December 6, by 9:30 a.m. to prepare for guests.

Host seven other guests at your table, then clear your table at the end of event.

This link is for TABLE HOSTESSES only. Please use the following link to register as a Table Hostess: <https://bit.ly/4hLQygo> or call the church at 719.632.8836. Once you sign up, more information will be in your confirmation email.

ADVENT TEA

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Calling all cookie bakers and tea sandwich makers!! The Advent Tea will be a lovely event to kick off the Advent season, and we can use your assistance to help make it a success. Please sign up to bring 2-3 dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies for the tea, or make 2-3 dozen of your favorite tea sandwiches for others to enjoy. Please bring cookies anytime during the week (but by Friday noon) to the Peel House kitchen with the label "Advent Tea" on the container. Please bring labeled tea sandwiches Friday between 2-5 p.m. or at 8 a.m. Saturday morning. If you are not a baker or a maker, we could also use your assistance Friday afternoon from 2 -5 p.m. to set up cookie trays and wash and cut fruit and/or Saturday morning at 8 a.m. for last minute preparations for the event. Please use the following link:

<https://bit.ly/4815nXZ> to register or call the church office at 719.632.8836.

ADVENT TEA – GUEST ATTENDANCE

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 6 | 10 A.M. – NOON-
PEEL HOUSE | COOKIE EXCHANGE

Thank you for your interest in being a guest at the Advent Tea. First Lutheran's Advent theme for the season is *The Way We Know*, with our Advent Tea theme, *There Are No Strangers at Christmas*. This takes us on a familiar path celebrating our Christmas traditions and keeping in mind Jesus is the way we know where home is and how to get there. Strangers from afar came to celebrate the birth of Jesus...and all were welcome. Our hope this year is for others to be encouraged and welcomed as we focus on the way we know together. We also encourage you to participate in our cookie exchange. Please bring 2-3 dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies or Christmas candies. Containers will be provided to take home. Please use the following link <https://bit.ly/4nMCip2> to register as a guest or call the church at 719.632.8836. This link will not allow multiple sign-ups, so each guest must sign up individually. Space is limited to 98 and seating fills up quickly!

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

You may purchase a poinsettia plant for \$12.00 to honor or memorialize a loved one. All poinsettias will be used to decorate the chancel area for the Christmas Eve services. You can take your plant home after the last Christmas eve service. You may register here: <https://bit.ly/3CJzP7d>

ST. NICHOLAS BREAKFAST

DECEMBER 6 | 9 – 10:30 A.M.
GATHERING PLACE

Come enjoy this festival celebration of Saint Nicholas, the saint that started our Santa spirit. We will have a full breakfast available for families, some story time with St. Nicholas, and then we'll close with some holiday – themed crafts. This event is focused on elementary age and younger, but children of every age are welcome.

DINING OUT WITH FIRST LUTHERAN

SELECT TUESDAYS | 5:30 P.M.
VARIOUS RESTAURANTS

All are welcome to join this group, which meets at local restaurants on two Tuesdays of each month to enjoy various cuisines and fellowship. Reservations will be made two weeks in advance, so be sure to sign up early. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/41Rh4ff>.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

December 16	La Bella Vita Italiano 4475 Northpark Drive
January 13	Saltgrass Steakhouse 1405 Jamboree Drive
January 27	Carabbas Italian Grill 7120 Campus Drive
February 10	Hacienda Colorado 5246 North Nevada Avenue



FRIENDSGIVING
November 19 at 5:30 p.m.
in the Gathering Place

Bring a dish to share—or try out a new Thanksgiving recipe you’ve been wanting to test before the big day! We’ll enjoy a meal together, then head upstairs for WNL worship at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome for food, fellowship, and gratitude.

In the Life of the Church ...

Birthdays

- November 24** Jim Daubert
Mike Lawson
Kay Vucasovich
- November 25** Helen Baker
Shari Brian
Seadon McMullen
Yvette Roach
- November 26** Ron Anderson
Skip Robinson
- November 27** Pauline Evans
Leah Rocha
- November 28** Sharon Jacobsen
Lisa Navarro
Gudrun Vest
- November 29** Lincoln Eskew
Shawn Lawson
Rick Rivers
- November 30** Art Britton
Carroll Clabaugh
Joe Frei
Sharon Padilla
Vanessa Schweiger

Anniversaries

- November 24**
Dan and Pat Friedell 43 years
- November 26**
Dave Holt and Linda Wilson Holt 43 years
- November 29**
Cathy and Brian Holiday 22 years
- November 30**
Maxwell and Helen Meyer
Ken Wood and Marcia Braden-Wood 34 years



Prayer Requests

Lannette Abbey
Agnes Barry
Noemie Anderson
Wanda Anderson
Fred Bachmeier
Janice Baldwin
Elmer Bauman
Tana Beall
Joan Boehm
Bill & Barbara Brown
Clare Campbell
Karl & Pam Cartwright
Tanya Charbonneau
John & Debbie Chlebus
Nell Clowder
Rinda Dunson
The Rose Eggum Family
Alan Flinn
Donna Flores
Edna Fross
Corinne Gibson
Nola Gosch
Private Steven Harris
Ginger Hipszky
Jake Hodnett
Bill & Doreen Hulka
Irene
Alan Jacobsen
Matthew James
Josh Jones
Shirley Jones
Ann Junk
Jonas Kagarise
Tami Kephart
Kyong Kelley
Gaye Lynn Kielcheski
Cindy Koger
Jesse Lawrence & Family
Timothy Lillich
Dayne Lindquist
Scott & Rene Louise

Patricia Lopez
Susan Lundmark
Malia
Jim Matthews
Jan McDougall
Nick McKibben & Family
Hugh McNeely
Brandon Miller & Family
Gwyn Miller
Marilyn Miller
Larry & Lucille Moe
Paul Moe
Velma Naber
Wilma Nicolaisen
Sam Norton
The Samantha Norton Family
Owen & Family
John Palmen
Ken Palmen
Patsy Pedersen
The Bill Perry Family
Jack & Judy Peterson
Ralph Peterson
Darlene Radke
Jeff Rapp
Catherine Spencer
Matthew Stark
Gwen Stein
Becky Sternal
Barbara Swan
Michael Taylor
Aaron & Cindi Thorson
Colleen Turner
Bob VanDuyn
Karen Henderson-VanDuyn
Christine Welch
Whitney
Greg & Carolyn Young

*Please keep these members – and family and friends – of First Lutheran in your prayers this week. If you are requesting to have a name added to the prayer list, please consult with that person prior to making your request. Prayer requests may be submitted by using a Connection Card (in church) or by emailing **teri@flccs.net**.*

Worship and Study

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

SUNDAYS IN THE SANCTUARY
8, 9:30, AND 11 A.M.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

SUNDAYS IN THE WORSHIP CENTER
10:15 A.M.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIGHT

WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORSHIP CENTER
DINNER 5:15 P.M. | SERVICE 6:30 P.M.

ONLINE WORSHIP

STREAMED LIVE AT 9:30 A.M.

Tune in on First Lutheran's YouTube channel,
on the church website, or in the church app.

QUARTERLY ADULT EDUCATION

Weekly Adult Seminar is now finished. We will continue with quarterly Adult Education classes. The Lunch and Learn Footsteps of Paul class is part of Adult Education. Check here in the Ekklesia in January and April for our winter and spring options, respectively.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

LUTHER HALL | 10 A.M.

Led by the preaching pastor for the week.

GENERATION TO REVELATION

FIRST LUTHERAN'S NEW PODCAST!

Find our podcast on YouTube, on the church website, or anywhere you get your podcasts.

PASTORAL TEAM

The Rev. Travis Norton, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Carrie Baylis, Associate Pastor

The Rev. Michaela Eskew, Associate Pastor

NEXT SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURES

Jeremiah 23: 1 – 6

Colossians 1: 11 – 20

Luke 23: 33 – 43

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