Z025 Theological Conference

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Today, as since 1892, we welcome members and guests to glorify God and exalt his name.

HOLY COMMUNION

We celebrate Holy Communion at every worship service; all who believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome. Please follow the lead of the ushers in going forward. In addition to bread and wine, white grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available.

NEED HEARING ASSISTANCE?

Assistive Listening Devices are available and may be used with headphones or with a neck loop for T-Coilequipped hearing aids. Please leave the devices in the sanctuary.

CHILD CARE

All ages are welcome in worship; however, our professionally-staffed child care center is an option for young children during services. The center is near the elevator on the main level.

A PLACE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Our Sunday School program meets at 9:30 a.m., downstairs in Fellowship Hall. Children may be dropped off as early as 9:15 a.m. Adults are invited to join our in-person Adult Seminar in the Peel House at 9:15 a.m.

JOIN US FOR COFFEE

Following the worship service, please join us in the Gathering Place for coffee and fellowship.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE

Join us Sundays at 10:15 a.m. for our newest service in the Worship Center on the second level – a distinctively Lutheran approach to contemporary worship. During the sermon, **First Kids** (PreK - 2) is offered in the Fireside Room for our younger worshipers.

ONLINE WORSHIP: YOUTUBE

Never miss a service on our YouTube channel! Search for First Lutheran Colorado Springs and click Subscribe to be notified when we upload or stream new videos.

SMARTPHONE AND TABLET USERS: DOWNLOAD OUR APP!

With the First Lutheran app, you can watch online services and live streams, manage your giving, update your contact information, sign up for events, and more! Navigate to your app store and download Church by MinistryOne. Search for First Lutheran Church or use our zip code, 80907.

Opening Worship

September 29, 2025 • 7 p.m.

Congregational responses are printed in **bold type**.

PRELUDE

WORD OF WELCOME

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.**

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

SCRIPTURE READING • ROMANS 8:18 - 30

The reading may be found on Page 915 in the black pew Bibles.

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

4 Thanks be to God.

PSALM 139:1 - 12

Please join in reading our psalm responsively.

You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely.

You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

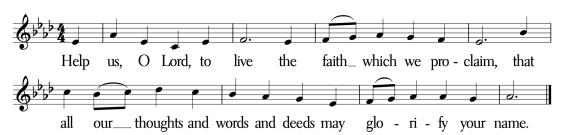
If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you;

the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION......Help Us, O Lord



GOSPEL READING • MATTHEW 3:13 - 4:11

The reading may be found on Page 778 in the black pew Bibles.

Before the reading:

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the third and fourth chapters.

Glory to you, O Lord

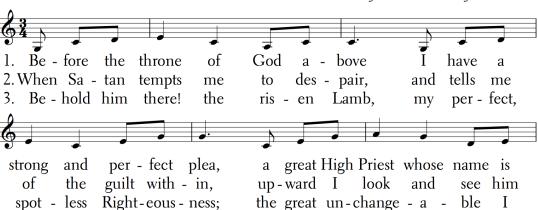
After the reading:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON The Rev. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni,
Bishop of the Rocky Mountain Synod ELCA.

HYMN OF THE DAY.....Before the Throne of God Above





THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 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.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good ole way and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.

- O brother, let's go down, let's go down, come on down; O brother, let's go down, down to the river to pray, down to the river to pray.
- O Lord, listen to your children prayin';
 O Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
 O Lord, listen to your children prayin';
 send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Something's gonna happen like the world has never known, when the people of the Lord get down to pray.

A door's gonna swing open and the walls come a-tumblin' down when the people of the Lord get down to pray.

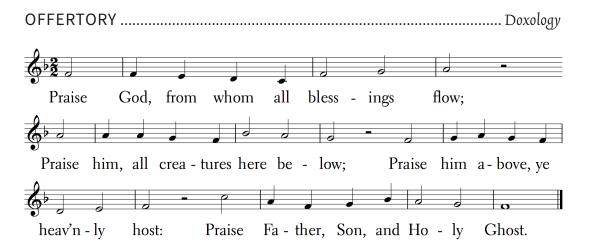
O children, let's go down, let's go down, come on down; O children, let's go down, down to the river to pray, down to the river to pray.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Teach us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

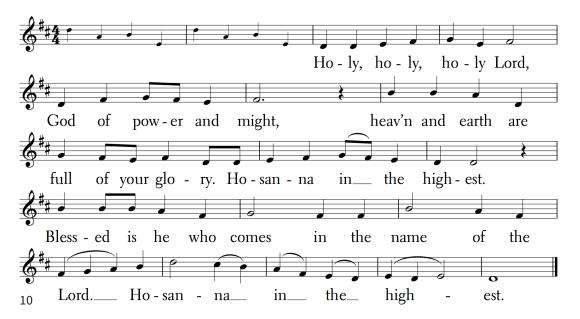
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God....

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BREAD AND WINE ARE SHARED

Come to the table for all is now ready.

Thanks be to God!

BELLS	Grazioso, by Arnold Sherman
HYMN	Give Me a Sight, O Savior
The music to the hymn may be found on Page 12.	

COMMUNION BLESSING AND POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together ...

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

HYMN Give Me a Sight, O Savior





SENDING

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC: Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him – Words from Foundling Hospital Collection, London, 1796; Verse 3 by Edward Osler. Music (HYMN TO JOY) by Ludwig van Beethoven. Public domain. • Help Us, O Lord – Words by William Watkins Reid, Jr. © 1959 The Hymn Society of America. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net No. A-705840. Music (FESTAL SONG) by William H. Walter. Public domain. • Before the Throne of God Above – Words by Charitie Lees Bancroft. Music by Vikki Cook. © 1997 PDI Worship. All rights reserved. CCLI No. 11389142. • Down to the River to Pray – Words and music (incorporating Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying by Ken Medema) from a traditional Spiritual; arr. Mary McDonald. © 1973, 2015 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. CCLI No. 11389142. • Doxology – Words by Thomas Ken, 1709. Music (OLD HUNDREDTH) by Louis Bourgeois, 1551. Public domain. • Sanctus and Benedictus – Traditional words. Music by John S. McCreary. © 1992 John S. McCreary. All rights reserved. Used by permission. • Give Me a Sight, O Savior – Words by Katherine Kelly. Music (ALDINE) by Richard Proulx. © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net No. A-705840. • Savior, Again to Your Dear Name – Words by John Ellerton. Music (ELLERS) by Edward J. Hopkins; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan. Public domain.

Staff of

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

CLERGY

The Rev. Travis Norton, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Carrie Baylis, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Michaela Eskew, Associate Pastor of Faith Formation

MUSIC MINISTRY

Eric Wicks, Minister of Worship and Music Jeremy Ashida, Minister of Contemporary Worship Breanna Whiting, Song Leader Katelynn Granados, Alto Section Leader Carolyn Kurtz, Music Librarian

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Lori Duncan, Minister of Spiritual Care Linda Loflin, Director of Children's Ministries Colton Laptad, Director of Youth Ministries Annie Sorvald, Cathy Stanley, and Jennifer Weis, Childcare

ADMINISTRATION

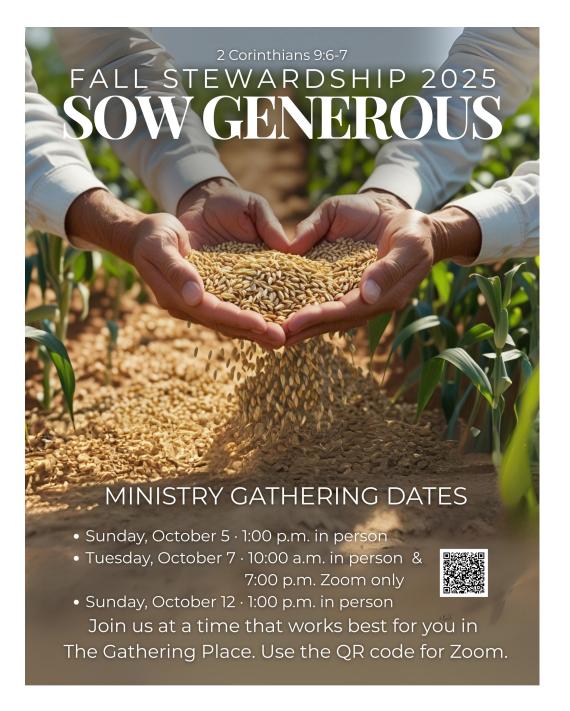
Cheryl Mahon, Coordinator of Lay Ministries
Teri Swanner, Assistant to the Senior Pastor
Candi Mountain Gaddie, Receptionist and Event Coordinator
Pamela Haines, Special Events

COMMUNICATION

Theresa McConnell, Digital Media and Graphic Design Barbara Diem, Graphic Design and Video Editing Chris Parkhill, Print Design

BUSINESS AND PROPERTY

Yoshiko Anspach, Business Manager Harry Mosco, Property Manager Anna Banks, Lead Sexton Robert Kelley, Maintenance Technician David Lovelace and Cynder Ros, Sextons











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Lydia Circle



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7 \mid 11 A.M. GATHERING PLACE

After a summer break, the Lydia Circle resumes monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. All women are welcome! For more information, contact Trudy Hill at 719.439.5323 or Helen Peterson at 719.332.7949.

In the Footsteps of Paul 6 Week Lunch & Learn Course

September 21 to October 26, 2025 Sundays from 12 - 1 p.m. Peel House Parlor



Please register in advance for this course by visiting https://bit.ly/4p7aWM2 or by scanning the groode.





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