



## First Evangelical Lutheran Church

627 Taylor Street, P.O. Box 540, Pecatonica, Illinois 61063 815-239-2390

Pastor Nord Swanstrom 815-520-5026 nordswanstrom@aol.com

***PUTTING CHRIST FIRST!***

**e-mail:** Churchoffice@firstluthpec.com **website:** www.firstluthpec.org

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/FirstLutheranofPecatonica>

**YouTube:** First Lutheran of Pecatonica

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Sunday, November 5th, 2023

All Saints Sunday

## Welcome to Worship at First Lutheran Church



**Evangelical  
Lutheran**  
Church in America

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) —  
Northern Illinois Synod

*If you are visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and to know that we are delighted to have you here. We are blessed with your presence. We would appreciate it if you would complete a visitor information card, located in the pew rack, and place it in the regular offering plate or the special offering plate by the doors.*

*We practice open Communion — you don't have to be a member to participate. **All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.** In Holy Communion, we come trusting that Jesus is our Lord and Savior, that he is truly present in this meal and that we who receive his Body and Blood also receive his forgiveness and grace. All baptized persons who share this trust and hope are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table. Children who do not yet receive Communion are invited to come forward and receive a special blessing.*

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All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

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Welcome & Announcements

## WE GATHER AS CHRIST'S PEOPLE

### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

**C: Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy One,

**C: We confess that we are not awake for you.**

**We are not faithful in using your gifts.**

**We forget the least of our siblings.**

**We do not see your beautiful image in one another.**

**We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.**

**Open our hearts to your coming,**

**open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,**

**open our hands to serve your creation.**

**Amen.**

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

**C: Amen.**

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Gathering Hymn

**“Shall We Gather At the River”**

Hymn #423

All Verses

### Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

**C: Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading

**Revelation 7:9-17**

*The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.*

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

<sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God,  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

<sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;

<sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

R: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Special Music

**"It Is Well With My Soul"**

Sue Schomber

Second Reading

**1 John 3:1-3**

*A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.*

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

R: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Reading

**Matthew 5:1-12**

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew — the fifth chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.*

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon Pastor Nord Swanstrom

Hymn of the Day

**“For All the Saints”**

hymn #422

Verses 1-3

### **Welcoming New Members to the Congregation**

#### **Presentation of New Members**

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for **Tom and Joan Stockburger**, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new *members* into the life and ministry of this congregation.

#### **Apostles' Creed**

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C: 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.**

P: In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

*Those being welcomed respond.*

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

*The minister addresses the assembly.*

P: People of God,

do you promise to support and pray for **Tom and Joan** in their life in Christ?

**C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

**Welcome**

*Those being welcomed face the assembly. A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.*

R: Let us welcome Tom and Joan to this community of faith.

**C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

## Prayers of Intercession 11/5

R: Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

R: Holy God, the church triumphant gathers around your throne to praise you. We join them in worship and remember your sustaining grace in every generation. Heal our divisions; show us unity in your presence. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

R: Holy creator, we marvel at your creation revealed in the cycle of seasons, changing landscapes, and the rise and fall of ocean tides. Turn us from selfish consumption and open us to gentle healing of the earth so all creation thrives. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

R: Holy advocate, we lift grateful hearts for the ability to vote and elect leaders. Grant wisdom to those who will be elected and safety to poll workers. May civic leaders serve the whole community, especially all who are underrepresented or oppressed. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

R: Holy healer, bless the brokenhearted and all who mourn. Send your compassion to all who grieve, grant wholeness to those who are sick, and accompany the dying. Be near to all who need you especially:

† Kathy Dougherty (member)

† Kim Greene (member)

† Michael Love (member)

† Jeremy Raymond (Linda Anderson's friend's son)

† Estelle Smith and Family (Granddaughter of Michael & Lynn Love)

† Roger & Sue Schomber (members)

† Earl Hansen (friend of Kent and Lori Peterson)

† Richard Nortch (community member)

† Linda Book (members)

† Joe Enzenbacher (member)

† Mary Vanvleck (friend of Jim & Janis DeWall)

† Carolyn Ebbesmeyer (Mother of Bob Ebbesmeyer)

† Sarah Banks (Daughter of Kathy Dougherty)

† Cheyenne Green (friend of Carrie Daly)

† Jennifer Dougherty (Daughter of Kathy Dougherty)

† Matt Brown (friend of Kathy Dougherty)

† Pastor Zach Baer (Pastor of Living Waters Lutheran Church)

† Bridgette Reddy (community member)

† Allison Nelson Goble (community member)

† Leona Greene (member)

Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

R: We give you thanks for our new members, Tom and Joan whom you have drawn to yourself by the love of Jesus Christ and whom we have welcomed into this household of faith. Keep us close together in your Spirit, in the breaking of bread and the prayers, and in service to others. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

R: Holy comforter, we pray for this congregation, that the promise of your new life may be shared and experienced. We pray for the funeral ministry of this congregation, that families and friends seeking your love find it here. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

R: Holy One, for the saints who now rest in your mercy, we give you thanks. We remember their witness of faithfulness and love.

We Remember:

Mary J. Allen

Peggy Cramp

Tom Groeling

Bonnie Sue Larson

Cary Lilja

June M. Morgensen

Kenneth Schafer

Praise to you for the eternal life they have been given through Jesus Christ. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

R: We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

### Offertory

#### Offering prayer

**C: God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.**

### The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: 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; who, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light. 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

#### Thanksgiving at the Table

P: Holy God, Breath of life and Fire of love: with a mighty wind you brought creation into being, and by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom. We praise you for the gift of your Son, who poured out your Spirit on his disciples of every race and nation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit, we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth. Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal: anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love, that, with thankful hearts, we may be witnesses to your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

**C: 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

P: There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**“Be Known to Us Lord Jesus”**

### Communion Hymn

**“Jerusalem My Happy Home”**

hymn #628

### The Holy Communion

*Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. The bread is received in the open palm. Upon receiving the wafer, proceed to the person serving the wine. A blessing is offered to non-communing children. If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.*

### Communion Blessing:

P: May the God of all creation in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

**C: Amen.**

Communion Prayer

P: Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn

**“Oh When the Saints Go Marching In”**

hymn #950

Verses 1, 2 & 3

Benediction

P: 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. + In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

Dismissal

P: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Today We Remember:

Mary J. Allen — March 12th, 2023

Peggy Cramp — September 12th, 2022

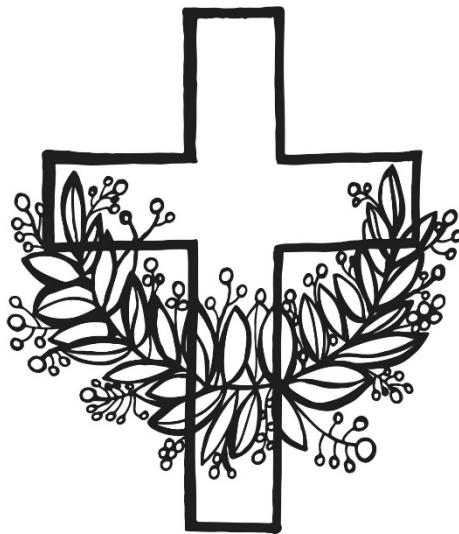
Tom Groeling

Bonnie Sue Larson — April 14th, 2023

Cary Lilja

June M. Morgensen — April 6th, 2023

Kenneth Schafer— July 20th, 2023



### **In Our Prayers**

- † Kathy Dougherty (member)
- † Kim Greene (member)
- † Michael Love (member)
- † Jeremy Raymond (Linda Anderson's friend's son)
- † Estelle Smith and Family (Granddaughter of Michael & Lynn Love)
- † Roger & Sue Schomber (members)
- † Earl Hansen (friend of Kent and Lori Peterson)
- † Richard Nortch (community member)
- † Linda Book (members)
- † Joe Enzenbacher (member)
- † Mary Vanvleck (friend of Jim & Janis DeWall)
- † Carolyn Ebbesmeyer (Mother of Bob Ebbesmeyer)
- † Sarah Banks (Daughter of Kathy Dougherty)
- † Cheyenne Green (friend of Carrie Daly)
- † Jennifer Dougherty (Daughter of Kathy Dougherty)
- † Matt Brown (friend of Kathy Dougherty)
- † Pastor Zach Baer (Pastor of Living Waters Lutheran Church)
- † Bridgette Reddy (community member)
- † Allison Nelson Goble (community member)
- † Leona Greene (member)

### **Celebrating Birthdays:**

Dave Daly, Grant Ebbesmeyer (3)

### **Altar Flowers given by:**

The Ebbesmeyers

### **Serving away from home:**

Jake Jenkins

**Announcements:**

**Pecatonica Food Pantry**— For the month of November we are collecting any canned soup for the Pecatonica food pantry. Please leave all donations in the basket by the church doors.

**Stewardship Drive**—We are still collecting Time & Talent sheets/Pledge sheets, so please put them in the basket at the back of the sanctuary if you have not already done so. We have begun counting and tabulating your responses and compiling a report for the Church Council. Thank you for participating in the Stewardship Drive and for committing to pray for this church and our leaders. Pray for wisdom as they make decisions that are God honoring and reflect good stewardship of the resources God has given First Lutheran. Thank you again for making the 2023 Stewardship Drive a success.

***Weekly offering needed: \$2,400***

**Attendance 10/29**

**Offering received on 10/29**

**26**

*General*            \$ 738.00

***Virtual Views - 2***

*Synod*             \$ 00.00

*Improvement*    \$ 400.00

*Simply Giving*    \$ 2304.00/mo

**2023 Mission Commitment \$6,600**

*YTD amount forwarded ~ \$5,500*

**Important Dates:**

***Have a meeting coming up? Please contact the church office with details so we can get it on the church calendar. Thank you!***

Sunday, November 5th, 2023

Church Council Meeting, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 12th, 2023

Poinsettia Orders are Due

Thursday, November 16th, 2023

Men's Group; 12:00 p.m.

Andy Stanley video series :”The Bible for Grown-ups

Thursday, November 16th, 2023

Hope Charity, 12:30 p.m.

***New Members:*** *Visiting or know of anyone who would be interested in becoming a member of First Lutheran? If so, please notify the office. We would love to welcome you as a member of the family of First Lutheran!*

## Worship Volunteers

November 5th

Martha Ebbesmeyer

Reader

AV Tech

Sandra Smith

Accompanist

Mern Clark

Ushers

November 12th

Andrea McGrew

Sandra Smith

Mern Clark