



First Evangelical Lutheran Church

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PUTTING CHRIST FIRST!

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

YouTube: First Lutheran of Pecatonica

Sunday, November 10th, 2024
25th Sunday after Pentecost

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 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.*

Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

Welcome & Announcements

WE GATHER AS CHRIST'S PEOPLE

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end.

C: Amen.

P: Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,

C: we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus.

Amen.

P: These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are ☩ forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

Hymn #679

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.



Holy Baptism & Reception into Membership

(Parents and sponsors come forward to the baptismal font)

Presentation:

P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

P: Who is presented for Holy Baptism?

Parents and sponsors: We present Jade Josephine Johnston to receive the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

P: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have **Jade** baptized into Christ?

Parents and sponsors: We do.

P: Sponsors, do you promise to nurture **Jade** in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: We do.

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for **Jade**, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as a new member into the life and ministry of this congregation. 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. Do you intend to nurture **Jade** in the covenant of her baptism among God's people in this place?

Parents and Sponsors: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for **Jade** in her life in Christ?

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

Profession of Faith

(The whole assembly stands and responds to these questions)

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C: We renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: We renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: We renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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

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

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

P: Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Baptism

P: **Jade Josephine Johnston**, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy.

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

P: Sustain **Jade** with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: **Jade Josephine Johnston**, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C: Amen.

Welcome

P: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life."

(The pastor presents the baptismal candle to the sponsors)

P: Sponsors, it is a great honor and privilege to be a baptismal sponsor for **Jade**. Take out this candle each year on the anniversary of this baptism and remind **Jade** that she is a child of God and will always be loved and cared for in God's family of faith.

P: Let us pray. Loving God, we give you thanks for **Jade** whom you have drawn to yourself by the love of Jesus Christ and whom we welcome into this household of faith. Keep us close together in your Spirit, in the breaking of bread and prayer, and in service to others.

P: Let us welcome **Jade**.

C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

P: Let us welcome **Jade** into our faith community.

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

(Parents and sponsors return to their seats)

BAPTIZED TODAY: Jade Josephine Johnston

PARENTS: Edward & Beth Johnston

SPONSORS: Maya Dillon & Joshua Hopkins

Prayer of the Day

**C: O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

First Reading

1 Kings 17:8-16

This chapter begins the story of Elijah. God sends a drought on Israel because of the sins of King Ahab. This passage depicts God's saving acts not only on behalf of Elijah, but also on behalf of those who are associated with the prophet, even a foreigner, the widow of Zarephath.

⁸ The word of the Lord came to [Elijah,] saying, ⁹ "Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." ¹⁰ So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." ¹¹ As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." ¹² But she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." ¹³ Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴ For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth." ¹⁵ She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶ The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 146

R: ¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

C: ² I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

R: ³ Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

C: ⁴ When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.

R: ⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

C: ⁶ who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

R: ⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

C: ⁸ The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

R: ⁹ The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

C: ¹⁰ The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Second Reading

Hebrews 9:24-28

The letter to the Hebrews describes Christ as a high priest who offers himself as a sacrifice for our sin. Christ does not die again and again each year. He died once, is alive with God, and will reveal himself on the last day.

²⁴ Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵ Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; ²⁶ for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, ²⁸ so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Reading

Mark 12:38-44

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Mark—the twelfth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

After engaging in a series of public arguments with religious leaders in the temple, Jesus contrasts the proud and oppressive ways of those leaders with the sacrificial humility and poverty of the widow.

³⁸ As [Jesus] taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹ and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! ⁴⁰ They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

⁴¹ He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³ Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴ For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Nord Swanstrom

Hymn of the Day

“Day by Day”

Hymn #790

All Verses



The Apostles' Creed

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

Prayers of Intercession 11/10/2024

R: Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

R: Renew your church, O God. Make us servants to one another for the sake of the gospel. Instill a heart for service and a passion for justice in our bishops, deacons, pastors, and lay leaders (*local church leaders may be named*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: Renew your creation, O God. Sustain the earth and seas and all that is in them. Kindle in us a reverent awe for all creatures great and small, and strengthen us in our pursuit of climate justice. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: Renew the nations, O God. Heal our nation's veterans from the unseen wounds of war. Tend to their trauma and soothe burdened consciences. Guide leaders of the world to end conflicts (*current places of war and conflict may be named*) and pursue peace. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: Renew your people, O God. Accompany persons who are unemployed or underemployed, children who are in foster care, and those who live alone. Watch over and uphold them. Protect those in our communities who are vulnerable or ill *especially*:

† Roger & Sue Schomber (members)

† Earl Hansen (friend of Kent and Lori Peterson)

† Joe Enzenbacher (member)

† Cheyenne Green (friend of Carrie Daly)

† Allison Nelson Goble (community member)

† Ryker Hoppe and Family (community members)

† Dory Wellington (friend of Dorene Lagerstam)

† Kathy Dougherty (member)

† Jennifer Dougherty (member)

† Nathan Leopold (friend of Kathy Dougherty)

† Roger Wacker (member)

† Lacey Jensen (daughter-in-law of Mark and Rose Jensen)

† Larry Lilja (member)

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: Renew this congregation, O God. Give us clarity in our mission and boldness in our witness. Bless our ministries that attend to basic needs of any who lack sufficient resources, that all may live with dignity. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: Happy are those whose help was in you. We give thanks for all your faithful ones who praised you as their God all their life long. As we eagerly wait for you, inspire us by their lives of service. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offertory

Offering Prayer

C: Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name. 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: Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation.

“Lamb of God”

Pg. 191

Communion Hymn

“Blessed Assurance”

Hymn #638

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.

Prayer after Communion

P: Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Jesus Shall Reign”

Hymn #434

Verses 1 & 5

Blessing

P: The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen, the Indwelling One, poured out, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

In Our Prayers

- † Roger & Sue Schomber (members)
- † Earl Hansen (friend of Kent and Lori Peterson)
- † Joe Enzenbacher (member)
- † Cheyenne Green (friend of Carrie Daly)
- † Allison Nelson Goble (community member)
- † Ryker and Family/Hoppe and Family (community members)
- † Dory Wellington (friend of Dorene Lagerstam)
- † Kathy Dougherty (member)
- † Jennifer Dougherty (member)
- † Nathan Leopold (friend of Kathy Dougherty)
- † Roger Wacker (member)
- † Lacey Jensen (daughter-in-law of Mark and Rose Jensen)
- † Larry Lilja (member)

Serving away from home:

Jake Jenkins

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!*

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| Sunday, November 17th, 2024 | Church Council Meeting; 10:00 a.m. |
| Thursday, November 21st, 2024 | Men's Group; 12:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, November 24th, 2024 | Annual Congressional Meeting; 10:00 a.m. |
| Thursday, November 28th, 2024 | 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!*

Announcements:

Pecatonica Food Pantry— For the month of November we are collecting pancakes and syrup for the Pec Food Pantry. Please leave all donations in the basket by the church doors.

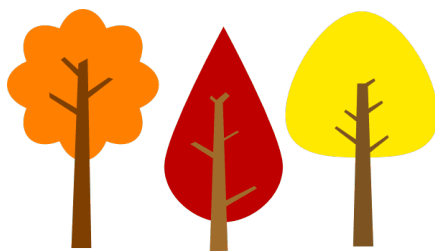
Facebook Page— Have any pictures you'd like to share? Please send all photos, etc. to Sue Schomber who is going to be helping with the Facebook page. You can email your photos to: schomeister@msn.com.

AV Tech help— The office is looking for help with AV tech. If you are interested there is a sign up sheet in the office.

Stewardship Drive "Where Your Treasure Is"—The Stewardship committee reminds everyone to please return the Time & Talent survey and Commitment sheet by next Sunday, Nov. 17th. There are extra copies at the back of the church if you want to complete it today. These materials help us know what you think is important and how we at First Lutheran can be more effective doing God's Work, and best steward our resources. Your support of this stewardship effort will help us strengthen our trust in God's Grace and fulfill the 2024 Stewardship vision, which is centered on the theme verse, Matt 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Thank you.

Ordering Poinsettias— This year poinsettias are \$13.00 each and the deadline to order is Sunday, November 24th.

FIRST LUTHERAN GOES TO THE MOVIES— Please join us on Sunday, November 24, 2024, at the Machesney Park AMC theater for the 3:45 showing of the movie "*Bonhoeffer: Pastor - Spy - Assassin*" about the Lutheran Pastor, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who among others, plotted to assassinate Hitler, but failed. He was sent to a concentration camp and was murdered there. We will have a sign-up sheet for this event and if you want to carpool, please be at the church at 2:45 p.m. We may grab a bite to eat after the show and have a discussion about the movie. Hope you can join us!



Weekly offering needed: \$2,400

Attendance 11/3

Offering received on 10/27

41

General \$ 1,675.00

Virtual Views - 5

Synod \$ 1,000.00

Improvement \$ 60.00

Simply Giving \$ 1,994/mo.

2023 Mission Commitment \$2,200

YTD amount forwarded ~ \$6,600

Worship Volunteers

November 10th

November 17th

Kent Peterson

Reader

Martha Ebbesmeyer

Bob Morgensen

AV Tech

Eddie Johnston

Carrie Daly

Accompanist

Sandra Smith

Joe Enzenbacher and

Ushers

Joe Enzenbacher and

Mern Clark

David Zumdahl

Sue Schomber

Greeters

Kent Peterson

Sue Schomber

Coffee hour host/hostess

ENZ-Enzenbacher

