

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Ordinary Time

Third & Terry, Longmont, Colorado

(303) 776-2800 | www.firstluth.org

Pastor Stephanie Kopsch and Deacon Korra Looschen

19th Sunday After Pentecost

Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi

October 4, 2026 — 9:30 a.m.

Welcome to worship, we are glad you are with us!

GATHERING



PRELUDE

INTRODUCTION

On the cusp of the 13th century a young man, born into the nobility of the city of Assisi, hears the voice of God saying, Francis, rebuild my church. He not only rebuilt the chapel outside Assisi with his own hands but became the founder of one of the great religious orders, the Franciscans. Renouncing his inheritance and living in poverty beyond Assisi's city walls, nature and animals became his companions and until today, Francis is credited with celebrating Christmas with the first nativity scene of live animals. Today's texts reflect Francis' passion for ministry and all life.

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

"All Creatures, Worship God Most High"

ELW 835 vs. 1,2,3

All Creatures, Worship God Most High ELW 835



- 1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
- 2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
- 3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
- 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
 grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
 throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
 grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
 clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
 care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
 fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

- 5 And you, most gentle sister death,
 waiting to hush our final breath:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
 fair is the night that leads us home.
 Alleluia.

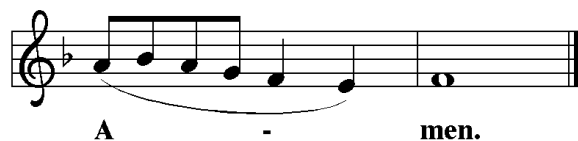
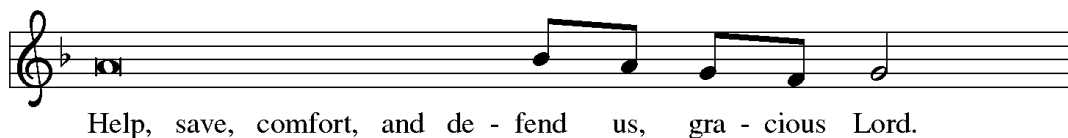
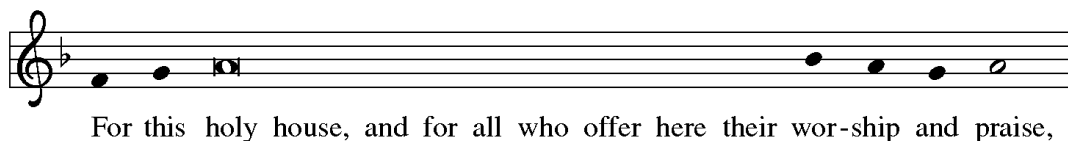
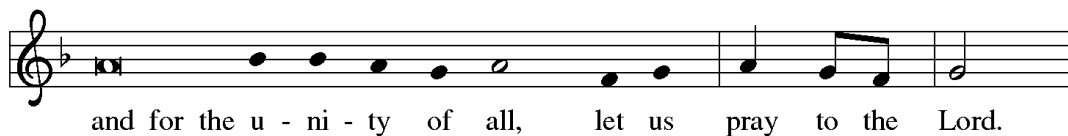
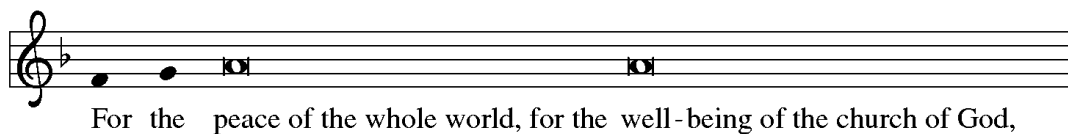
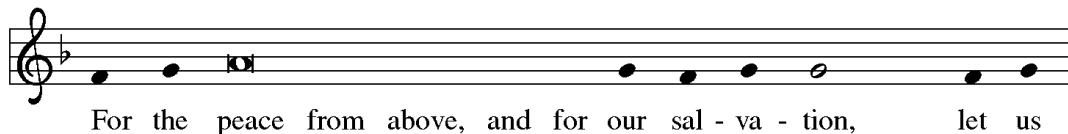
- 6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
 and worship God with humble heart:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
 Alleluia.

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.

Kyrie



This Is the Feast

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

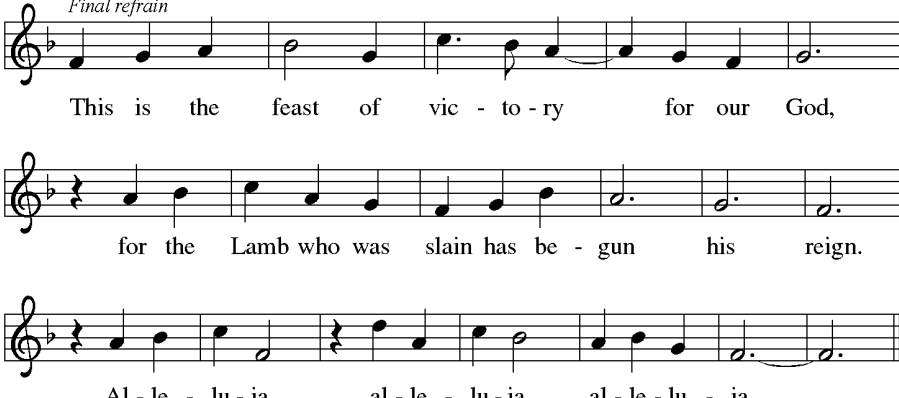
Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

**O divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**

Amen.

READINGS

Genesis 8:13-19

¹³ In the six hundred first year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth, and Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked and saw that the face of the ground was drying. ¹⁴ In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. ¹⁵ Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶ “Go out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. ¹⁷ Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—so that they may abound on the earth and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.” ¹⁸ So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives. ¹⁹ And every animal, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out of the ark by families.

Word of God, word of life

Thanks be to God

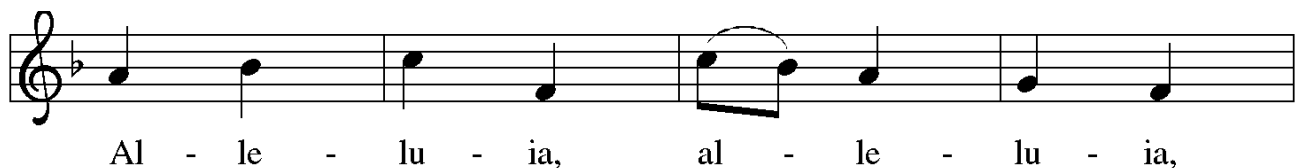
Galatians 6:14-18

¹⁴ May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶ As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. ¹⁷ From now on, let no one make trouble for me, for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. ¹⁸ May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Word of God, word of life

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Repeat alleluia



GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 11th chapter beginning at the 25th verse.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 11:25-30

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Stephanie Kopsch

HYMN OF THE DAY

"All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir"

Choir sings verses and Congregation sings the Chorus (below)

*"All God's critters got a place in the choir; some sing lowers and some sing higher,
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire. Some just clap their hands or paws or anything
they got now." 🐾*

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also, with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

OFFERTORY

"God, Our Strength" by Eugene Butler

Chancel Choir

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of Creation,

you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up 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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Page 130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.**

LAMB OF GOD

Page 135

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION

This is the table of God. All who hunger for God's presence in their lives are invited to receive bread and wine. Please come forward at the direction of the usher. Our bread is gluten free, prepared and baked in a kitchen excluding wheat flour. The wine is in the outer, darker circle of glasses in the communion trays while the lighter glasses in the center contain grape juice. Should you prefer not to receive communion, please come forward for a blessing by crossing your arms in front of your chest. Come and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"One Bread, One Body"	ELW 496
"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"	ELW 773
"We Come to the Hungry Feast"	ELW 479

One Bread, One Body

ELW 496

Refrain

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of
 bless - ing which we bless, and we, though man-y through-out the
 earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.
 1.Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
 2.Man - y or the gifts, man - y or the works,
 3.Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,
 wom - an or man, no more.
 one in the Lord of all.
 gath-ered to one for all.

Refrain

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: John Foley, SJ

Text and music © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ, and OCP Publications

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY
 4 4 6 and refrain

Precious Lord, Take My Hand **ELW 773**

Thomas Andrew Dorsey, 1932

George Nelson Allen, 1844

$\text{♩} = 107$

1. Pre-cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let stand, I am tired, I am weak,
 2. When my way grows drear, Pre-cious Lord, lin-ger, When my life is ni-
 3. When the dark-ness ap-pears And the night dra- near, And the day is past-

7

am worn; Through storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light:
 ost gone, hear cry, hear my call, Hold my hand lest I fall: Take my
 and gone, the ri-ver I stand, Guide my feet, hold my hand:

13 Refrain

hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

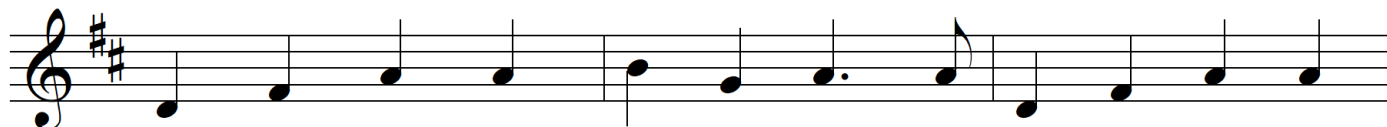
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 Courtesy of the Cyber Hymnal™

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW 479



1. We come to the hun-gry feast hun-gry for a word of peace. To
2. We come to the hun-gry feast hun-gry for a world re - leased from
3. We come to the hun-gry feast hun-gry that the hun - ger cease, and



hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we__ come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we__ come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we__ come, we__ come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

HUNGRY FEAST

7 7 8 8 9

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray,
Sustaining God,

with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen

SENDING

SENDING OF COMMUNION

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these Holy Gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

We who are many are one body, because we all share in one bread, one cup.

Amen

AMEN

BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"All Creatures, Worship God Most High"

ELW 835 vs. 4,5,6

SENDING

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



All Creatures, Worship God Most High ELW 835



- 1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
- 2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
- 3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
- 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

- 5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Alleluia.

- 6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia.

Welcome to Worship!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP, and families can sit anywhere in the sanctuary, including the chapel near the front.

A NURSERY is available downstairs across from the Choir Room for children under 5. Follow the signs.

LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS & HYMNS are available from the ushers.

ADDITIONAL PARKING is available in the Ahlberg Chapel parking lot, one-half block north of the church on Terry Street.

RESTROOMS are located on the upper level of the church, along the hallway leading to the Big Room. There are handicap accessible restrooms on the lower level near the elevator, and in the Big Room.

WORSHIP SERVICES AND LIVE STREAMED AND RECORDED so that others may enjoy worship remotely. Please note that today's worship service is audio and video recorded for online sharing and archival purposes.

We love seeing you in worship!

Preacher/ Presider	Pastor Stephanie Kopsch
Worship Assistant	Deacon Korra Looschen
Council Hosts:	Amy Ley Rick Samson
Ushers:	John Osberg
Reader:	Shannon Satur
Communion Assistants:	Vicky Shiveley Dwight Tilford
Organist/Pianist:	Gary Elmquist
Livestream Operator	Shane Chatfield



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