

**June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**Traditional Worship**  
**10:00 AM**

**HAPPY**  
**FATHER'S**  
**DAY**  
**DAD**

The graphic features the words 'HAPPY FATHER'S DAY' in a bold, rounded font. 'HAPPY' is dark blue, 'FATHER'S' is olive green, and 'DAY' is dark blue. Below this, the word 'DAD' is written in large, stylized letters. The 'D's are dark blue with yellow polka dots, and the 'A' is dark green with yellow polka dots and a white heart cutout in the center.

**First Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**19419 Royalton Road**  
**Strongsville, Ohio**

## Mission Statement

*Living God's love through our devotion to  
service, worship, and one another.*

**Good Morning!**

**If you are a visitor today,**

*Welcome!*

**Sunday Schedule for Next Week, 06/23/2024**

Blended Summer Worship – 10 AM

To contact the Church, call the office at 440-238-7890  
or email [firstchurchalive@hotmail.com](mailto:firstchurchalive@hotmail.com)

Secretary Office Hours are Monday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 to 12:00 PM

Pastor Kathy - 440-666-8758 or [revklk@gmail.com](mailto:revklk@gmail.com)

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Don't forget that if you ever have any questions or concerns,  
you may contact your Council representatives:

Darren Whitford: 330-524-3670 [dgwhitford1114@gmail.com](mailto:dgwhitford1114@gmail.com)

June Zakrajsek: 440-336-1678 [jfzakrajsek@gmail.com](mailto:jfzakrajsek@gmail.com)

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Gary Walters: 216-645-8472 [gwaltersoh@yahoo.com](mailto:gwaltersoh@yahoo.com)

Dawn Zima: 440-821-6545 [dzima@cox.net](mailto:dzima@cox.net)

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
**Setting 4**

**WELCOME** to you all this morning. May God bless us as we gather and raise our hearts and voices in thanks and praise to our God. We celebrate the Eucharist this morning. All baptized believers in Jesus Christ are welcome to come to the Lord's table. Those who have not yet been instructed are welcome to come for a blessing.

*The center ring of cups in the trays contains non-alcoholic wine for those who desire it and the pedestal in the center contains gluten-free wafers*

Communion at 11:15 is continuous at two stations.

\* Please *turn off all electronic devices* during our time of worship.

**PRELUDE**

*"Prelude and Fugue"*

**David Gooding**

Johann Sebastian Bach

**PRAYER of PREPARATION**

Gracious God keep us focused on you, believing and holding fast to your word.  
Amen

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Stand*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy

**C Amen**

P Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** God, our provider,

**C** help us.

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways  
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding  
rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life  
and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

**P** Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, ✝ the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**C** Amen.

**GATHERING SONG**

**ELW #533**

*"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"*

**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.

# This Is the Feast

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister



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

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. 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 and hon-or and 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.

## **PRAYER of the DAY**

**P** O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen**

*Sit*

### **FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 17:22-24**

*Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the Lord will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.*

Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will take a sprig

from the lofty top of a cedar;

I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one

from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it

on a high and lofty mountain.

On the mountain height of Israel

I will plant it,

in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,

and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;

in the shade of its branches will nest

winged creatures of every kind.

All the trees of the field shall know

that I am the Lord.

I bring low the high tree,

I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree

and make the dry tree flourish.

I the Lord have spoken;  
I will accomplish it.

*After the reading:*    R The Word of the Lord.    C **Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17**

*Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.*

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ] For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

*After the reading:*    R The Word of the Lord.    C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

## Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

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### GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 4<sup>th</sup> Chapter

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

### GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-34

[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.



*After the reading:*

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sit*

## **CHILDREN'S SHARING TIME**

## **SERMON**

*"Confident in Faith"*

*Stand*

## **HYMN of the DAY**

**ELW #679**

*"For the Fruit of All Creation "*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**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**

**P** We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

**P** Merciful God,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

**P** Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

**C** **Amen**

*Sit*

### **PRESENTATION of the GIFTS**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

### **MUSIC**

*“Almighty”*

*Stand*

### **Bell Choir**

arr. Patricia Sanders Cota

# Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

## *Offering Song*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927  
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**P** Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

**C** Amen

# GREAT THANKSGIVING

## Preface Dialogue

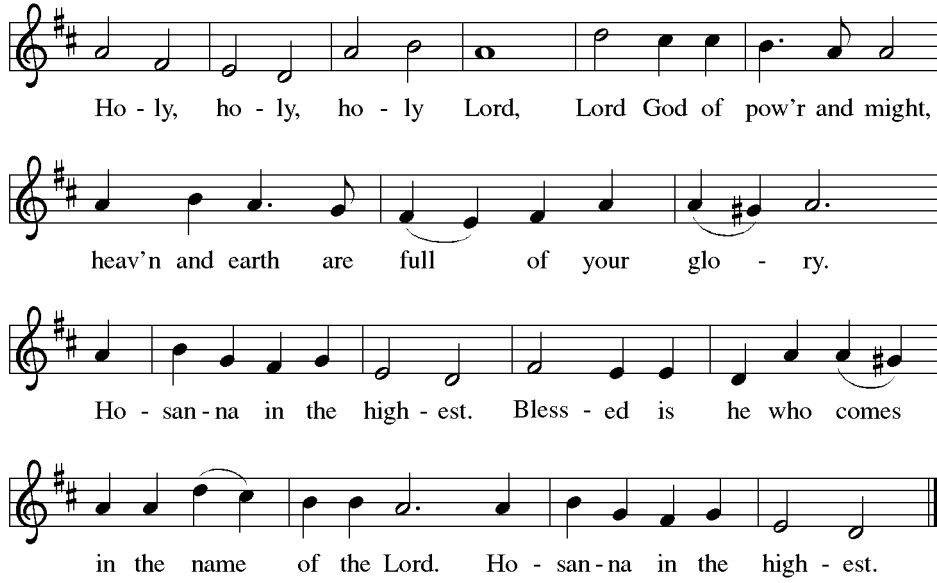
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

# Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n 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.

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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.

## 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

*Sit*

## COMMUNION

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may respond: **Amen***

# Lamb of God



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, grant us peace.

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## *Stand*

**P** Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

**C Amen**

## **BLESSING**

**P** The blessing of God,  
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
✠ be upon you now and forever.

**C Amen**

**SENDING SONG      ELW #547**

*“Sent Forth by God's Blessing”*

## **DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*“Fugue on the Magnificat”*

**David Gooding**

Johann Pachelbel

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## **PRAYERS**

### **Hospitalized/Home and Recuperating**

Sheryl Clark, Adrian Woods, Dennis Bailey, Darlene Cassidy, Audie Kiplinger, Carrie Deal, Karil Piskur, Linda Walker, John Duhn, Eleanor Preston, Jamie Mewhinney, Norma Cubano, Kevin Duffy, Curt Kowalewski, Bob Schulz, Mike and Jaci Rini

### **Military Members**

Austin Holley

### **On-going Prayers**

Natalie David, Peter Mazzeo, Linda Stanley, Abbey Uline, Nighman Family, Heidi Balicki, Dianne Mosley, Tia (Simpson) Russell, Ron and Mary Jane Warzel, The Fox Family, Ron and Joanne Cvelbar, Cheryl Mooney, Jerry Neumann, Deb Wise, Elaine, Jim Cochran, Thomas Lloyd, Rob Shoens, Sue Naypauer, Connie, Michael Otto, Jessica Walsh, Sue Widdows, Wanda Woods, Stephania, Susan Bodovetz, Pearl Marie Goddard, George Richards, Ken Cooke

### **Homebound**

Mary Jane Knaack, Thelma Taylor, June Beck, Marj Wilder



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

There will be a single worship service every Sunday at 10 AM. The first week of the month will be Contemporary, the third week of the month will be traditional and all other weeks will be blended. It is wonderful to worship together!

## 2024 ALTAR FLOWERS AND BULLETIN DONATIONS

Sign-up sheets are on The Welcome Center, there are still vase spots for the rest of 2024

## PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

New Covenant Lutheran Church in East Cleveland has resumed its fresh produce distribution. The next date for produce distribution is Saturday, June 22. Anyone interested in participating can contact Bruce Holderead at [vancepack@breezelieohio.net](mailto:vancepack@breezelieohio.net) or call or text him at 440-655-1523.

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, FAITH BUILD – 8 VOLUNTEERS PER SHIFT NEEDED

There are two days for our Habitat Faith Build, each day is a 9 AM – 3 PM Shift

Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>

Scan the QR code or enter the link

<https://bit.ly/flc2024faithbuild> to register



SCAN ME

## STRONGSVILLE 2024 SHRED DAY

Community Shred Day – Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup> – 9 AM – Noon, Strongsville Middle School. Please be patient, expect longer wait times

## STRONGSVILLE FOOD BANK

The Strongsville Food Bank is in need of Spaghetti Noodles and/or canned tuna.

## **FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH APP**

We officially have a church app for Android and Apple devices. Be sure to download the app and allow notifications to get updates on all the happenings here at First Church.

Scan the QR code for your device or use the bitly link to download

Apple Store

Android App



<https://apple.co/44JPiUc>

<https://bit.ly/flcgoogleapp>

## **SUMMER POTLUCK PICNIC – SAVE THE DATE -08/11/2024**

Nurture and Support is planning a GOOD OLD FASHIONED LUTHERAN POTLUCK PICNIC on Sunday, August 11, immediately following our worship service. More details will follow, but SAVE THE DATE!!!

## **HELP WANTED - SUMMER PICNIC**

We are currently seeking help for the Church Picnic on Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>. No experience necessary, willing to train for positions in Set up, Servers, Clean-Up and Activity Assistants. If you would be interested please contact Maureen Shorts via text or call at 440-725-0225 OR at shortsstuff3@gmail.com

## **MILITARY PRAYER REQUESTS**

If you know someone in the military serving our country, we want to include them in prayer. Please scan the QR code or go to [bit.ly/FLCMilitaryPrayers](https://bit.ly/FLCMilitaryPrayers) to add them to the list



## **MEALS ON WHEELS – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Strongsville's Meals On Wheels driver coordinator, Chris Foell, is looking for volunteers to deliver meals to those in need.

The pick up is at 10:50am at The Altenheim and usually takes about an hour to deliver the meals. The hot box and bucket are then returned to Altenheim. There are openings for drivers on each day, T-F, however, even volunteering one day, one hour, each week would be of great help. Chris could also use substitute drivers.

If you are interested in being a Meals On Wheels driver or just wanting more information, please call Chris Foell: 440-823-8590, or email her: foellfamily5@gmail.com

There will also be information on the table in the Welcome area.

Helping the Strongsville community on behalf of First Lutheran Church is putting our mission statement to work!



**The Altar Flowers are given to the  
Glory of God by  
Reiner and Monika Mueller in  
celebration of their  
37<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary  
and the Snyder Family in loving  
memory of Mary Snyder and  
Susan Carlson**

**Last Week's Attendance  
10 AM - 85  
Online - 44**

**Thank you to the following volunteers:**

**Reader**

Lori Forse

**Ushers**

Alan Evangelista, Reiner Mueller

**Counters**

Rolf Gaab, Jackie Wojciehowski

**Altar Guild**

Tricia Nolder, Beth David, Sheri Gist

**Communion Assistants**

Lori & Eddie Forse and Ellen Kolman

**Communion Bread Baker**

Ellen Kolman

## **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

**Monday, 06/17**

AA at 7:30

**Tuesday, 06/18**

AI Anon at 7 PM

Toastmasters at 7 PM

Council Meeting 6:30 PM

**Thursday 06/20**

Celebration Meeting 6:30 PM