

**August 11, 2024**

**Worship**

**10 AM**



**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, 08/18/2024**

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, Wednesday, 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)

Stacey McNamara: 440-567-9532 [staceymac104@gmail.com](mailto:staceymac104@gmail.com)

Janet Kaiser: 216-215-4572 [janetmackaiser@gmail.com](mailto:janetmackaiser@gmail.com)

Ken Holda: 440-665-2836 [kenjholda@gmail.com](mailto:kenjholda@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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

**MUSIC**

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Stand*

**CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** Everyone come!

You who are thirsty, come. You who are struggling to make ends meet, come.  
You who squander all you have, come. You who are longing to share with  
others, come.

Come, and listen!

God draws near and gives renewing water. God enters in and offers strength  
to the weary. God teaches us again how to share as community.  
God helps us to be a new people grounded in promise.

Everyone come!

Come and know the renewing love of God.  
Trust that His love is everlasting, and His faithfulness endures forever.  
Trust in His mercy and acknowledge the sin and brokenness that surrounds  
us.

**C Reconciling God,**  
**We confess that we do not trust your abundance.**

**We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.  
We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.  
We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.  
We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us.  
We sin in thought, word, and deed  
By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit,  
lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life  
Amen.**

**P** Children of God,  
by the radical abundance of grace and mercy  
we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus.

Our sins are forgiven.  
Let us live in hope.  
Trusting that God's love has been poured into our hearts  
through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**GATHERING SONG**      **ELW #551**      *"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"*

### **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**

**P** Heavenly Father, we come before You burdened by bitterness and  
resentment.

We recognize that these emotions have kept us captive for too long. And so,  
we ask for Your forgiveness and the strength to forgive those who have  
wronged us. Please help us to release the weight of anger and hurt, and fill  
our heart with Your love and peace, through Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen**

## **LESSON: EPHESIANS 4:25—5:2**

*Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.*

So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

**HYMN of the DAY**

**ELW #818**

*“O Master, Let Me Walk with You”*

*Sit*

## **CHILDREN’S SHARING TIME**

**SERMON**

*“Forgiveness”*

*Stand*

**SONG:**

*“Forgiveness”*

## **BLESSING OF BACKPACKS**

*Sit*

## PRESENTATION of the GIFTS

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

### MUSIC

*"Love Lifted Me"*

### WOMEN'S CHOIR

arr. Sharon Wilson

*Stand*

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

*Offering Song*



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



bless-ing. 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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## **PRAYERS of INTERCESSION**

P Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

P Merciful God

**C receive our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

P We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.

**C Amen**

## **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**

## **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

*“Jesus Saves”*

## DISMISSAL

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

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

## POSTLUDE

*“Canto”*

**David Gooding**

**Alan Woods**

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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, John Thomas

### **Military Members**

Austin Holley

### **Stephen Ministry Leaders**

Maureen Harris, Sam Reichert, Becky Piper, Beth David

### **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, George Richards, Mike Rini, Carol Rosenblum, Dennis Beckman, Bonnie Bailey, Hedda Gonzalez, Bruce Piper

### **Homebound**

Mary Jane Knaack, Thelma Taylor, June Beck, Marj Wilder, Audie Kiplinger, Sheryl Clark, Ron and Mary Jane Warzel



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OFFICE STAFFING NOTE

Pastor Kathy will be on vacation FROM Thursday 08/15 through Thursday, 08/29. In her absence Pastoral coverage will be provided for all emergencies. Please contact Vanessa at 216-548-5345 or Dawn Zima 440-821-6545, should you or your family be in need.

## STEPHEN MINISTRY PRAYERS

Please continue to pray for our Stephen Ministry Leaders - Sam Reichert, Becky Piper, Beth David, and Maureen Harris. Sam, Becky and Maureen have completed their training and Beth begins her training next week. Also, prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister who provides Christian care for those experiencing life's difficulties.

## STEPHEN MINISTRY INFORMATIONAL MEETING

We will be having an informational meeting on Sunday, August 25th immediately following worship in the classroom next to the First Church library room. Please come see how you can serve in this amazing and fulfilling new ministry at First Church. Scan the QR Code or use <https://bit.ly/FELCSM> to RSVP. Contact Maureen Harris at (440)376-1506 for more information.



## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH – TALENT COORDINATOR, PAID ROLE

We are looking for a Talents Coordinator to work with our congregation to identify their talents, gifts, skills and interests for various volunteer positions and activities for the Church and greater community. A detailed description of the role is available on the Welcome Center. Resumes and/or questions should be sent to [Dzima@cox.net](mailto:Dzima@cox.net)

## **2024/2025 - SUNDAY SCHOOL – TEACHERS NEEDED**

Sunday School will be starting Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. We are still looking for a few more teachers. If you would like more information or are interested, please contact Beth Hartman via text or call at 216-262-7799.

## **2024 ALTAR FLOWERS AND BULLETIN DONATIONS**

Sign-up sheets are on The Welcome Center, there are still vase spots for September, October and December.

## **BOOK CLUB**

Our next Book Club meeting will take place on Saturday, August 24 at 10:00. We'll meet at 88 Fox Hollow Lane in Brunswick to discuss *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards. Happy reading!

## **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, FAITH BUILD – 8 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Habitat Faith Build,  
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Shift  
Thursday, September 12

Scan the QR code or enter the link <https://bit.ly/flc2024faithbuild> to register



SCAN ME

## **STRONGSVILLE FOOD BANK**

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

## **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



## **CALLING ALL WOMEN!**

Interested in singing with a group? We will have a Women's Choir singing a simple and beautiful song this Sunday, and we want you to join! Reach out to Zack Richards for the music and more information.

## **CALLING ANY AND ALL MUSICIANS!**

Join us in praising God with music this Program Year! ANYone can praise God through music! ANY age. ANY experience level. ANY instrument. ANY voice. First Church is the perfect place to share your talents. We have a Brass Choir, Bell Choir, Chancel Choir, and Contemporary Praise Band. We also have solo and small group opportunities. ALL you need is a desire to praise God through music! We'll take care of the rest. Contact Zack Richards for more information. ALL are welcome in this place!



**The Altar Flowers are given to the  
Glory Of God by  
The Reicherts, in celebration of  
their Anniversary  
And  
Marj Gray in memory of  
John Gray**

**Last Week's Attendance  
TIME OF SERVICE - 153  
Online – 38**

**Thank you to the following volunteers:**

**Reader**

Vanessa Smith Whitford

**Ushers**

The McNamara Family

**Counters**

Daphne Leon, Gayle Kovach,  
Ingrid Naso

**Altar Guild**

Trish Nolder, Sheri Gist, Beth David

**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

**Monday, 08/12**

AA - 7:30

**Tuesday, 08/13**

Al Anon - 7:00 PM

Toastmasters - 7:00 PM

**Thursday, 08/15**

Celebration Meeting – 6:30 PM