

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TEMPLE CITY

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Website: <https://firstlutherantc.org>

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/flctc

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Your Unworthy Pastor

October 5, 2025



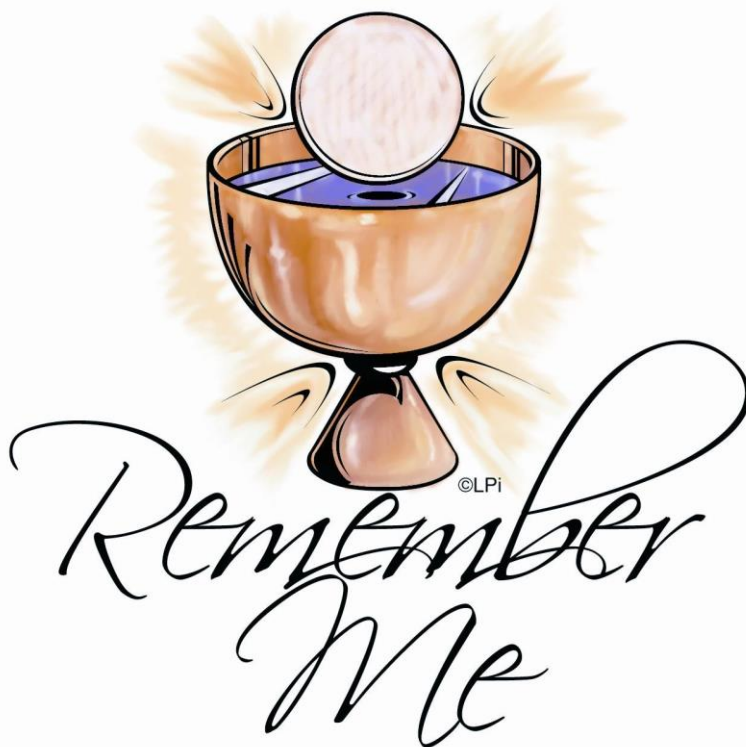
AS WE GATHER

This is a difficult day for your pastor. For you are, in a sense, listening in to our Lord speaking to him of His high expectations as His called and ordained servant. It all has to do with addressing his sins with the cutting accusation of God's Law, but with the goal of applying the comforting healing and hope of God's Gospel of forgiveness and strength. Yet, if you listen carefully, you will discover that it's not only about your pastor's frailty or sins, but it is also Christ addressing your sins and need through him. The pastor's calling is, at once, a most difficult one but also the most joyous and fulfilling calling and vocation. Your pastor has the responsibility and obligation not to mislead you into sin but to apply the remedy for it. Preaching and teaching the Word of Christ, and administering that Word of forgiveness of sin and new life through the Sacraments, is not primarily the pastor's work but is indeed the work of Christ Himself. The pastor pours baptismal water, and the believer dies and is raised with Christ. The pastor does no magical incantation, but Christ speaks through him. The bread and wine are Christ's body and blood for you that takes away your sin (and the pastor's!), imparting forgiveness and eternal life. Pray for your pastor, as he prays for you. Forgive your pastor, as he lives by the same forgiveness he declares to you.

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S HOUSE

We celebrate the Lord's Supper in our worship service today. In 1 Corinthians Chapter Ten, Paul writes about the Lord's Supper saying, "The bread that we break, isn't it a participation in the body of Christ? The cup that we bless, isn't it a participation in the blood of Christ?" That's why we believe, teach, and confess that Christ is truly present as we receive the bread and the wine. In this Supper we are participating in the true body and blood of Jesus in a real yet mysterious way and by faith we receive Him in the bread and wine. Therefore, we ask all who commune, including our own members, to examine themselves before reception:

- + I am a baptized believer in Jesus Christ.
- + I believe that, because of my sin, I am not adequate to make myself acceptable to God.
- + I believe that God forgives and accepts me by His grace through Jesus Christ who died for my sins.
- + I believe that in this Sacrament of the Lord's Supper the risen Christ comes to me in, with and under the bread and wine, assuring me of the forgiveness of my sins.
- + I want to receive this Sacrament today to renew my baptismal relationship with Jesus Christ, and to rededicate my life in Christian faith, hope and love.



✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN “Holy Spirit, Light Divine” Hymnal page 496, verses 1, 2, 4, and 5

1. Holy Spirit, light divine,
Shine upon this heart of mine;
Chase the shades of night away,
Turn the darkness into day.

2. Let me see my Savior's face,
Let me all His beauties trace;
Show those glorious truths to me
Which are only known to Thee.

4. Holy Spirit, joy divine,
Cheer this saddened heart of mine;
Yield a sacred, settled peace,
Let it grow and still increase.

5. Holy Spirit, all divine,
Dwell within this heart of mine;
Cast down ev'ry idol throne,
Reign supreme, and reign alone.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 43:4; Habakkuk 2:4, adapt.*

Pastor: I will go to the altar of God,

People: to God my exceeding joy.

Pastor: Behold the proud, his soul is not upright,

People: but the righteous shall live by his faith.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Luke 17:1, 5; 2 Timothy 1:8–9*

Pastor: When the Lord Jesus warned His disciples, “Temptations to sin are sure to come,” the apostles said, “Increase our faith!” Let us confess our own weakness and sin, asking the same of our gracious and merciful God.

People: **O God, Your Law is true and my delight. Yet because we still feebly struggle against sin, we confess our weakness and failure to live according to Your holy will. Our lack of faithfulness toward You causes us to hesitate or even refuse to love and forgive our neighbors. O God, increase our faith! Forgive us and renew our minds and spirit that we may serve You by faithfully serving our neighbor.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, “by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of His own purpose and grace, which He gave us in Christ Jesus,” I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT *Psalm 119:162, 164–165, 167; antiphon: v. 166*

Pastor: I hope for Your salvation, O LORD, and I do Your commandments.

**People: I rejoice at Your word
like one who finds great spoil.**

Pastor: Seven times a day I praise You
for Your just and righteous decrees.

**People: Great peace have those who love Your law;
nothing can make them stumble.**

Pastor: My soul keeps Your testimonies;
I love them exceedingly.

**People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was
in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: I hope for Your salvation, O LORD, and I do Your commandments.

KYRIE Hymnal page 168

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let
us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling”

Hymnal page 827

1. Hark, the voice of Jesus calling,
‘Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting—
Who will bear the sheaves away?’
Loud and long the Master calleth;
Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying,
“Here am I, send me, send me”?

2. Some take up His task in morning,
To their Lord responding soon;
Some are called in heat of midday
Others late in afternoon;
Even as the sun is setting,
Some are sent into the fields.
There to gather in the bounty
That God’s Word so richly yields.

3. For as rain and snow from heaven
Water seeds in dusty soil,
Causing them to bud and flower,
Giving bread to those who toil;
So the Lord sends forth His promise,
Words of life and joy and peace—
Never void to Him returning,
Bearing fruit with great increase.

4. Harken to the Lord who coming
Marks the time when grace shall end.
When with His angelic reapers
He in glory shall descend.
Soon the night, the final harvest;
Soon the time for work shall cease.
Then the souls His grace has garnered
Shall enjoy His Sabbath peace.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, by Your grace hear the prayers of Your church. Grant that those things which we ask in faith we may receive through Your bountiful mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**



OLD TESTAMENT READING

Habakkuk 1:1–4; 2:1–4

(Though evil seems to prevail, “the righteous shall live by his faith.”)

1 ¹ The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.

² O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and You will not hear?

Or cry to You “Violence!”
and You will not save?

³ Why do You make me see iniquity,
and why do You idly look at wrong?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

⁴ So the law is paralyzed,
and justice never goes forth.
For the wicked surround the righteous;
so justice goes forth perverted.

2 ¹ I will take my stand at my watchpost
and station myself on the tower,
and look out to see what He will say to me,
and what I will answer concerning my complaint.

² And the LORD answered me:

“Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so he may run who reads it.

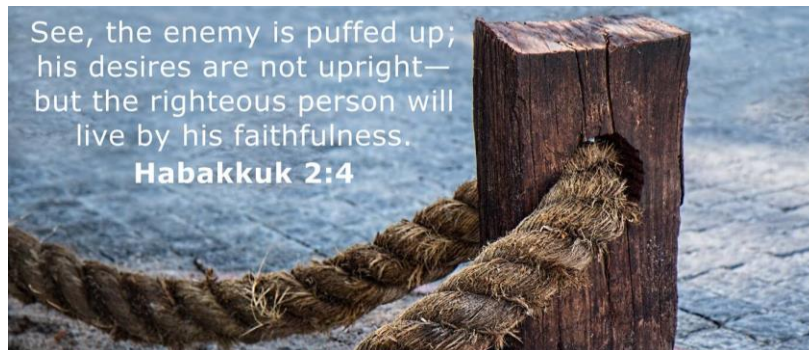
³ For still The vision awaits its appointed time;
it hastens to the end—it will not lie.

If it seems slow, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.

⁴ “Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him,
But the righteous shall live by his faith.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM *Psalm 62; antiphon: v. 1*

- 62** ¹ For God alone my soul waits in silence;
from Him comes my salvation.
- ² He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.
- ³ How long will all of you attack a man
to batter him,
like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?
- ⁴ They only plan to thrust him down from his high position.
They take pleasure in falsehood.
They bless with their mouths,
but inwardly they curse.
- ⁵ For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence,
for my hope is from Him.
- ⁶ He only is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.
- ⁷ On God rests my salvation and my glory;
my mighty rock, my refuge is God.
- ⁸ Trust in Him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before Him;
God is a refuge for us.
- ⁹ Those of low estate are but a breath;
those of high estate are a delusion;
in the balances they go up;
they are together lighter than a breath.
- ¹⁰ Put no trust in extortion;
set no vain hopes on robbery;
if riches increase, set not your heart on them.
- ¹¹ Once God has spoken;
twice have I heard this:
that power belongs to God,
- ¹² and that to You, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.
For You will render to a man
according to his work.

EPISTLE

2 Timothy 1:1–14

(“Guard the good deposit entrusted to you.”)

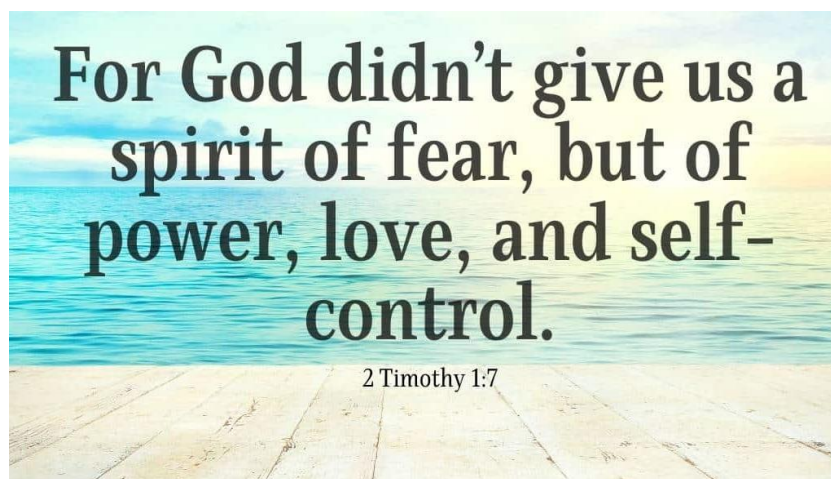
1 ¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus,

² To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. ³ I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. ⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of His own purpose and grace, which He gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹ for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹² which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that He is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³ Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 17:1–10*

(Temptations to sin)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

17 ¹ And [Jesus] said to His disciples, “Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! ² It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. ³ Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴ and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.” ⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶ And the Lord said, “If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you. ⁷ “Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and recline at table’? ⁸ Will he not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink’? ⁹ Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY “Jesus Loves Me” Hymnal page 588

1. Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong:
They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

2. Jesus loves me! He who died
Heaven's gates to open wide.
He has washed away my sin,
Lest His little child come in.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

CHILDREN / YOUTHFUL MINISTRY MOMENT

SERMON

CREED

Nicene Creed

People: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both
the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- Pastor: Let us pray.
Almighty and merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praise to You and thanksgiving for Your great glory demonstrated by Your righteous rule over Your whole creation, for the beauty of the earth, and for Your provision of everything good. Praise is due to You especially for Your care and deliverance of the world by the salvation of all people through the redemption of Your Son, Jesus Christ. By His death and resurrection, He has destroyed death and brought life and new hope to light through forgiveness for the sins of the world. Lord, in Your mercy,
- People: hear our prayer.**
- Pastor: Bless all pastors and all Your people in every corner of the world to proclaim the Good News of Your grace and deliverance. Defend all who serve in Your church, giving them the help of Your Spirit to be faithful in their calling. Bless the preaching of Your Word and the administration of Your Holy Sacraments to enable us and all people to repent and believe in Your deliverance and help in every need. Lord, in Your mercy,
- People: hear our prayer.**
- Pastor: Cause the proclamation of Your will to sanctify and bless the ministration of all those in the authority of the government that peace may prevail in our country and throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,
- People: hear our prayer.**
- Pastor: Be the consolation, healer, and help of all who are in any need, in sickness or injury, or in fear or loneliness, that many may turn their hearts to trust in Your never-failing love. Lord, in Your mercy,
- People: hear our prayer.**
- Pastor: For all Your saints of old, especially those You called and sent to deliver Your Word through the ages, for prophets and apostles, and all messengers of Your grace, we give You thanks. Grant peace and eternal rest to all who have gone before us, especially those we name in our hearts before you. Be pleased to count us in their fellowship both now and when You call us to Your nearer presence. Lord, in Your mercy,
- People: hear our prayer.**
- Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- People: Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Christ Be My Leader”

Hymnal page 861, verses 1 and 3

1. Christ be my leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future His care,
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

3. Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for He is the Life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for You have mightily governed and protected Your holy church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with all Your unworthy servants serving You as their divine duty, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Hymnal page 178

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9–13)

People: 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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

Hymnal page 180

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN “The Lord, My God, Be Praised” Hymnal page 794

1. The Lord, my God, be praised,
My light, my life from heaven;
My maker, who to me
Has soul and body given;
My Father, who will shield
And keep me day by day
And make each moment yield
New blessings on my way.

2. The Lord, my God, be praised,
My trust, my life from heaven,
The Father's own dear Son,
Whose life for me was given,
Who for my sin atoned
With His most precious blood
And gives to me by faith
The highest heav'nly good.

3. The Lord, my God, be praised,
My hope, my life from heaven,
The Spirit, whom the Son
In love to me has given.
His grace revives my heart
And gives my spirit pow'r,
Help, comfort, and support
In sorrow's gloomy hour.

△4. The Lord, my God, be praised,
My God, the ever-living,
To whom the heav'nly host
Their laud and praise are giving.
The Lord, my God, be praised,
In whose great name I boast,
God Father, God the Son,
And God the Holy Ghost.

Scripture quotations are from the ESV Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version)
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Pastoral Care:

Please contact –

Pastor Frank Matthews at: (213) 247-8838 or no1redder@gmail.com

BLESSED TO BE SERVING TODAY

Pastor:	Reverend Frank Matthews
Greeter:	Connie Kean
Reader:	Richard Swanson
Musician:	Christine Geltz
Ushers:	Craig Boehne, Donald Lammerts, & Dave Lassanske

PRAYERS OF CARE & CONCERN FOR OUR FLC FAMILY

Debbie Morrow: Continuing prayers for the niece of Tom and Pat Grabowski as she continues to receive chemotherapy at the City of Hope.

Sandy Sussman: Continuing prayers of healing for this niece of former members Bruce and Lynn Bertram.

Perry Singleton, Jan, and Keith Edmunds: Prayers for Pastor Frank Matthews' friends and cousin.

Patricia Caballero: Pray for this shut-in member as she recovers uneventfully from her recent surgery.

Betty Nelson: Pray for this shut-in member as she continues to deal with the challenges of aging. Pray that she would be comforted knowing God is with her and caring for her. Pray for her family and caregivers as they minister to her. Praise God for Betty's faith and commitment to God.

Pastor Appreciation – Next Sunday (October 12th, 2025)

Thank you for all your uplifting sermons, Pastor Frank! Wishing you a day filled with appreciation and thanksgiving.



Sunday Worship at Home

Although the Lutheran Hour no longer airs on KBRT 740 AM, you can find other airings at: lhm.org/guide.

Also, listeners can hear the weekly sermons whenever and wherever they are, and daily devotions are available which come in a daily email to read or listen to. Just go to:

<https://familytalktoday.com/programguidedaily>.

Or you can listen to Lutheran Hour podcasts any time by going to:

<https://www.youtube.com/@LutheranHourMin>.

If you have a TV and can get DirectTV, Channel 377 you can view Worship Anew at: 8:30 a.m. on Sundays. This service is filmed at our Fort Wayne Seminary in Indiana.

You may also access or review the sermons online by going to:

<https://firstlutherantc.org/Media>

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

SUNDAY

9:30 a.m.

9:45 a.m.

TODAY – OCTOBER 5

Fellowship time

Bible Study & Sunday School

FRIDAY

8:00 a.m.

OCTOBER 10

Load the Van to Friends In Deed, Pasadena CA

SATURDAY

5:00 p.m. to

6:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 11

80th Anniversary Celebration in the Parish Hall

(Celebration Songfest with the 1945 theme and dinner)

Sharing the Light



Years of Ministry

First Lutheran Church of Temple City

