

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TEMPLE CITY

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EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Living a New Life

August 3, 2025



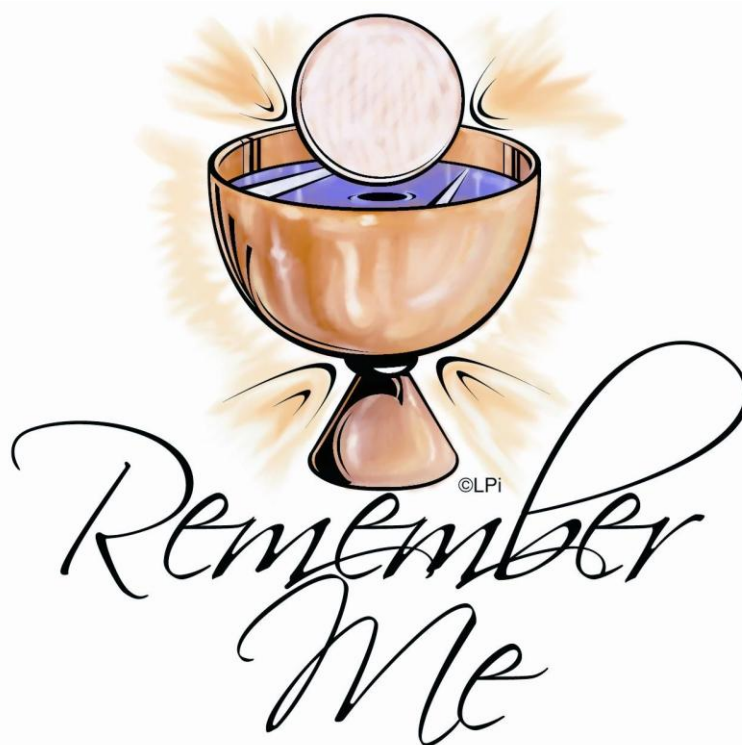
AS WE GATHER

Golfers enjoy getting a mulligan—a free shot or do-over. As we look back on our lives, we sometimes see times that we wish we could go back to and have a mulligan. We would like to be able to go back and make a different decision or fix a mistake we made. We cannot turn back time. God gives us something better. He gives us a new life—a fresh start that we get to celebrate every day as we remember our Baptism and the riches God gives us.

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 “God Himself Is Present”

Hymnal page 907, verses 1 and 2

1. God Himself is present:
Let us now adore Him
And with awe appear before Him.
God is in His temple;
All within keep silence;
Humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence.
He alone
On His throne
Is our God and Savior;
Praise His Name forever!

2. God Himself is present:
Hear the harps resounding;
See the hosts the throne surrounding.
"Holy, Holy, Holy!"
Hear the hymn ascending,
Songs of saints and angels blending.
Bow Your ear
To us here:
Here, O Christ, the praises
That Your church now raises.

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalm 24:1–2; 127:2; 147:9; Matthew 6:26;
James 1:17; Exodus 20:3; Colossians 3:5–6*

Pastor: The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

People: **He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry.**

Pastor: Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

People: **It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for He gives to His beloved sleep.**

Pastor: Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

People: **The First Commandment reminds us, “You shall have no other gods before Me.”**

Pastor: Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

People: **On account of these the wrath of God is coming.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God,

People: You are the giver of everything we have. Yet, we are guilty of coveting the possessions, experiences, and social standing of others. We sin by valuing these things above You. For Jesus' sake, forgive our sins. Renew us in Your knowledge and conform us to Your image by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor: "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9). We receive the riches of God's forgiveness because of Jesus. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

☩ WORD ☩

INTROIT *Psalm 49:7–8, 13–14a, 15; antiphon: vv. 1–2*

Pastor: Hear this, all peoples!

People: Give ear, all inhabitants of the world, both low and high, rich and poor together!

Pastor: Truly no man can ransom another, or give to God the price of his life, for the ransom of their life is costly and can never suffice.

People: This is the path of those who have foolish confidence; yet after them people approve of their boasts.

Pastor: Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol; death shall be their shepherd.

People: But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol, for He will receive me.

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: Hear this, all peoples!

People: Give ear, all inhabitants of the world, both low and high, rich and poor together!

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who labor, those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Hymnal page 809

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. [Refrain]

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, You have set us free and made us a new creation, renewed in knowledge after the image of our creator. Empower us to live this new life in our families, with our friends, and to eat, drink, and find enjoyment in all the riches You graciously give us; for You reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14; 2:18–26

(Enjoying your work is a gift from God.)

² Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹² I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴ I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind. **2** ¹⁸ I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? ²³ For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity. ²⁴ There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵ for apart from Him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? ²⁶ For to the one who pleases Him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner He has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalms 100; antiphon: v. 3*

Reader: Know that the LORD, He is God!

People: **It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.**

Reader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

People: **Serve the LORD with gladness!**

Reader: Come into His presence with singing!

People: **Know that the LORD, He is God!**

Reader: It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

People: **Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!**

Reader: Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

People: **For the LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.**

Reader: Know that the LORD, He is God!

People: **It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.**

EPISTLE *Colossians 3:1–11*

(Live as the people you are in Christ.)

3 ¹ If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. ⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. ¹¹ Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 12:13–21*

(Trust in the Giver of all that is good.)

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

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

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ But He said to him, “Man, who made Me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵ And He said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” ¹⁶ And He told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷ and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’ ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY “Take My Life and Let It Be”

Hymnal page 783, verses 1 to 4

1. Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2. Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

3. Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.

4. Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

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 for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

HYMN “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” Hymnal page 851, verse 1

1. Lord of Glory, You have bought us
With Your life-blood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice;
And with that have freely given
Blessings countless as the sand
To the unthankful and the evil
With Your own unsparing hand.

Pastor: Lord of Glory, You created this world and everything in it, and You continue to rule over it. We praise and thank You for being our Good Shepherd who daily and richly provides for us. Thank You for laying down Your life for us and taking it back up again. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

HYMN “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” Hymnal page 851, verse 2

2. Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You
Gladly, freely of Your own.
With the sunshine of Your goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by You, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
'Tis to give than to receive.

Pastor: Almighty God, we praise and thank You for all the blessings You generously give us. We thank You for our families, friends, opportunities, vocations, and possessions. Lead us to be good stewards of all that You place into our hands. Guard our hearts against selfishness, arrogance, and pride. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

HYMN “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” Hymnal page 851, verse 3

3. Wondrous honor You have given
To our humblest charity
In Your own mysterious sentence,
"You have done it all to Me."
Can it be, O gracious Master,
That You deign for alms to sue,
Saying by Your poor and needy,
"Give as I have giv'n to you"?

Pastor: Gracious God, You promised Abram that You would bless him to be a blessing. We, too, are truly blessed as we freely receive the riches of Your kingdom. We praise and thank You for the riches of Your Word and the forgiveness we graciously receive at Your Table. Empower us by Your love to care for the widow, the orphan, the poor, and the needy. We pray now for all who are struggling in body, mind, and spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

HYMN “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” Hymnal page 851, verse 4

4. Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your life-blood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust You boldly,
Hope, to stay our souls on You;
But, oh, best of all Your graces,
With Your love our love renew.

Pastor: Glorious Lord, we praise and thank You for calling us by the Gospel, enlightening us with Your gifts, and sanctifying and keeping us in the one true faith. We pray for those in our families, workplaces, and neighborhoods who are near to us but far from You. Pour Your love, mercy, and grace into their lives and bring them to faith in You. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we lift these prayers to You, trusting in Your mercy to hear and answer us according to Your good and gracious will. In Your glorious name, we pray.

People: **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Let Us Break Bread Together on Our Knees” verses 1 and 4

Let us break bread together on our knees
Let us break bread together on our knees
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me

Let us praise God together on our knees
Let us praise God together on our knees
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me

✠ 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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely give to us and to all creation. Above all, we give thanks for showing Your love to us when You sent Your one and only Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid our sin on Him, putting to death all that is earthly in us. As He died, we have died and our life is hidden in Him. As He is risen, we, too, shall rise and see Him when He appears again in glory. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels 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: We give You thanks, O Lord our God, King of the universe, that though You were seated at the right hand of God You descended to earth and put on our humanity to raise us to new life through Your divinity. You gave Your life and took it back again so that we might live life eternally.

As we gather in Your name, set our minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. Forgive, renew, and strengthen us in knowledge after the image of our creator. Nourish and strengthen us as we gather at Your Table to dine on Your body and blood, which was given and shed for us for the forgiveness of our sins. Gather us together from every tribe, nation, language, and tongue as we wait for Your appearing. 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.
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us the gifts of life, forgiveness, and salvation through Your one and only Son. Set our hearts on things above, not on the things of this earth, so that when Your Son appears again, we will also appear with Him in glory; 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 “Amazing Grace” Hymnal page 744, verses 1 to 4

1. Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see!

2. The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
His grace will lead me home.

4. Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail
In heaven's joy and peace.

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

Please contact –
Judy Gunther at: (626) 833-5613

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

Tom Grabowski: Pray for a speedy recovery of his badly bruised eye from his fall.

Judy Gunther: Pray for the continue healing of her knee as she deals with the pain.

Various prayers from Pastor Frank Matthews

From the Community Prayer Box: A woman asked us to pray that God would provide a husband for her. God desires and listens to our prayers. Scripture clearly teaches that God commands us to pray and promises to hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ not merely to change us, but to cause God to act.

Jeremiah 33:3 ‘Call to Me, and I will answer you. And I will show you great and wonderful things which you do not know.’





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>

BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK

Pat Grabowski

August 3



OUR NEW VACANCY PASTOR

Please plan to join us after service to meet, greet, and welcome our new Vacancy Pastor Frank Matthews and his wife Kim (Jackson-Matthews). Come, enjoy tasty treats, and join us as we welcome them to First Lutheran!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

SUNDAY

9:30 a.m.

9:45 a.m.

TODAY – AUGUST 3

Fellowship time

Bible Study and Sunday School

TUESDAY

10:30 a.m.

AUGUST 5

Mission Development Team meeting

WEDNESDAY

12:00 noon

AUGUST 6

Monthly Soup & Sandwich Luncheon

Presentation by the Temple City Fire Station

Special Announcement

Join us for worship next Sunday on August 10th, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Room. Please note that there will only be 1 usher.

