

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TEMPLE CITY**

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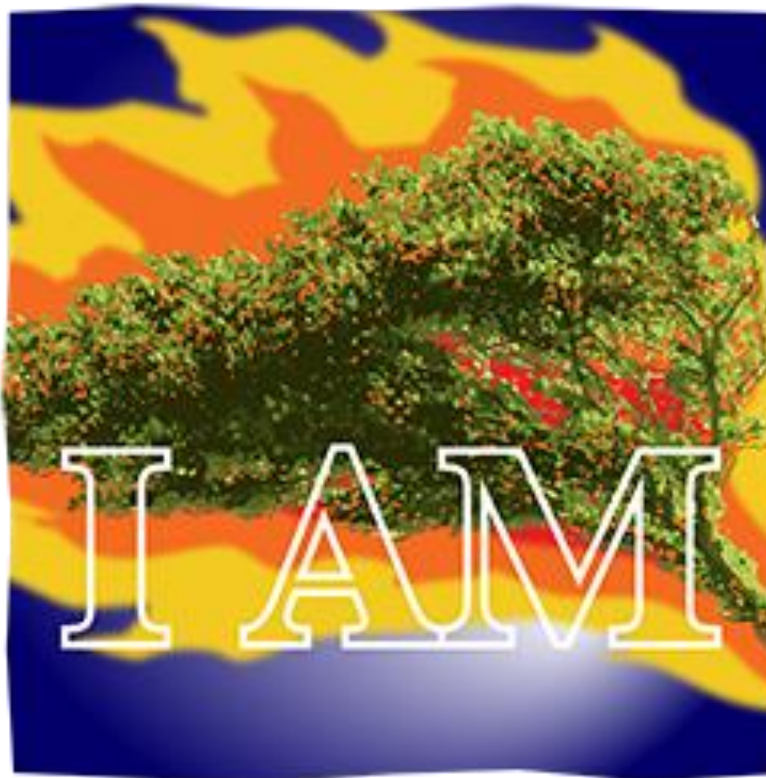
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**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Love and Traditions

November 9, 2025



**AS WE GATHER**

We are not far from the “holiday season.” In the secular world, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s roll into one big celebration. It is typical to have holiday traditions around special times of the year. Traditions can serve to make some moments more memorable and meaningful. But sometimes traditions add stress to an already hectic calendar or distract us from the real reason for celebrating. Before jumping headlong into the holiday season, soak up this moment in worship. See how the Lord repeatedly meets us with His best. See how surrounding ourselves with His Word and sacramental gifts truly makes us ready to celebrate, for this season and forever!

## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

**HYMN** "God of Grace and God of Glory"

Hymnal page 850

1. God of grace and God of glory,  
On Your people pour Your pow'r;  
Crown Your ancient Church's story;  
Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the facing of this hour,  
For the facing of this hour.

2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
Free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the living of these days,  
For the living of these days.

3. Cure Your children's warring madness;  
Bend our pride to Your control;  
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
Rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,  
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.

4. Save us from weak resignation  
To the evils we deplore;  
Let the gift of Your salvation  
Be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
Serving You whom we adore,  
Serving You whom we adore.

## INVOCATION

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

**People:** Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalm 118:24; 1 John 3:1; John 13:35; 1 Corinthians 16:14*

**Pastor:** This is the day that the LORD has made;

**People:** let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**Pastor:** See what kind of love the Father has given to us,

**People:** that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

**Pastor:** Jesus said, "By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

**People:** Let all that you do be done in love.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Colossians 1:13–14*

Pastor: The Lord has delivered us from the domain of darkness

**People: and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.**

Pastor: Almighty God and Father,

**People: we confess, as Your people, our need for Your merciful kindness. We are prisoners of our own wants, our own traditions, and our own inborn sinfulness. Our actions and interactions often fail as reflections of Your kingdom. Our thoughts and desires often reflect the domain of darkness You have delivered us from. We often act out of our love for ourselves, rather than our love for others or for You. Forgive us and free us, Lord, to love what You love and go where You lead, all by the grace of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son, Jesus, to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word made flesh, and by His authority, I therefore 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 115:2–4, 8, 17–18; antiphon: v. 11*

Pastor: You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!

He is their and their shield.

Why should the nations say,

“Where is their God?”

**People: Our God is in the heavens;**

**He does all that He pleases.**

**Their idols are silver and gold,**

**the work of human hands.**

**Those who make them become like them;**

**so do all who trust in them.**

Pastor: The dead do not praise the LORD,

nor do any who go down into silence.

But we will bless the LORD

from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

**All: 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: You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!

He is their and their shield.

## 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

“Love in Christ Is Strong and Living”

Hymnal page 706, verses 1 and 2

1. Love in Christ is strong and living,  
Binding faithful hearts in one;  
Love in Christ is true and giving.  
May His will in us be done.

2. Love is patient and forbearing,  
Clothed in Christ's humility,  
Gentle, selfless, kind and caring,  
Reaching out in charity.

## SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Living God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of Your grace to lay hold of Your promises and live forever in Your presence; 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

*Exodus 3:1–15*

(The Lord announces His intention to deliver Israel from slavery and mobilizes Moses to bear His name.)

**3** <sup>1</sup> Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup> And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. <sup>3</sup> And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." <sup>4</sup> When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>5</sup> Then He said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." <sup>6</sup> And He said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. <sup>7</sup> Then the LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, <sup>8</sup> and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. <sup>9</sup> And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. <sup>10</sup> Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." <sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" <sup>12</sup> He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain." <sup>13</sup> Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?" <sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, "I AM who I AM." And He said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" <sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is My name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM**    *Psalm 148; antiphon: v. 13*

**148** <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise Him in the heights!

<sup>2</sup> Praise Him, all His angels;  
praise Him, all His hosts!

<sup>3</sup> Praise Him, sun and moon,  
praise Him, all you shining stars!

<sup>4</sup> Praise Him, you highest heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens!

<sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD!  
For He commanded and they were created.

<sup>6</sup> And He established them forever and ever;  
He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

<sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you great sea creatures and all deeps,

<sup>8</sup> fire and hail, snow and mist,  
stormy wind fulfilling His word!

<sup>9</sup> Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars!

<sup>10</sup> Beasts and all livestock,  
creeping things and flying birds!

<sup>11</sup> Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the earth!

<sup>12</sup> Young men and maidens together,  
old men and children!

<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
For His name alone is exalted;  
His majesty is above earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup> He has raised up a horn for His people,  
praise for all His saints,  
for the people of Israel who are near to Him.

Praise the LORD!

**EPISTLE**        *2 Thessalonians 2:1–8, 13–17*

(Amid confusion and calamity, Paul exhorts believers to cling to his faithful teaching and the hope of Christ.)

**2** <sup>1</sup> Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to Him, we ask you, brothers, <sup>2</sup> not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. <sup>3</sup> Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed,

the son of destruction, <sup>4</sup> who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. <sup>5</sup> Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? <sup>6</sup> And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. <sup>7</sup> For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only He who now restrains it will do so until He is out of the way. <sup>8</sup> And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of His mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of His coming. <sup>13</sup> But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. <sup>14</sup> To this He called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>15</sup> So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter. <sup>16</sup> Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, <sup>17</sup> comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**      *Luke 20:27–40*

(Jesus silences the scribes and Sadducees by witnessing of the God of the living.)

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

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

<sup>27</sup> There came to [Jesus] some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, <sup>28</sup> and they asked Him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. <sup>29</sup> Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and died without children. <sup>30</sup> And the second <sup>31</sup> and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. <sup>32</sup> Afterward the woman also died. <sup>33</sup> In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife." <sup>34</sup> And Jesus said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, <sup>35</sup> but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, <sup>36</sup> for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. <sup>37</sup> But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. <sup>38</sup> Now He is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to Him." <sup>39</sup> Then some of the scribes answered, "Teacher, You have spoken well." <sup>40</sup> For they no longer dared to ask Him any question.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## HYMN OF THE DAY

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” Hymnal page 700

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,  
All Thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,  
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation,  
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit  
Into ev'ry troubled breast;  
Let us all in Thee inherit;  
Let us find Thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning,  
Set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, Almighty, to deliver;  
Let us all Thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Nevermore Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,  
Glory in Thy perfect love.

4. Finish then Thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see Thy great salvation  
Perfectly restored in Thee,  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heav'n we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

## CHILDREN / YOUTHFUL MINISTRY MOMENT

## SERMON

## CATECHISM

*The Third Petition*

Pastor: The Third Petition of the Lord's Prayer:

**People: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

Pastor: What does this mean?

**People: The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.**

Pastor: How is God's will done?

**People: God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.**



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Great I AM, who spoke from the burning bush on Sinai's height, make Your people to know Your voice. Help us to hear Your clear and consistent Word, that we might love what You love and go where You lead. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Great I AM, who heard the cries of Egypt's slaves, shower Your mercy on the downtrodden, especially victims of oppression and violence. Be their strength and support and bring them comfort and deliverance through the Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Great I AM, who mobilized Moses to bear Your name as a witness to Your ancient people, provide such servants for Your people today. Call pastors, missionaries, deaconesses, teachers, and ministers of Your Word, provide for their training and care, and preserve them in their callings from failure, fear, and burnout. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Great I AM, who faced the Sadducees' interrogation about marriage, strengthen and support all Christian marriages. Supply them Your holy wisdom, defend them from evil attacks, and hold them in Your faithful hand, that they might trust they never walk alone. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Great I AM, who declared Yourself to be the God of the living, battle for our sakes the enemies of death, disease, and disability that threaten our earthly life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Great I AM, who revealed Your glory to the world through the Gospel, preserve us in the one true faith, established for every good work and word, that all who believe and belong to You would have the eternal comfort and good hope of grace that comes through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with Father and Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## OFFERING

## **OFFERTORY**    “The Lord, My God, Be Praised”    Hymnal page 794, verses 1 and 2

**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.

## **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.**

## **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**                      “Christ Be My Leader”                      Hymnal 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.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 4.  
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Pastoral Care:

Please contact –

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

## **BLESSED TO BE SERVING TODAY**

Pastor: Pastor Frank Matthews

Greeter: Diane Oberlander

Reader: Christine Geltz

Musician: Christine Geltz

Ushers: Donald Lammerts, Dave Lassanke, and Craig Boehne

## **PRAYERS OF CARE & CONCERN FOR OUR FLC FAMILY**

Judy Gunther: Please continue to pray for Judy Gunther who has experienced a heart attack. Judy currently is chairman of First Lutheran's Board of Directors. Pray that she experiences God's comfort, peace, and healing. Pray for guidance for her family and friends as they come to assist her. She has returned home recently, and is recovering nicely at home.

Nancy Poser: Continuing prayers for Nancy and her family during their time of grief with the passing of her husband, Walter Poser

Dennis: Prayer for Peter Dille's friend.

Rachel Whitcher: Continuing prayers of healing from her broken wrist after the surgery.

Debbie Morrow: 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: More prayers for Pastor Frank Matthews' friends and cousin as they continue deal with many health issues.

Patricia Caballero: Continuing prayers of healing after her recent surgery. We give praise to our Lord that she is healing nicely.

Betty Nelson: Pray for this shut-in member as she continues to deal with the challenges of aging.

Gregg Ruiz: Prayer for Tom's younger brother who is fighting for his life against cancer. Pray also for Penny's strength as she supports Gregg in his serious illness.



## **Sunday Worship at Home**

Although the Lutheran Hour no longer airs on KBRT 740 AM, you can find other airings at: [lhm.org/guide](http://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      TODAY – NOVEMBER 9**

9:30 a.m.      Fellowship time

9:45 a.m.      Bible Study and Sunday School

## **NEXT WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN**

### **SUNDAY      NOVEMBER 16**

9:30 a.m.      Fellowship time

9:45 a.m.      Bible Study and Sunday School

11:00 a.m.      Board of Directors meeting

### **TUESDAY      NOVEMBER 18**

10:30 a.m.      Mission Development Team meeting