

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Northwood, Iowa

641-324-2984

www.flcnorthwood.org

THAT ALL MAY KNOW THE LOVE OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST



Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25th, 2025

9:00 am

Pastor Becky Sogge

Organist/Pianist: Delores Knudson

Special Music: Tom Watts, and Senior Choir accompanied by Loraine Mix

Usher: Petznick family, Anderson family

Acolyte: Tegan Trenhaile, Logan Trenhaile

Lay Reader: Laure Buehrer

Counters: David & Sharron Petznick, Steph Perkins

Sound/Video: Camden Trenhaile, Mark Willand

Prelude

-Delores Knudson

Welcome – Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* ELW 834

Procession of Graduating Seniors

Greeting

p. 138

Prayer of the Day

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Special Music

Senior Choir accompanied by Loraine Mix

First Reading: Acts 16:9-15

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 67

May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us.

Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our own God, has blessed us.

May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

Second Reading: Revelation 21:10, 22-22.5

¹⁰ And in the spirit one of the angels carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: John 14:23-29

²³ Jesus answered Judas (not Iscariot), “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

The word of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Becky

Hymn of the Day ...*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* ELW 815

Recognition and Blessing of Graduates

Presentation of Quilts

Service of blessing

We are delighted to honor you as you graduate from *high school*. We are proud of you! It is our privilege to affirm you as members of this congregation. You have completed an important phase of your lives and you are entering another.

I ask you to affirm your commitment to a life of faith in the body of Christ. Graduates, as you celebrate your achievements and prepare for your new endeavors, do you thank God for the many ways your faith has been your strength and guide?

Response: **With God’s help, I do.**

As you consider the next steps of your journey of life, do you acknowledge God going with you, before you, behind you, below you, above you, and within you?

Response: **With God’s help, I do.**

As you make choices about your new endeavors, will you offer your gifts to the world as part of the body of Christ and welcome the support of a family of faith?

Response: **With God’s help, I will.**

People of First Lutheran, listen: Do you claim these graduates as brothers and sisters in Christ, called to ministry according to their talents?

In God’s love, we claim them.

As their home congregation, do you promise to support them, take an interest in their future, be with them in their celebration and sadness, and welcome them whenever they return to First Lutheran?

In God’s love, we support them.

Do you promise to faithfully pray for these brothers and sisters, placing their futures into God’s loving hands as they make their choices?

In God’s love, we pray for them.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you bless your servants with many achievements. We give thanks especially today for the milestones that these graduates have attained. As they begin new phases of their lives, may they know your love in all the experiences they have.

Bless the parents of these students, who have raised their children and nourished them in Christian faith. Give them strength in your holy presence, and give them many joyful reunions with their sons and daughters, those who are leaving home to go far away, and those staying close by. In Jesus’ name we pray.

Amen.

Go out into the world in peace; be of good courage;
 hold fast to what is good; return no one evil for evil;
 strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;
 help the suffering; honor all people;
 love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering - Noisy Offering

Offering is received in the pews, or electronically through Vanco.

Offering Prayer

Solo - Lord's Prayer

Tom Watts

Special Music:

Go Now in Peace

Senior Choir

Blessing

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign,
 Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and
 always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies* ELW 888

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
 Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

-Delores Knudson

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Sunday Attendance and Giving		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Giving</u>
May 18	93	
May 11	101	\$1,324
May 4	104	\$1,462
April 27	78	\$1,275

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome, we are glad you are here!

Join us for coffee in the Fireside Room after worship.

Congratulations on your graduation and many blessings to our seniors:

Kyle Buehrer, Colby Eskildsen, Hunter Janssen, Kooper Julseth, Logan Nelson, and Camden Trenhaile.

Celebrate with Lois Hogen as she turns 90 years old! There will be an open house on Sunday, May 25th from 2-4pm at the Olson building. You may bring a card if you would like, but gifts are not necessary. If you can't attend the open house, you can mail her a card to her home at Lois Hogen- 704 11TH ST N, Northwood.

Weekly Calendar		
Sunday, May 25	9:00 am	Service with N.O. With Baccalaureate
	10:30 am	DCV
	4:00 pm	J.H. Youth
Memorial Day	Building	Closed
Tuesday May 27	11:00 am	Staff Mtng.
	7:00 pm	AA-Al-Anon Mtng.
Wednesday, May 28	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
	7:00 pm	SH Youth
Thursday, May 29	8:30 am	Quilting
	9:00 am	Prayer Group
	6:30 pm	Taekwondo
Sunday, June 1	9:00 am	Service with H.C.
	10:30 am	DCV with H.C.
	4:00 pm	J.H. Youth