

Sunday, September 6, 2026

Lectionary 23, Year A



Ringling of Bell

PRELUDE *Call It Grace*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace
through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW

522

As We Gather at Your Table

1 **As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word, help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story, till we claim it as our own; teach us through this holy banquet, how to make Love's vict'ry known.**

- 2 **Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion, to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.**
- 3 **Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast, where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least. There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy, as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY *We pray together*

L: O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy.

C: Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 33:7-11 THE MESSAGE

The prophet's responsibility to warn the people

⁷⁻⁹ "You, son of man, are the watchman. I've made you a watchman for Israel. The minute you hear a message from me, warn them. If I say to the wicked, 'Wicked man, wicked woman, you're on the fast track to death!' and you don't speak up and warn the wicked to change their ways, the wicked will die unwarned in their sins and I'll hold you responsible for their bloodshed. But if you warn the wicked to change their ways and they don't do it, they'll die in their sins well-warned and at least you will have saved your own life.

¹⁰ "Son of man, speak to Israel. Tell them, 'You've said, "Our rebellions and sins are weighing us down. We're wasting away. How can we go on living?"'

¹¹ "Tell them, 'As sure as I am the living God, I take no pleasure from the death of the wicked. I want the wicked to change their ways and live. Turn your life around! Reverse your evil ways! Why *die*, Israel?'

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

PSALM 119:33-40 WILDA C. GAFNEY - A WOMEN'S
LECTIONARY FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH

L: Make known to me, HOLY ONE, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.

C: Grant me understanding and I shall safeguard your teaching and shall observe it with my whole heart.

L: Lead me in the path of your commandments, for in it I delight. >>

C: Turn my heart to your decrees, and not to unjust gain.

L: Avert my eyes from seeing falsity; in your ways give me life.

C: Establish to your slave your promise, which is for those who revere you.

L: Avert the disgrace that I fear, for your ordinances are good.

C: Look! I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness grant me life.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 13:8-14 COMMON
ENGLISH BIBLE *Live honorably*

⁸Don't be in debt to anyone, except for the obligation to love each other. Whoever loves another person has fulfilled the Law. ⁹The commandments, *Don't commit adultery, don't murder, don't steal, don't desire what others have*, and any other commandments, are all summed up in one word: *You must love your neighbor as yourself.*¹⁰ Love doesn't do anything wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is what fulfills the Law.

¹¹As you do all this, you know what time it is. The hour has already come for you to wake up from your sleep. Now our salvation is nearer than when we first had faith. ¹²The night is almost over, and the day is near. So, let's get rid of the actions that belong to the darkness and put on the weapons of light. ¹³Let's behave appropriately as people who live in the day, not in partying and getting drunk, not in sleeping around and obscene behavior, not in fighting and obsession. ¹⁴Instead, dress yourself with the Lord Jesus Christ, and don't plan to indulge your selfish desires.

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

◆ GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:15-20

C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

Reconciliation in the community of faith

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my

Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD. **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!**

PLEASE BE SEATED

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON *Pastor D.J. Chatelaine*

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 716
Lord of All Nations Grant Me Grace

- 1 **Lord of all nations, grant me grace
to love all people, ev'ry race;
And in each person may I see
my kindred, loved, redeemed by thee.**
- 2 **Break down the wall that would divide
thy children, Lord, on ev'ry side,
My neighbor's good let me pursue;
let Christian love bind warm and true.**
- 3 **Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred
by loveless act and thoughtless word.
Make me to see the wrong I do
will crucify my Lord anew.**
- 4 **Give me thy courage, Lord, to speak
whenever strong oppress the weak.
Should I myself the victim be,
help me forgive, rememb'ring thee.**
- 5 **With thine own love may I be filled
and by thy Holy Spirit willed,
That all I touch, where'er I be,
may be divinely touched by thee.**

◆ APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

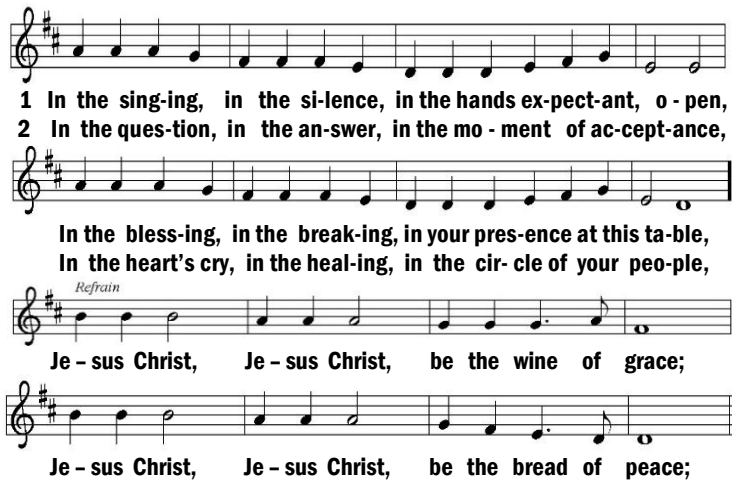
SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

PLEASE BE SEATED

OFFERING—OFFERTORY—GLOBE OFFERING
*Children are invited to bring an offering to the globe
at the front of the church*

◆ OFFERING SONG ELW 466
In the Singing



1 In the sing-ing, in the si-lence, in the hands ex-pect-ant, o - pen,
2 In the ques-tion, in the an-swer, in the mo - ment of ac-cept-ance,
In the bless-ing, in the break-ing, in your pres-ence at this ta-ble,
In the heart's cry, in the heal-ing, in the cir- cle of your peo-ple,
Refrain
Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;
Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace;

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of creation, you send rain
and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.

**C: Use our gifts, our abilities,
and our hearts in service to you
and in love to our neighbors,
today and always. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING *Spoken*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION & HYMN ELW 471
Let Us Break Bread Together

1 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, O Lord, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to
the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

3 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, O Lord, have mercy on me.

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you
nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By
your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a
needy world.

**C: Make us living signs of your liberation,
healing, and love, following the way of
Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: The God of love draw you into full accord
and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy
in all circumstances through the interceding
of the Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of grace ☩ bless you now and
forever.

C: Amen.

◆ SENDING SONG ELW 864
Praise My Soul the God of Heaven

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heaven;
joyfully your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore God's praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praises everlasting ring!

1 God be praised for grace and favor
to our forebears in distress.
God be praised, the same forever,
slow to chide and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious is God's
faithfulness!

2 Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish,
blows the wind and it is gone;
but, as mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the great Eternal
One!

3 Angels sing in adoration,
in God's presence, face to face.
Sun and moon and all creation,
all who dwell in time and space.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

DISMISSAL

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR Are Given
In Memory of Karl O. Haugen; and also,
to remind us—September is Mental Health
Awareness Month.

PARTICIPANTS

PASTOR—Rev. D.J. Chatelaine

KEYBOARD/PIANO—Annette Thunhorst

WORSHIP ASSISTANT—Carmen Nesseth

GREETER(S)—Carmen Nesseth

C/SET UP—Carmen Nesseth

C/SERVERS—Carmen Nesseth, Rhana Olson, Tanya Short

COFFEE—Carmen Nesseth & Rhana Olson

WORSHIP SLIDES—

TECH CREW—Heidi Haugen, Steve Johnson,

Holly Aldorfer, Jack Aronson, Luke Cordes

For future worship helper needs **SEE Sign-Up
Book in the Narthex; Or click on this link in
our Friday Emails [Worship Helpers](#) Thank You!**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Praise My Soul the God of Heaven*

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OL/SKU# 00015 *As We Gather at Your Table* WORDS ELW 522

OL/SKU# 11441 *Lord of All Nations Grant* WORDS ELW 716

OL/SKU# 68023 *In the Singing* ELW 466

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jennifer Lerfald, Jim Fountaine, Dax Eggert,
Larry Walker, Tim Emerson, John Maki,
Marilyn Schaper, Trudy Johnson.

PASTOR—D.J. CHATELAINE Phone 507-213-0708

flckenyonpastor@gmail.com

CHURCH OFS Phone: 507-789-5261

firstlutherankenyon@gmail.com

YOUTH DIRECTOR—BRYANA LOTHERT

Phone 507-210-0814 flcyouth45@gmail.com

WEBSITE flckenyon.org

FACEBOOK: **First Evangelical Lutheran Kenyon MN**

YOUTUBE CHANNEL:

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

CALENDAR

SUN	SEPT 6	9 am	WORSHIP
		10 am	Coffee
		10:15 am	Men's Ministry
MON	SEPT 7	OFFICES CLOSED ON LABOR DAY	
TUE	SEPT 8	6 pm	Ed You
WED	SEPT 9	6 pm	Confirmation Orientation
THU	SEPT 10	1 pm	Love Day
		7 PM	WEBER/ST. JOHN CONCERT
		 	<i>Harmony in Faith</i>
FRI	SEPT 11	6:30 pm	AA
SUN	SEPT 13	9 am	Rally Sunday & 1st Sun/Sch WORSHIP/ Cradle Roll, 3rd & 7th Bibles, & Noisy Offering
		10 am	Outdoor Pancake Brkfst / Games



The **Puzzle Exchange Room** is *almost*
ready. Puzzles for all ages are welcome!
Donated puzzles can be put in the labeled
totes at church entries. Puzzles become
church property.

Supply Drive for Ruth's House ~~ During
September & October. Stewardship is hosting a
supply drive for Ruth's House - a sober living and
safe shelter for women and children in Rice County
MN. They are in need of these essential items:
Toilet Paper, Laundry Detergent, Floor Cleaner,
Vinyl Gloves (L & XL), Pillows and Stainless-Steel
Appliance Cleaner. Donation boxes in narthex and
Ed Wing entry doors.