

† *Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. We invite you to journey with us as we explore the life of faith together. At First Lutheran all are welcome in every aspect of our congregational life. We believe that worship is central to our life together. God empowers us to live out our purpose which is to share his word and the promise of salvation.*



**THE EIGHTEENTH
SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST**

**Sunday, September 23, 2018
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER**

Each week we begin worship with confession and forgiveness. Forgiveness literally means "to let go," as when a person does not demand payment for a debt. We forgive others when we let go of resentment and give up any claim to be compensated for the hurt of loss we have suffered. The Bible teaches that unselfish love is the basis for true forgiveness. The Father, in Luke 15, forgave the son who had squandered all that Father had given him. The Father did not have to welcome the son, but he choose to let go of what the son had done and welcomed him back into the family. That is good news for all of us. God our Creator freely lets go of our sin when we confess and we are called to do the same.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN No. 720 "We Are Called"

CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Blessed be the + holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **C: Amen**

P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Source of all life,

C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

P: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, +God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ. **C: Amen**

KYRIE Page 147

“Glory to God in the Highest”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

HEARING GOD’S WORD

FIRST LESSON I John1:5-10

5This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. 6If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; 7but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Here ends the first lesson.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103:1-5, 11-14

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

C: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits — who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

C: who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

C: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

C: As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust.

The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Page 151

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 15:11-32

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the fifteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

11Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. 12The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. 13A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and

there he squandered his property in dissolute living. 14When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. 15So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. 16He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. 17But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! 18I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; 19I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' 20So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. 21Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe — the best one — and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; 24for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. 25Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. 26He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. 27He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' 28Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. 29But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. 30But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' 31Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'" The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Joyce Tollefson Capp

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

HYMN OF THE DAY No. 781

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM..... Page 227

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

RECEIVING OF OUR MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN Page 798 (WOV)

“Bless the Lord, o My Soul ”

OFFERTORY PRAYER

C: God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

GOD’S PEOPLE SENT FORTH

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN No. 670..... “Build Us Up, Lord”

DISMISSAL:

P: God in peace. Sound the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

Songs used with permission under CCLI No. 2553803

WELCOME! Great to have you here! Thank you for choosing to worship with us here today.

We welcome into our church family Kason Peter Weber . Kason is the son of Nick Weber and Jennifer Farrell. The Sponsors for Kason are Audra Wade and Zachary Weber. May God’s blessings be upon Kason and may God guide his days and deeds.

THE WORSHIP RADIO BROADCAST today is in celebration of life, Bridget Benz & Brooke Woelber’s birthdays from their family.

Ministers.	Members of First Lutheran Church
Pastor	Rev. Joyce Tollefson Capp
Reader	Julie Colvin
Acolytes	Kaden Musch & Darrick Baartman
Ushers.	Ed Gustafson, Jerry Brockberg, Eric Brockberg, Jason Weber
Sound	Bob Douty & Mark Zinnel

† **Continuing Prayer Concerns:** Carol Schlim, Deb Smith, JoAnn Straw, Lorraine Johnson, Sarah & Harold Meyer’s daughter, Crystal, as she undergoes cancer treatment, Sarah Meyer’s sister, Mary, as she recovers from a stroke , Sharon Blom’s brother, Leo, as he copes with health issues, Dale & Carol Veen family on the passing of Dale’s brother, Loren and Wade & Deb Smith’s Grandson, Gavin, as he undergoes cancer treatment.

❖ **Assisted listening devices are available from the ushers.**
📵 **PLEASE remember to turn off Cell Phones and Pagers during worship.**

THIS WEEKS' SCHEDULE — September 23, 2018

TODAY

9:30am - Worship/Weber Baptism

10:30am - Coffee Fellowship

TUESDAY

6:30pm - Prayer & Fellowship at the Parsonage

WEDNESDAY

5:45pm - "Parenting With Hope" - Parents of Preschoolers, Childcare will be provided.

7:00pm - Confirmation

THURSDAY

9:30am - Quilting

2:00pm - Sunrise Village Worship - Jasper

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30am - Worship/Clark Baptism

10:30am - Coffee Fellowship

2018 September Giving

Monthly Income Required to Operate	\$ 17,800.00
Weekly Giving - Sept. 2	\$ 4,577.00
Weekly Giving - Sept. 9	\$ 4,841.30
Weekly Giving - Sept. 16	\$ 3,201.22
Weekly Giving - Sept. 23	\$
Weekly Giving - Sept. 30	\$
Total to Date	\$ 12,619.52

The Outreach & Mission's 3rd Quarter project will be a Coat Drive to help those we serve at 'The Banquet' in October. We are now collecting new or gently used coats, hats, and gloves as well as monetary donations which will be used to purchase additional coats, hats and gloves. We will be collecting these items until Sunday October 7th.

A box will be located in the Narthex for the coats, hats, and gloves and the noisy offering bucket will be located in the Narthex on Sundays for donations.

The Outreach & Mission Committee would like to Thank you for all of your donations this year to our worthy projects. This generosity has helped us give in so many ways to those in need.





Senior & Junior High September Youth Activity

A Scavenger Hunt is scheduled to be held **TODAY @ 4:00** at the **Hiawatha Pageant Grounds Picnic Shelter**. Teams will be formed to scour the pageant grounds for finding clues in solving the day's riddle. This will be a good opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, have fun and share fellowship among the congregational youth. The Youth Committee will be serving walking tacos following the activity. Mark your calendar and hope to see you all there.

Prayer at the Parsonage

Date/Time: Tuesday, Sept 25 6:30pm

Where: The Parsonage - 843 6th St. SW

It will be led by Pastor Joyce. Bring a **"Snack to Share and Prayer."** Beverages will be provided. **Open to everyone.**



a Heart for

Shetek Lutheran Ministries "OCTOBER FEST"



Who: 3rd - 6th Graders

When: Friday Oct 19, 6pm & Saturday, Oct 20, 6pm **Cost:** \$50

Register online at www.shetek.org or pick up a registration form at the Church office. Must be sent in with a \$20 deposit by Oct 5, 2018.

Invite your friends, All are Welcome !



Stewardship Quote

"A checkbook is a theological document; it will tell you who and what you worship."

- Billy Graham

Due to the "Little Arrows" Preschool being

located in First Lutheran Church - the church will be locked during the Preschool hours. To enter the church - press the buzzer & the Church Staff will let you in.

