

† *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 TWENTIETH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

**Sunday, October 7, 2018
GOD’S PEOPLE GATHER**

The Spiritual Journey of Paul

Spiritual journey is a metaphor for how spiritual beliefs change and develop throughout life. Spiritual journey is how a person grows in understanding God, the world and oneself. Spiritual journey is an intentional lifestyle of growing deeper in knowledge and wisdom. The goal of a spiritual journey is to become more like Christ. Paul had a full life. He was wealthy, respected, educated, and a Pharisee. Paul also considered himself an apostle. He used that term frequently in the letters he wrote to the early church. As we hear of Paul’s journey, keep in mind the changes in your life that have brought you closer to Christ.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN No. 836 “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

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**

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HYMN OF PRAISE Page 149 “This is the Feast”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: God of Spiritual journeys thank you that you never leave us the same. As you were made known to Paul on the road to Damascus, keep our eyes open to see you and our ears open to hear your call. May God who has begun a good work in us bring it completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Help the light of Christ to shine in and through all that we say and do. In the name of the living Christ we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON Philipians 4:1-7

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. 2I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. 3Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. 4Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Here ends the first lesson. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 119:165-176

Great peace have those who love your law; nothing can make them stumble.

C: I hope for your salvation, O LORD, and I fulfill your commandments.

My soul keeps your decrees; I love them exceedingly.

C: I keep your precepts and decrees, for all my ways are before you.

Let my cry come before you, O LORD; give me understanding according to your word.

C: Let my supplication come before you; deliver me according to your promise.

My lips will pour forth praise, because you teach me your statutes.

C: My tongue will sing of your promise, for all your commandments are right.

Let your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts.

C: I long for your salvation, O LORD, and your law is my delight.

Let me live that I may praise you, and let your ordinances help me.

C: I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek out your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.

The word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON Acts 9:1-18

1Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" 5He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The

reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." 7The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. 8Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. 10Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." 11The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, 12and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." 13But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; 14and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." 15But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; 16I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." 17So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized,
Here ends the second lesson. **C: Thanks be to God**

SERMON **Pastor Joyce Tollefson Capp**

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

HYMN OF THE DAY No. 779
“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

APOSTLES’ CREED **Page 105**

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 No. 821 **“Shout to the Lord”**

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.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING/WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

COMMUNION HYMNS 465, 471, 496

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

P: Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

GOD’S PEOPLE SENT FORTH

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN No. 793..... “**Be Thou My Vision**”

DISMISSAL:

P: Go in peace. Sound the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

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WELCOME! Great to have you here! Thank you for choosing to worship with us here today. We practice open Communion at First Lutheran. If you believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine, his body and blood shed for you, you are welcome to our table. *Apple juice is available upon request.*

THE WORSHIP RADIO BROADCAST today is sponsored in honor of Pastor Joyce & Ron’s 25th wedding anniversary from Chester Tollefson and Dave & Susan Tollefson.

Ministers.	Members of First Lutheran Church
Pastor	Rev. Joyce Tollefson Capp
Organist	Paul Henriksen
Reader	Gene Spicer
Acolytes	Tony Wacker & Avery Wagner
Ushers.	Gregg Johnson, Carl Petersen, Wendy Weber, Mark Muller
Sound	Mark Zinnel & Mike Straw
Communion Assistant	Chris Hollingsworth

† **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 Wade & Deb Smith’s Grandson, Gavin, as he undergoes cancer treatment, Darrick Baartman, as her recovers from surgery, Patti Peterson, as she recovers from surgery and Scott & Marit Sterud on the birth of their son, Augie Mitchell.

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

THIS WEEKS' SCHEDULE — October 7, 2018

<u>TODAY</u>	
9:30am - Worship/Holy Communion	10:30am - Coffee Fellowship
Pastor gone to the Fall Theological Conference	
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	
Pastor will be back	9:30am - PEO meeting - Fireside Rm
5:45pm - 'Parenting With Hope' meeting	
7:00pm - Confirmation	8:00pm - Council meeting
<u>THURSDAY</u>	
9:30am - Quilting	4-5:00pm - Second Harvest
<u>FRIDAY</u>	
6:00pm - Wedding rehearsal	
<u>SATURDAY</u>	
4:00pm - Lopau/Scott Wedding	
<u>NEXT SUNDAY</u>	
9:30am - Worship	10:30am - Coffee Fellowship
3:00pm - Edgebrook Worship service	

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	\$ 3,670.05
Weekly Giving - Sept. 30	\$ 3,609.25
Total to Date	\$ 19,898.82

The Outreach & Mission's 3rd Quarter project will be a Coat Drive to help those we serve at 'The Banquet' in October. We are collecting new or gently used coats, hats, and gloves as well as monetary donations to be used to purchase additional coats, hats and gloves until Sunday Oct 7th. A box is in the Narthex for the clothing & the Noisy offering pails are available for donations.



The total monetary amount donated to this date is \$280.32. Thank you from the Outreach & Mission Committee.

Stewardship Quote

"Your use of money shows what you think of God."





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.



The Annual 'Banquet Ministry'

First Lutheran Church is scheduled to serve Dinner at the Banquet Ministry in Sioux Falls, on Wednesday, October 24th, 2018. They need volunteers to arrive at the Banquet in Sioux Falls by 2pm to help prepare the meals. Those helping to serve the meals will be leaving the Church at 4pm. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Thank you for supporting the Banquet ministry to serve those in need !



Quilt Raffle:

The loving and talented church women have made a Halloween themed quilt for the youth raffle. Tickets are \$2.00 each, 3 for \$5 or 6 for \$10.00. Funds from this raffle will go towards the youth attending the Youth Gathering in Willmar in November. ***Let's work together to make this a super fund raiser.***

Parents of 9th grade Confirmands.... we need an electronic Baptism or Baby picture of your child to the **Church office** firstluth1@iw.net by Monday, Oct. 15th, 2018. The picture will be used during the Confirmation service Oct 28th.



WANTED: People to help make the Baptismal Prayer shawls. If you are able to help - please call the Church office @ 825.5837.