



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

MONMOUTH, IL

116 S. B Street, Monmouth, IL 61462; (309)734-2106

www.flcmonmouth.org; email: office@flcmonmouth.org

Follow us on Facebook @FLCMonmouth.org



SEASON OF CREATION

**Gathered by God, We Live Our Faith With:
Compassion, Grace, Gratitude, and Joy.**

Welcome to Worship :: May 17, 2026— 7th Sunday of Easter

Today's Worship Ministers

Usher: Doug Cruce
Reader: Julie Blaesing
Communion Assistant: Chip Algren
Narthex Host: Linda McGuire

Staff

Pastor: Jamie Gallagher
Cell: 630-200-3550; e-mail: prjamie@flcmonmouth.org
Musicians: Janice Algren and Carolyn Kellert

Check Out Our Welcome Center

Coffee Station: We have a variety of Coffee and Tea options in our Narthex. Feel free to enjoy your beverage throughout the worship service

Giving Station: Our offering Plate and Vision and Purpose Giving Jar are located under the Narthex window

Vision and Purpose: In May, we are supporting the Teen Recharge Center here in Monmouth. The center provides a space for teens after school and during the day in the summer for teens in Warren County. The center has resources for food security, personal hygiene products, and a clothing pantry. It provides volunteer opportunities and fun fellowship opportunities.

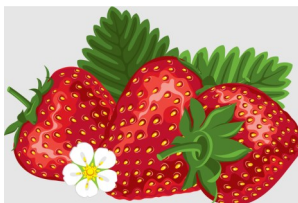
Weekly Newsletters: Print Copies of our weekly newsletter are available under the Narthex Window. The email version will be sent out on Monday. If you wish to receive a copy by email or a

In Our Prayers

Ila Roseberry, Kathi Cruce, Janet Lowe, Pat Clark, Jennie Best, Dee Dee Yez, Charlotte Volz, Richard Schlicher, Eloise Swisher, Cecil Lovdahl, Sue Gallagher

Strawberry Festival

Thursday, June 11



Order of Service

Gathering

Announcements,
Mission Statement/Prelude
Confession and Forgiveness
The Peace

Opening Hymn: ELW 310, Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

The Word/Prayer

Greeting
Kyrie: ELW Setting 8, page 184
Hymn of Praise, ELW Setting 8, page 187

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, you made the wilderness teeming with living creatures, thriving plants, and spacious habitats. Free us from our destructive ambitions. Stir us to respect and protect your wild places, caring for all that you have made, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Joel 1:1-12, 17-20; Romans 8:18-27
Gospel Acclamation: ELW Setting 8, page 188
Matthew 3:13-4:2

Sermon
Hymn: ELW 448, This Is The Spirit's Entry Now
Apostles' Creed
Prayers of Intercession
Offering Prayer

Offering Hymn: ELW 692, We Are an Offering

Communion

Dialogue: ELW Setting 8, page 190
Preface
"Holy, Holy, Holy": ELW Setting 8, page 190
Communion Prayer
Lord's Prayer
"Lamb of God", ELW Setting 8, page 191
Distribution
Post Communion Prayer

Sending

Benediction
Closing Hymn: ELW 545, Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing
Dismissal

Joel 1:1-12, 17-20

1 The word of the Lord that came to Joel son of Pethuel:

2 Hear this, O elders; give ear, all inhabitants of the land! Has such a thing happened in your days or in the days of your ancestors? 3 Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.

4 What the cutting locust left, the swarming locust has eaten; what the swarming locust left, the hopping locust has eaten; and what the hopping locust left, the destroying locust has eaten.

5 Wake up, you drunkards, and weep, and wail, all you wine drinkers, over the sweet wine, for it is cut off from your mouth. 6 For a nation has invaded my land, powerful and innumerable; its teeth are lions' teeth, and it has the fangs of a lioness. 7 It has laid waste my vines and splintered my fig trees; it has stripped off their bark and thrown it down; their branches have turned white.

8 Lament like a virgin dressed in sackcloth for the husband of her youth. 9 The grain offering and the drink offering are cut off from the house of the Lord. The priests mourn, the ministers of the Lord. 10 The fields are devastated, the ground mourns, for the grain is destroyed, the wine dries up, the oil fails.

11 Be dismayed, you farmers; wail, you vinedressers, over the wheat and the barley, for the crops of the field are ruined. 12 The vine withers; the fig tree droops. Pomegranate, palm, and apple— all the trees of the field are dried up; surely, joy withers away among the people.

The seed shrivels under the clods; the storehouses are desolate; the granaries are ruined because the grain has withered. 18 How the animals groan! The herds of cattle wander about because there is no pasture for them; even the flocks of sheep are perishing.

19 To you, O Lord, I cry, for fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and flames have burned all the trees of the field. 20 Even the wild animals cry to you because the watercourses are dried up, and fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

Romans 8:18-27

18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, 20 for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, 23 and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. 27 And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Matthew 3:13-4:2

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. 14 John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" 15 But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. 16 And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. 2 He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished.