



Worship Notes

Friday, November 13, 2020

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Jamie Reynolds

Dear Friends and Family,

This past week, we had a chance to pause and thank those who have served our country in the armed forces. We all know veterans—some are family, some are friends, some are our own selves.

Thank you to all veterans for distinguished and honorable service to our nation. Thank you to all who are currently serving, for example our own Sgt Lacey Elliott, may your service continue to be safe and may you quickly return home to your loved ones.

Thank you for your generous support of our ministry

Stewardship time is a time to reflect on our thankfulness to God as exemplified by our generosity to the church. The ministry of the church functions because of the generosity of its members.

Join us this week as we hear from Ben Sanberg as he shares from his heart a message about why growing in generosity matters and makes a bigger impact in the world.



Please keep in prayer the following:



Bradley Anderson, Josie Blake, Bev Coulter, Nancy Dowell, John Ellison, Linda Ellison, Dave Erlandson, Jim Erlandson, Brad and Jodie Haist, Cassie Jern & Family, Delores Johnson, Graham Johnson, Bob Kerschke, Ila Roseberry, Norman Worthington, Evelyn Volz, Darrell Thirtyacre, Donna Larson, Beckie Bean, Joy Johnson, Pat Root, Jim Johnson, Kay and Glenn Bailey, Diane Bradley, Anna Lovdahl, Matt Council, and Sgt. Lacey Elliott, who continues to serve our country

Please let the church office know any updates that are needed to our prayer list.

In-Person Worship Habits

Our goal is to reduce the risk of the spread of the pandemic as much as possible. We require masks for all gatherings at church, and during worship we will not sing or use responsive replies from the congregation.

Our pattern of worship may look and feel very different, but it remains very familiar. Hand gestures are used by worshippers as the pastor and a worship assistant lead the holy dialogue that is our liturgy.

We have spaced out our communion receiving stations and distribute with gloves, only holding out the bread or cup for the individual in the moment.

Our congregation is to be commended for following all the guidelines and grace continues as we strive to new habits.

This week in worship



God the Creator fashioned an exciting world. Some of the world has been populated, cultivated, and civilized. These areas have forces of nature that have been tamed and bent to human will and ingenuity.

But there remains vast areas called wilderness, areas where nature still governs, where human hands have not yet harmed or controlled. How do we experience God the creator in these wild spaces? Join us this Sunday at 9 AM for in-person worship, or watch the worship video when it is released on Monday morning.

WORSHIP
VOLUNTEER
opportunities



This Week

Worship Assistant: Pam Best

Usher: Diane Carlson

Thank you to all who volunteer to assist in leading worship.

We have openings for altar flowers

November 15

November 22 Nancy Reynolds

November 29 Glenna Martin

December 6



Living the Creed

This is your Sunday School—At Home Version

A wilderness space is where Jesus went to be tempted by the devil. We encounter wilderness spaces very differently. Let's take a moment to explore wilderness spaces and discover the wonder of God the creator in all of its splendor.

Download this week's PDF to learn about wilderness spaces in Illinois, and how one may prepare to interact with wilderness spaces today.

As we prepare for the winter season ahead, the church council has implemented a Robo-Calling system to alert church members if there is a last-minute cancellation of a worship service due to weather/safety concerns.

This Robo-Calling system will use a message that Pastor Jamie will record. The phone call number on your caller ID will be the church phone number. Hopefully, we will not need to cancel worship due to weather, but if we do, we are prepared to communicate to the entire congregation.

Blessings

O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

1 Chronicles 16:8

How does one truly give thanks to the Lord? King David offered these words from 1 Chronicles in a psalm he gave. The occasion was the bringing of the Ark of the Covenant to a rest in the Tent of worship in Jerusalem. David is the king who united all of Israel, who successfully fought back all the neighboring invaders, and who established Jerusalem as the capital city and the home of God. Now as the people celebrated, David cried out, O Give Thanks to the LORD. David wanted everyone to know what God has done. Telling others what God has done is an expression of Thanks to God.

How do we do this today? Well, we begin by naming what we are thankful for. What has God done? We can begin with the grand deeds God has done. Jesus died and rose again opening the way for our eternal forgiveness and making us heirs with Christ in the Kingdom of God. But wait—there's more. God has created a church for us to gather within. God has raised up ancestors of faith who have built the structure we call church, who wrote the words for worship we sing and recite. God has offered us words through the Bible and inspirational writings. But that is not all. We give thanks for even the minor details—God is found our kind acts towards a neighbor in need; God is found as we donate to the Jamieson Center; God is in the very quilt fabric our ladies use to send warmth around the world; God is found in the envelopes and bank transactions that bring our offering forward to be used in so many ministries, we cannot name them all.

Can you name these things? Can you see the impact of your expression of thankfulness when you support a ministry like First Lutheran Church? If you cannot name this, if you cannot see the impact, then the church has failed to make you aware of these things. So let us start from the top again—name what God has done; Give thanks for all that God has done; tell others what God has done. And give generously, so that the next generation may give thanks for the foundations of God's ministry we have laid for the.

In Peace,

Pastor Jamie