



# Worship Notes

Friday, October 30, 2020

## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Dear Friends and Family,

Our hearts are heavy with grief as we enter this All Saints Weekend. The recent passing of our friend Kim has us all shocked and pondering the great mystery that is our current global pandemic. All Saints Sunday is a day of remembrance and a day of lifting ourselves and our loved ones into the eternal care of God. We are promised an eternal life with God through Jesus Christ. This life begins here as an earthly journey and continues into the heavenly realm. Our heavy hearts are comforted by this promise, as our faith sustains us until we are reunited with all the saints in the promised eternal kingdom.

*Thank you for your generous support of our ministry*

This November, we will be talking stewardship and while our lives are impacted by the coronavirus, the ministry of the church continues to move forward. Take time to pray about the ways you support the ministry of First Lutheran, through regular and special offerings as well as volunteering opportunities.



God loves a cheerful giver. We are cheerful givers when we are fully passionate about something. May First Lutheran Church be something you are passionate about.

*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, Vickie Feehan, Diane Bradley, Anna Lovdahl, the friends and family of Kim Rains, 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

Thank you. We are doing a great job reducing the risks of the pandemic as we continue following these habits:

- \* If you are sick, please stay home.
- \* Face masks are required for attending in-person worship. The church has extra masks if you forget yours at home.
- \* Social distancing in the pews means we sit at least 6-feet apart from other family units.
- \* Offering plates are at each entrance for you to place your giving as you enter or depart.
- \* Communion practices include social distancing as well, follow the signs on the floor for where to receive and where to consume.

### This week in worship



This Sunday is All Saints Sunday. We will have a special moment dedicated to remembering the saints who died this last year.

We will also begin a new series focusing on Creation, and God's place within creation. This week we will enter into forests and learn how God's creative work is found within trees.

WORSHIP  
VOLUNTEER  
opportunities



**This Week**

Worship Assistant: Doug Cruce

Usher: Rose Sandstrom

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

**We have openings for altar flowers**



**Altar  
Flowers**

November 1 Pat Root and Becky and  
Ryan Kometer in memory of Bill Root

November 8

November 15

November 22

**Living the Creed**

This is your Sunday School—At Home Version

Trees are everywhere. And sometimes we don't even fully realize just how dependent we are on trees. Download this week's Living the Creed PDF and reflect on our relationship with trees. Whether it is from the air we share, or the resources we use, or their bright fall colors we get to enjoy, trees are mighty indeed.

Print out the PDF and grow in faith at home this week!

Check out our Worship Tab on our website. It features a lectionary PDF. This is designed to share the upcoming readings, the prayers of the day, upcoming living the creed concepts, and also lists who is helping in worship as worship assistants and ushers.

The current lectionary posts continues through November 22nd and features the entire Season of Creation series we are following this month.

Past worship service videos and print resources are also available.

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*Blessings*

And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

Colossians 3:15

November is a season of thankfulness. Though, this particular November we may not be feeling very thankful. The global pandemic has not waned, but in fact has resurged and is threatening once again our ability to return to normal life patterns. After the spring semester and all its festivities were ruined, our summer was but a brief respite, and even then the threat ever loomed. Now, our holiday traditions may have to be adjusted to fit with the ways of living within a pandemic.

St. Paul's letter to the Colossians reminds us to always be thankful. And he doesn't qualify that thankfulness should only happen when all things are going good in our life. St. Paul doesn't say, Be thankful unless the world is topsy-turvy. St. Paul says, "always be thankful." How do we live thankfully when we don't feel that way?

One way is to practice thankfulness. We practice thankfulness in worship when we give to God. It may be a routine habit, it may be something that automatically leaves our checkbook and we don't even write an envelop out anymore. But offering is our practicing thankfulness. Imagine on Sunday mornings, when we say our offering prayer, that you are hearing your voice join with the voice of the whole gathering, to say "Thank you, God". This is a sign of our thankfulness. It is like writing a thank-you note to someone who gave you a gift. We say thank you to God with an offering. It doesn't matter to God how big or small the thank you is. It matters that we say thank you. And the more we say thank you to God, the more we will recognize how to say thank you to those around us, who support us, who help us, who walk through especially tough times with us. And the more we say thank you, the more we realize the peace that comes from Christ is actively ruling in our hearts. And the more peace that comes from Christ rules in our hearts, the more thankful we become.

In Peace,

Pastor Jamie