

## SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 22/23, 2025 6:00 pm / 8:45 am Holy Communion

First Lutheran Church, Kearney, NE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS And WELCOME

**Prelude** *"Trumpet Tune"* by Douglas E. Wagner **Organist, Reed Wagner** *Please stand as you are able.* 

**Confession and Forgiveness** 

**P:** Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

**P:** Merciful God,

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

C: Amen.

#### Processional Hymn "Spirit, Open My Heart", ACS 1043

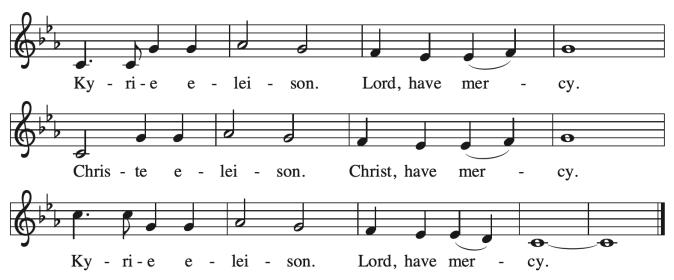


Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947. Music: Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953 Text © 1996 Pilgrim Press. Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A-705218

#### Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: And also with you.

**Kyrie** 



### **Prayer of the Day**

L: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.** 

8:45 am Anthem "The Lord Will Be My Shepherd" by Nancy Price and Don Besigald Chancel Choir

#### Word

L: A Reading from 1 Corinthians the Fifteenth Chapter.

L: <sup>35</sup> But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" <sup>36</sup> Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup> And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup> But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

<sup>42</sup> So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. <sup>43</sup> It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup> It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup> Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup> But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup> The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup> As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup> Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

<sup>50</sup> What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

(1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50)

L: Word of God. Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God. Please stand as you are able for the Gospel Acclamation.

## **Gospel Acclamation**



#### Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the Sixth Chapter.C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: Jesus said: <sup>27</sup> "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.<sup>29</sup> If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you. <sup>32</sup> "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup> "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup> give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." (*Luke 6:27-38*)

**P:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

## Children's Message And "Noisy" Offering

## Sermon Pastor Rick Carlson



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## <mark>6:00 pm</mark>

### SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM Calliope Elizabeth Hobbs

## INTRODUCTION

**P:** In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

## PRESENTATION

**P:** Who presents this child for Holy Baptism?

# Sponsors: We present *Calliope Elizabeth Hobbs* to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

**P:** As you bring *Calliope* to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

To live with *her* among God's faithful people, bring *her* to the word of God and the holy supper, teach *her* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in *her* hands the holy scriptures, and nurture *her* in faith and prayer, so that *she* may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. **P:** Parents, do you promise to help Calliope grow in the Christian faith and life? **Parents: We do.** 

**P:** Sponsors, do you promise to nurture *Calliope* in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and help *her* live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

#### Sponsors: We do.

## PROFESSION

**P:** Let us profess the faith in which we baptize today.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

**P:** We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **C: Amen.** 

## BAPTISM

**P:** Calliope Elizabeth Hobbs is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## LAYING ON OF HANDS

**P:** God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your children from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon *Calliope,* the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence. Amen.

## SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

**P:** Calliope Elizabeth Hobbs, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen.

## PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

## PRAYER FOR PARENTS

**P:** O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon Nicholas and Alexis. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their child. Strengthen them in their own Baptisms so they may share eternally with their child the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## WELCOME

P: Members of First Lutheran, you have witnessed the Baptism of *Calliope.* Will you pray for *her* and share your faith with *her*? Will you remind *her* that she belongs to Christ and that as Christ's people we all belong to each other?
C: We will.

**P:** Then, welcome your new *sister* in the name of Jesus.

C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share. Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

#### 6:00 pm and 8:45 am

### **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

**P:** This is a really exciting time at First Lutheran! Part of the excitement is that we are receiving new members this weekend to join us in God's mission and ministry. We invite those present at this service to please come forward at this time.

#### Jane David Jantha Jamison Chuck and Kathy Meyers Linda Peterson Jimmy and Courtney Riley

**P:** Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation. In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

P: Do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?
Each <u>new</u> member: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

**P:** People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

## [8:45am only] Creed

P: Congregation, do you believe in God the Father?
C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
C: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

## PRAYER

**P:** Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these people your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

## WELCOME

**P:** Let us welcome these siblings in Christ to this community of faith.

C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

#### Prayers of Intercession

L: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence for reflection.

L: Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace, C: hear our prayer.

L: As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way.

God of grace,

#### C: hear our prayer.

L: We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints.

God of grace,

#### C: hear our prayer.

L: Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities. God of grace,

## C: hear our prayer.

L: We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care. We pray especially for...

Karen Hiskett	Tony Tauer
Linda Sue Jensen	Dave Vest
Betty Kempf	Eunice Warner
Ron Kruse	Carl Weber
Amy Lammers	Misty White
Bob Lammers	Dean Wiese
Emily McArthur	Marty Wilcox
Bob Placzek	Miranda Wright
Eileen Richter	Xander Wright
Brent Roemmich	Paula Yoachim
Tricia Samuelson	
Garth Scism	
Addison Sullivan	
	Betty Kempf Ron Kruse Amy Lammers <b>Bob Lammers</b> Emily McArthur Bob Placzek Eileen Richter Brent Roemmich Tricia Samuelson Garth Scism

L: God of grace,

#### C: hear our prayer.

L: We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us. May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace. God of grace,

#### C: hear our prayer.

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.C: Amen.

#### Peace

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

#### C: And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with one another.

Please be seated.

#### Meal

#### Offering "Voluntary" by Douglas E. Wagner Organist: Reed Wagner

#### **Offertory Response**

"Jesus, the Light of the World", ACS 914, verse 4 only



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, stanzas; George D. Elderkin, 1845-1928, refrain Music: Traditional; arr. George D. Elderkin

## **Offertory Prayer**

L: Let us pray.

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,

and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

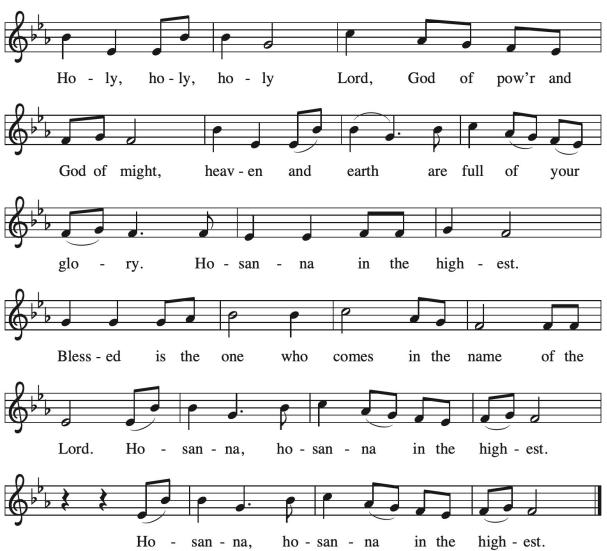
Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

C: Amen.

## The Great Thanksgiving

- **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.

**Sanctus** 



#### Words of Institution

**P:** In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

- **P:** Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
- C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

## The Lord's Prayer

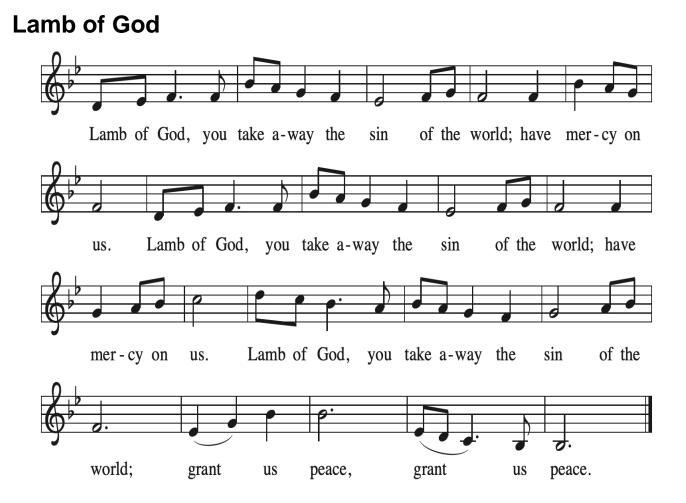
**P:** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

#### **Invitation to Communion**

**P:** The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

We practice open communion at First Lutheran. All are welcome to receive the elements at the altar rail. Gluten-free wafers are available. In addition to the cups filled with wine (red) in the tray, there are cups containing grape juice (clear) in the center.



#### Communion Music *"Hymn"* by Douglas E. Wagner Organist: Reed Wagner

Please stand as you are able.

#### **Table Grace**

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

#### C: Amen.

## **Prayer After Communion**

L: Let us pray. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, C: Amen.

## Blessing

C: Amen.

**Sending Hymn** 

"Praise and Thanks and Adoration" ELW 783



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#### Dismissal

- L: Go in peace. Live in hope.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude *"Rigadoun"* by Gordon Young Organist: Reed Wagner

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Worship Schedule—Saturday 6:00 pm, Sunday 8:45 am & 11:00 am
- Church Office Hours—Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.
- Brookestone Garden Services: First Sunday monthly at 2:00 pm
- For the hard of hearing FLC offers a loop system for wearers with a "T" (t-coil) setting; the coverage works <u>best</u> on the main floor in the <u>center</u> aisles. (It is not available in the balcony.)
- Prayer Chapel—across from Centennial Hall, a place for quiet prayer
- S.A.F.E. Center donations for February are feminine hygiene products. Please put donations on the sharing shelf in the Narthex.
- Volunteers of the Month for February are the Witness & Members Team and Kyle Means for creating the new 2025 Church Pictorial Directory.
- **Communion registration**—Please register annually to maintain membership. Registration cards in pew racks & on Welcome Stations.
- Visitors—please complete a visitor card, found in the pews.
- First Lutheran Church Preschool Registration:
  - **Registration is open to the public –** for 2025/2026
- Sundays: Sunday School Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade 9:50 am 10:50 am.
- **Thursdays: February / March** FLC serves Jubilee meals every Thursday evening through March.
- Wednesdays Adult Bible Study 10:30 am-11:30 am in Classroom 14.
- Wednesday evening activities:
  - Last night of FROG & Confirmation Class during Lent: 2/26/25
  - Feeding the Flock meal is open to everyone not just the youth. Served 5:30 pm 6:30 pm in Centennial Hall.
  - **FROG** Pre-K through  $5^{\text{th}}$  grade 6:15 pm 7:45 pm.
  - FLY-Wednesday night Youth Group, 6:30 pm 8:00 pm.
  - $\circ$  Confirmation Class 6:50 pm 7:55 pm.
  - **Praiser Bells** 5:15 pm.
  - Heavenly Treble Makers 6:15 pm.
  - Chancel Choir 6:30 pm.
- Sunday, February 23 New Member's Reception 9:30 am 10:30 am Centennial Hall Please visit our new members and welcome them!
- Sunday, March 2 Adult Forum | 9:50 am | Brad Stolcpart and Kaylee Anderson share updates with Compass and Care Portal: Centennial Hall
- Wednesday, March 5 Ash Wednesday 12 noon Service & 6:30 pm Service (Feeding the Flock will not be served this evening. No other activities meeting)
- Sunday, March 9 Daylight Saving Time Set your clocks FORWARD
- Sunday, March 9 3:30pm Pack 139 Blue & Gold Banquet
- Sundays, March 9, 16, 23, 30 Adult Sunday School with Pastor Rick.9:50am Centennial Hall.
- Wednesdays, March 12, 19, 26, April 2 & 9 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade First Communion Classes. Please register before February 23. Forms can be found on the welcome station.



#### First Lutheran Church ~ 3315 G Avenue ~ Kearney, NE 68847 308-237-5544 ~ office@firstlutherankearney.org

#### Rev. Dr. Michelle Holley Carlson, Presiding Pastor Rev. Dr. Rick Carlson, Preaching Pastor

Assisting Ministers: 6:00 pm – Jamie Banzhaf 8:45 am – Amy Behrhorst 11:00 am – John Love Organist: Reed Wagner

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