



Time after Pentecost Reformation Sunday

October 26, 2025

11:00 am

Holy Communion

First Lutheran Church, Kearney, NE

Announcements and Welcome

Today's service is accompanied by the following musicians: Preston Russman, Harper Lewandowski, Natalie Radcliffe, Pastor John Gosswein, Cosette Wagner, Willa Lewandowski, Miranda Wright, Jonathan Reece, Dave Brandt, Angela Wright, Pastor Logan Ellis

Dedication of Quilts and Kits

P: Let us pray.

O Lord our God, maker of all things, you have blessed us with so many Gifts—a good eye for color, the ability to make fine stitches, the skills to develop ever-new and exciting patterns. Now we offer the fruits of our labors, the quilts we have made, to you.

C: We dedicate these quilts and kits to your service, trusting that your love will go wherever each quilt or kit is sent, making it more than just a piece of material, a collection of items—making each piece we have created an expression of love. There is no way for us to imagine the power and effect an act of love can have on a person's life—how you can use something as small as a quilt or kit to radiate your love from us to the world. May these be used in your service and become blessings for all those who receive them.

P: Lord, we know that all we possess comes from your loving hand. Give us grace to honor you with all of our being: draw our hearts to you, guide our minds, fill our imaginations, control our wills, so that we may be wholly yours. Use us as you will, always to your glory and the welfare of your people.

C: Amen.

Prelude

"Prelude in Bb BWV 560", by Johann Sebastian BACH
Organist, Reed Wagner

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have squandered your bountiful gifts.

We have considered the blessings of the harvest our due. We have been indifferent in planning and planting for the future needs of your church. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, cause gratitude to ripen in our hearts, and wisdom to mature in our minds, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Processional Hymn

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" ELW 504

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

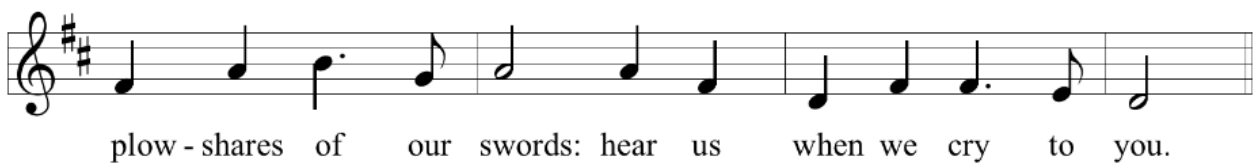
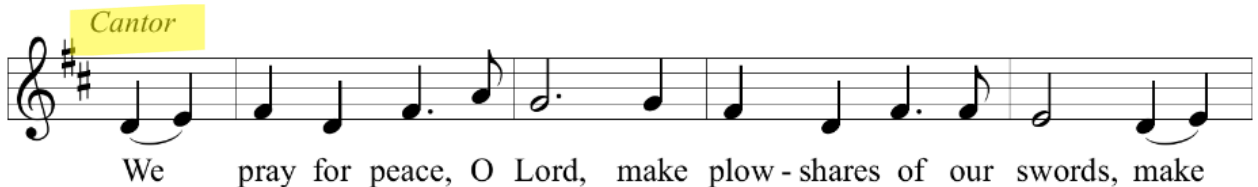
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Greeting

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



Assembly



Christ, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, Christ, have



mer-cy on us: hear us when we cry to you.

Cantor



De - fend your church, O Lord, and root it in your word, and



root it in your word: hear us when we cry to you.

Assembly



Lord, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, Lord, have



mer-cy on us: hear our cry. A - men.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer. Music: *My Father, How Long*, African American spiritual

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Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

God, our provider, you grant us an abundant harvest so that your children throughout the world may be fed. Establish in us thankfulness and faithful stewardship, that we may return the first fruits of praise and use your gifts of field and livestock, tree and vine to fulfill the needs of the hungry and the sojourner; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Anthem

“The Church’s One Foundation”, arr. John Purifoy

Chancel Choir

Word

L: A reading from Second Timothy, the fourth chapter.

L: ¹ In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

⁶ As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. ⁸ From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

(2 Timothy 4:1-8)

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel Acclamation.

Gospel Acclamation [verse 2 only]

"O God, Whose Word Well-Planted"



1 O God, whose word well-plant - ed yields fruit a hun - dred - fold,
2 O God of seed and har - vest, of sun and soil and rain,
3 O God, your fi - nal har - vest of his - t'ry's an - cient field



we praise your grac - es grant - ed to those who sowed of old,
at - tend the word we sow, lest its plant - ing be in vain.
will test with truth the proud - est that hu - man work can yield.



who by their wit - ness scat - tered good seed up - on the soil
Send show - ers of your Spir - it, bright sun - shine of your grace,
Op - pres - sion's blight will van - ish, fair free - dom's fruits in - crease;



where oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of their toil.
that mul - ti - tudes who hear it your gos - pel may em - brace.
and love and joy will flour - ish to clothe the earth with peace.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr. Music: *Abiding Presence*, Stephen P. Folkemer
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Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the eighteenth Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ⁹ Jesus also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰ “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.” (*Luke 18:9-14*)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message and “Noisy” Offering

Sermon Pastor Logan Ellis

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

“O Word of God Incarnate” ELW 514



- 1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
- 2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;
- 3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.
to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;



we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
oh, teach your wand - 'ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt. Music: *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693
Text and Music Public Domain

Prayers of Intercession

P: Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence for reflection.

P: Uniting God, you draw your church together as the one body of Christ. Bring congregations into conversation and dialogue so the church is transformed and reformed in your abundant grace.

God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Sustaining God, you create all the beauty around us. We give you thanks for the harvest of your creation. Restore creation as the seasons change.

God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Governing God, you bring peace and justice through mercy. Guide judges, lawmakers, attorneys, and those in any authority to act with compassion and understanding.

God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Proclaiming God, you gift the church proclamation through music. We thank you for all of the music ministries of this congregation. Transform your church through the musical arts.

God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Healing God, you comfort those who suffer. Console people whose lives are disrupted by cancer, disease, and illness. Bring your healing mercy to any in need. We pray especially for...

Jim Anderson	Tom Henning	Garth Scism
Bertha Boyer	Tami Jobman	Wendell Springer
Vicki Buschelman	Monie Karschner	Joanne Suing
Gregory Carrico	Rhonda King	Addison Sullivan
Jim Crick	Marlene Kotrc	Tony Tauer
Wayne Deterding	Roger Loschen	Amy Townsend
Terry Eirich	Mary Renshaw	Misty White
Bob Forbess	Daniel Rheome	Dean Wiese
Leonard Fowler	Eileen Richter	Miranda Wright
Randy Fritson	Daryl & Gena Rodgers	Candy Woodward
Larry Giddings	Brent Roemmich	Paula Yoachim
		James Ziebarth

P: God of grace,
C: receive our prayer.

P: Resurrecting God, you crown your beloved children with righteousness. We thank you for those who have died in faith, fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith. God of grace,
C: receive our prayer.

P: We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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

"Fugue in Bb BWV 560" by Johann Sebastian BACH

Reed Wagner

Offering Response, verse 3 only

"Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring"



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we

place up - on your ta - ble. We do not wor - ship
grew in your good plea - sure. What once was com - mon,
lift in prayer be - fore you. Lord, by your grace now

as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
dai - ly food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer. Music: *Barb'ry Ellen*, traditional Appalachian Text and arr. © 1990, 2013 Augustburg Fortress
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Offertory Prayer

L: Let us pray.

Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Through your Son, you taught us that true riches are to be found in loving you rather than earthly treasure. For your glory, and to give us the fullness of life and salvation, Christ emptied himself upon the cross and was raised in power to sit at your right hand. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in adoring song.

Sanctus

"Long, Long Ago in Jerusalem"

Verses: Cantor or choir



1 Long, long a - go in Je - ru - sa - lem, as the
2 High on a throne sat the might - y Lord, robes
3 Oh, what a sight it was to see and



scrip - tures do re - cord, I - sa - iah to the
flow - ing through the hall, while six - wing - ed an - gels
oh, what a sound to hear! The tem - ple door - posts



tem - ple came to see the ho - ly Lord.
flew a - bove. I - sa - iah heard them call.
shook and quaked, and smoke was in the air.

Refrain: Assembly



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, God's



glo - ry fills all heav'n and earth, God of pow-er and might.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on Isaiah 6 and the Sanctus. Music: Shady Grove, traditional Appalachian
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Words of Institution

P: Let the peoples praise you, generous and abundant Creator:

you scatter abroad and give to the poor;
you provide seed to the sower and bread for food.

Let the peoples praise you:

you called Israel to be your chosen people,
to preserve your word and to scatter it abroad.

Let the peoples praise you:

when time had ripened, you sent the Word, your Son,
into the world,
so that all might have life and have it abundantly.

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.

Remembering, therefore, how he fed the hungry and gave company to outcasts;
how he healed the sick and freed those in bondage;
how he taught and guided those who were seeking you;
how he was handed over and gathered in for our sake;
how he was resurrected as the first fruits of the dead,
and how he promised to return for the great harvest home;
we give you thanks, not as we ought, but as we are able.

Send, we pray, your Spirit to this meal.
Supply our needs, and those of all your saints,
and fill us until we overflow with thanksgivings.
Empowered by this meal, enlivened by your Spirit,
move us to glorify you in faithfulness to the gospel
and in generosity to all in need.

United by your Spirit with all your people,
we pray through your Son, Jesus Christ,
to you, our Source and our Goal,
our Sun and our Shield,
our God now and forever.

C: Amen.

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: Just as this broken bread was first scattered on the hills, then was brought together and became one, so let your church be brought together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours are the glory and the power through Jesus Christ forever.

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.

Lamb of God

"O Lamb of God, to Earth You Came"

1 O Lamb of God, to earth you came to
2 O Lamb of God, the on - ly Son, to

save us all from grief and shame. Shorn of your life, up -
us show mer - cy, Ho - ly One. You save the world from

on the tree you hung in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
all its sin. Lord, give to us your peace. A - men.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Agnus Dei. Music: *The Suffolk Miracle*, traditional Appalachian
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Communion Music

"Plein chant du premier Kyrie, en Taille"

by Francois COUPERIN

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

P: Let us pray.

Gracious God, we give thanks for your pruning, planting, and nurture. We rejoice that you have used the harvest of field and vineyard to renew and sustain us. Lead us as we go from this life-giving meal into lives of grateful service to you and your cherished creation; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Trees of the Field"

Em B7 Em B7 Em

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;

G C G D

the moun-tains and the hills will break forth be -

B N.C. Em B7 Em

fore you; there'll be shouts of joy, and all the

B7 Em B7 Em B7 Em

trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.

D7 N.C. G C G D

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;

D7 G D7 G

the trees of the field will clap their hands;

C G D

the trees of the field will clap their hands

B7 Em B7 Em

while you go out with joy.

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Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Sonata da Chiesa” by Gordon Young

Organist: Reed Wagner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Nursery** – is available for anyone to use.
- **Worship Schedule**—Saturday 6:00pm, Sunday 8:45am & 11:00am
- **Church Office Hours**—Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.
- **Brookestone Garden Services: First Sunday** monthly / 2:00pm
- **Prayer Chapel**—across from Centennial Hall.
- **For the hard of hearing FLC offers a loop system** for wearers with a “T” (t-coil) setting.
- **S.A.F.E. Center donations** - for October are Women’s Feminine Hygiene Products.
- **Volunteers of the Month** for October are Asheville, NC Mission Trip Volunteers.
- **First Lutheran Church Preschool** – we have three spots open in our all day PreK classroom. Please share with anyone you know who’s looking for a preschool. They can join us anytime!
- **Communion registration**—Please register annually to maintain membership.
- **Visitors**—please complete a visitor card, found in the pews.
- **Tuesdays – 5:30pm** – Chancel Bells – Sanctuary
- **Wednesdays through Nov. 5 @ 10:30 am** - Adult Bible Study-Fellowship Hall
- **Wednesdays**
 - 5:15 pm – Praiser Bells
 - 5:30 pm – Feeding the Flock | Centennial
 - 6:15 pm – F.R.O.G. Opening | North Hall
 - 6:15 pm – Heavenly Treble Makers | Room 9
 - 6:30 pm – Chancel Choir | Sanctuary
 - 6:30 pm – Fly | Check weekly emails for location.
 - 6:50 pm – Confirmation – 6th/7th Gr.=Fellowship Hall; 8th Gr.=Clsm 20
- **Sun. Oct. 26** – Reformation Unity Sunday: 9:50am – Sunday School: 11am Service, 12:15pm Potluck; 1pm-2:30pm Trunk or Treat
- **Mon. Oct. 27** – LWR Packing Day – Fellowship Hall
- **Sun. Nov. 2** – Congregational Meeting. 9:50am – Centennial Hall
- **Sun. Nov. 9 & 16** – Adult Sunday School w/Pastor Rick
- **Sun. Nov. 23** – Advent Fair – Centennial Hall 9:50am – Centennial Hall



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

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

**Pastor Logan Ellis – Preaching
Rev. Dr. Michelle Holley Carlson, Presiding
Rev. Dr. Rick Carlson, Liturgist**

**Assisting Ministers:
6:00 pm – Kim Deyo**

Organist: Reed Wagner

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Anthem: The Church's One Foundation, arr. John Purifoy

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Prelude: Prelude in Bb BWV 560 by Johann Sebastian BACH

Offertory: Fugue in Bb BWV 560 by Johann Sebastian BACH

Communion: Plein chant du premier Kyrie, en Taille by Francois COUPERIN

Postlude: Sonata da Chiesa by Gordon Young (c) 1974 by Schmitt Music Center, Incorporated. All rights reserved.

