



First Lutheran Church

Lead Pastor: Joe Skogmo | Music Director: Karen Bimberg

Sunday, September 14, 2025 · Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

GATHERING SONG

King of Love

The King of Love, my Shepherd is; whose goodness faileth never. I nothing lack if I am His and He is mine for-ev-er. And He is mine for-ev-er.

Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul He leadeth.
And where the fertile pastures grow with food celestial feedeth.

***Chorus: Never failing, Ruler of my heart. Everlast-ing, Lover of my soul.
On the mountain high or in the valley low, The King of Love, my Shepherd is.
The King of Love. my Shepherd is.***

Lost and foolish, off I strayed but yet in love, He sought me.
And on His shoulder, gently laid and home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark veil, I fear no ill with Thee, dear Lord beside me.
Thy rod and staff, my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me. ***Chorus***

Oh Hallelujah, Hallelujah. Oh Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

***Chorus: Never failing, Ruler of my heart. Everlasting, Lover of my soul.
On the mountain high or in the valley low, The King of Love, my Shepherd is.***

***Never failing, Ruler of my heart. Everlast-ing, Lover of my soul.
On the mountain high or in the valley low, The King of Love, my Shepherd is.***

The King of Love. my Shepherd is.

So through all the length of days, Thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing Your praise within Your house forever. Within Your house forever.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Merciful God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out our offenses. Release us from the guilt and shame we carry, and renew a right spirit within us. Teach us your ways, and uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

KYRIE

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW #186

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory be to God

ELW pg 204, vs 1

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth. Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth. We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you, here on earth our songs we raise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, **C: overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

MUSICAL MESSAGE

Fear Not - Ellie Holcomb & Nathan Dugger

Katelyn Bjorkland & Don Bridgers

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 51:1-10

R: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

C: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

R: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

C: Against you, you alone, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

R: Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

C: You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

R: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

C: Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

R: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

R: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 205

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-10

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 15th Chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. ⁸ "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pr. Wade Dutton

HYMN OF THE DAY

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

ELW #789

- 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us; we are yours.
- 2 We are yours; in love befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.
- 3 You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
- 4 Early let us seek your favor, early let us do your will;
blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Apostle's Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

NOISY OFFERING

September: FLC Youth & Family Ministry

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW #473

1 Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy God. **(Sing 2x)**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Loving God, **C: receive this offering for the building up of your kingdom: the proclamation of your word and the loving of our neighbor. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

Good God Almighty

Good God Almighty, I hope You'll find me Praising Your Name no matter what comes.

I can't count the times I've called Your name some broken night.
And You showed up and patched me up like You do ev'ry time.
I get amnesia, I forget that You keep coming around. Yeah, ain't no way You'll ever let me down.

**Chorus: Good God Almighty, I hope You'll find me Praising Your Name no matter what comes.
'Cause I know where I'd be without Your mercy So I keep praising Your name at the top of my lungs. Tell me, is He good? (He's good.) Tell me, is He God? (He's God) He is Good God Almighty.**

You say Your love goes on forever, that Your mercy never stops.
So why would I assume You'd be somebody that You're not.
Like sun in the morning, I know You're gonna be there every day.
So what on earth could make me be afraid? **Chorus**

Praise Him in the morning, praise Him in the noon time, Praise Him when the sun goes down.
Love Him in the morning, love Him in the noon time,
Love Him when the sun goes down.

Chorus

Jesus in the morning, Jesus in the noon time,
Jesus when the sun goes down.
Jesus in the morning, Jesus in the noon time,
Jesus when the sun goes down.

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Vision Council has called a Congregational Meeting TODAY at 10:30am for the purposes of a congregational vote on our latest design for Fellowship, Kitchen, and Classroom spaces.

BABY QUILTS

The FLC Quilters are having a fall quilt sale! The featured items are baby quilts and teddy bears and will be on display after Labor Day. We encourage you to take a peek at these adorable items—they are ofercute!

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Theology on Tap is back! Do you have questions about life, God or both? Grab a cold drink, and let's discuss topics let by you! We will be meeting the first & third THURSDAY of each month at 7pm at Buck Mill Brewing, Matthew Engum will be the host. The first gathering will be on October 2.

New This Fall>> High School Youth Group will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30 – 7:30pm!

New This Year>> We will not be having a formal children's Sunday School program, in it's place, we will have an informal Sunday Children's Fellowship hour following the worship service @ 10:30am.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR "BEHAVIOR, CHILDREN ARE OUR NEIGHBORS"

Wed, Sept 17 & 24 6:30-7:30pm

In this two part series, we will explore that as parents, it can often feel like our busy lives leave us with little time to truly interact with our children. It's like there's not enough time to do it all, while we are left with the guilt that we haven't done enough! These parent education nights will focus on, child development, building relationships, and responding to and managing behaviors. Session led by Margaret Skogmo, M. Ed.

A NOTE OF THANKS

*Thank You! Thank You!
Thank You!*

We would like to thank 43 members for contributing to the Christmas in July fundraiser. Christmas in July raised \$3,935.00 dollars. Wow, you are amazing! We won't let you down. We are planning and organizing for the holiday season.

Reach out if you have any questions. Blessings, Belinda Freeman and Shan Manke

BLESSING CLOSET NEEDS

The FLC Blessing Closet is currently in need of the following items: >toothpaste & shampoo
>winter hats & gloves
>blankets
>backpacks/reusable grocery bags.

Donations can be dropped off at the church office.

Prayers for God's People

Bill Wegschied, Cole Woltjer, Doreen Tollefson, Marge Prechel, Gretta Frisch, Mike Nelson, John, Larry Kjono, Bob Jernberg, Vern, Judy Wood, Tyler Wilson, Mary Otte, Gordy Henrikson, Kathy Larson, and Katie Harper.

Prayers of comfort for the families whose loved ones have recently died...for the family of Curt Myrom.

CREATION CARE NOTE

A household battery's chemistry will determine how best to dispose of it. Some contain toxic metals like mercury, lead, cadmium and silver, which can contaminate our air and water when the battery is incinerated or disposed of in a land-fill. Eventually these metals can accumulate in living tissue and cause adverse health effects.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Call toll-free 1-800-657-3864

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS STORE

Christmas may be months away, but don't forget about the Children's Christmas Store! We have a collection box up year round in the church office.

GIVE ONLINE

Prefer electronic giving?

Set up an automated method and frequency that works best for you by using the QR code.

Then, if you like, drop the **green laminated slip** in the offering plate as it passes.



VISITORS

Thanks for joining us!
Want to know more about FLC ?



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP RADIO

Sundays at 10AM on KDLM 1340-AM and 93.1-FM

ON-LINE

Live streamed on Facebook and on the FLC YouTube channel.

TELEVISION

Saturday at 9AM on Arvig Cable ch14.

