



"Receive the Holy Spirit" John 20:22

Pentecost Weekend

May 23, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

May 24, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

First Lutheran Church
Decorah, IA

WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Whatever your country of origin or ancestry, your race or ethnic heritage, and whether you are religious or not, Christian or not, or Lutheran or not, you are welcome here.

Whether you are male, female or transgender, young or old, straight, gay, lesbian or bisexual, you are welcome here.

Whether you are single or partnered, married, widowed or divorced, you are welcome here.

Whether you are wealthy or poor, own a home or rent, live at home or are homeless, you are welcome here.

Whatever your political views - whether to the right, to the left or to the center, you are welcome here.

Whatever your strengths or weaknesses, gifts or challenges, they will be honored, for you are welcome here.

First Lutheran Church is committed to being a loving and welcoming community centered in the Good News of Jesus Christ. In faithfulness to the Christian Gospel, in reflection of our Lutheran emphasis on grace, and in celebration of our shared baptismal journey, we promise to enter into ministry with all who seek God here.

We invite you to join us for worship and take up your place with us in ministry for you are welcome at First Lutheran Church.

NOTES ABOUT WORSHIP:

This **bulletin** contains the prayers, readings, some music, and responses that you will need to participate in worship.

Hymnals can be found in the pews for most congregational songs. We use both the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) and purple All Creation Sings (ACS) hymnals.

The **communion meal** is open to all who desire to participate, of any age. Gluten-free wafers and juice are available. Individual communion kits are also available as you enter the worship space for those who wish to remain in the pews.

Children are welcome at all of our worship services. A play area, where you'll also find quiet bags, is available for families in sanctuary. Feel free to nurse or feed your child in the sanctuary. We also have a staffed nursery during Sunday worship. Ask an usher for directions or follow the signs out the door at the northeast corner of the sanctuary.

Are you visiting? We invite you to fill out a yellow connection card found in your pew. Please also introduce yourself to Pr. Mike and Pr. David on your way out! Consider yourself welcome and invited to participate in the activities and worship life of this congregation!

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE 5:00 p.m. - Pass It On - Kurt Kaiser/Mark Hayes
9:00 a.m. - "Intermezzo" from Sonata No. 8 in e minor. Op. 132 -
Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

WELCOME *Everyone is invited to share their prayer requests on the yellow cards found in the pews. If you are new to worship, please also include your contact information.*

***GATHERING HYMN** 9:00 a.m. only - ELW 401 Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM** Alleluia! Christ is risen and the Spirit is moving!
The Spirit is moving and Christ is risen. Alleluia!

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the Spirit's gifts poured into us through baptism.

Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel, and you send forth your Spirit to renew the face of the ground. Every creature looks to you. In your Spirit, the cedars flourish, the wild things are fed, and our dry bones rise to breathe again.

Your Son, risen from the dead, promised to send the Spirit to us that all people may know your forgiveness and freedom.

Pour out your Holy Spirit.

Quicken in us the fruits of your Spirit — love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Kindle in each of us the gifts you give for the common good. Knit us into one body in Christ, across all our fears and sins, that your peace may breathe in us and the world may know your unending love.

Feed us, lead us, send us, so all creation may join in praise and thanksgiving to Jesus Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-ty is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY** *After we pause to breathe and for personal prayer, the presiding minister will pray.*

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *Sunday only*

FIRST READING Numbers 11:24-30

The spirit of God rested upon seventy elders in Israel who had been chosen to share the burden of leadership with Moses. When some became jealous that two others also had the spirit and could prophesy, Moses said that he hoped that all of God's people would be prophets.

²⁴ Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD, and he gathered seventy of the elders of the people and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders, and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶ Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷ And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸ And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹ But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!" ³⁰ And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

Word of God, word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Acts 2:1-21

Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival that marked the fiftieth day after Passover. Luke portrays the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the disciples before the gathered and astonished people assembled in Jerusalem for the festival. Filled with the Spirit, the disciples were able to witness to the power of Christ's resurrection.

¹ On the day of Pentecost all the Lord's followers were together in one place. ² Suddenly there was a noise from heaven like the sound of a mighty wind! It filled the house where they were meeting. ³ Then they saw what looked like fiery tongues moving in all directions, and a tongue came and settled on each person there. ⁴ The Holy Spirit took control of everyone, and they began speaking whatever languages the Spirit let them speak. ⁵ Many religious Jews from every country in the world were living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And when they heard this noise, a crowd gathered. But they were surprised, because they were hearing everything in their own languages. ⁷ They were excited and amazed, and said:

“Don't all these who are speaking come from Galilee? ⁸ Then why do we hear them speaking our very own languages? ⁹ Some of us are from Parthia, Media, and Elam. Others are from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, parts of Libya near Cyrene, Rome, ¹¹ Crete, and Arabia. Some of us were born Jews, and others of us have chosen to be Jews. Yet we all hear them using our own languages to tell the wonderful things God has done.”

¹² Everyone was excited and confused. Some of them even kept asking each other, “What does all this mean?” ¹³ Others made fun of the Lord's followers and said, “They are drunk.” ¹⁴ Peter stood with the eleven apostles and spoke in a loud and clear voice to the crowd:

“Friends and everyone else living in Jerusalem, listen carefully to what I have to say! ¹⁵ You are wrong to think that these people are drunk. After all, it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ But this is what God told the prophet Joel to say,

¹⁷ 'When the last days come,
I will give my Spirit to everyone.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.
Your young men will see visions,
and your old men will have dreams.

¹⁸ In those days I will give my Spirit to my servants,
both men and women, and they will prophesy.

19 I will work miracles in the sky above
 and wonders on the earth below.
 There will be blood and fire and clouds of smoke.
 20 The sun will turn dark,
 and the moon will be as red as blood
 before the great and wonderful day of the Lord appears.
 21 Then the Lord will save everyone who asks for his help.”

Word of God, word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL** The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 20:19-23

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pr. David Severtson

What's something you like to have control over?

When has an unlikely voice said something important you needed to hear?

***HYMN OF THE DAY** ACS 944 O Spirit All-Embracing

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

***PEACE** The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

**MINISTRY
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Prayers, announcements, and updates can be found in the weekly AfterWord. To view the AfterWord or to subscribe online, visit firstlutherandecorah.org/afterword or scan the QR code.



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

OFFERING 5:00 p.m. - Breathe on Me, Breath of God - Robert Jackson/Mark Hayes
9:00 a.m. - We are of a Tribe - Edward Landin (b. 1988) - based on a poem by Alberto Ríos



Give online at firstlutherandecorah.org/give, text "GIVE" to (563) 412-2243, or scan the QR code.

***OFFERING PRAYER** Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING** The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

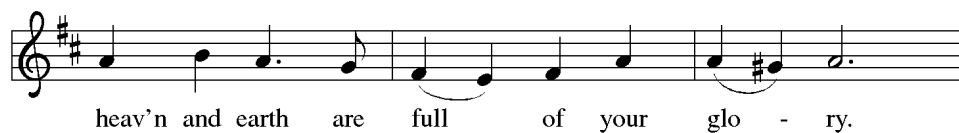
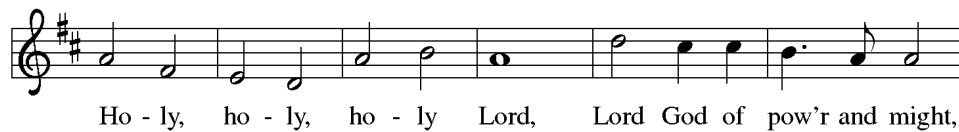
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



***THANKSGIVING AT THE
TABLE WITH WORDS
OF INSTITUTION**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Make us bold, merciful God, to pray as Jesus taught.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

We believe Jesus Christ is present when we share this meal. Here God nourishes our faith, forgives our sin, and calls us to share God's love. Adults and children of any age are welcome to receive communion.

COMMUNION MUSIC 5:00 p.m. - Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart - Frederick Atkinson/Mark Hayes
 9:00 a.m. - TFF 98 Open Our Eyes, Lord (see below) and ELW 800 Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Open Our Eyes, Lord Robert Cull, b. 1949

O - pen our eyes, Lord; we want to see Je - sus, to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him. O - pen our eyes, Lord, and help us to lis - ten. O - pen our eyes, Lord, we want to see Je - sus.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in love to serve.

***BLESSING** 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.
Amen.

***SENDING HYMN** ACS 1100 O Beauty Ever Ancient

***DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE 5:00 p.m. - Every Time I Feel the Spirit - Spiritual/John Carter
 9:00 a.m. - Dialogue sur "Te Deum" - Denis Bédard (b. 1950)

* Please rise in body or spirit.

5:00 P.M. WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:

Pr. David Severtson, preaching & presiding minister
Sue Ellingsen, reader
Darrel Jensen, communion assistant
Darrel & Mary Pat Jensen, worship welcome team
Mike Ellingsen, piano



9:00 A.M. WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:

Pr. David Severtson, preaching minister
Pr. Mike Wilker, presiding minister
Kevin Rockwell, assisting minister
Lindy Borske-Hubbard, reader & communion assistant
Alex Meszler, organ
Heidi Snell-Anderson, stream team
Niva Anderson, stream team
Kara Franke, nursery
Paul Pasche, worship welcome team
Pat Seckar, worship welcome team
Brian Erickson, worship welcome team
Sandy Koop, worship welcome team

The flowers on the altar are given by Neal & Nancy Solomonson, from their garden.