

First Lutheran Yellow Pages

August 23, 2026

Today	8:45 am Immerse Bible Study 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Worship Asst. Training
Monday	10:00 am Frolic 11:30 am ACCT Meal 5:15 pm Stewardship Team Meeting
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	6 pm Inbetweeners
Friday	Confirmation Retreat
Saturday	Confirmation Retreat

Prayer List

Altar Flowers are given in Memory of Judy Broughton by Dennis Broughton

Note: Names will be removed after four weeks unless the Church Office is otherwise notified.

Prayer Concerns: Joyce Ekelund, Danny Gillane

Sustaining Prayers John Doreck, Joe & Helga Garcia, Carl & Peggy Davis, Lois Walker, David Carr, Debbie Marinelli, Brett Williford, Jenny Sheley, Vera Danner, Joan Macaluso, Pat Austin, Jimmy & Joyce Fundling, Jack & Lynn Gallo, Marian Plain, Kay Hoh, Tom Lewis, Nikki Sonderegger, Carla Sanborn-Jones, Theresa Low, Kathleen Donahoo, Rosalina Agee, Jerre Massa, Milton Barnum III, Milton Barnum IV, Pamela McClaren, Mike Arnold, Julie Holland

Serving at Worship Today

Crucifer	James Tetley
Acolytes	Annabelle Lockhart,
Lay Minister	Kurt Koopmann
Lector	Adam Palmer
Vessel Bearers	Anne Murphy, Tracey Geml
Cantor	Diane Peña
Greeter	Brenda Concienne
Altar Guild	Louise Miller, Nancy Carpenter, Barbara Alcala, Brenda Concienne
Ushers	Dennis Broughton, James Gainer. Paul Badovinac
Prayer Minister	Jo Bremer
Live Stream	Krista Scheuerman

*Interested in serving?
You can be trained for any of the serving opportunities!
Contact the Church Office!*

Announcements

Are you interested in learning how to Live Stream the service from the Parish Hall? See Krista, she needs help on August 30 while she is at camp with the confirmation kids. It's all on your phone!

Commissioning of Healing Prayer Ministers:

August 23: Sheri Burleson

Play A Musical Instrument? Talk to Pastor Rhoades or Don Hermanson to let us know so your gift can shine!

Fanfare LMA registration is underway for the Fall term. Musical Theater has been added along with our regular classes for children, **Zumba and Stretch & Flow** classes are offered for Adults on Tuesdays at 5:15 and 6:15. Check out the offerings at fanfaregalveston.org/register/

Save the date: Oct 23-24, Oktoberfest 2026. Volunteers are needed. Sign-up sheets are located by the side door when you walk in. Please sign up to work your favorite booth.

You're invited to an ONLINE Pampered Chef Fundraiser, hosted by The Oktoberfest Board and facilitated by Judy Regini, Pampered Chef Consultant!

<https://www.pamperedchef.com/party/oktoberfest2026>



Historic Lyceum – A Wonderful Place for Your Events. Contact Christina Ryan-Muehe, Lyceum Director, to arrange a tour to discuss having your upcoming events. From weddings to family reunions and business events to school reunions, the Lyceum is the best place on the island!

Upcoming Commemorations

Monday, August 24

Bartholomew, Apostle

Mentioned as one of Jesus' disciples in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Bartholomew's name is replaced in John's gospel by Nathanael, leading many to believe that the two are different names for the same person. Little is known about his work, though some traditions place him later in India or Armenia.

Friday, August 28

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, died 430

Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of the Western church. A native of North Africa, he recovered from a debauched young adulthood through the influence of his mother, Monica, and Bishop Ambrose of Milan. Besides writing influential theological books, he served as bishop of Hippo, in present-day Algeria.

Moses the Black, monk, martyr, died around 400

Converted from life as a thief and a robber to Christianity, Moses was an Ethiopian who became a desert monk at Skete. The change in his heart and life had a profound impact on his native country. He was murdered when Berber bandits attacked his monastery.

Sermon Questions

1. Where in your life do you most need to hear and trust the truth that you are already fully loved and accepted by God?
2. What does “living as a living sacrifice” look like in the ordinary circumstances of your life this week?
3. Are there ways you are trying to earn God’s love rather than living in response to the grace God has already given you in Christ?
4. Where might God be calling you to resist the values of the world and allow God to “renew your mind”?
5. Who needs your love, encouragement, forgiveness, or presence right now—and how might you become a living expression of God’s love to that person?

*Thank you for your generous support of First Lutheran
through all the seasons of the year!*

AUGUST 23, 2026

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 16:13-20	Peter's confession of Christ
Monday	Isaiah 51:1-6	The LORD will bring comfort
Tuesday	Romans 12:1-8	Christ brings new life
Wednesday	Exodus 1:8—2:10	Israelites are oppressed
Thursday	Ephesians 3:14-21	Prayer for the readers
Friday	Ephesians 6:10-20	The whole armor of God
Saturday	Psalms 138	Praise God with all your heart
Sunday	Matthew 16:21-28	Take up your cross and follow

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*"I [Jesus] will give you [Peter] the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." **Matthew 16:19 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, in a world that can divide us from one another, we pray for your rule of mercy and grace that binds us together in faith and love through Christ, the Son of God. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this meal and pray for all to have food to eat through your abundant and fruitful creation. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus, the Son of God, give you new life.

AUGUST 23, 2026

HYMN OF THE WEEK

We Sing to You, O God

WEEKLY MILESTONES CARING CONVERSATIONS

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What motivates someone to break the law or do something wrong?
- How is Jesus' power different from other powers in the world?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 16:13-20.

Jesus and his disciples were in Caesarea Philippi, an important center for the Roman government and a place where many gods of the ancient world were recognized and worshiped. They were fickle gods that ruled over human life rather harshly and arbitrarily. You could not trust them. This was very similar to the rule of the Roman authorities. In contrast to such untrustworthy and unkind gods and powers, Jesus as the *"the Messiah, the Son of the living God"* (v. 16) showed compassion and positively transformed lives like the Canaanite woman and her daughter in Matthew 15. Jesus has the power to bind and to loosen lives. Jesus as our Messiah intends to transform our lives from despair to hope, from broken relationships to a life of mutual forgiveness, from lives that are judged and condemned to lives that receive mercy. Jesus gave Peter and the church that power and way of life. Yes, Jesus has the authority to restrict and to free lives, but Jesus' intent is to free, to forgive, and to give new life where suffering and death had once reigned. Now, that message and life-giving power will be Peter's and the church's to do the same.

Discuss: How does knowing Jesus as the Messiah inspire you to serve others? *Pray:* **Almighty God, your ways are not our ways; give us hearts and minds to grasp that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God for the sake of the world you love. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you encourage someone who is in despair or losing hope?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalms 138 is a song of thanksgiving and praise: *"I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart"* (v. 1a). Draw a heart on a piece of paper. Inside the heart write a list of things you thank God for in your life. Place the heart in a visible place in your home as a reminder to give thanks and praise for God's steadfast love and faithfulness.

Pray: **I give you thanks, O Lord, for all you do to protect me with your steadfast love and faithfulness through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

kids Celebrate

Lectionary 21



gather

Welcome to worship. A name can tell a lot about who someone is. What do you think of when you hear “Grandma, “ the President,” my teacher,” “pastor”? You have different relationships with different people. **Name people you think of as:**

Friend

Neighbor

Leader

Fun maker

Family

Helper

Peter the rock

Jesus called Peter the rock because he knew Peter would be a strong leader for the church. Do you have a nickname that says something about who you are or what you can do? (the runner, the smiling one, the thinker, junior)

Write that name or choose one you think describes you. Draw a picture of how that name describes you.



*Jesus, thank you for
helping me in many ways.
Amen.*

This week

Create a week-long list of Jesus' names.