



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost August 24, 2025

**First English Lutheran Church
402 N. 3rd Ave., Wausau, Wisconsin 54401-4448
715-842-5727**

<https://www.firstenglishlutheranwausau.org>

A Congregation of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Pastor: Reverend Mary E. Zupansic

Minister of Music: Daniel Larson

Pianist: Hal Osborn

Parish Administrator: Debra Kluetz

WELCOME TO FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Whether you are joining us in person or online, we are blessed to have you worshipping with us today. We pray that our time of worship together further encourages and strengthens our call to discipleship. If you are a visitor, please fill out the neon green Visitor Card and drop and give it to an usher or greeter. Please come to worship with us again!

Large print copies of the entire bulletin are available on the narthex table. Activity bulletins for children are available from an usher or on the table in the narthex.

A 'Parents Room' is located off the narthex w/changing table and restroom. Restrooms are in the narthex lounge and at the bottom of the east/west stairwells. A Handicapped Accessible restroom is available through the double doors on the east side (lectern side) in the front of the sanctuary.

Assistive listening devices are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Busy Bags!! - Child Activity Kits -- Parents: Does your child get restless during the worship service? Feel free to take one of the activity bags off the tree in the narthex to help your child stay content in the pew during worship! Each bag contains a coloring book, crayons, story book, and quiet games. Please return the bags to the tree after worship.

LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding Minister: Pastor Mary Zupansic

Assisting Minister: Pat Seivert

Lector: Pat Seivert

Acolyte: Kynslei Koehler

Organist: Daniel Larson

Greeters: Lois Stasko / Steve Wendorf

Ushers: Earl Zabel / Bob Lampe / Duane Chapman

Communion Set-up: Marla Zumann

Communion Assistant: Joan Heahlke

Communionware Washer: Deb Kluetz

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

PRELUDE *Laudation* ...Gilbert M. Martin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.
Merciful God,

**you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.**

**You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.**

**You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,**

but we grow weary in doing what is right.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Do not give up on us.

**Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.**

Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of ✠ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**



- 1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
- 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
- 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
- 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 bind up the bro - ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Gloria!

Refrain:

Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you

Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you

- 1 Open now our lips and our mouths shall give praise (*refrain*)
- 2 O Lord, rush to help, to deliver your world (*refrain*)
- 3 Maker, Spirit, Friend, you Great Mystery (*refrain*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14

A reading from Isaiah.

- ^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.
¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

¹³ If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the Sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs;
¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 103:1-8

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
² **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**
³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;
⁴ **who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**
⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
⁶ **O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**
⁷ You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.
⁸ **LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

A reading from Hebrews.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.” ²⁷ This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Thanks be to God.

ELW P. 205





GOSPEL: Luke 13:10-17

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.” ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Mary E. Zupansic



1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
 2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;
 3 To - day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n - ly man - na falls;
 4 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,



O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:
 on you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;
 to ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum - pet calls,
 we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.



on you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
 on you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;
 where gos - pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams
 We sing to you our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," to the great God tri - une.
 and thus on you, most glo - rious, a three-fold light was giv'n.
 and liv - ing wa - ter flow - ing with soul - re - fresh - ing streams.
 the church its voice up - rais - es to you, blest Three in One.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

CREED

**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 INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

Each petition ends with the following response.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

...Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING MUSIC *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* ...Tom Fettke

OFFERING SONG *As the Grains of Wheat* **ELW #465**
Refrain, verse 2, refrain

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Creator God,

**in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.**

**Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,**

**that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

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;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a whole note, the second with a half note, the third with a half note, and the fourth with a half note. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.'

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**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

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.





1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.
 May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
 let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der-ness.
 Ev - er faith-ful, ev - er faith-ful to your truth may we be found.
 May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end-less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.

Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. Share the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Festive Voluntary on 'Ellacombe'* ...Michael Joseph



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PASTORAL CARE

If you would like a visit from Pastor Mary, or if you have a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor on her cell phone 920-671-4338.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, August 17: 78 YouTube views: 77

Thursday, August 21: 17

THANK YOU

“To our First English family and friends,

Thank you for the cards and notes celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary. God’s blessings to you all. – Mike and Joan Alters”

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE FELC YOUTH

Wait WHAT??? Christmas in July? The youth will again be selling “greens” for the holidays. The order form is now in the narthex. Please have your order in by October 12th. Payment will be due upon pickup. Pick-up will be mid-November. As always, thank you for your continued support of FELC Youth.

ATTENTION QUILTERS

We will begin our quilt workdays on Tuesday, September 2, 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. If you haven’t been a part of our quilters group, join us! We’d love to have you!

COMMITTEE NIGHT

To all members who serve on a committee: Mark your calendars as we begin a new season together. Our next Committee Night will be Tuesday, Sept. 2, 6:30 p.m. We'll gather in Fellowship Hall.

BOOK CLUB

will begin again on Tuesday, September 2, at 11:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. New members are always welcome!! We will discuss books to read in the year ahead.

FIRST ENGLISH LADIES

You are invited to join Charity Circle on Tuesday, September 9th in the Bethany Room as we begin a new Fall year. We gather from 9:00-9:30 followed by a very casual Bible study. Nancy Kohorn Henricks leads our study. We use the ELCA Women's magazine, The Gather. There is a short business meeting with coffee and treats and we wrap things up by 11:00 a.m. It is a fun group and we would love to have you. Blessings, a Charity Circle member.

Shalom Circle will resume on Thursday, September 18, at 6:45 p.m. for those who would prefer an evening circle meeting. You are welcome to join us!

GREETING CARDS

First English Lutheran has its own supply of hand drawn greeting cards of sale. The cards are made by FE member Gary Pagel and sell for \$1.00 each. There are many to choose from such as Scripture verses, Martin Luther quotes, and many others. They are blank inside so you can write your own greetings. The cards are located in the narthex coatroom with a container for your donations. A real deal! Many of our shut-in members enjoy getting 'snail mail'.

PEEK AT THE WEEK OF AUGUST 24-31, 2025

- Sunday, August 24:** 9:00 a.m. Worship
After worship: Appreciation Breakfast
- Thursday, August 28:** 6:00 p.m. Worship
- Friday, August 29:** 6:30 p.m.NA Meeting (Fireside Lounge)
- Sunday, August 31:** 9:00 a.m. Worship

LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

Pastor Mary *(recovering well from surgery following a fall)*

Denny Nicoliasen *(at Pride TLC in Weston for rehab and therapy)*

Sue McKee *(at Rennes in Weston for rehab and therapy)*

Gerald and Audrey Fellbaum *(health concerns)*

Lyle Jaegler *(recuperating at home)*

Alan Sexter *(at Wausau Manor for rehab and therapy)*

Karl Otto *(health concerns – brother of Jan Wiederhoeft)*

Judy Beemer *(sister of Roger DeWitt)*

Ron Wiese *(friend of the DeWitt family)*

Diane *(cancer / heart issues – Aunt to Angela Greenfield & Jarek Nelson)*

Heidi Olson *(cancer – daughter of Duane & Darlene Chapman)*

Janet Alters *(diagnosed with a brain tumor. Family member of Mike & Joan, Jack & Kim, Erin, Spencer and Ella)*

In Assisted Living Facilities: Kathie Peterson *(Primrose)*, Dolores Hintz *(Sylvan Crossings)*, Diane Zuelke *(Mountain Terrace)*, Michelle Detert *(Cady Home)*, Ila Barttelt *(Rennes)*, Joyce Utecht *(Rennes)*, Gary Klingbeil *(Wood Aven)*, Bill Wachholz *(Rennes)*, Rick Petzke *(Crossroads Care Center in Weyauwega)*

Health Issues/Concerns: Geraldine Hopperdietzel; Delphine Saeger; Gary Pagel; Linda Kittel; Gail *(for strength and peace of mind)*, Ordell and Gene Nelson *(aunt and uncle of Alan Sexter)*; Sharon *(sister of Carla Landrath)*; Tammy; Jan; Kay; Josh *(mental issues, friend of Matt & Lori Heyne)*; Barbara *(friend of Karen Zumann)*; Battling Cancer - Tracey *(friend of Sheri Fochs)*

Daily Prayers Offered for: Bishops Anne *(East Central Synod)* and Elizabeth *(Presiding Bishop of the ELCA)*, and all those who work in the East Central Synod Office; ShyAnn and Peter Egwalata *(in Uganda)*, Doctors Stephen and Jodie Swanson *(our missionaries in Tanzania)* and Pastor Jack and the Maanoane Parish.

FOLLOW FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH – WAUSAU ON FACEBOOK!

It's a great way to get some interesting links and notes, thoughts and ideas during the week, and some very nice photos, too!

SHARE YOUR PICTURES FOR OUR FELC FACEBOOK PAGE

We love to share news and photos on our social media channels of our members doing God's work together and having fun. Here are a few ways you can share, too:

- Take a picture of First English members or groups doing things together.
- Email the photo and a sentence or two about the picture to Sue Juedes at sue.juedes@gmail.com or Kalynn Pempek at kmpempek@gmail.com and ask to have them posted on Facebook.
- Follow our First English Lutheran Church – Wausau page on Facebook, and share our posts and YouTube videos to your personal pages to spread the good news of our church.
- “Like” and comment on FELC posts.

STABLE HANDS EQUINE THERAPY CENTER

is hosting a huge fundraiser mega sale of fantastic finds! Clothing, books, kitchenware, furniture, CD's, DVD's, electronics, artwork, trinkets, accessories, horse tack and MUCH MORE! This week, August 27-30 at Farm Location: 142744 Countryside Drive, Wausau. Opens at 9:00 a.m. All proceeds benefit Stable Hands programming initiatives. For more information, contact Pam Engelmeier.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Bartholomew, Apostle

Sunday, August 24, 2025

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.