



**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Thursday, July 30, 2026**

**First English Lutheran Church
402 N. 3rd Ave., Wausau, Wisconsin 54401-4448
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<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!

Worship Leader: Pastor Mary E. Zupansic

Pianist: Hal Osborn Lector: Cheri Breneman

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

(pause)

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God, Father, ✝ Son,
and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

Amen.



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.
 2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth-er, Je-sus Christ is liv-ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
 Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
 Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

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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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts;
come to the waters; and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
- ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
- ³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
- ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
- ⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

⁸ The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ **LORD, you are good to all,
and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

¹⁵ **The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,
and you give them their food in due season.**

¹⁶ You open wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷ **You are righteous in all your ways
and loving in all your works.**

¹⁸ You are near to all who call upon you,
to all who call upon you faithfully.

¹⁹ **You fulfill the desire of those who fear you;
you hear their cry and save them.**

²⁰ You watch over all those who love you,
but all the wicked you shall destroy.

²¹ **My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5

A reading from Romans.

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Mary E. Zupansic

HYMN OF THE DAY

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW #479



- 1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
- 2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
- 3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,

To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay

not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever
Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Each petition ends with the following response.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 PRAYER

Let us pray.

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

**Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

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

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!
Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION: Instrumental Interlude

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,

✝ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

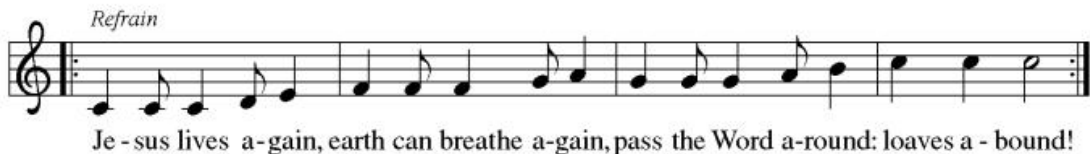
ELW #674



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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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.

ATTENTION MEMBERS – HOSPITAL VISITATION

If you or someone in your family is admitted to the hospital and would like a pastoral visit, please let Pastor Mary or the church office know. We want to support you and give you the spiritual guidance you need while you are hospitalized. If you would like to have your name included on our Prayer List in the bulletin, please let us know.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

This Sunday we continue our discussion of the relationship between politics and religion. Grab a cup of coffee and a treat and join us in the Fireside Room after worship.

THANK YOU

Words cannot express the love and gratitude for all the cards, memorial gifts, hugs, and beautiful words that you, our church family, gave us during the extremely difficult time of losing our son, Chad. Please know that every action done is in our hearts forever. We are so blessed to have you, our second family, in our lives. Thank you!

-- Bob & Pat Seivert

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Thursday, July 23: 27

Sunday, July 26: 69

NEWSLETTER ACCESS

Beginning in August, the Technology Task Force (a committee of the Council) will be making a change to how our congregation and community members access the monthly newsletter, *The Lantern*. In an effort to streamline the operations of the office and significantly reduce our postage and printing costs, The Lantern will only be distributed through the Realm Connect app, email, and posted to our church's website at firstenglishlutheran.org. Limited paper copies of the newsletter will be available in the narthex. If you would like support with any of these, please reach out to the Technology Task Force members. The task force certainly understands that there are some who still would like a paper copy of the newsletter mailed to their home. If this describes you or someone you know, please reach out to the church office to request to remain on the mailing list. In the near future, we hope to use the Realm Connect app to make communicating and scheduling more efficient. If you haven't already activated your Realm Connect account, please watch for an email with a link to set it up. The link will be sent on Saturdays and is valid for 24 hours.

HELLO ALL!

Thanks to your wonderful donations of items and money, I have assembled 73 School Kits! I am going to stop my assembly of these and will now focus on the Personal Care Kits. I will still accept Dark Colored Bath towels and 4 oz bars of soap through mid-August. Once again Thank You for your support!! -- Lori Heyne

‘SPECIAL’ ENVELOPE PACKETS

The new packets of the ‘special’ envelopes for July and August are available in the narthex and the church office. Included in this packet are *Food Pantry, Building Improvements/Elevator Fund, and ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response*.

These packets are for those who give by ACH and those who don’t receive the regular full packet.

WISCONSIN VALLEY FAIR BEGINS THIS WEEK

August 4-9, 2026 in Marathon Park

Our stand is located by the North Entrance of the Exhibition Building.

It is said that change is unavoidable and that is true for our Fair Stand this year. These changes are the result of low number of sign-ups in crucial areas in the kitchen and short order stand

.
The Short Order stand will remain the same.

More workers are needed to prevent the workers already signed up to put in more time. If you are able to help out, come to the church for an entry pass, and head on down to the Stand. Your presence will be greatly appreciated.

The kitchen is where the changes will be.

The Breakfast menu/shift remains the same.

After the morning breakfast shift, the kitchen will be cut back to a limited menu.

There will be no dinners, sandwiches, chili, or bar-b-que. Only pie, ice cream, soda, milk and coffee will be served. Since meals will not be served, cutting vegetables in the morning will not be needed.

Fair Stand Entrance Tickets will again be available from 10am – 4pm for those who work at the Stand. Please use the southeast entrance on Cedar Street when you head down to Marathon Park to sign out a ticket. Your ticket must be turned in to the kitchen cashier when you arrive.

Fair Stand Workdays... Monday, August 10: 8:00 a.m. - ? If you can help out on this day, please come down to the park. The work is faster and easier when there is a hard-working group helping.

LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

John & Karen Otto, Dawn Kramer, Lyle Jaegler, Linda Kittel, Judy Beemer (*sister of Roger DeWitt*), Ron Wiese (*friend of the DeWitt family*), Melinda (*sister of Matt Heyne*), Diane (*Aunt to Angela Greenfield & Jarek Nelson*), Janet Alters (*family member of Mike & Joan, Jack & Kim, Erin, Spencer and Ella*), Tracey (*friend of Sheri Fochs*)

Homebound / Assisted Lived: Kathie Peterson (*Primrose*), Dolores Hintz (*Sylvan Crossings*), Sue McKee (*Rennes in Weston*), Diane Zuelke (*Mountain Terrace*), Michelle Detert (*Cady Home*), Ila Barttelt (*Rennes in Weston*), Gary Klingbeil (*Wood Aven*), Dennis & Laurayne Nicoliasen (*Rennes in Weston*)
Sue Crone
Audrey Fellbaum
Gary Pagel
Delphine Saeger
Eleanor Thorpe

Daily Prayers Offered for: Bishops Anne Edison-Albright (*East Central Synod*) and Yehiel Curry (*Presiding Bishop of the ELCA*), and all those who work in the East Central Synod and National ELCA Offices; ShyAnn and Peter Egwalata (*in Uganda*)

PEEK AT THE WEEK of August 2-9, 2026

Sunday, August 2: 9:00 a.m. Worship

Tuesday-Sunday, August 4-9: Wisconsin Valley Fair

Thursday, August 6: 6:00 p.m. Worship

Friday, August 7: 6:30 p.m. NA Meeting

Sunday, August 9: 9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 a.m. Worship Service at the Fair Stand

UPCOMING COMMEMORATION

Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), died 1221

Saturday, August 8, 2026

Dominic was a Spanish priest who saw the wealth of the clergy as a stumbling block for the church, so he formed a movement, the Order of Preachers (commonly called Dominicans) devoted to itinerant preaching and living in poverty.