



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 10, 2025

Weekly Service 10:00 am

Prelude

*The Processional Hymn *Have No Fear, Little Flock* (ELW) No. 764

*The Confession and Forgiveness (ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*The Apostolic Greeting (ELW) page 138

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

*The Kyrie (*sung response*) (ELW) page 138

P:, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*The Hymn of Praise *Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me* (ELW) page 767

*The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Almighty and merciful God, only by Your gift of grace can the faithful offer service that is worthy of You and deserving of praise. Keep us from stumbling as we run to receive Your promises; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalm 33:12-22

¹²Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He has chosen as His heritage!

¹³The Lord looks down from heaven; He sees all the children of man;

¹⁴from where He sits enthroned He looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth,

¹⁵He who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.

¹⁶The king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

¹⁷The war horse is a false hope for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue.

¹⁸Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His steadfast love,

¹⁹that He may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

²⁰Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and our shield.

²¹For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name.

²²Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in You.

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:1-16

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*The Gospel Acclamation (*sung*)

(ELW) page 142

**C: Allelula, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Allelula. Allelula.**

* The Gospel

Luke 12:22-34 [35-40]

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (*sung after announcement of the Gospel*)

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (*sung after conclusion of the Gospel*)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

*The Hymn of the Day

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

(ELW) No. 775

*The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection⁺ of the body, and the Life everlasting.
Amen.**

*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

*The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

(SBH) No. 27

*The 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.

Announcements

*The Benediction (*sung response*)

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn

How Great Thou Art

(ELW) No. 856

*The Dismissal (*response*)

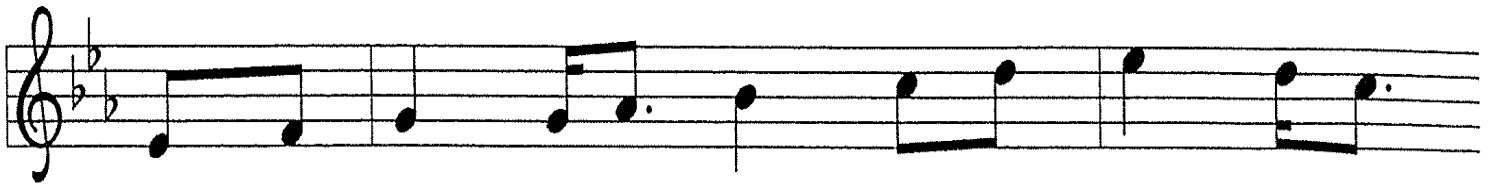
C: Thanks be to God.

*Sending Hymn

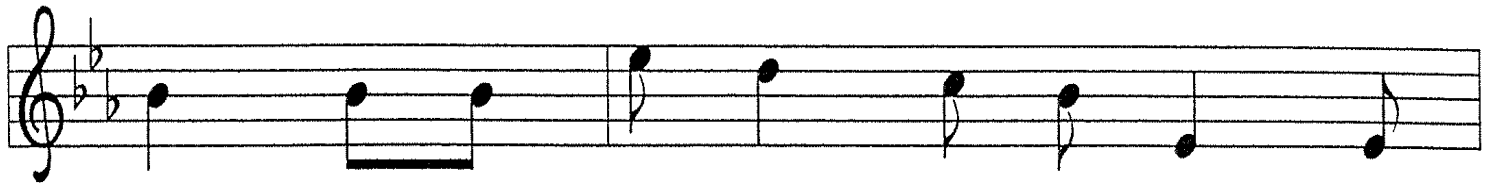
Be the Love of Christ

Postlude

Have No Fear, Little Flock



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to
 flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in
 bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -
 God, for he stays close be - side you, in



give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!
 his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
 lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!
 all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

767

Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,

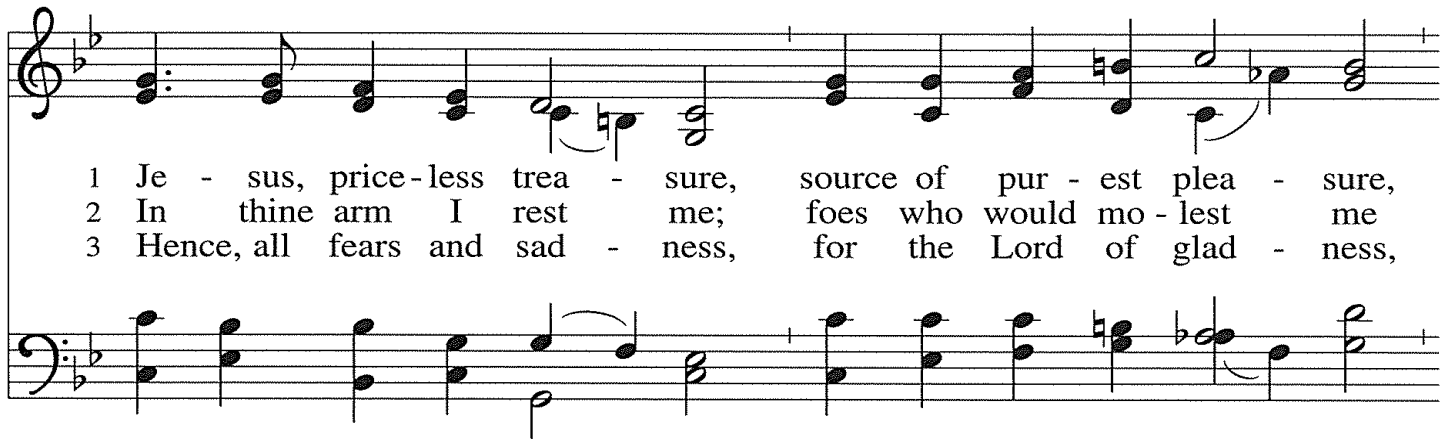
di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.
 for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.
 I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home,

With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
 Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
 then noth - ing can im - pede me. O bless - ed Friend!

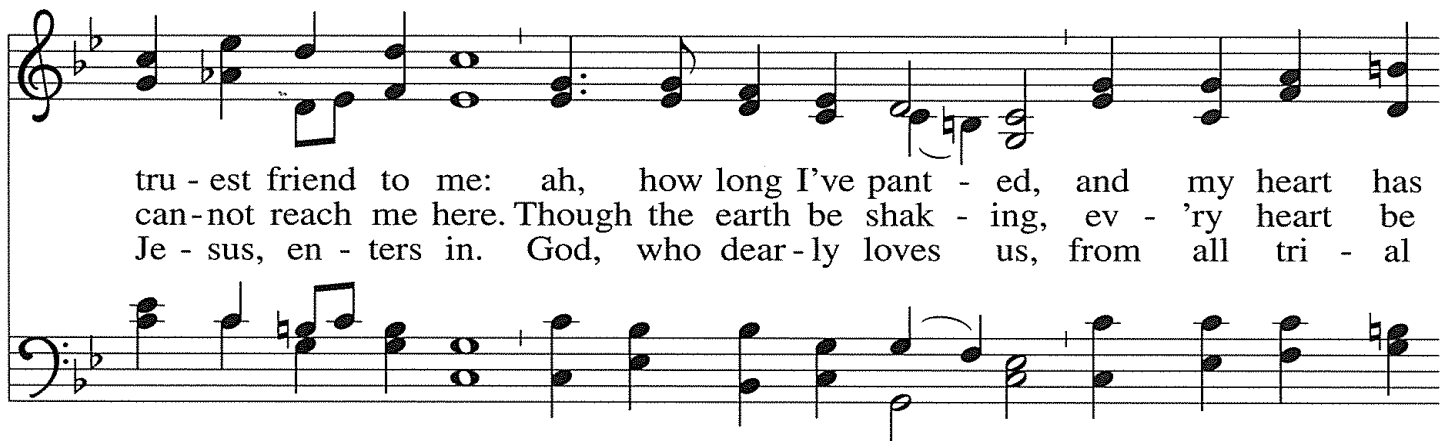
so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.
 for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.
 So, take my hand and lead me on - to the end.

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

775



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, source of pur - est plea - sure,
2 In thine arm I rest me; foes who would mo - lest me
3 Hence, all fears and sad - ness, for the Lord of glad - ness,



tru - est friend to me: ah, how long I've pant - ed, and my heart has
can-not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing, ev - 'ry heart be
Je - sus, en - ters in. God, who dear-ly loves us, from all tri - al



faint - ed, thirst - ing, Lord, for thee! Thine I am, O spot - less Lamb;
quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear. Light-nings flash and thun - ders crash;
saves us, gives sweet peace with-in. I have borne this world - ly scorn;



no - thing in this world can hide thee, naught I ask be-side thee.
yet, though sin and hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
still in thee lies pur - est plea - sure: Je - sus, price-less trea - sure!

The Communion

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -".

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: "new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -".

way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly

The third system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: "way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly".

Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of

The fourth system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: "Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of".

thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it.

The fifth system of musical notation concludes the piece. The lyrics are: "thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it."

How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der con - sid - er
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
 gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
 bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
 ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"



How Great Thou Art

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou

art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to

thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

First Lutheran Church

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724-225-4040

e-mail: secretary@flcwash.church

Online services posted weekly on website:

<https://firstlutheranwashington.church/>

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Mark Black, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Matthew Cimino, Organist and Music Director

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God by Bob and Anneliese Christian in memory of our youngest son, Byron K. Christian. A donation was given to the Restoration Fund.

The Lay Reader is Ron McGoogan.

Acolytes are Heidi and Denico Walsh.

Counters/Greeters today are J. Black and L. Coleman.

Welcome to our Visitors! The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs for infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

The Flower Chart for 2025 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date.

Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2025. Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2025. Please sign up.

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Isaac Christian, Tyler, Amy Verderber, Lou Mayne, Judy, Brooke, Debbie, Linnese, Donna B., Karen John. Phyllis Daniels, Beckie Wood, Bridgette, Alex Houck, Stacy Carroll, Ron Erdmann & Belinda, James, Lori Mauer, John, Ed Dupas, Sandy Salerno, the Gavazzi family, Janelle Henderson, Rex Gibson, Pat Dupas, Gwen Roberts, Tammy, Judi, Larry Downing, Carol Cancelmi, Amanda Laib, Sandy Hebrank, Jennifer Sasek, Elizabeth, Phyllis, Joe Kern, Lisa Wilds, Julia Jeffcoat, Richard Hager, Rob, John, Terri Newton, Holly Hiser, Shari Kienzle, Susan Westcott, Eric Group, Terry Jurkovsky, Karen Dawson, Judd Lacko, Cadence, Sandy Mannsman, Robyn Cameron, Ian, Isaiah, and Alecia, Nettie Walsh and her parents and family, Greg Mason, Kenny and Josh, and Linda, Edelgard, Wolfgang, Thomas, Lowell, Paula, Klaus and Mel Behrens, Kim, Alice Z. Lindsay Mankey, Apollos Yocca, Jackie, Mikao S, Joe McBride, Pastor Rob, Neil Bassi, Roger C., Rhonda, Anneliese, Carl Group, Raisa Rodsky, Ms. Karen and family, Myeir & Raven, and Barb Hoover.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

PA Mental health support and referral line

1-855-284-2494

WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE

1-877-225-3567

WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE

724-228-6832

SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE

724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY)

FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

Sober House Living

724-228-2203

Turning Point at Washington

Bell Choir rehearsal is Thursday at 7:00 pm. We would love for you to join us. Please see Kris Briggs if you are interested, kkbrgs1@gmail.com. All are welcome.

Chess Club meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm. All are welcome from beginners to experienced. We hope that you will join us for fellowship and fun. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

HAPPY MOMENTS, PRAISE GOD

DIFFICULT MEMENTS, SEEK GOD

QUIET MEMENTS, WORSHIP GOD

PAINFUL MOMENTS, TRUST GOD

EVERY MOMENT, THANK GOD

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost – August 10, 2025

²² And he said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them.

Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest?

³¹ Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

- Luke 12:22-26, 31 -

In this parable Jesus is confronting the sin of chronic anxiety. However, to properly delineate Jesus' point, we must first understand what he does not mean. First, Jesus is not saying that we should be lazy and not work. He is not saying that we should forego preparations to feed and clothe ourselves. Although Jesus compares us to ravens, he does not intend for us to wait around for God to drop a worm in our mouths. The comparison to ravens is hyperbolic, and its analogy inexact. Jesus knows that God created humanity to take dominion over the earth (Genesis 1:28), and he therefore knows that such a task requires industry, planning, and thrift, not to mention God's help. So, Jesus is not asking us to contradict God's design for humanity in creation.

Second, Jesus is not talking about acute anxiety. Acute anxiety helps us gear up for a challenge and then passes away when the challenge is over. For instance, it is normal to feel anxiety before a test, a musical performance, a sermon, or an important business meeting. In these challenging situations, acute anxiety is a good thing because it keeps us on our toes and helps us perform. So, Jesus is not opposing acute anxiety.

What Jesus opposes is chronic anxiety. Chronic anxiety is an unhealthy preoccupation with fear, worry, and dread in regard to things that we cannot control or even influence. Therefore, chronic anxiety does not help us plan and prepare. It does not help us perform. Instead, it reduces us to helplessness and passivity because it is at bottom a lack of faith or else a weak faith. And without faith we have no kingdom orientation for action in our world.

So, the answer to anxiety is faith in God. The answer is to know God, to trust God, and to pray to God. The answer is to let God handle the things that we can affect and especially the things we can't. So, if we struggle with chronic anxiety, we should first rejoice that we have enough faith to recognize our problem and struggle with it. Then, we should ask God to strengthen our faith. With our strengthened faith, we should next seek God's kingdom in all areas of our life, including our family and business life. And in seeking God's kingdom, we will act to feed and clothe our families and ourselves.