

St. Matthew 22:12-14

¹²And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless.
¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 11, 2026

Worship Service 11:00 am

Prelude

*The Processional Hymn *Take My Life, That I May Be* (ELW) No. 685

*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: O Lord, sustain Your Church with Your perpetual mercy. Without You, in our weakness we will surely fail. Therefore, keep us ever by Your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

³He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

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

Matthew 22:1-14

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

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

Children's Sermon

Rev. Grewe

(children leave for Sunday School)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

*The Hymn of the Day

Be Thou My Vision

(ELW) No. 793

*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

On Our Way Rejoicing

(ELW) No. 537

*The Dismissal (response)

C: Thanks be to God.

*Sending Hymn

Be the Love of Christ

Postlude

Take My Life, That I May Be



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



- take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.



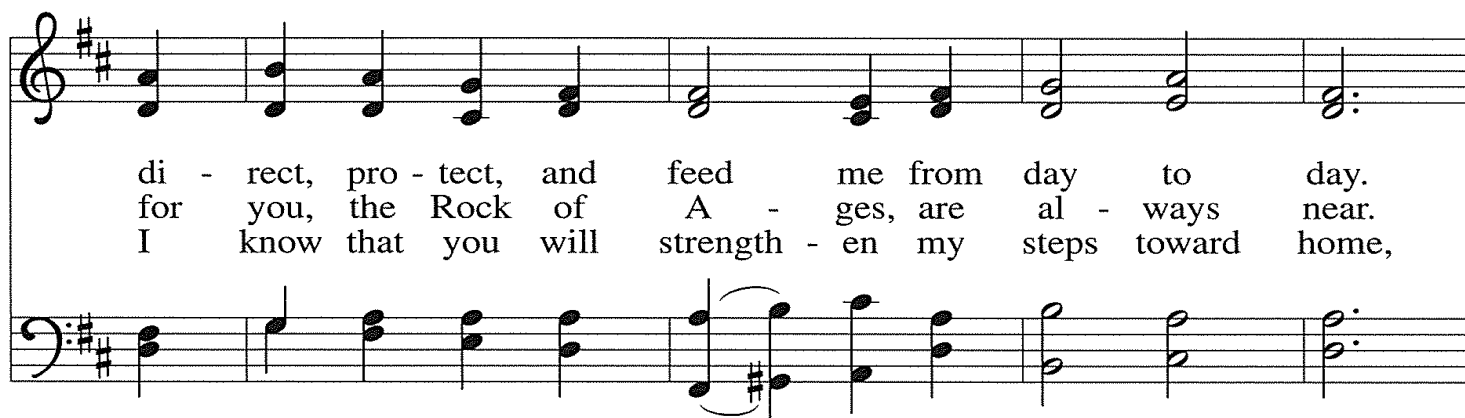
- 5 Take my will and make it thine;
 it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 it shall be thy royal throne.

- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself, and I will be
 ever, only, all for thee.

Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me



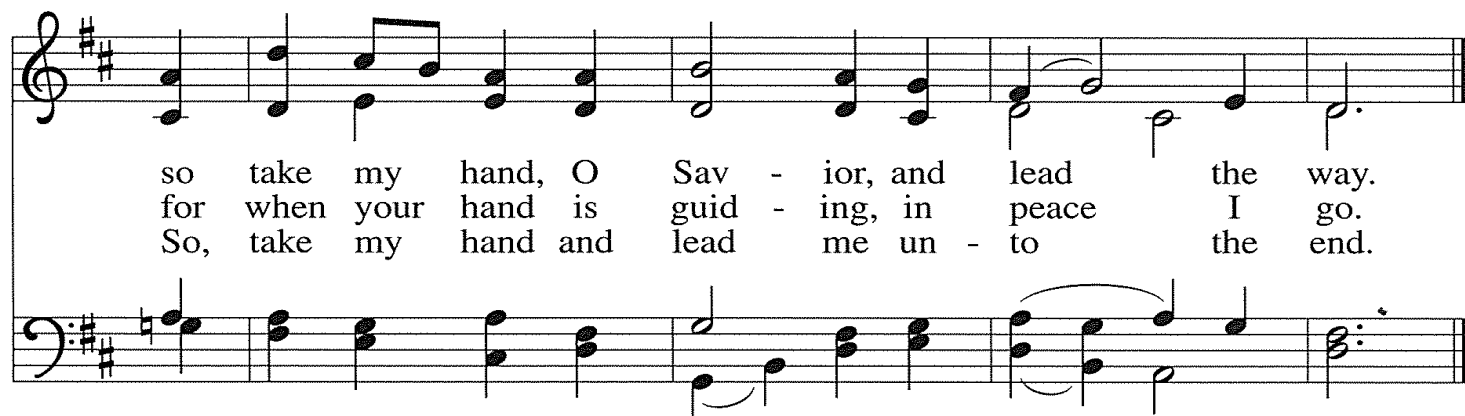
1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,



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 un - to the end.

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!

thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

The Communion

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

The first system of musical notation for 'The Communion'. It consists of a treble and bass staff in B-flat major (two flats). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics 'Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -' are written below the notes.

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

The second system of musical notation. The melody continues in the treble staff, and the bass staff continues the accompaniment. The lyrics 'new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -' are written below the notes.

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

The third system of musical notation. The melody continues in the treble staff, and the bass staff continues the accompaniment. The lyrics 'way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly' are written below the notes.

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

The fourth system of musical notation. The melody continues in the treble staff, and the bass staff continues the accompaniment. The lyrics 'Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of' are written below the notes.

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

The fifth system of musical notation. The melody continues in the treble staff, and the bass staff continues the accompaniment. The lyrics 'thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it.' are written below the notes.

On Our Way Rejoicing

1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;

Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;

Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,

who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain

On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,

hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

First Lutheran Church

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Online services posted weekly on website:

<https://firstlutheranwashington.church/>

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Mark Black, Matthew Mazzotti, Lutheran Lay Worship Leaders

Retired: J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Matthew Cimino, Organist and Music Director

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God in honor of Wesley Black's 20th birthday and for Wesley and Nathaniel serving in the Army. In loving memory of my husband Frank Black and my mother, Bessie Killen on their October birthdays. Also in honor of Pastor Rob and Kimberly's wedding anniversary and to honor Pastor Rob on Pastor Appreciation Sunday. A donation is made to the Restoration Fund.

The Lay Reader is Dennis Schmidt.

Acolytes are

Counters/Greeters today are C. Group and V. Group.

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 2026 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 2026. 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 2026. Please sign up.

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Greg Mason, Ed Dupas, Pat Dupas, Carol Cancelmi, Sandy Hebrank, Richard & Lisa Hager, Anneleise Christian, Rick & Amande, RJ, Shari Kienzle, Susan Westcott, Apollos Yocca, Cathie Schuett-Weaver, Grant Baun, Nikki Thon, Amy Verderber, RJ and James, Dennis S., Mike Miller, Joanne Marker, Don Hazlett, Ken C., Pr. Bill White, Peter & Natalie, Jaxon McNaught, Bernadette and Fred Devine, and Leann Vitteck.

Sober House Living
724-228-2203
Turning Point at Washington

Catechism Class meets Tuesday at 11AM and 7 PM.

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.

Dart Ball Game is October 13. Laboratory will play at First Lutheran. Practice starts at 7:00, games start at 7:30. Hope to have several new members join our team.

**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

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 23) – October 11, 2026

11 *"But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. 12 And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'* 14 *For many are called, but few are chosen."*

- Matthew 22:11-14 -

The parable of the wedding feast is about God's calling in light of election and predestination. As Christians proclaim the gospel, there is a call that goes out to all. This can be called a "general call" due to its universal scope, or an "external call" because it does not necessarily touch the heart. However, through the work of the Holy Spirit, this gospel proclamation reaches the hearts of particular individuals and becomes effectual in the hearts of God's elect. Thus, the calling of the Spirit, may be called a "particular call", an "internal call" or an "effectual call" to distinguish it from the general and external call of the preacher.

These terms may sound strange to Lutheran ears. However, even if the terminology is strange, the substance should not be. As shown by Article V of the Augsburg Confession, Lutheran theology fully accords with the description given above: "Through the Word and Sacraments, as through instruments, the Holy Spirit is given. He works faith, when and where it pleases God, in those who hear the good news that God justifies those who believe that they are received into grace for Christ's sake."

Because the human heart is bound in sin, it cannot free itself. It can't accept the gospel offer until it is regenerated by the Holy Spirit. After all, "The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned (1 Corinthians 2:14). Moreover, "the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed it cannot (Romans 8:7)." On its own, therefore, the human will cannot make a "decision for Christ" in order to be born again. Rather, it must first be born again to make a decision for Christ!

This might lead some to despair. If salvation is 100% God's work, why evangelize? The answer is that God works through means, including our prayers and our witness. Because God's word is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword (Hebrews 4:12), we may be sure that God works through His word as we witness to others. Consequently, we proclaim the gospel in complete confidence that God will work "when and where it pleases" Him to quicken the hearts of those whom He has chosen.