# Summer Worship Bumper Sticker Theology July 2, 2023



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We, the community of First Lutheran Church of Bothell, proclaim the message that the grace of our Lord is infinitely inclusive and that everyone is welcome. We believe that Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation and as disciples of Christ seeking justice and reconciliation among all peoples, we at First Lutheran Church welcome all into the fullness of God's love. We welcome everyone, without exception and regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or station in life. We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God, and through grace, a child of God.

All are welcome at First Lutheran.

All are welcome to worship, to hear the Good News, to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service. As members of First Lutheran Church, we pledge ourselves and our congregation to exercise our faith in Christ, treasuring one another's similarities while embracing our God-given differences. We pledge that we will strive to live as a reconciling people, in our life together and in our outreach to the world.



#### WORSHIP NOTES

- + Please sign the card in the pew rack and place in the offering plate with your offering before Holy Communion.
- + The service is printed in this bulletin. Some hymns are located in the red hymn book.
- + Hearing enhancement receivers, large print bulletins are available. Feel free to ask an usher for assistance.
- + Our expectation is that children will be in worship. We understand, though, that there are times when your wiggly ones need a distraction. There is a "Pray Space" under the stairs in the inner narthex with soft toys and books. If you desire the nursery ask an usher for directions.
- + If you would like to have a digital copy of the bulletin, go to our website and download the PDF. www.flcbothell.org
- + Public Wi-Fi: FLC Wireless Password: MartyLuther

# Why Bumper Sticker Theology?

A pastor friend of mine in the Midwest put together his Summer Lectionary and he called it Bumper Sticker Theology. It grabbed my imagination and so I stole it from him (with his permission). The reason I am excited about this opportunity is that it speaks directly to our human condition and our desire to break down the complex relationships we have and events that are around us into simpler terms. Often this is not as helpful as we hope.

When we comfort someone who is grieving, for example, we are overcome often with our own emotions. Maybe it is our own grief or our own feeling of inadequacy in the situation that drives us to say something or anything. So, we blurt out something that we heard somewhere that maybe would be helpful. But, really, the person we are comforting does not need to be told that "God doesn't give us more than we can handle", or "you will feel better in time", or "buck it up", or anything else for that matter.

Bumper sticker theology takes those simple sayings and breaks them down so that we can see how sometimes these words are more harmful than they are helpful. Often these sayings have more to do with me than the person I am trying to help.

Poor theology does do real harm. In fact, it can be dangerous at times. Bad theology wants to put us in control and to smooth over anything that is uncomfortable. Too often, bad theology wants to cover up the uncomfortable instead of confronting it, or worse, to shun others because we do not want to confront the complexities of life. It is just better if there is just one way, right?

I hope this series will help us grow as theologians. And yes, you are a theologian. We all are. The more we can educate ourselves about God's word and how Jesus taught us to be in the world, the more equipped we will be when faced with difficulty. Because:

# Honk if you Love God!

## EASTER 2023 ELW Setting 8

#### GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE: Variations on America & America the Beautiful (A. Giamanco & R. Thygerson)

GATHERING SONG: O Beautiful for Spacious Skies (ELW 888)



Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859–1929 Music: MATERNA, Samuel A. Ward, 1848–1903

#### WELCOME

#### 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.

#### **KYRIE**



#### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**





#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

ANTHEM: World Peace Prayer (Refrain, S. Kuman; Verses & Tune, M. Haugen)

#### WORD

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

#### PSALM: 36:5-10

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep;

you save humans and animals alike, O LORD.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

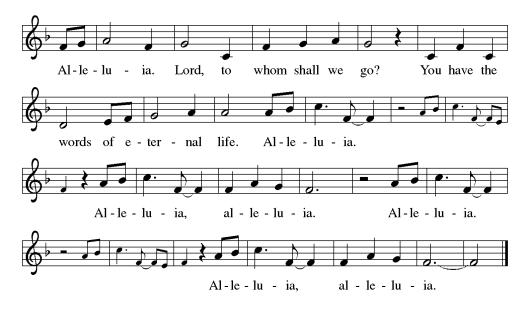
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!

#### WELCOMING THE WORD



#### THE WORD: John 16:19-24

<sup>19</sup>Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Are you discussing among yourselves what I meant when I said, 'A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'? <sup>20</sup>Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. <sup>21</sup>When a woman is in labor, she has pain, because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. <sup>22</sup>So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. <sup>23</sup>On that day you will ask nothing of me. Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. <sup>24</sup>Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.

Word of God, word of life.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON



Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979 Music: WAYFARING STRANGER, North American traditional Text © 2015 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

#### APOSTLES' 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

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy.

Silence for self-reflection.

#### Gracious God,

we acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins—those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by you. We know that before you nothing remains hidden, and in you everything is revealed. Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; work in us that which is pleasing in your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

From the house of David, God raised up a mighty Savior. Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who comes to set us free.

Remembering the covenant, God delivered us from our enemies. Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who comes to set us free.

Before God we are holy and righteous, free to worship without fear. Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who comes to set us free. With a heart full of mercy and compassion, God saves us and forgives us all our sins. Christ, the dawn from on high, shines upon us, and by the light of the Holy Spirit guides our feet into the way of peace.

#### Amen PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

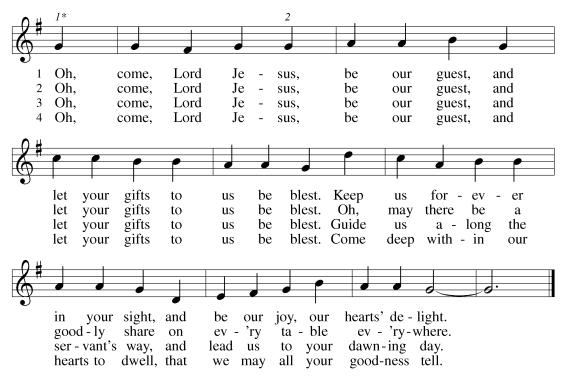
#### MEAL

#### God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### OFFERTORY: This is My Song (L. Larson)

OFFERING: The offering of flowers is given to the glory of God by Nancy Davis in memory of her beloved husband, Pastor Charles Davis, on their 63rd wedding anniversary, today, July 2.

OFFERING SONG: Come, Lord Jesus (LS 97)



#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, Breath of life and Fire of love: with a mighty wind you brought creation into being, and by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom. We praise you for the gift of your Son, who poured out your Spirit on his disciples of every race and nation.

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 the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit, we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth.

Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal: anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love, that, with thankful hearts, we may be witnesses to your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen** 

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

#### COMMUNION

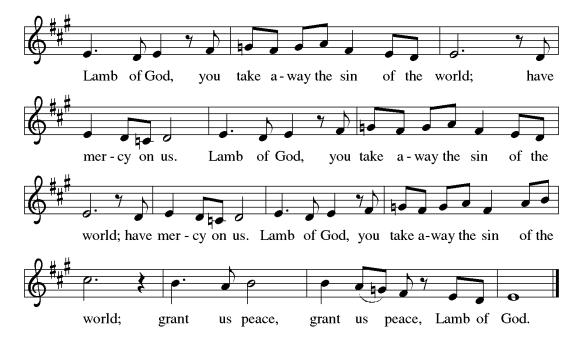
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**COMMUNION:** We will receive the body of Christ as bread with these or similar words: The body of Christ, given for you. If you desire a gluten-free option that is available. The blood of Christ will be received as either red wine or white grape juice with these or similar words: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

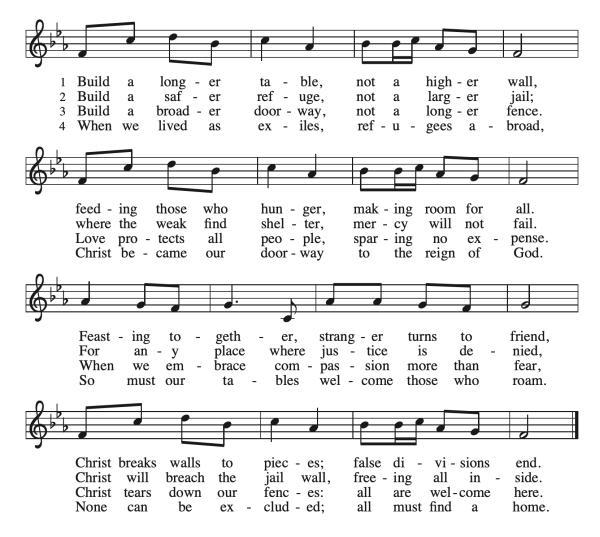
WHO MAY COMMUNE? All are welcome at the Lord's Table. It is a free gift given to all for the forgiveness of sins. The words "for you" really mean FOR YOU! Children may commune at the discretion of their parents. If you wish to receive a blessing: cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the communion assistants.

**DIRECTIONS FOR COMMUNION:** Please come forward by the center aisle at the direction of the ushers to receive the sacrament and return to your seat down the side aisle. Please register each person taking communion on a pew card.

#### LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMNS: Build a Longer Table (ACS 1062)



Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984 Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

#### What a Friend We Have in Jesus (ELW 742)



Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886 Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.

#### SENDING

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

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### BLESSING

The God of all, who raised Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. Amen.

#### SENDING SONG: This Is My Song (ELW 887) next page

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: God of Our Fathers (M. McDonald)

#### FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF:

#### Pastor

Rev. Tor Kristian Berg tberg@flcbothell.org

**Director of Music** Organist Lucy Kay Osborne lkosborn@flcbothell.org

#### **Ensemble Director**

**Richard Edmonds** redmonds@flcbothell.org Director of **REACH Ministries Roger Steinke** rsteinke@flcbothell.org

#### Office Manager

Kristin Smith ksmith@flcbothell.org

#### **Preschool Director** Beth Bowers flcbeth@gmail.com

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#### This Is My Song



Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993, sts. 1-2; Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, st. 3

Music: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957 Text sts. 1–2 © 1934, 1962 Lorenz Publishing Company, st. 3 © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Outside USA: Music © Breitkopf & Härtel, Wiesbaden.

#### In Our Prayers

Our Ministry Partners:

Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services, Lutheran Counseling Network, Lutheran World Relief and Northwest Washington Synod.

Those living with cancer:

Juanita (Bonnie Ahlstedt's sister-in-law), Sonja (Stephanie Almeida's friend), Mark (Dick Boyce's son), Jocelyn Carberry (Ken & Kristin Smith's friend), Lisa (Steve Coble's sister), Dan (Paula Glandon's brother-in-law), Edith Holbrook (member), Jennifer (Pastor Berg's friend), Tracee (Bonnie Ahlstedt's friend), Jessica Hockstedler (member), Dana (Barb & Tim Theime's friend), Michael (Jeff Kosman's friend), Jana (Renee & Mike Markert's friend), Richard (Ruth Neitzel's brother), Linda (Kristi & Katie Pyne's sister-in-law and aunt), Ted (Sue Toyoda's friend), Kip (Paul Desilet's uncle), Jim (Hendricks' family friend), Joanne (Carolyn Becker's sister-in-law), Diane Mackey (Del Benson's friend), Chris & family (Dan & Sandy Hendricks' friends), Karen (Nora Strothman's cousin).

#### Those who are ill, have an injury or who are recovering from surgery:

Bonnie Ahlstedt (member), Jeff Almeida (member), Rene Baker (member), Carolyn Becker (member), Doug (Ho Brown's brother-in-law), Susan (Bob Berg's cousin), Randy (Chris Martin's friend), Leanne (Krista Daniels' sister), Elizabeth (Jane King's friend), Nancy Davis (member), Carol Jo (Joan and Carl Christian's granddaughter), Cathy (Paul Desilet's mother), Sue Ebert (member), Jess Faubion (member), Justin (Rob & Rene Baker's nephew), Ruby (Christy Freriks' grandmother), Tracy (Rob & Rene Baker's friend), Rachael (Stephanie Almeida's friend), John Godek (member), Steve (Del Benson's friend), Tina (Marilyn Iverson's step-daughter), Loa (Karen Thomas' friend), Marlo (Leona Keltner's friend), Amy (Nancy McGee'ss friend), Axton (Vicki & Kevin Kastning's grandson), Richard Keltner (member), Richard Konieczka (Kathy Konieczka's husband), Albert (Chris Martin's friend), Jeanne (Justin LaFord's mother), Lola (Bob Berg's aunt), Ron (Beth Phelps' brother), Sandy Sailand (member), David Shogren (member), Walt Stoll (member), Christopher (Karen & Ray Thomas' friend), Sue (Aileen Miller's daughter).

Those who are homebound or in extended care facilities:

Valerie (Kendahl Adjorlolo's cousin), Larry Baker (member), Mavis Carlson (member), Trudy Eichelsdoerfer (member), Marge Gonyea (member), Marlys Helgeland (member), Jane King (member), Greta & Larry Nelson (member), Lawrence (Leon Romaniuk's father), Jacquie Stoll (member), Sigrid (Carsten Thode's mother).

Those Serving Our Country:

AIR FORCE: Mason Land (Debbie & Darryl Lageson's nephew) and Erin Siebert (Linda & Joe Siebert's daughter)

NAVY: Christopher Whipple (Carolyn Whipple's son)

We are honored to be able to pray for your family members in need. Our policy is to publish immediate concerns for 2 weeks, unless we hear from you that an illness or situation is ongoing.

### Serving Us In Worship Today

Presiding/ Preaching	Rev. Tor Kristian Berg	Ensemble Director	Richard Edmonds
Music Director	Lucy Kay Osborne	Children's Message	Roger Steinke
Lector	Joyce Thode	Greeter	Marilyn Iverson
Ushers	Tom Agnew Lloyd Condra	Communion Assistant	Darryl Lageson Jean Peterson
Acolyte		Camera Tech	Derrick StaRosa
Sound Tech	Gary Curtis	Pew Angel	Marcus Hodges

#### INFORMATION For the Week!

#### Sunday, July 2

9:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion

#### <u>Monday, July 3</u>

11:15 am Staff Meeting

#### Tuesday, July 4

Happy Fourth of July! Church Office Closed 10:30 am Bothell July 4 Parade

#### Wednesday, July 5

Thursday, July 6Western States Youth Gathering9:00 amFLC Quilters

#### Friday, July 7

Church Office Closed Western States Youth Gathering 9:30 am Personnel Committee

#### Saturday, July 8

Western States Youth Gathering

#### Sunday, July 9

Western States Youth Gathering9:30 amWorship w/Holy Communion10:30 amFellowship Hour—60th Anniversary Party11:00 amExecutive Committee

July 9, 2023 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Psalm 37:3-8;23-27; Isaiah 43:1-3,5-7,18-19 Let Go! Let God! <u>Weekly Financial Report</u> June 25, 2023 Attendance in Person: 90 Zoom: 27 June 25, 2023 General Offerings: \$8,432 Capital Improvement: \$1,209 General Offerings Needed Each Week: \$10,510

