

November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent
9:30 am



 **First Lutheran Church**
BOTHELL

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.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor Rev. Tor Berg tberg@flcbothell.org	Director of Music (Organist/Choir Dir.) Lucy Kay Osborne lkosborne@flcbothell.org	Preschool Directors Amy Case Stephanie Corrigan
Director of REACH Ministries Roger Steinke rsteinke@flcbothell.org	Office Manager Kristin Smith ksmith@flcbothell.org	Church Office 425-486-2314

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WORSHIP NOTES

- + Please name each person in attendance , and if they will be taking communion, on the card provided in the pew rack. Place card in the offering plate or hand it to the usher.
- + The service is printed in this bulletin. Some hymns are located in the red hymnbook.
- + 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 nursery or the “Pray Space” under the stairs in the inner narthex with soft toys and books. Please 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

Serving Us In Worship Today

Greeter	Jerry Bannister
Ushers	David Berg Karey Coble
Acolyte	Madeline Berg
Lector	Mark Hatlen
Sound Tech	Stephanie Conroy
Camera Tech	Terry Barker
Communion Assistants	Nancy McGee Neil McGee Randall Wampler
Pew Angel	Marcus Hodges
Bus Driver	Tom Payne

If you would like to give electronically, please use this QR code:



November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE: *Variations on Veni Emmanuel*

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG: *Hark, the Glad Sound!* (ELW 239)



- 1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
- 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
- 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
- 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

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.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: *Light the Candle (C. Shalk)*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Dear God, you are as close as our breath. Even when the world is scary, even when we long for signs of hope, you are with us. You wanted to be so close to us that you broke into the world, choosing to be born not in a palace or a fortress, but in a manger. You didn't wait for the world to be perfect or safe or peaceful. You were born in the middle of all our mess. Remind us that you're still here, and you are with us always. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (ELW 257)*

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and night: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;

un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re-joice! Re-joice!
teach us your will and guide our way.

Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Lamentations 3:55-57

⁵⁵ I called on your name, O LORD, from the depths of the pit; ⁵⁶ you heard my plea, "Do not close your ear to my cry for help, but give me relief!" ⁵⁷ You came near when I called on you; you said, "Do not fear!"

Word of God,
word of life.

ANTHEM: *My Lord What A Morning* (J. Althouse)

GOSPEL: Luke 1:5-13

⁵ In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶ Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. ⁷ But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

⁸ Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, ⁹ he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. ¹⁰ Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside.

¹¹ Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. ¹³ But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John.

Word of God,
word of life.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* (ELW 244)



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch-ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride-groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.



The bride-groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride-groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.

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

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

God of the people, we come seeking wisdom and instruction. Uphold and strengthen lay leaders, teachers, deacons, pastors, and bishops. Teach us your ways and lead us in your paths. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of the earth, we seek your goodness in the grandeur of creation. Empower us to care for forests and oceans, as we see you in the world around us. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of the nations, grant wisdom to leaders, judges, and mediators. Cast out words of hate and transform them into words for building up community. Remake implements of war to sow peace. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of healing, bring comfort and strength. We pray for our kindred and companions who are ill or despairing and those affected by HIV and AIDS as we remember World AIDS Day. Surround all with care and consolation. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of new possibilities, when addiction wounds, jealousy tears down, and relationships fray, show us how to journey with one another. Nurture therapists, counselors, and sponsors in their care for others. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

For whom do the people pray?

God of all time, build up our lives that we would reflect your grace. At the last, bring us with all the saints to your holy city where peace and goodness make a home. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for self-reflection.

Long-expected God,
we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you
can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip
on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of
keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony
with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to
your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have
promised. Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ✝
You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.
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: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (T. Keesecker)

OFFERING: Now the Heavens Start to Whisper



1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with-in:

Continued →



seed of prom-ise, deep-ly plant-ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!



Like the soil be - neath the frost-line, hearts grow soft to wel-come him.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. 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, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.

When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.

At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

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 life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of 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

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

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.

COMMUNION HYMNS:

Wait for the Lord (ELW 262)



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.



Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (ELW 490)



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,
3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way;
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,
veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.
comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.
"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (ELW 272)



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May God who comes among us, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



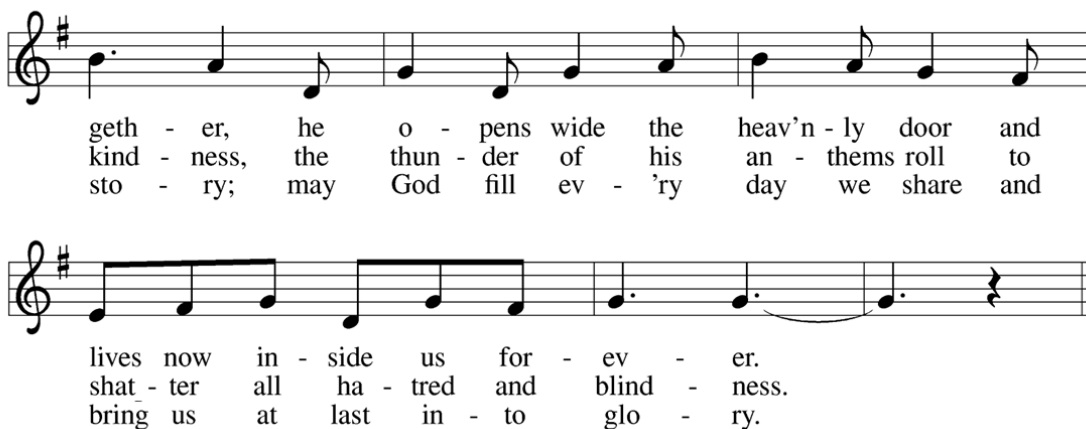
an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and

lives now in - side us for - ev - er,
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* (H. Hahn)

FLC Christmas Concert

Hearts Aglow

Sunday, December 7, 3 pm

Reception Following

Free Event



Insisting on hope this Advent

Advent 1 - 11/30 - In the time of Herod, we long for God to break in.

Advent 2 - 12/7 - When we're running out of hope, God is at work.

Advent 3 - 12/14 - Even in our fear, we are called forward.

Advent 4 - 12/21 - When you're afraid, Give me your hand.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall after worship.!

December 7 - John 4:46-54 - Healing of the Official's son

December 14 - John 5:1-17 - Jesus heal's on the Sabbath

December 21 - John 5:18-47 - Jesus' Sermon to the Jewish Leaders

December 28 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL



Christmas Eve *Service*

Each service will have Holy
Communion and Candle Light.

5:00pm, 7:00pm and 10:30pm

In Our Prayers

We pray for Bishop Doctor Sani Ibrahim Azar and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

Those living with cancer:

Juanita (Bonnie Ahlstedt's sister-in-law), **Jen & Dave** (Baker family friend), **Sue & Lee** (Beth Bowers' cousins), **Mark** (Dick Boyce's son), **Lisa** (Steve Coble's sister), **Susan Cook** (member), **Alexis** (Lucy Kay and David Osborne's friend), **Tracee** (Bonnie Ahlstedt's friend), **Norma** (Kristin Smith's friend), **Mary Hatlen** (member), **Steve** (Mark Hatlen's cousin), **Jessica Hockstedler** (member), **Jeanne** (Justin LaFord's mother), **John** (Susan Berg's brother), **Nancy McGee** (member), **Ted** (Sue Toyoda's friend), **Kip** (Paul Desilet's uncle), **Jim** (Hendricks' family friend), **Joanne** (Carolyn Becker's sister-in-law), **Diane Mackey** (frequent visitor), **Chris & family** (Dan & Sandy Hendricks' friends), **Brandis** (Renee & Mike Markert's friend), **Jo** (Lucy Kay and David Osborne's friend), **Marin** (Beth & Gordy Phelps' friend), **Roy** (Kristin Smith's cousin), **Deborah** (Vicki Shanks' cousin), **Fern** (Surya Skjonsby's friend), **Joe** (Barb Thieme's brother), **August** (Karey Coble's friend), **Melanie Veazey** (member), **Jim** (Haley Neff-LaFord's friend).

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

Lupe (Jose Alcaraz' aunt), **Sylvia** (Alcaraz family member), **Carolyn Becker** (member), **Dick Boyce** (member), **Doug** (Ho Brown's brother-in-law), **Susan** (Bob Berg's cousin), **John** (Linda Chapman's brother-in-law), **Richard** (Susan & Ross Cook's brother), **Leanne** (Krista Daniels' sister), **Nancy Davis** (member), **Karen** (Paula Glandon's sister), **John Godek** (member), **Teresa** (friend of the Bakers), **Zach** (Trevor Coble's friend), **Mitch** (Miriam Nack's friend), **Jennifer** (Dan Hendricks' niece), **Jim** (Sandy Hendricks' cousin), **Liz** (Marlis Pehling's friend), **Karen Johnson** (member), **Phillip** (Karen Johnson's brother), **Marlo** (Leona Keltner's friend), **Amy** (Nancy McGee's friend), **Kathy Koneiczka** (member), **Richard Koneiczka** (Kathy Koneiczka's husband), **Doug** (Justin LaFord's father), **Delsi & Colin** (Kristin Smith's cousins), **Ollie Polonsky** (member), **Andy** (Vickie Shanks' friend), **Dennis** (Dave Shogren's brother), **Mona Shogren** (member), **Donnabel** (Derrick StaRosa's sister), **Ron** (Beth Phelps' brother), **Sandy Sailand** (member), **Alan** (Siebert family friend), **Jennifer** (Irene Cloud's friend), **Kayden** (Karey Coble's nephew), **Harriett** (Roger Steinke's friend), **Kathy Telford-Luiz** (member), **Ron Tuck** (member), **Jackie Williams** (Donna Benfield's brother), **Paul** (Baker family friend).

Those who are homebound or in extended care facilities:

Valerie (Kendahl Adjorlolo's cousin), **Bonnie Ahlstedt** (member), **Diane** (Rene & Rob Baker's friend), **Sherrill & Larry Baker** (members), **Audrey Fisher** (member), **Lawrence** (Leon Romaniuk's father), **Roger Wolter** (member).

Those Serving Our Country:

AIR FORCE: **Jake Peoples** (Andrea & Eric Peoples' son) and **Erin Siebert** (Linda & Joe Siebert's daughter)

NAVY: **Christopher Whipple** (Carolyn Whipple's son)

COAST GUARD: **Gage McIntyre** (Tamara McIntyre'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.

INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK!

Sunday, November 30 First Sunday of Advent

9:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion

10:30 am Christian Education for all ages!

Monday, December 1

9:00 am 4/5 Year Old Preschool

Tuesday, December 2

9 00 am 3 Year Old & 4/5 Year old Preschool

9:15 am Preschool Chapel

9:30 am Lectionary w/ Pastor Berg

6:00 pm Property Committee

7:00 pm IT/Communications Meeting

Social Ministries Committee

Wednesday, December 3

Church Office Closed

9:00 am 4/5 Year Old Preschool

Thursday, December 4

9:30 am FLC Quilters

12:00 pm Quilters' Lunch

Friday, December 5

Church Office Closed!

Saturday, December 6

8:30 am Advent Retreat at Camp Lutherwood (Preschool—6th Graders)

9:00 am Garden Guild

Altar Guild

Sunday, December 7 Second Sunday of Advent

9:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion

10:30 am Christian Education for all ages!

3:00 pm Church Christmas Concert—*Hearts Aglow*

4:00 pm After Concert Reception

December 7, 2025 Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 43:19-21

Matthew 11:1-11

God is at Work

Weekly Financial Report

November 30, 2025

Attendance in Person: 147

Online: 29

November 30, 2025

General Offerings: \$20,487

Capital Improvement: \$464

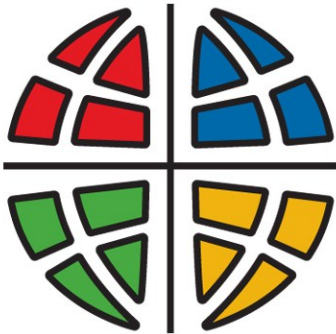
General Offerings Needed Each Week: \$10,770

SERMON NOTES

What do I fear?

What did I hear that helps me in this time?

How can I not let fear overcome me?



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America