

September 21, 2025
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
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

Piano	June Condra
Violin	Alexia Payne
Greeter	Kendahl Adjorlolo
Ushers	Dan Hendricks David Shogren
Acolyte	Gavin Baunsgard
Lector	Neil McGee
Sound Tech	Alain Adjorlolo
Camera Tech	Jeff Kosman
Communion Assistants	Tom Agnew Stephanie Almeida Andrea Peoples
Pew Angel	Clint Baastin
Bus Driver	Carsten Thode

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



September 21, 2025
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE: *Abide with me (Merrial)*

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG: *Blessing and Honor (ELW 854)*



1 Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and pow'r, wis - dom and
2 Let all the heav - ens sound forth Je - sus' name; let all the
3 Ev - er as - cend - ing the song and the joy, ev - er de -
4 Give we the glo - ry and praise to the Lamb! Take we the



rich - es and strength ev - er - more, be to the Lamb who our
earth sing his glo - ry and fame. O - cean and moun - tain, stream,
scend - ing the love from on high; bless - ing and hon - or and
robe and the harp and the palm; sing we the song of the



bat - tle has won, whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the
for - est, and flow'r ech - o his prais - es and tell of his
glo - ry and praise— this is the theme of the hymns that we
Lamb who was slain, dy - ing in weak - ness and ris - ing to



throne; whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the throne!
pow'r; ech - o his prais - es and tell of his pow'r.
raise; this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.
reign; dy - ing in weak - ness and ris - ing to reign!

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.

Loving God, like Jacob, who dreamed of your promises, you have filled us
with dreams, too. Show us your promises in our dreams and give us the
ability to follow them. Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: *Wind of the Spirit* (W&P 157)

Wind of the Spir - it, move fresh as we wor - ship and

fill us with hope ev - 'ry day.

Breath of cre - a - tion, blow life in our be - ing, and

gift us with pur - pose, we pray; so our

life is filled with mean - ing, and love is what we're breath - ing in the

wind of the Spir - it, wind of the Spir - it.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶ I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit ¹⁷ and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸ I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God,
word of life.

ANTHEM: *Jacob's Ladder (African American Spiritual)*

THE WORD: Genesis 27:1-4;27:15-23; 28:10-17

¹ When Isaac was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he called his elder son Esau and said to him, “My son,” and he answered, “Here I am.”

² He said, “See, I am old; I do not know the day of my death. ³ Now then, take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field, and hunt game for me. ⁴ Then prepare for me savory food, such as I like, and bring it to me to eat, so that I may bless you before I die.”

¹⁵ Then Rebekah took the best garments of her elder son Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them on her younger son Jacob, ¹⁶ and she put the skins of the kids on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck. ¹⁷ Then she handed the savory food and the bread that she had prepared to her son Jacob.

¹⁸ So he went in to his father and said, “My father,” and he said, “Here I am; who are you, my son?”

¹⁹ Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau your firstborn. I have done as you told me; now sit up and eat of my game, so that you may bless me.”

²⁰ But Isaac said to his son, “How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?”
He answered, “Because the LORD your God granted me success.”

²¹ Then Isaac said to Jacob, “Come near, that I may feel you, my son, to know whether you are really my son Esau or not.”

²² So Jacob went up to his father Isaac, who felt him and said, “The voice is Jacob’s voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.” ²³ He did not recognize him because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau’s hands, so he blessed him.

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² And he dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

¹³ And the LORD stood beside him and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, ¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!” ¹⁷ And he was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

Word of God,
word of life.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

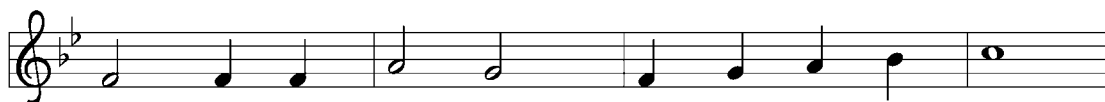
HYMN OF THE DAY: *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart* (ELW 800)



1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
 4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,



wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:



stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;
 I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
 the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,



and make me love you as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
 who has come in Jesus,
 the Word made flesh,
 to reconcile and make new,
 who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and community. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our stewardship of creation would be marked by justice and sustainability. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Holy One, embolden elected leaders to pursue policies of economic justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Compassionate God, we pray for all facing illness, those near death, or those grieving the loss of loved ones. We lift up our friends who are ill, have an injury or who are recovering from surgery: Tom, Castulo, Laura, Lupe, Carilyn, Susan, Dick, Doug, Susan, John, Kai, Richard, Leanne, Nancy, Karen, John, Teresa, Zach, Jim, Karen, Mario, Amy, Gina, Kathy, Richard, Albert, Doug, Chris, Judy, Andy, Dinnis, Mona, Donnabel, Ron, Sandy, Alan, Kayden, Harriett, Kathy, Ron, and Paul. May they find comfort and strength in your love. Prepare us to surround them with your healing care. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

God of love, motivate our congregation to enact economic justice through tangible action, prioritizing the needs of our community and sharing resources generously through our outreach and justice ministries. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

For whom do the people pray?

Gracious God, we give thanks for the saints who now join the heavenly chorus in praising your name. Lift us up from the dust of grief and remind us of your promise of new life. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for self-reflection.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

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: *The Heavens are Telling* (Franz Haydn)

OFFERING: *Let the Vineyards be Fruitful*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus 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, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.

You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the 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 given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body 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

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

COMMUNION

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

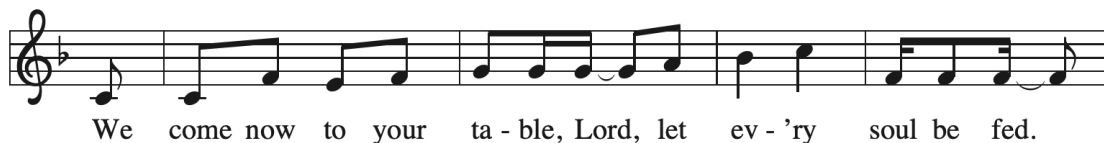
COMMUNION: *We will receive the body of Christ as bread with these or similar words: The body of Christ, given for you. If you desire a gluten-free option that is available. The blood of Christ will be received as either red wine or white grape juice with these or similar words: The blood of Christ,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

We Come Now to Your Table (ACS 970)



Welcome Table (ACS 969)



1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta-ble, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv-er, some of these days.



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of



liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: *May the God of Hope Go with Us* (ACS 984)



¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz!
May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,



Al mun - do en cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad.
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.



Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da - nos tu luz,
May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,



luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.
bring-ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.



O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos
Pray-ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our



de tu a - mor. Lu - che - mos por la paz,
joy with all; work - ing for a world that's new,



fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.
faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Postlude (G. F. Handel)*

Adult Education

September 21 and 28

How Can We Help Our Neighbor?
Considering being an Emergency
Cold Weather Shelter

Sundays - 11am - Fellowship Hall



INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK!

Sunday, September 21 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion
10:30 am Christian Education for all ages!
11:45 am Youth Lunch at Sparta's

Monday, September 22

9:00 am 4/5 Year Old Preschool
11:00 am Oral History Committee Meeting
12:00 pm Staff Meeting

Tuesday, September 23

Preschool Conferences

9 00 am 3 Year Old & 4/5 Year old Preschool
9:15 am Preschool Chapel
9:30 am Lectionary w/ Pastor Berg
7:00 pm Book Club—*Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver*

Wednesday, September 24

9:00 am 4/5 Year Old Preschool
10:00 am Peace by Piece Sewing

Thursday, September 25

9:00 am 3 Year Old Preschool & 4/5 Year Old Preschool
9:30 am Quilters
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Friday, September 26

Church Office Closed!

Saturday, September 27

Sunday, September 28 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion
10:30 am Christian Education for all ages!

September 28, 2025 F Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ephesians 3:7-13 Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-5; 4:40-17 God Calls Moses

Weekly Financial Report

September 14, 2025 Attendance in Person: 129 Online: 25
September 14, 2025 General Offerings: \$16,243 Capital Improvement: \$2,035

General Offerings Needed Each Week: \$10,770

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), **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), **Trevor** (Nora Strothman'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), **Rylan** (Kristin Smith's cousin), **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).

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

Tom Agnew (member), **Castulo** (Tricia Alcaraz' friend), **Laura** (Jose Alcaraz' aunt), **Lupe** (Jose Alcaraz' aunt), **Carolyn Becker** (member), **Susan Berg** (member), **Dick Boyce** (member), **Doug** (Ho Brown's brother-in-law), **Susan** (Bob Berg's cousin), **John** (Linda Chapman's brother-in-law), **Kai** (Jennifer Cleaves' son), **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), **Jim** (Sandy Hendricks' cousin), **Karen Johnson** (member), **Phillip** (Karen Johnson's brother), **Marlo** (Leona Keltner's friend), **Amy** (Nancy McGee's friend), **Gina** (Roger Steinke's friend), **Kathy Koneiczka** (member), **Richard Konieczka** (Kathy Konieczka's husband), **Albert** (Chris Martin's friend), **Doug** (Justin LaFord's father), **Chris Martin** (member), **Judy Richards** (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), **Kayden** (Karey Coble's nephew), **Harriett** (Roger Steinke's friend), **Kathy Telford-Luiz** (member), **Ron Tuck** (member), **Paul** (Baker family friend).

Those who are homebound or in extended care facilities:

Valerie (Kendahl Adjorlolo's cousin), **Bonnie Ahlstedt** (member), **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)

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.

SERMON NOTES

What caught my attention:

What did I hear that I am eager to share with another person?

I think the title of the sermon should be:



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America