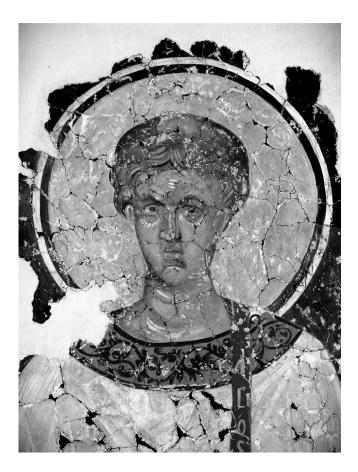
May 4, 2025 Third Sunday Of Easter 9:30 am





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 alignation 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 REACH Ministries Roger Steinke rsteinke@flcbothell.org

Director of Music (Organist/Choir Dir.) Lucy Kay Osborne lkosborne@flcbothell.org

Office Manager Kristin Smith ksmith@flcbothell.org

Preschool Directors Amy Case Stephanie Corrigan

Church Office 475-486-7314

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WORSHIP NOTES

- + Please register each person on a communion card in the pew rack and hand it to an usher 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. We have trained nursery staff on duty, as well. 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

Piano	June Condra
Violin	Alexia Payne
Greeter	Paul Desilet
Ushers	Alain Adjorlolo David Berg
Acolyte	Noah Berg
Lector	Marlis Pehling
Sound Tech	Gary Curtis
Camera Tech	Derrick StaRosa
Communion Assistants	Tamara McIntyre David Osborne Tom Payne
Pew Angel	Clint Bastin

Serving Us In Worship Today

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



May 4, 2025 Third Sunday of Easter

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE: The Old Rugged Cross, (George Bennard)

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG: Christ Is Risen! Alleluia! (ELW 382)







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.

Holy Giver and Receiver of life, your martyr, Stephen, shined with the light of your Holy Spirit. When his opponents took his life, he offered up his spirit to you, and prayed mercy for theirs. Make Stephen an example of faith and courage for all your followers, for the sake of the one who brought light and life to this world, Jesus Christ. Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (ELW 858)



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

PSALM 119:65-72

⁶⁵O LORD, you have dealt graciously with your servant, according to your word.
⁶⁶Teach me discernment and knowledge, for I have believed in your commandments.

⁶⁷ Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word.

⁶⁸ You are good and you bring forth good; teach me your statutes.

⁶⁹ The proud have smeared me with lies, but I will keep your commandments with my whole heart.

⁷⁰ Their heart is congealed like fat, but my delight is in your teaching

⁷¹ It is good for me that I have been afflicted, that I might learn your statutes.

⁷² The teaching of your mouth is dearer to me than thousands in gold and silver.

ANTHEM: A Jubilant Song (M.L. Lightfoot)

THE WORD: Acts 6:1-15; 7:2a; 7:44-60

¹Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the [Greek speakers] complained against the [Aramaic speakers] because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food.

²And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, ⁴while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word."

⁵What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. ¹⁰But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke.

¹¹Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." ¹²They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council.

¹³They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; ¹⁴for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." ¹⁵And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

²And Stephen replied: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me. The God of glory appeared to our ancestor Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, ⁴⁴Our ancestors had the tent of testimony in the wilderness, as God directed when he spoke to Moses, ordering him to make it according to the pattern he had seen. ⁴⁵Our ancestors in turn brought it in with Joshua when they dispossessed the nations that God drove out before our ancestors. And it was there until the time of David, ⁴⁶who found favor with God and asked that he might find a dwelling place for the house of Jacob. ⁴⁷But it was Solomon who built a house for him. ⁴⁸Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with human hands as the prophet says,

⁴⁹'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool.
What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest?
⁵⁰Did not my hand make all these things?'

⁵¹You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. ⁵²Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. ⁵³You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it."

⁵⁴When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen.

⁵⁵But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶Look, he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Word of God. Wod of life. CHILDREN'S SERMON SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: Lord, You Give the Great Commission (ELW 579)



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

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries, The Sammamish River, Lake Washington and the Salish Sea, so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place, we lift up our Fellowship Committee and our Greeters. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Silence for reflection.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

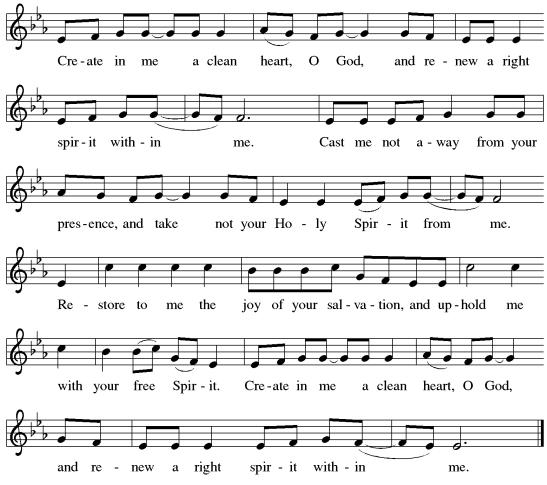
Amen.

PEACE

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ. OFFERTORY: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (Straslund Gesangbuch) OFFERING: Create in Me a Clean Heart (ELW 185)



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. 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, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

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

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

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.

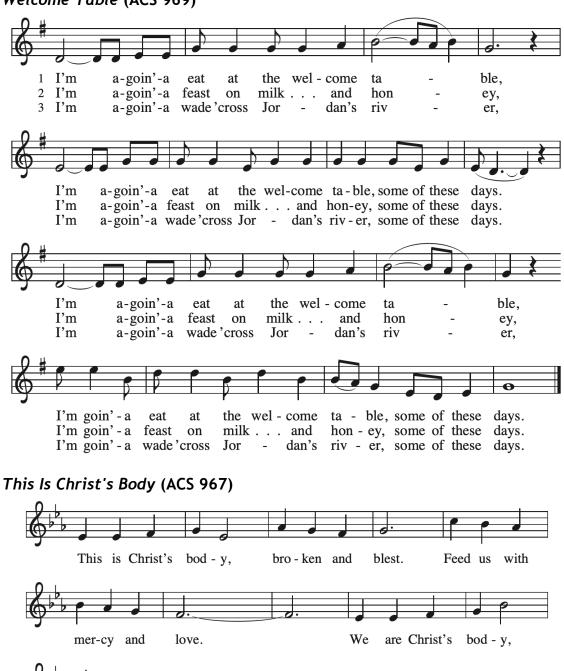
WHO MAY COMMUNE? All are welcome at the Lord's Table. It is a free gift given to all for the forgiveness of sins. The words "for you" really mean FOR YOU! Children may commune at the discretion of their parents. If you wish to receive a blessing: cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the communion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

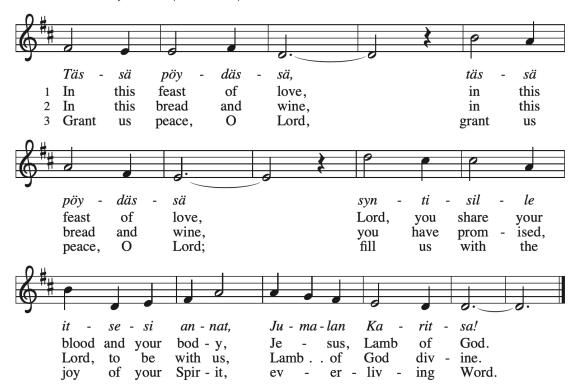


COMMUNION HYMNS: Welcome Table (ACS 969)



bro-ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

In This Feast of Love (ACS 962)



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

SENDING

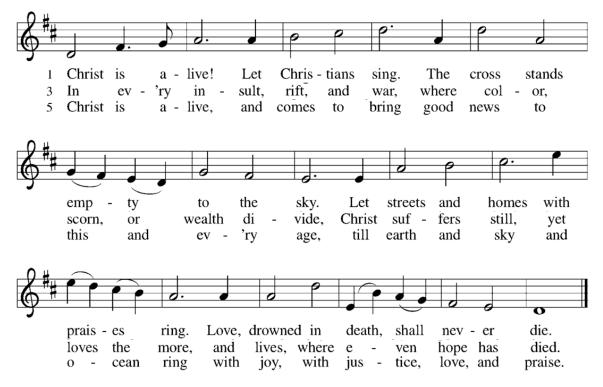
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing (ELW 389)



DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: Allegro, Thomas Arne

INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK!

Sunday, May 4 Third Sunday of Easter

9:30 am	Worship w/ Holy Communion
10:30 am	Christian Education for all Ages
11:30 am	Membership Committee

<u>Monday, May 5</u>

- 9:00 am 4 & 5 year old Preschool
- 12:00 pm Staff Meeting

<u>Tuesday, May 6</u>

- 9:00 am 4 & 5 year old Preschool
 - 3 year old Preschool
- 9:30 am Lectionary
- 3:30 pm Weekly News Submission Deadline
- 6:00 pm Property Committee
- 7:00 pm IT/Communications Meeting Social Ministries Committee

Wednesday, May 7

9:00 am 4 & 5 year old Preschool

<u>Thursday, May 8</u>

- 9:00 am 5 year old Preschool 3 year old Preschool
- 9:30 am FLC Quilters
- 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Friday, May 9

Church Office Closed!

Saturday, May 10

9:00am Worship & Music Committee 10:00 am Cub Scouts Outdoor Work Party

Sunday, May 11 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Happy Mother's Day!9:30 amWorship w/ Holy Communion10:30 amChristian Education for all Ages

May 11, 2025– Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 6::26-39 Ethopian Eunuch

Weekly Financial Report

April 27, 2025Attendance in Person: 134Online: 16April 27, 2025General Offerings: \$4,282Capital Improvement: \$425

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), Alexis (Lucy Kay and David Osborne's friend), Karen (Scott Eiler's sister), Tracee (Bonnie Ahlstedt's friend), Mary Hatlen (member), Steve (Mark Hatlen's cousin), Jessica Hockstedler (member), David (Thomas Holmes' grandfather), John (Susan Berg's brother), Wayne (Dave Shogren's friend), Richard (Ruth Neitzel's brother), 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 Shank's cousin), Fern (Surya'Skjonsby friend), August (Karey Coble's friend).

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

Laura (Jose Alcaraz' aunt), Lupe (Jose Alcaraz' aunt), 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), Kai (Jennifer Cleaves' son), Vincent (Julie Mass' friend), Susan Cook (member), Richard (Susan & Ross Cook's brother), Leanne (Krista Daniels' sister), Kai (Nancy & Russ Kerwin's grandson), Nancy Davis (member), Karen (Paula Glandon's sister), John Godek (member), Teresa (friend of the Bakers) Jim (Sandy Hendricks' cousin), Karen Johnson (member), Marlo (Leona Keltner's friend), Noreen Kloster (member), 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), Jeanne (Justin LaFord's mother), Chris Martin (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), Kayden (Karey Coble's nephew), Harriett (Roger Steinke's friend), Kathy Telford-Luiz (member), Lynette (Karen Thomas' friend).

Those who are homebound or in extended care facilities:

Valerie (Kendahl Adjorlolo's cousin), Bonnie Ahlstedt (member), Sherrill & Larry Baker (members), Trudy Eichelsdoerfer (member), Audrey Fisher (member), Lawrence (Leon Romaniuk's father), Walt Stoll (member), Sigrid (Carsten Thode's mother), Carol (Patty Weston's mother), Roger Wolter (member).

Those Serving Our Country:

AIR FORCE: Mason Land (Debbie & Darryl Lageson's nephew), 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:

