

December 7, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent
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 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	Sandy Hendricks
Ushers	Tom Agnew Dave Richards
Acolyte	James Dersch
Lector	Robert Beckstrom
Sound Tech	Alain Adjorlolo
Camera Tech	David Shogren
Communion Assistants	Kendahl Adjorlolo Dan Hendricks Renee Lier
Pew Angel	Marcus Hodges
Bus Driver	Carsten Thode

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



December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE: One Small Child (David Meeci)

June Condra, Piano; Cheryl Miller, Flute

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG: All Earth Is Hopeful (ELW 266)



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor
1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



yel sur - co - a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
"A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our

cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver-dad. dar-nos li-ber-tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate-way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

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

Family of faith, God is at work!

redeeming and dreaming,

listening and loving.

So may we worship our God who never gives up.

Amen.

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

3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Sa - tan's

Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,

Refrain
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe. Re-joice! Re-joice!
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

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: Isaiah 43:19-21

- ¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
- ²⁰ The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches,
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
- ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Word of God,
word of life.

ANTHEM: *Bring Us Hope* (R. E. Schram)

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:1-11

¹ Now when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and proclaim his message in their cities.

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” ⁴ Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Word of God,
word of life.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* (ELW 249)



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounce - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us

that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We have seen the valley.

We have seen a sky without stars.

We have seen the longest night,
 and *still* we believe.

We believe in Emmanuel.

We believe in the hope of tomorrow.

We believe that good news is louder than fear.

We believe this good news is for all people.

So even when our knees shake,
 even when our voice trembles,
 even when fear is all around us,
 we will hold onto that good news.

We will reach for each other.

We will look for God in our midst.

We will sing songs of joy.

We will proclaim:

Unto us, love is born.

**We have seen the longest night,
and we have seen unimaginable love.
So *still*, we believe.
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.

With wisdom and understanding, inspire the faithful around the world. Unite hearts and minds in work to address poverty, access to housing, and equity among peoples. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

With counsel and might, move us to care for creation. As we dream of the day when all creatures will flourish alongside one another, guide us in ways humanity and all creation will mutually thrive. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

With righteousness and faithfulness, encourage nations to live in harmony with one another. We pray for international student and teacher exchanges, for our partner churches, and for the shared mission of Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease. Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery and medical procedures. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

With welcome and hospitality, embolden us in our shared ministry to overcome all that divides. In acts of repentance, reconciliation, and reparation, may we serve in the way of Christ. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

For whom do the people pray?

With joy and peace, we remember our ancestors in the faith. Fill us with the hope of the Holy Spirit now and into the ages of ages. 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 prom-
ised. 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

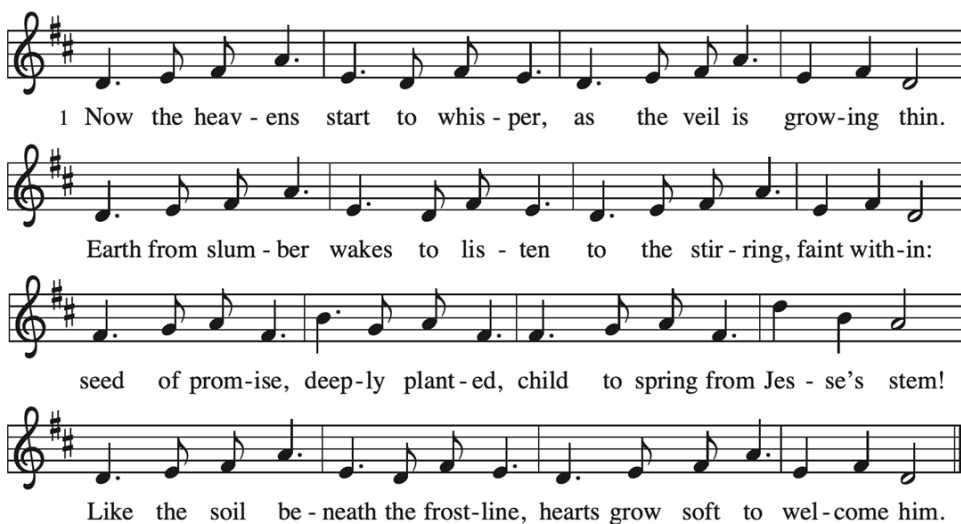
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY: *What Child is This? (English Melody*
June Condra, Piano; Cheryl Miller, Flute

OFFERING: *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper (ACS 901)*



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:

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!

***The King Shall Come* (ELW 260)**



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
 but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
 and left the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
 the day when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face.
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings.

O Little Town of Bethlehem (ELW 279)



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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: *Fling Wide the Door* (ELW 259)



1 Fling wide the door, un-bar the gate; the King of glo-ry
2 He is the rock of our be-lief, the heart of mer-cy's
4 Come, Lord, our Sav-ior, Je-sus Christ; our hearts are o-pen



comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
gen-tle self. His king-ly crown is ho-li-ness; his
wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love-ly grace, up-



Sav-ior of the world who brings his great sal-va-tion
scep-ter is his love-li-ness; he brings our sor-rows
on our sor-rows shine your face, and let your Ho-ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho-ly mirth and
to an end. Now glad-ly praise our king and friend, and
Spir-it guide our jour-ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre-a-tor, Spir-it, Word.
wor-ship him with song, for sav-ing us from wrong.
a-tor of the world, our on-ly strength for good.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Macht hoch die Tür* (D. Johnson)



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), **Tryvge Enger** (member), **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 Konieczka** (Kathy Konieczka'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, December 7 Second Sunday of Advent

9:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion
10:30 am Christian Education for all ages!
3:00 pm FLC Christmas Concert and Reception

Monday, December 8

9:00 am 4/5 Year Old Preschool
10:00 am Widows Support Group

Tuesday, December 9

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 Finance Committee

Wednesday, December 10

9:00 am 4/5 Year Old Preschool
10:30 am Personnel Committee

Thursday, December 11

9:30 am FLC Quilters
3:15 pm Membership Committee
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 12

Church Office Closed!

Saturday, December 13

9:00 am Altar Guild

Sunday, December 14 Third Sunday of Advent

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

December 14, 2025 Third Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Luke 1:26-39

We are called forward

Weekly Financial Report

November 30, 2025

Attendance in Person: 139

Online: 14

November 30, 2025

General Offerings: \$4,491

Capital Improvement: \$418

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