Sunday, July 16, 2017 The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost



Fírst Evangelícal Lutheran Church 900 Maín Street Brockton, MA 02301 www.firstevlutheran.org

A Congregation of the



Evangelical Lutheran
 Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

900 Main Street Brockton, Massachusetts 02301 Telephone: 508-586-9021 Fax: 508-583-5501 Website: www.firstevlutheran.org

Our Vision Statement

Our vision is to become a visible, outreaching community resource consisting of diverse, active, enthusiastic and supportive Christians of all ages, working together with dynamic leadership and ministering to the spiritual and social needs of the congregation and community.

Our Mission Statement

Ministers: The Members of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Staff

Pastor: The Reverend Jeffrey C. Johnson E-mail: jjohnson@firstevlutheran.org Cell: 508-944-7109

Parish Administrator: James E. Benson E-mail: jbenson@firstevlutheran.org Cell: 508-207-8746

Church/Financial Secretary: Evelyn Reuben E-mail: ereuben@firstevlutheran.org

Minister of Music: David N. Burnham Bookkeeper: Nina Sousa

Sexton: Brian D. Gagne

Pastors Emeriti:

The Reverend Michael P. Fruth, Ph.D.

The Reverend Kenneth W. Hilston, Jr.

Minister of Music Emerita: Hope E. Mehaffey

Presiding Minister: The Reverend Jeffrey C. Johnson

Assisting Minister: Pam Mansbach

8:30: Lector: Beth Burnham

Welcome to First Lutheran Church. All are welcome.

No really, we take this pretty seriously; we want everyone here, including the children. Children are welcomed and celebrated at First Lutheran Church. We understand that children are children: they make noise; they run around; they like to play games; they even on occasion cry. This bothers the family of the crying child more than it does us as a community. So please stay in worship with your children. Children's Bulletins are available from the greeters. Please take this seriously. All are welcome. We're glad you're here!

Sunday, July 16, 2017

The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

ORGAN PRELUDE

David Burnham

"Prière a Notre Dame"

Leon Boellman

WELCOME

CALL to WORSHIP

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

524

"What Is This Place"

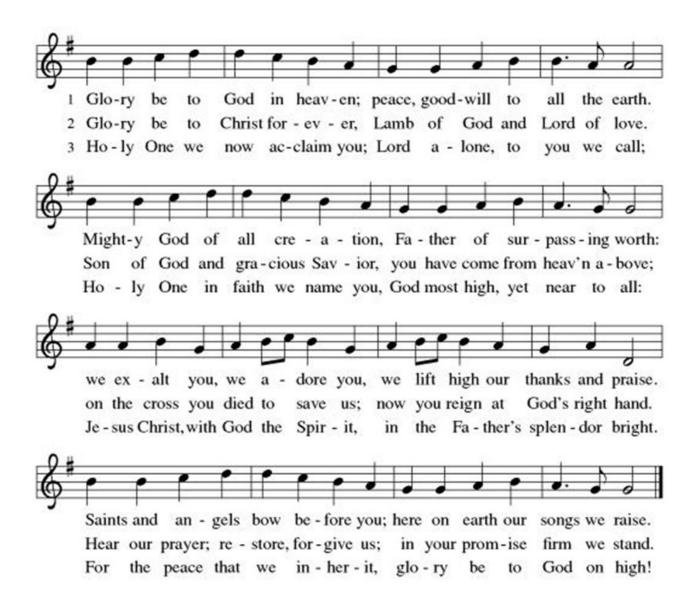
Komt Nu Met Zang

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE FIRST READING: ISAIAH 55: 10-13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,

for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The Lesson Ends: Lector: The Word of the Lord Congregation: Thanks be to God

THE PSALM: Psalm 65: 1-8, 9-13

Spoken Responsively

¹You are to be praised, O | God, in Zion; to you shall vows | be fulfilled.
²To you, the one | who answers prayer, to you all | flesh shall come.
³Our sins are strong- | er than we are,

but you blot out | our transgressions.

⁴Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your | courts to dwell there! They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness | of your temple.

⁵Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of | our salvation,

O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans | far away.

⁶You make firm the mountains | by your power;

you are girded a- | bout with might.

⁷You still the roaring | of the seas,

the roaring of their waves, and the clamor | of the peoples.

⁸Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your | marvelous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to | sing for joy.

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is | full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide | for the earth.

¹⁰You drench the furrows and smooth | out the ridges;

with heavy rain you soften the ground and | bless its increase.

¹¹You crown the year | with your goodness,

and your paths over- | flow with plenty.

¹²May the fields of the wilderness be | rich for grazing, and the hills be | clothed with joy.

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak them- | selves with grain;

let them shout for | joy and sing.

THE SECOND READING: ROMANS 8:1-11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Lesson Ends: Lector: The Word of the Lord Congregation: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





GOSPEL: MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23

The gospel is announced. The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew the thirteenth chapter.

Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The gospel concludes: The gospel of the Lord. Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMONSERMONPastor Jeffrey C. JohnsonHYMN OF THE DAY734"God, Whose Farm Is All Creation"Harvest Gifts

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

Called together in the Spirit's embrace, let us pray for the mending of God's world.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, we give thanks for your living word that goes out and does not return empty. Make your church a partner in accomplishing what you desire. Unite us in faith, witness, and mission. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For land, creatures, and people suffering from drought, that gentle rain bring life and hope. For mountains, hills, and the trees of the field, that all creation clap for joy. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For nations suffering the violence and hunger of war . For exiles and refugees. Lead them home in peace and bless them with your fullness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For victims and perpetrators of race-based crime. For all who suffer sorrow, illness, or injury (*especially*). Bring them justice, healing, and new life by the power of your Spirit. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For this congregation and its leaders; through our shared work, let your word prosper among us and bring life to the community beyond our doors. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In hope for peace and reconciliation in this city, nation and world we pray for all our leaders that you guide them to lead for the good of all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In thanksgiving for all who have died recently, for strangers and dear ones who have blessed our lives and sparked our hope. Give comfort and confidence to all who mourn. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your care through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Chorale Prelude: "Down Ampney"	Richard Popplewell
OFFERTORY CANTICLE	884
"Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow"	Old Hundredth

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. **Amen.**

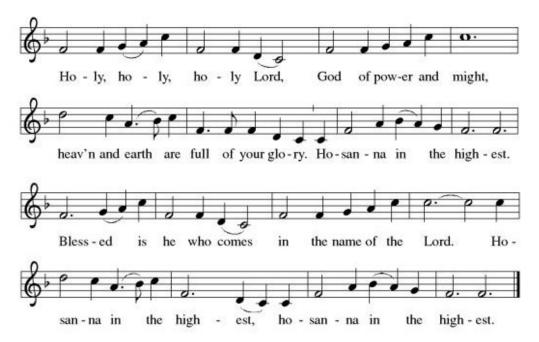
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE	
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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:

you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air;

you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water.

You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains,

with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own. That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

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.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

LAMB OF GOD



THE COMMUNION

(The assembly may be seated)

Ar Hyd Y Nos

Assembly stands

201

Christ welcomes you to this Feast of the Baptized. Our communion distribution is at the rail using <u>intinction</u> as the method of distribution. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers, receive the bread from the Pastor or Assistant, then to the cup and dip the bread in either the wine (the chalice closest to the bread) or in the grape juice and proceed back to your seat by the side aisles. If you require gluten free bread, please indicate such to the Pastor/Assistant. Please Do Not Drink from the Cup. Small Children and infants are assisted by adults.

COMMUNION HYMN: (sung following distribution) 679

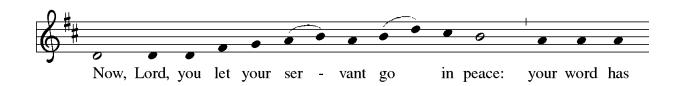
"For the Fruit of All Creation"

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

"Now, Lord"





PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever. Amen.

THE SENDING HYMN

"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"

Chesterfield

551

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"The Emperor's Fanfare"

Antonio Soler

Notice is hereby given that the Congregation Council, in accordance with the Congregation's Constitution has called a Special Congregational Meeting for Sunday, July 23, 2017 immediately following the 8:30 service. The meeting will be held in the church. All members in good standing are expected to attend. The purpose of this meeting will be to approve funding of a Family & Youth Ministries Coordinator as part of a pilot program to coordinate and provide direction to our Sunday School, Youth program (s), recruitment of young families with children and to develop other future programs such as Vacation Bible School. This is the sole purpose for which this meeting has been called, no other business may be transacted.

SAVE THE DATE

27th Annual Golf Tournament

Monday, September 18, 2017

Brockton Country Club

1:00 pm Shot-Gun Start, Scramble (Best Ball) Format

Banquet Following

Registration/Sponsorship Forms have been mailed in Tidings and are also available on the counter outside the Pastor's office

Let Us Pray for our members that are homebound or ill, or otherwise in need of our prayers:

Shirley Elefson The Grabau Family Marilyn Tyler David Tyler Lisaann Czarnowski Gustaf Dahlgren Anna Haskins-St. Joseph's Manor Scott Dunn Marian Nelson-Hannah B. Shaw Donna Persson Eric Johnson Jeanne Newman Gary Eliasson-Brockton Rehabilitation Vivian Tofteroo Trudy Ciancarelli-Notre Dame Health Phyllis Bolinder John F. Kenyon Jr.

And for a Special Measure of God's grace to be upon:

- Captain Scott Friski-grandson of Phyllis Nielsen
- Sgt. Erik Akerblom-stateside
- Sgt. Ryan R. Casey, USMCstateside-grandson of Carole Casey
- SPC Shawn Jenkins-stateside-son of Tana Jenkins,
- Pvt. 1st Class Philipe Pinto-son of Sonia Pinto

We offer our prayers for those members of our extended family:

- Robert Silke--Uncle of Jeanne Govoni
- Michael Seward--friend of Barbara DeCarli
- Thomas Kenyon--nephew of the Kenyon family
- Carlos Evandro Azeredo--brother of Ana Paula Azeredo
- Amos & Beverly Conley--brother-in-law & sister of Skip Packard
- Joe Vassar--cousin of Dennis Govoni
- Lynn Burgess--sister-in-law of Lynda Whittemore
- Gary Lewis--friend of Diane Perry
- Kelley Newman Milliken--daughter of Ron & Jeanne Newman
- Jean Burgeson-cousin to Barbara Johnson & Jean-Ellen Ouellette-Kenney
- Susan Latinville—niece of Skip & Cheryl Packard
- Jennifer Anderson—cousin of Diane Perry & niece of Alden Anderson
- Don Anderson-son of Alden Anderson
- Junior Nicholas-son of Rosa Nicholas
- Sheri McIntire-friend of Anne & Rick Martin
- Donna Jeffreys-friend of Jean Anderson
- Christina Crosby-niece of Russ & Marian Grabau
- Doninick D'Agostino-father of Jessica Burke
- Judy Dolan-grandmother of Pat & Chelsea Dolan
- John Cunningham-friend of The Thompsons
- Frankie Vigorito- friend of the Rovaldis
- Lorena Giordano-sister-in-law to the Giordanos
- Steve McLeod-friend of the MacNevins
- Marilyn Gilmetti-Friend of The Thompsons
- Bob Lowe-friend of the Rovaldis
- Lee Carlson-sister-in-law of Ruth Johnson
- Sharon Palumbo-friend of Jean-Ellen Ouellette-Kenney
- Maureen Pigeon-friend of Pat McAfee
- Velia DeCarli-mother-in-law of Barbara DeCarli
- Martha Myers-aunt of Sandy White
- John Bordieri-friend of the MacNevins
- Evelyn Carlson--grandmother to Rob, great-grandmother to Matthew & Juliette Carlson
- Eleanor Canty-cousin of Marian Nelson
- Holly Hamilton-friend of Roberta Battaglia
- Hildred Tatro—friend of Hope Mehaffey
- Helen Goodwin-friend of Barbara DeCarli
- Robert D'Andrea—cousin of Barbara DeCarli
- The Rev. Margaret Hinkle--friend of Pr. Jeff

Counters: Counters for the Sunday offering are needed for the month of July. If you are able to do this please let Dana Christensen or the Church office know. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE

GIANT YARD SALE

Saturday, August 5, 2017 8:00 am to 2:00 pm The Fruth Center

You may drop off small items at the church Monday - Thursday between 8:30 & 4--please call first

This is a precursor to November's "Kaffe Stuga"

For more information please speak to Beth Christensen or Karen Christensen

VOLUNTEERS NEEEDED

ITS TIME TO CLEAN THE CELLAR, THE ATTIC, THE CLOSETS, THE GARAGE

ITEMS STILL NEEDED TO SELL AT THE YARD SALE