

May 3, 2015

Fifth Sunday of Easter

**FIRST LESSON Psalm 95:1-7a**

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

**SECOND LESSON First John 4:7-12, 16b-21**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

**GOSPEL John 15:1-8**

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Linda Mellon became Director of Music in **1984** and served in that capacity until 1987. She has directed the Hosanna Handbells since 1987. Keith Melberg has been our church organist since **1985**. Harriet Wicklund has directed the Senior Choir since **1986**. From 1984-1986, First Lutheran gained three of the most musically talented people of our community and we are so proud they are with us. Mary Kay Stensvaag has directed our Children's Choir since 2006. Anne Taylor has led and played piano for our Worship Team since 2009. Please take a moment today to thank them for their service to our church.

# *Fifth Sunday of Easter*



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**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

May 3, 2015  
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

First Lutheran Church  
Fergus Falls, Minnesota  
(218) 739-3348  
[www.firstlcfmn.com](http://www.firstlcfmn.com) firstlc@live.com

Online  
Giving  
(QR Code)



Martin Luther once said, "Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." First Lutheran has truly been blessed throughout its history with this great treasure. This morning, we take time to honor, thank, and celebrate five of our music staff members for providing, a combined, 100-plus years of marvelous music.

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

*Sing Praise to God*  
Children's Choir

Robert Leaf

**\*Processional Hymn**

*When In Our Music God Is Glorified*

**ELW 851 (V. 1-4)**

**\*Apostolic Greeting**

ELW Page 138

**Anthem**

*River of Judea*

Jack Feldman

**\*Hymn of Praise**

*This is the Feast*  
(Women v. 1 & 3, Men v. 2 & 4)

ELW Page 140

**\*Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray. . . .  
C Amen

**First Lesson**

Psalm 95:1-7  
(Congregational response after reading: **Thanks be to God**)

**Anthem**

*Meditation on Beautiful Savior*  
Hosanna Handbells

arr. Cathy Moglebust

**Second Lesson**

First John 4:7-12, 16b-21  
(Congregational response after reading: **Thanks be to God**)

**This Week at First Lutheran:**

Today:	8:30 & 11 a.m.	Worship/Holy Communion
	<b>9:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Sunday School visits Pioneer Care</b>
	<b>9:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Reception Celebration – 100 years of Music Ministry</b>
		<b>No Adult Bible Study</b>
	<b>12:10 p.m.</b>	<b>Softball Meeting in Narthex</b>
Monday:	9:00 a.m.	WELCA Love Days
	5:00 p.m.	Al-Anon
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Women's XY Bible Study (Cally's)</b>
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts
Tuesday:	9:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts
Wednesday:	<b>7:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Men's Bible Study @ LRH</b>
	9:30 a.m.	Al-Anon
	10:00 a.m.	AA
	<b>3:45 p.m.</b>	<b>Children's Choir Year End Party</b>
	4:30 p.m.	FLY 57 (Last one until Fall)
	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>LAST 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation – with Parents</b>
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>LAST 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation</b>
	7:00 p.m.	Sr. FLY (Last one until Fall)
	7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir
Thursday:	8:45 a.m.	Morning Watch-Pr. Jennifer - KBRF-AM (1250)
	9:30 a.m.	Sr. Bible Study and Coffee – Kairos Room
Friday:	Church Office Closed	
Saturday:	Church Office Closed	

**Next Sunday, May 10**

8:30 & 11 a.m.	Blended Worship/Holy Communion
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
9:45 a.m.	Butterflies
10:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Confirmation Dessert &amp; Rehearsal</b>

**Tuck-pointing** work has begun on our building. If you would like to contribute to this crucial maintenance project, you can do so using either a pew envelope or a check made out to First Lutheran with “tuck pointing” on the memo line.

**The First Lutheran Library Committee** asks that you please look around for any DVDs and books children may have checked out from the church library and return them. The library is open any time the church office is open.

**Lost & Found** – Please check the lost and found for any missing items (located outside the education office and library at the top of the stairs). All items not claimed by May 17<sup>th</sup> will be given to Goodwill.

**Relay for Life** will be held June 19, 2014 at the college. It will start at 3:00 p.m. We are having a First Lutheran Team again this year. If you would like to join the team, would like to make a donation, purchase a luminary in honor of or in memory of call Sue Toso at 218-770-5156. Registration is available online.

**Y’s Folks Salad Luncheon** – Let’s get gardening! Come join us on May 8<sup>th</sup> from 11-1 p.m. at the YMCA in Fergus Falls. See the kiosk for more details about this event.

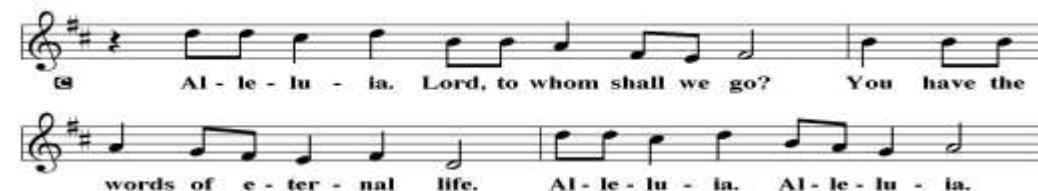
**Summer Coffee Servers Needed!!!** Do you enjoy your cup of coffee and treat after Sunday morning worship? If so we need the congregation’s help. Please take a minute this morning to sign-up at the info counter for a Sunday that you can serve. We need YOUR help to have coffee on Sunday mornings.

**Two Upcoming OWL’s Events:** Monday, May 11, 2015 -- 1:00 p.m. – Museum “The Changing Face of Fergus Falls” Sign up at Info Counter before Thursday, May 7 so we know how many to plan for. Questions?? Call Margaret Kratzke. And Wednesday, June 3, 2015 – 7:30 p.m. “Some Enchanted Evening” –MSU Straw Hat Players - Sign up at the Info Counter and pay \$20 by check (payable to First Lutheran Owls) before Wednesday, May 20. Check the kiosk for more information and keep a lookout for details in the May Messenger!

Senior Pastor:	Saul Stensvaag
Associate Pastor:	Jennifer Rose
Part-time Visitation Pastor:	Stan Satre
Sunday School Superintendent:	Cindy Larson
Council President:	Lisa Wolfe
Organist:	Keith Melberg
Usher:	8:30- Dave & Lorri Holt, Kile & Tonya Bergren 11- Terry Gervais, Carmon Jackson, Tom & Jane Willett
Sacristans:	8:30-Mark & Susan Hermes 11:00-Carolyn Sund
Greeters	8:30- Steve & Gayle Fitz 11- Kurt & Pam Gustin
Bible Bearer:	8:30-Teresa Shannon 11-Brittany Kollman
Acolytes:	8:30-Ryan Wilson, Casey Thom 11-Logan Wentworth, William Pajari
Communion Assistants:	8:30-Bruce & Wendy Anderson 11-Brittany Kollman, Kaylee Grant
Lectors:	8:30- Bob Gaabo 11- Caroline Stumbo
Hosanna Handbell Director:	Linda Mellon
Children’s Choir Director:	Mary Kay Stensvaag
Adult Choir Director:	Harriet Wicklund
P.A. Operator:	8:30-Margaret Ness-Ludwig 11-Bud Mellon

**\*Gospel Acclamation and Procession**

(Please turn as the Gospel Procession goes by.)



(Congregational response spoken after Gospel is announced: **Glory to you, O Lord.**)

**\*Gospel**

John 15:1-8

(Congregational response spoken after Gospel is read: **Praise to you, O Christ**)

**Sermon**

*How Can I Keep From Singing?*

Pastor Saul

**Hymn of the Day**

*My Life Flows On in Endless Song*

**ELW 763**

v. 1 all, v.2 men, v.3 women, v.4 all  
(Refrain – all)

**\*Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

**\*Prayers of the Church**

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,  
and for all people according to their needs.  
P ... Lord, in your mercy, or ... Let us pray to the Lord.  
C **hear our prayer.** **Lord, have mercy.**

**\*The PEACE is shared**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
C **And also with you.**

**The Offering Anthem**

**Celebration Psalm**

Joseph Martin

Adult Choir

**\*The Offertory**

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 the dreams of all; u-nite them with the  
prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your  
pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

**\*The Great Thanksgiving**

ELW p.144

**Words of Institution**

**The Lord's Prayer**

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

**Distribution of Holy Communion**

*Following an ancient tradition, we will stand at the railing during the Easter season when receiving communion*

**Hymns during Communion:**

ELW 382, 848

**\*Post Communion Blessing**

**\*Post Communion Hymn**

**When In Our Music God Is Glorified**

ELW 851 (V. 5)

Let ev'ry instrument be tuned for praise; let all rejoice  
who have a voice to raise; And may God  
give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

**\*Prayer & Benediction**

**\*Dismissal**

**P** Go in peace. Share the joy of Easter.

**C** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

**Postlude**

**The Heavens Declare The Glory of God**

Marcello

Pastor Jennifer, trumpet

Keith Melberg, organ

Dedicated to all musicians at First Lutheran who help us to see the glory of God  
(Please remain seated until after the postlude)

**Join Us for Fellowship and Refreshments** in the narthex following worship. Serving today is the Church Council in celebration of our 100 years of Music Ministry by five of our staff.

**Altar Flowers** are given by Pam Western.

**Known Hospitalized:** Ethel Kaasa at Lake Region Hospital.

**Sympathy** to the family of Connie Bestul, whose memorial service will be this Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. at PioneerCare Suites, Sheridan Street. And to Robbie Olson on the deaths of his sister & husband, Joann & Jim Pavlish of Spokane, WA.

**Visitors!** If you didn't get a "Visitors Bag" when you came in this morning please pick one up on your way out after worship. You'll find them in a basket located on the small table on the ramp coming up from the narthex into the sanctuary.

**Large Print Edition** of the order of worship, the lessons, and the hymns for today are available. If you would like copies for worship, please ask an usher.

**ELCA is providing a response to help the victims of the earthquake in Nepal in cooperation with Lutheran World Relief.** If you'd like to help, use a pew envelope or write a check made out to First Lutheran with "Nepal" on the memo line.

**Child Fashion models needed!** The WOW (Women of the Word) Committee is planning a Spring Fashion Show event for **Saturday morning, May 9<sup>th</sup>**. All children are eligible to participate. If you are interested or have questions, call: Karen Olson @ 218-770-4310, Cindy Larson @ 218-739-0965, Jody Hanson @ 218-739-3446 or Michelle Lembcke @ 218-205-1932.

**Megan Johnson Benefit** – Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at First Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall. Megan was recently diagnosed with oral cancer. She had surgery on Tuesday, March 24 at Fairview University in Minneapolis. Her family needs help with traveling and living expenses while Megan undergoes her surgery, hospital stay, and extensive rehabilitation therapy. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers. You may write a check to First Lutheran Church with "Megan Johnson Benefit" on the memo line or write "Megan Johnson Benefit" on your pew envelope. Online giving website: <https://www.giveforward.com/fundraiser/4d68/megan-johnson-oral-cancer-fund>

**THANK YOU** to Everyone who helped make the "Taste of Spring" Salad Lunch and Bake sale such a great success. If you brought a salad and/or food for the bake sale it was greatly appreciated. What a variety of delicious salads we had and a nice assortment of baked goods. If you worked (every job was important), came to eat and/or brought baked goods you are truly appreciated! There was wonderful fellowship as we all came together to make this a special event.



**CHURCH SOFTBALL!** If you are between the ages of 14-100 sign up today to play on First Lutheran's softball team on Monday nights this year! Sign-up sheets are at the Info Counter ... The cost is \$40 to play plus \$10 for a t-shirt. If under age 18 you will need a parent's signature.