

May 8, 2016

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

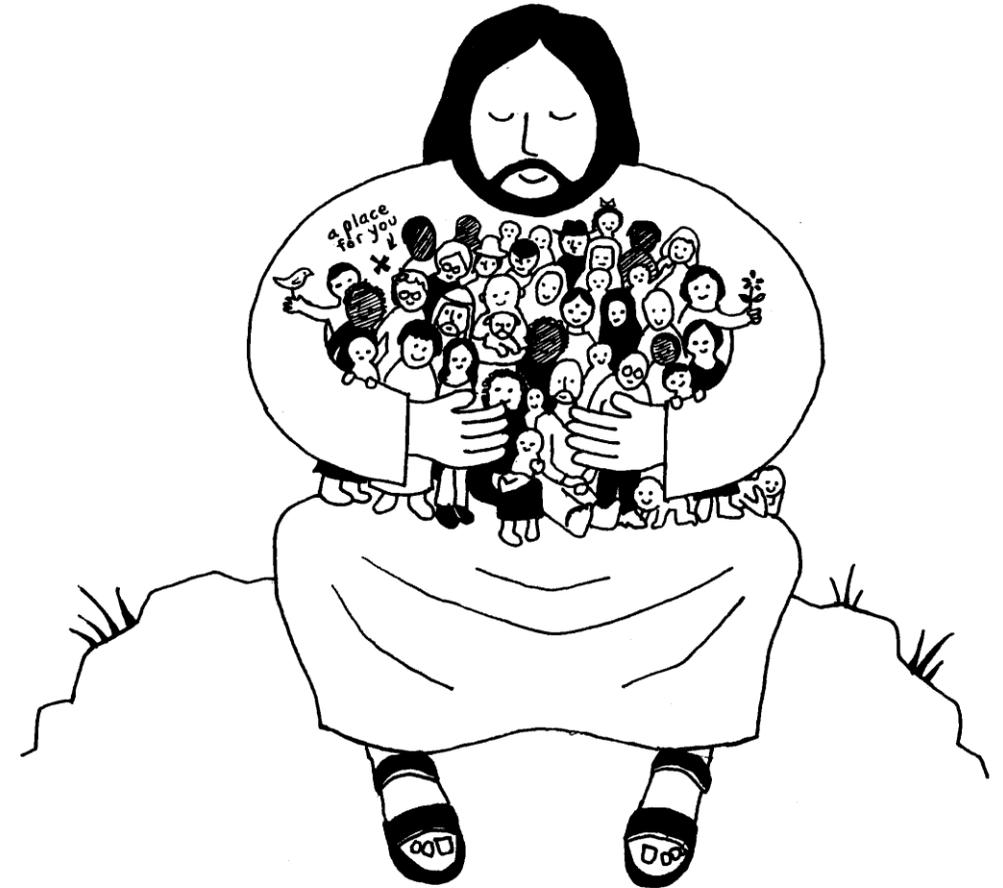
**THE LESSON Acts 16:16-34**

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

**GOSPEL John 14:1-14**

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

# Seventh Sunday of Easter



Picture: Daniel Erlander

# May 8, 2016

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**  
 May 8, 2016  
 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

First Lutheran Church  
 Fergus Falls, Minnesota  
 (218) 739-3348

Online  
 Giving  
 (QR Code)



[www.firstlutheranchurchff.org](http://www.firstlutheranchurchff.org)

[firstlc@live.com](mailto:firstlc@live.com)

When Jesus promises that he is preparing a place for those who believe in Him, it's not just about what happens after we die. Jesus has prepared a place within the family of God where, right here and now, we can truly home in the presence of God's love.

**Gathering Songs**

*How Majestic Is Your Name/Great Is the Lord*  
**Sanctuary**  
*God Is Good*

Worship Team  
 Smith  
 Rothwell  
 Moen

**Announcements**

**\* Processional Hymn**

*Bind Us Together*

**WOV 748**

*Refrain*  
 F

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that

C7 F F

can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,

Dm Gm C F

bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.

F C7 F F C7 F

1 There . . is on - ly one God. There . . is on - ly one King.  
 2 You are the fam - ly of God. You are the prom - ise di - vine.

F C7 F C7 F *Refrain*  
 B<sup>b</sup>/C

There . . is on - ly one Bod - y; that . . is why we can sing:  
 You are God's cho - sen de - sire, you are the glo - rious new wine.

1

**This Week at First Lutheran:**

- Today: 8:30 & 11 a.m. Blended Worship/Holy Communion/**Children's Choir sings in worship**  
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
**9:45 a.m. Butterflies**  
 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study  
**7:00 p.m. Confirmation Dessert & Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)**
- Monday: 9:00 a.m. WELCA Love Days  
 10:30 a.m. Harlan Ernst Funeral at Olson Funeral Home  
 5:00 p.m. Al-Anon  
 5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
- Tuesday: **7:30 am BBC @ Taco John's (LAST ONE)**  
 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting  
 10:00 a.m. WELCA Board Meeting  
 3:00 p.m. Mill Street Bible Study  
 6:00 p.m. Church Council  
 4:00 p.m. Girl Scouts
- Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. Al-Anon  
 10:00 a.m. AA  
**No Children's Choir or FLY**  
 6:30 p.m. Hosanna Handbells  
**No Confirmation, FLY, or Adult Choir rehearsal**
- Thursday: 8:45 a.m. Morning Watch-Pr. Saul-KBRF-AM (1250)  
 9:30 a.m. Sr Coffee and Bible Study
- Friday: CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
- Saturday: CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

**Next Sunday, May 15**

- 8:30 a.m. Worship/New Members Received**  
**9:45 a.m. Sunday School**  
**No Adult Bible Study**  
**10:15 a.m. Confirmation Pictures (Sanctuary)**  
**11:00 a.m. Worship/Rite of Confirmation**  
**7:00 p.m. Senior High Recognition Dessert (New Narthex)**

**Join Us for Fellowship and Refreshments** in the narthex following worship. Serving today are the families of Kaden Haarstad and Ava Hastings.

**Radio Broadcast** this Sunday is sponsored by Bud & Linda Mellon in honor of their mothers.

**Altar flowers** this Sunday are given by Margaret Ness-Ludwig in honor of Grandpa Kenneth Ness for his birthday.

**Known Hospitalized this week:** Stella Jyrkas at Lake Region Hospital.

**Sympathy** to the family of Harlan Ernst, husband of Marlene Wilde, who passed away on Wednesday. The funeral is tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. at Olson Funeral Home.

**Large Print Bulletins & hymns:** If you would like a copy for worship this morning, please ask an usher.

**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

**Over the next few weeks** we will be spotlighting our high school seniors as Bible bearers, Communion Assistants, and readers. If you see them afterwards please take a moment to greet them and wish them luck on the next steps in their lives.

**Meals By Wheels:** First Lutheran drives the week of May 16-20 and May 23-27. Call Rick West at 218-205-6963 if you are interested in helping out this wonderful Outreach program.

If you brought in an old trunk for the Task Force to use for decorating during Lent, thank you. **You may pick up your trunk from the church office.**

**Offering Envelopes:** If you have not yet picked up your offering envelope you have one more chance in May! They will be on the info counter in alphabetical order. Please let someone in the office know if you no longer want offering envelopes. Thank you!

**\*Apostolic Greeting**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

**Special Mother's Day Anthem**

**Love is a Special Thing**  
Children's Choir

Janie Oliver

**Hymn of Praise**

**This is the Feast**

**ALL:** This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **SOLOIST:** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
hon - or, bles - sing, and glo - ry are his. **ALL:** This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our  
God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **SOLOIST:** Sing with all the  
peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bles - sing,  
hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.  
**ALL:** This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be -  
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray. . . .

C Amen

**The Lesson**

(Congregational response spoken after reading: **Thanks be to God**)

Acts 16:16-34

\* **Gospel Acclamation and Procession** (please turn as the Bible passes by)

*Halle, halle, halle-lujah! Halle, halle, halle-lujah!  
Halle, halle, halle-lujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

(After Gospel is announced, congregation says, **Glory to you, O Lord**)

\* **Gospel**

(After Gospel is read, congregation says, **Praise to you, O Christ**)

John 14:1-14

**Sermon**

***At Home in God***

Pastor Saul

**Hymn of the Day**

***Take My Life, That I May Be***

**ELW 583**

\* **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.

\* **The Prayers (including a prayer for all women)**

P ...Lord, in your mercy, **OR**

P ... Let us pray to the Lord,

C **hear our prayer.**

C **Lord, have mercy.**

\* **The PEACE is shared**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

# Take Stock in our Youth

You are invited to purchase shares of stock in our youth program. Stock allows youth to attend youth events like synod gatherings, retreats, and summer trips.

Stock sales begin today and will continue throughout the month of May. Stock is available at \$10 per share. All stockholders will be invited to a celebration dessert this fall.

Thank you for your support of the First Lutheran Youth!

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Senior Pastor:                | Saul Stensvaag                          |
| Associate Pastor:             | Jennifer Rose                           |
| Visitation Pastor:            | Stan Satre                              |
| Sunday School Superintendent: | Cindy Larson                            |
| Council President:            | Elizabeth Abrahams                      |
| Sacristans:                   | 8:30- Teresa Shannon 11:00-Carolyn Sund |
| Greeters:                     | 8:30- Dolores Simdorn & Jody Thom       |
|                               | 11- Anthony & Joyce Perez               |
| Bible Bearer:                 | 8:30-Rick West 11-Ashley Shuck          |
| Acolytes:                     | 8:30-Matthew Oehler, Madeline Trosvig   |
|                               | 11-Nycole Mouritsen, Lilly Stumbo       |
| Communion Assistants:         | 8:30-Dalyce & Orrie Leabo               |
|                               | 11-Kaleb Freitag, Mary Kay Stensvaag    |
| Lectors:                      | 8:30-Karen Lundstrom 11- Missy Mattson  |
| Worship Team Leader:          | Anne Taylor                             |
| Children's Choir Director:    | Mary Kay Stensvaag                      |
| P.A. Operator:                | 8:30 and 11-LeAnne Jaenisch             |

