

November 15, 2015

25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

**FIRST LESSON. 1 Samuel 1:9-20**

After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the Lord. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the Lord. She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord, and wept bitterly. She made this vow: 'O Lord of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and remember me, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head.' As she continued praying before the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk. So Eli said to her, 'How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine.' But Hannah answered, 'No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the Lord. Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time.' Then Eli answered, 'Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him.' And she said, 'Let your servant find favour in your sight.' Then the woman went to her quarters, ate and drank with her husband, and her countenance was sad no longer. They rose early in the morning and worshipped before the Lord; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the Lord.'

**SECOND LESSON. 1 Corinthians 12:12-21, 24b-27**

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

**GOSPEL. John 17:1-2, 17-22**

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth. 'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one.'



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**Coffee and Refreshments** will be served this morning in the narthex between services by the families of Casey Thom and Ryan Wilson.

**CIRCLE INFO:** Sarah's Circle meets Wednesday, November 18th at 9:30am at Pioneer Pointe. Hannah's Circle meets Wednesday, November 18th at 1:00pm at Pioneer Care. Hannah Circle Hosting Pioneer Sunshine Aid @ 3 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 18th in the Birch Lakes Neighborhood on the 2nd floor of Pioneer Care. Come join us!

**NEW MEMBER COMMUNITY** continues this Sunday, November 15th from 4-6 pm in the narthex. Childcare available upon request by calling the church office. (739-3348)

**Visitors!** If you didn't get a "Visitors Bag" when you came in this morning please pick one up in the basket located on the small table on the ramp coming up from the narthex into the Sanctuary after worship.

**Large Print Bulletins & Hymns are available. If you would like a copy for worship, please ask an usher.**

**Parents of college students!** We would love to have your child's college mailing address (and e-mail). Please fill out one of the postcards sent to you, or you can find them at the info desk. Turn them in to the church office.

**CONCORDIA CHRISTMAS CONCERT** We'll travel with OtterTail Coaches to the 2 p.m. concert on **Sunday, December 6.** Coach will load in lower level parking lot at 12:05 and leave **promptly at 12:15.** Sign-up sheet is on the Info Counter. Please pay \$15 (group rate) by check when you sign up. Payable to First Lutheran Church—Concordia Concert on the Memo line. Deadline to sign up and pay is Wednesday, Nov 25. Individual tickets are \$19 this year. **All ages and guests are welcome—this is not strictly an OWL event! Please see the Messenger for more details.**

**THANKOFFERING—2015...**Lutheran women have given thanks to God and dollars to mission through Thankofferings for more than 100 years. Last year, Thankofferings totaled over \$900,000 to support Women of the ELCA church- wide ministries, with offerings coming from 2,450 congregations. We'd be happy to reach a goal of \$900 from First Lutheran in 2015. The blue offering envelope you received in the November Messenger may be placed in the Sunday offering plate anytime in November or bring it to the office. If you receive your Messenger via e-mail, there are envelopes on the Info counter for your use. Questions? Call Margaret Kratzke at 736-3697

**OUR CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY IS HERE!** For those of you who had your picture taken, your copy of our church directory is labeled, in alphabetical order and on the information counter. If you did not have your picture taken but would like a directory – we do have a few available for purchase for \$5 at the info counter.

**Erik Vigesaa, Adult Choir Director,** would like to invite you to come and sing in the choir Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m. New choir members are always welcome to join us as we praise God with our voices!

**Do you wish to receive The Lutheran magazine?** If so, please sign-up at the info counter, with your name and address and they will be mailed directly to your house. The First Lutheran Church Foundation pays for your subscription.

\* **Gospel** John 17:1-6, 17-22  
Congregation sings after Gospel is read: **Praise be to Christ, who loved and forgave; conquering death, he rose from the grave.**

**Sermon** *One in Christ* Pastor Saul Stensvaag

**Hymn of the Day** *In Christ there is No East or West* ELW 650

**Children's Event** Pastor Saul Stensvaag

\***The Apostles' Creed** Back Cover of ELW Hymnal

\***The PEACE is shared**  
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
C And also with you.

**Offering** *The Lord's Love, Eternal* Greg Wollan

\* **Offertory** *Let Us Come Now* LGC Page 14

\* **Prayers** LGC Page 14

\* **The Lord's Prayer** (alternate version)  
**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.**

\***Blessing**

\***Threefold Amen**

\***Sending**  
P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
C Thanks be to God.

**Closing Hymn** *We Are Marching in the Light of God* ELW 866  
verses 1 & 4  
(We are marching, We are singing)

**Postlude** \*denotes when to stand

**Children's offering** - Related to our Sunday School Theme, "Shine," our Children's offering collected during worship will be given to one of our benevolences, ELCA World Hunger. Specifically, a project to provide mosquito nets to help eliminate Malaria in Africa.

**Christmas Food Baskets** - Each year, First Lutheran delivers all the food needed to make a Christmas meal to community members in need. If you, or someone you know would benefit from a Christmas Food Basket, please contact the church office. The deadline to register for a basket is Thursday, December 3. Delivery will take place Saturday, December 19.

**Christmas Giving Trees** - Beginning November 22, you will be able to pick an ornament from one of the Christmas Giving Trees located in the narthex. Each ornament on the trees will list a gift request from A Place to Belong or Someplace Safe. Please take an ornament, purchase the gift listed on that ornament, and place it under the tree (unwrapped) by Tuesday, December 15.

**Greg Wollan**, a son of the congregation and a church musician, is performing at First Lutheran Church **today in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m.** Please come and enjoy the wonderful music and fellowship, treats will be served by the Fellowship Committee in the New Narthex following the concert. There will be a free will offering, and Greg will have his CD's on sale for \$5, proceeds will go to the Library Committee, in honor and memory of Greg's mom, Val.

Senior Pastor:	Saul Stensvaag
Associate Pastor:	Jennifer Rose
Visitation Pastor:	Stan Satre
Sunday School Superintendent:	Cindy Larson
Council President:	Lisa Wolfe
Lectors:	8:30- Lorri Holt & Wendy Anderson 11:00- Emma Clark & Brittany Kollman
Cantor:	8:30 – Jacob Opatz 11:00 – Brooke Kollman
Acolytes:	8:30- Alison Koch 11:00-Lilly Stumbo
Greeters:	8:30 – Doris Teberg 11:00 – Marjorie Iverson
Ushers:	8:30- Gordy & Sandy Kvern, Dawn & Tucker Henke 11:00- Cary, Kari & Cole Knudson, Mark Boen
Sacristans:	8:30 – Mark & Susan Hermes 11:00- Carolyn Sund
Organist:	Keith Melberg
Children's Choir Director:	Mary Kay Stensvaag
Adult Choir Director:	Erik Vigesaa
PA:	8:30 – Paul Dimke 11:00- Margaret Ness-Ludwig



## THANK YOU

**To the youth, parents, and other generous volunteers who worked in the kitchen, donated food items, cleaned, prepped, and supported us. The Harvest Dinner would not be able to happen without you.**

**We appreciate you!**

*“But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, beloved by the Lord...”*

2 Thessalonians 2.13