

FIRST READING. Isaiah 58:9b-14

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honourable; if you honour it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the Lord, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

SECOND READING. Hebrews 12:18-29

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, 'If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.' Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, 'I tremble with fear.') But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, 'Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.' This phrase 'Yet once more' indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

GOSPEL. Luke 18:9-14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income." But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.'

14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 21, 2016

14th Sunday After Pentecost
August 21, 2016
9:30 a.m.

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

Online
Giving
(QR Code)



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

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

Two men approach God in prayer, with two very different attitudes. Martin Luther, at the time of his death, was said to have written: "It is true; we are all beggars before God." The only difference is that the tax collector knows he doesn't deserve God's love and grace. Do we?

Prelude

Announcements

*Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, abounding in steadfast love toward us, healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Just and gracious God,

C: **we come to you for healing and life. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sin; we bring these also to you. Show us your mercy, O God. Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P: The apostle Paul assures us: "When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross." Jesus says to you, ☩ "Your sins are forgiven." Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you.

C: Amen.

*Opening Hymn

When Morning Guilds the Skies
(Verses 1, 2 & 4)

ELW 853

*Apostolic Greeting

ELW Page 147

*Kyrie

ELW Page 147

This Week at Lutheran:

Today:	9:30 a.m.	Worship
Monday:	5:00 p.m.	Al-Anon
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts
Tuesday:	MESSENGER DEADLINE	
	9:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
Wednesday:	9:30 a.m.	Al-Anon
	10:00 a.m.	AA
Thurs.:	8:45 am	Morning Watch – Pastor Saul– KBRF AM 1250
	9:30 a.m.	Sr. Bible Study & Coffee
	5:30 p.m.	Worship (Last One)
Friday:	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	

Next Sunday, August 28:

9:30 a.m. Worship

Senior Pastor:	Saul Stensvaag
Associate Pastor:	Jennifer Rose
Visitation Pastor:	Stan Satre
Council President:	Elizabeth Abrahams
Organist:	Keith Melberg
Lector:	Karen Lundstrom
Cantor:	Jasmine Sonmor
Acolyte:	Ethan Menge
Greeters:	Rod & Marilyn Berg
PA Operator:	Paul Dimke

Fellowship and Refreshments this morning are in the Narthex, serving today

Altar Flowers are given by Ashley Shuck in celebration of her nephew's 2nd birthday today.

Known Hospitalized: Mark Boen at University of Minnesota Hospital in Minneapolis. Kathleen Rittenour at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis.

Rose on the Altar is in celebration of the baptism of Isabelle Louise Lacy, daughter of Sam & Jamie Lacy. Sponsors are Mike & Sarah Lofbloom. Guardian Angel is Matthew Pajari. Isabelle's baptismal gown was made by her great-grandmother from her grandmother, Terry's, wedding dress.

Sympathy to the family of Mary Martha Smith whose funeral was held here last Wednesday. Flowers by the pulpit and lectern are from her funeral.

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.

September Messenger deadline is Tuesday, August 23; please have all items into the church office to have them included in the September Messenger.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Workshop Leaders and Shepherds are needed for the upcoming school year. Children need someone who cares, knows their names, encourages them, and makes them feel important. Above all, kids need someone who has a desire to teach them about the love of God. If you feel called to be a part of this ministry, please contact the Church Office at 218-739-3348.

Lutheran World Relief School Kit collection has begun in the Narthex. Thank you for your help and support. Fill the container we have supplied with the following items:

- 4 tablets 8 ½"x11" ruled spiral notebook, of 70 sheets in each
- 1 blunt scissor
- 1 30 cm metric ruler (inches on one side, cm on the other side)
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 eraser 2 ½" long (approximately)
- 1 box of crayons (16-24 count size)

ATTENTION OWLs: We will be traveling to the Chanhassen Dinner Theater Wednesday, October 19th to see "Camelot" Watch for details later in August!

***Hymn of Praise**

Glory to God

ELW Page 148

***Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray. . . .

C Amen

First Reading

Isaiah 58:9b-14

The Lord promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

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

Second Reading

Hebrews 12:18-29

Using images of Moses from the Old Testament, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.

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

Gospel Acclamation



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

***Gospel**

Luke 18:9-14

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

Sermon

Beggars All

Pastor Saul

Hymn of the Day

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

ELW 631

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

ELW Page 227

***The PEACE is shared**

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

Offering

***Offertory**

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir -
it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

***The Prayers**

P ...Lord, in your mercy, OR P ... Let us pray to the Lord,
C hear our prayer. C Lord, have mercy.

***The Lord's Prayer**

C 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

Blessing

***Threefold Amen**

***Sending**

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

***Closing Hymn**

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ELW 632

Postlude

*denotes when to stand

**"The Senior Choir is on a mission from God
Join our ministry!
First rehearsal Sept 7"**

(sunglasses at night optional)
Rehearsal starts at 7:30 pm in the Choir Room.
Enter through west parking lot doors.



Join the congregation on September 18th at 12:00p.m. in celebrating and appreciating our Senior Pastor, Saul Stensvaag, for 17 years of service to our church, and his lovely wife & talented Children's Choir Director, Mary Kay, and their son, Ken, who has been actively involved with the youth of our congregation, as they say goodbye to this chapter and hello to the next. Bring a dish & fond memories to share, dessert will be served by our Fellowship Committee.

There is an opportunity to help out a lifelong community member during a time of medical need. The public is being asked to help out Mark Boen and family with Bluebird Gardens in 4 hour shifts as you are able. Call Lorri at [\(218\) 731-6579](tel:2187316579) for details and to sign up to help at the farm. Thank you in advance for your help!

Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for September 14, 15 & 16, and will be located at the West Ridge Mall. We would also like to remind our congregation that 16 year olds may donate blood with a signed 'Official Red Cross Parental Consent Form'. These forms are available at the High School Main Office and online at <http://www.redcrossblood.org/students/sixteen> Appointments can be made by calling Dolly Johnson @ 218-739-3772 or Phyllis Knutson @ 218-736-7480.

The Fergus Falls Area Habitat for Humanity Affiliate is holding a Pizza Ranch Community Impact Fundraiser Event on Monday, August 29th from 5:00 p.m. – 8 p.m. You can help us in our mission to alleviate sub-standard housing in our area by eating pizza! How great is that?

Gulf Coast Flooding – At least 11 people have been killed, tens of thousands have been rescued and even more have been evacuated as floodwaters sweep across southern Louisiana. Massive search and rescue operations are taking place as flooding continues to affect communication, overwhelm streets and highways, and damage or destroy homes. This flood comes on the heels of several other floods that have hit the Gulf Coast region, starting earlier this spring. With more rain in the forecast, the full scope of this disaster has yet to be realized. Gifts designated for **"Gulf Coast Flooding" in the memo line of your check** will be used to assist those affected by the floodwaters, until the response is complete. Because of your generous offerings of prayer and financial support, the ELCA walks alongside disaster survivors. Thank you for your prayers, your partnership.