

Isaiah 43:1-3a, 4a

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

Romans 6:3-5

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Ephesians 2:4-10

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

John 3:16-17

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Grace means there is nothing we can do to make God love us more — no amount of spiritual calisthenics and reunciations, no amount of knowledge gained from seminaries and divinity schools, no amount of crusading on behalf of righteous causes. And grace means there is nothing we can do to make God love us less — no amount of racism or pride or pornography or adultery or even murder. Grace means that God already loves us as much as an infinite God can possibly love.

Phillip Yancey
(From Pastor Saul's Greatest Hits)

August 28, 2016

15th Sunday After Pentecost
August 28, 2016
9:30 a.m.

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

Online
Giving
(QR Code)



Website: www.firstlutheranchurchff.org

email: firstlc@live.com

When you've heard a pastor preach for 17 years, certain themes keep recurring. Today, on his last official Sunday, Pr. Saul shared the Biblical and Lutheran themes he's most passionate about. (Just in case you missed them the first time.)

Prelude

Announcements

***Opening Hymn**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733

***Apostolic Greeting**

ELW Page 147

***Kyrie**

ELW Page 147

***Hymn of Praise**

This is the Feast

ELW Page 149

***Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray. . . .

C Amen

First Reading

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

Isaiah 43:1-3a, 4a

Second Reading

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

Romans 6:3-5

Third Reading

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

Ephesians 2:4-10

This Week at Lutheran:

Today: 9:30 a.m. Worship

Monday: 5:00 p.m. Al-Anon

Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. Al-Anon
10:00 a.m. Caregiver's Support Group
10:00 a.m. AA

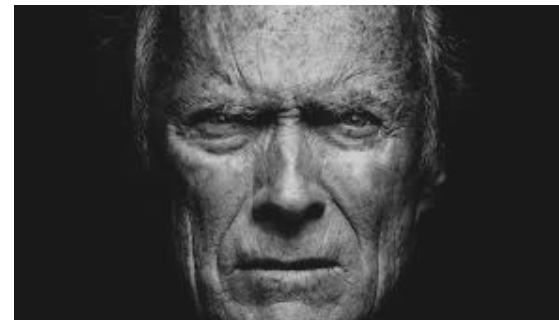
Youth & Pr. Jennifer @ State Fair

Thurs.: 8:45 am Morning Watch – Pastor Jennifer– KBRF AM 1250

Friday: CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Next Sunday, September 4:

9:30 a.m. Worship/Holy Communion



**Go ahead....make my day
Join the Adult Choir**

First rehearsal: Sept 7th @ 7:30 pm
in the choir rehearsal room
Enter through west door, lower parking lot.

Senior Pastor:	Saul Stensvaag
Associate Pastor:	Jennifer Rose
Visitation Pastor:	Stan Satre
Council President:	Elizabeth Abrahams
Organist:	Keith Melberg
Lector:	Pamela Schroden
Cantor:	Emma Stensvaag
Acolyte:	Brandon Hinsverk, Ethan Menge
Greeters:	Roy Nell Norby, Carolyn Sund
PA Operator:	Margaret Ness-Ludwig
Communion Assistants:	Ashley Shuck, Steve & Kathy Emerson

Fellowship and Refreshments this morning are in the Narthex, serving today are the members of the Fellowship Committee.

Altar Flowers are given by Bob & Mary Gaabo in celebration of their 51st wedding anniversary.

Congratulations to Jon & Anna (Hermes) Gregory on the birth of their daughter, Everly Ann, born on Grandparents, Mark & Susan Hermes, 42nd wedding anniversary, August 24th!

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.

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.

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

ATTENTION OWLS: Wednesday, October 19, we will travel by coach to see "Camelot" at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater. Coach loads at 8:45 a.m. (lower level First Lutheran parking lot)and *departs at 9:00 a.m.* Cost per person, is \$60.00—that includes dinner, show, tax and gratuity. Coach paid by OWLS account. Plan to *return to Fergus around 7 p.m.* No stops on trip home. **Sign up and pay \$60 by check** (payable to First Lutheran OWLS) **before October 10**. Friends welcome!! Questions?? Call Margaret Kratzke @ 218-736-3697

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!

Gospel Acclamation

Will You Come and Follow Me

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

Cantor 'Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 Congregation 'Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 Congregation 'Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call

your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners

know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as

name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I

grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"

***Gospel**

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

John 3:16-17

***Gospel Response**

Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW 798

Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

Sermon

Pastor Saul's Greatest Hits

Pastor Saul

Hymn of the Day

You Are Mine

ELW 581

***Apostle's Creed**

Inside back cover of ELW

***The Prayers**

P ...Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

OR

P ... Let us pray to the Lord,
C Lord, have mercy.

***The PEACE is shared**

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

Offering

***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
Words of Institution**

ELW Page 144

***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

Distribution of Holy Communion

Hymns during Communion:

ELW 596. 767

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post Communion Hymn**

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

ELW 836

***Prayer, Benediction. & Sending**

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

***Postlude**

*indicates when the Congregation stands