

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Liturgy of Service

Siblings in Christ, welcome, in the name of Christ.

We gather as God's people, filled with the Spirit.

Let's prepare our hearts and minds for worship through service.

We are servants of Jesus Christ.

Today is a beautiful day,

for the Spirit of God guides us.

We gather as servants of Jesus Christ.

He has called us, and gathered us,
enlightened us and made us a people.

Let us serve our neighbor as though serving Christ himself.

May we see the divine in one another.

He sends us forth to serve.

WORD

Reading: Romans 12:1-13

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ²Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. ⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

Offering and Offertory Prayer

Generous Giver, you provide each of us with gifts to offer back to you and in service to others. Bless this offering which we return to you, open our hands to serve and turn our hearts to all in need, trusting in your ever-present abundance for us and for all the world, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

Hymn: "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways" #772

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
to keep his statutes still!

Oh, that my God would grant me grace
to know and do his will!

Order my footsteps by your word
and make my heart sincere;
let sin have no dominion, Lord,
but keep my conscience clear.

Assist my soul, too apt to stray,
a stricter watch to keep;
and should I e'er forget your way,
restore your wand'ring sheep.

Make me to walk in your commands,
'tis a delightful road;
nor let my head or heart or hands
offend against my God.

Text: Isaac Watts. Music: William H. Havergal. Public Domain.

Sending Prayer *(read by everyone)*

Thank you, gracious God, for the gift of this new day. Awaken us to your abiding presence; open our eyes to your creation; open our ears to your promises; open our hearts to the needs of others. Fill us with your Spirit and guide us this day in works of kindness, justice and mercy. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the light and life of the world. Amen.

*All come forward to the altar area for a group photo
before we "go forth to serve."*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lunch Bunch meets on Wednesday, September 3 at 11:30am at Buddie's in Hancock. All are welcome. Order off the menu, pay your own way.

Element Schedule:

Parent Meeting: Wed., Sept 10th at 6:30pm at First Lutheran

Element Kickoff: Wed., Sept 17th from 6:30-8:00pm at First

Element Classes: Wed., Sept 24th from 6:30-8:00pm at First

Fusion Schedule:

Kick-off Party: Sunday, Sept 14 at Bumpers in Morris

Bible Study: Wed., Sept 17th from 6:30-8:00pm at Faith Lutheran

Bible Study & Sardines: Wed., Sept 24th from 6:30-8:00pm at Faith

Seniors on the Move The Seniors on the Move committee is asking the congregation for ideas. Where would you like to go? What would you like to do? Bingo? Plays? Entertain in the fellowship hall? Speakers? Tours? Watch for a suggestion box in the Narthex coming soon.

Women of the ELCA Fall Gathering will be held on Monday, September 15 at Glenwood Lutheran Church. Registration begins at 4:00pm with light meal at 4:30pm; \$10 registration fee. Julia & Della Conroy will present "The Sunset of Your Life" which is free and open to the public starting at 6:00pm. Make plans to attend and join your sisters in Christ for the theme "The Sunset of Your Life."

Morris Community Meal will be held at First Lutheran on Monday, September 29 serving from 5:30 to 7:30pm. Volunteers are needed for prep, serving and clean-up. Watch for more details in our September newsletter.

Church Building Hours the time frame of the church building being open has been changed to 8:00am to 5:00pm. If you need access to the building outside of these hours, please contact the church office.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Family and friends of Mark Gunderson, Cheryl Higgins, Marlene Seip, Al Watson, Jim Thraen, those who serve in the military, families of victims of war, natural disasters, violence, those in our nursing homes and those who are homebound.



Church Without Walls 2025

Sunday, September 7

9:00am: Kickoff Worship Service

9:30am: Service Project Work

11:30am: "Be Our Guest Picnic" at Eastside Park

*free will offering with monies donated for shipping costs
for Lutheran World Relief and Global Health Ministries kits.*

First Lutheran Church, ELCA

Chosen by Christ - Empowered to Serve

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(all services are live streamed via Facebook and YouTube)