

Word & Eucharist  
Third Sunday of Easter  
April 14, 2024  
10:00 am ~ ONLINE & ONSITE



**bienvenidos!**

**everyone is welcome. this means you.**

**Welcome to First English Lutheran Church.** You're invited to fully participate in a community of faith and friendship that gathers for worship, relationship building, personal growth, and service in the community and the world. Following the example of Christ, this congregation welcomes you exactly as you are. We are committed to the work of racial equity, justice, and advocating for marginalized groups. We welcome people in all places on the journey of faith and life. We celebrate differences in age, appearance, economic status, ethnic origin, nationality, race, family configuration, marital or relationship status, political leaning, religious background, and those who are differently abled physically or mentally.

Since 1989, FELC has openly welcomed persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities and expressions to full participation in the church and society. We're Lutheran, so that means we believe in grace for everyone. The good news of Jesus Christ, who brings us the love and mercy of God as a gift, liberates us to love as we are loved, serve as we are served, and give as we have been given much. We rejoice in the diversity that has nurtured and enriched the whole church. Whether you're from another faith tradition, a seeker and questioner looking for more to life and a place to explore, or even a lifelong Lutheran, we're glad to have you.

At First English, **we strive to use language** for God, Christ, and humanity **that is inclusive and diverse.** Our use of feminine, non-gender, and masculine names and metaphors for God, both biblical and contemporary, helps us to experience God more fully. Languages that include persons of all gender identities, sexualities, ethnicities, and color, helps us better reflect God's expansive love and diversity.

### **Land Acknowledgement**

The ELCA's Truth & Healing Movement is an opportunity for the church to increase our understanding of our impacts on Indigenous people in the past and present. We believe that the truth, and our knowing and embracing it, is a first step toward healing for all of us.

If this is one of your first times to connect with FELC, WELCOME! **Use the online Welcome Visitors information form** and provide feedback on your visit: <http://www.felcaustin.org/forms/visitors>.

**We ask everyone to respect each individual's safety needs and desires.**

**Hearing assistance devices** are available for use in the sanctuary. Two options are available: an earpiece, or a hearing loop for those who use hearing aids. Please connect with an usher if you would like a hearing assistance device.

**We welcome children in this worship service with a Spirit Space.** Children with adults are invited to a space in the Chapel of the Saints for quiet play and reading, including a rug, floor pillows, soft blocks, coloring supplies, lap desks, Bible story books, and other interactive items. Adults have places to sit while worshipping with children. Children and adults can remain in the Spirit Space following the sermon, and then return to the pews for the remainder of the liturgy—or remain in the Spirit Space. We welcome children by encouraging them and celebrating the joy and livelihood they offer.

**We welcome your generosity in person and online.** The reign of God is not something that we can point to and say, “There it is!” Yet, in moments of waiting on the Spirit, we discover God’s presence among us. In our gathering of gifts, food, silence, song, scripture, prayer, and ourselves, we are encountering the living power of Jesus – a leader who truly cares for people and knows our pain and our beauty. In the amazing and extravagant love that he shows us, we find strength to love others.

**Music**, in a rich diversity, is an important part of our ministry and witness at First English, including the outstanding acoustics of our nave. As we grow our music ministry, we are embarking on a significant restoration campaign for our valued and aged pipe organ.

In an effort to connect with the broadest number of people, **we livestream and archive our services and events for broadcast on the internet.** Your attendance at an event constitutes your consent to be included in filming, photographing, audio recording, or broadcast and for any other use in whole or in part, including promotion. If you prefer to avoid being filmed, please use a back pew.

**All Gender Restrooms** with changing tables are in the left side hallway as you face the front of the sanctuary.

## ✝ al congregarse gathering ✝

*Everyone is welcome here! This means you.*

*We continue praying for and supporting the people and leaders of Ukraine as conflict continues. We light a candle in the chancel with the colors of the Ukrainian flag. We rightly pray for the people and land in all places of war and conflict.*

*Information about the Easter season is found on the back pages of this bulletin.*

### **Gathering Music**

#### **Reconocimiento de Tierras**

We acknowledge the presence of God having existed before this region's conquest in ages past, on land once belonging to the Coahuiltecan, Comanche, Tonkawa, and Jumanos peoples; land where we now live, move, and have our being, striving to honor the land and lifting up histories beyond our own.

#### **Land Acknowledgement**

*The assembly stands, as willing and able, for the gathering song.*

*The assembly offers acclamations and songs printed in bold.*

Gathering Song

The Day of Resurrection! (ELW 361)



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,  
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right  
 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,  
 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.  
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,  
 the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.  
 all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,  
 and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;  
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.  
 for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!  
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - crite to God a - lone!



## Saludo

## Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The abundant grace of Jesus Christ, the reconciling love of God,  
and the everlasting communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## Oración del Día

## Prayer of the Day

Holy God, you are the author of life, and we are your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Les damos la Bienvenida!

## Welcome!

*If this is one of your first times to connect with FELC, WELCOME!*  
<http://www.felcaustin.org/forms/visitors>

*La asamblea se sienta. / The assembly is seated.*

*The singing bowls sound throughout the liturgy, calling us to focus our prayer.*

**Primera Lectura****Acts 3:12-19**

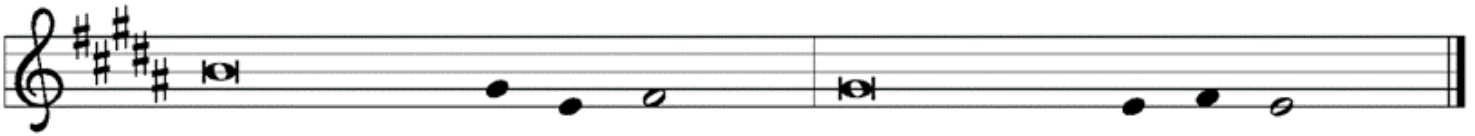
New Revised Standard Version - English Updated

<sup>12</sup>Peter addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?<sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup>“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call O God, defender | of my cause;  
you set me free when I was in distress;  
have mercy on me and | hear my **prayer.**

<sup>2</sup>**“You mortals how long will you dishon- | or my glory;  
how long will you love illusions and seek | after lies?”**

<sup>3</sup>Know that the Lord does wonders | for the faithful;  
the Lord will hear me | when I call.

<sup>4</sup>**Tremble, then, and | do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence up- | on your bed.**

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed | sacrifices,  
and put your trust | in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>**Many are saying, “Who will show us | any good?”  
Let the light of your face shine upon | us, O Lord.**

<sup>7</sup>You have put gladness | in my heart,  
more than when grain and | wine abound.

<sup>8</sup>**In peace I will lie | down and sleep;  
for you alone O Lord make me | rest secure**



<sup>1</sup>See what love God has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that Christ was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Fe de los Niños**

## **Faith of a Child**

*Children and families are invited to gather near the baptismal font for a time of welcome, water, wonder, and worship.*

*Prayer:* Thank you, God, for your beautiful world, for Jesus' love, for church friends and family, and for making me, me. Amen.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel and all sing the acclamation.

## Gospel Acclamation

Zimbabwe

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,  
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu,  
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,  
hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.  
hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.  
hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

## Evangelio

## Luke 24:36b-38

NRSV

The holy gospel according to Luke.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.”

<sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

*La asamblea se sienta. / The assembly is seated.*

**Sermón**

*Following the sermon, the assembly stands, as able, to sing.*

# Hymn of the Day

# Touch That Soothes and Heals (ACS 939)

text: Mary Louise Bringle (b. 1953); music: Gregg DeMay (b. 1972)

Stanza 1 is sung by a soloist.



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that  
2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it  
3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's  
4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the  
ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and  
peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of  
wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:  
shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.  
kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.  
tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

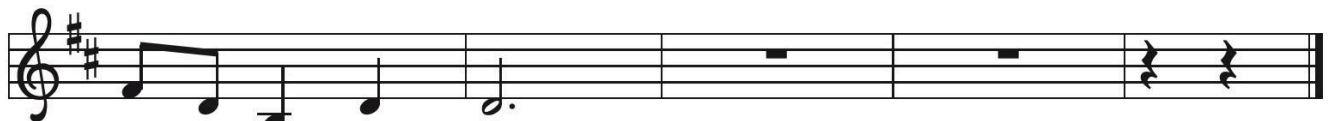
## Refrain



“See my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



grave. “Be my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, “live as



ones I died to save.”

## Affirmation of Faith | Apostles' Creed

Let us boldly make affirmation of our faith in Jesus and embrace the life of the Spirit. If you are not a disciple of Jesus, may this affirmation be a sign of blessing and an invitation to deeper relationships in the life of the Church.

I ask you to profess faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the whole church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**I renounce them!**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**I renounce them!**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**I renounce them!**

Together let us use the Apostles' Creed to affirm the faith that unites us with the whole church, across time, across oceans, across peoples.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, †  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

You have made public affirmation of your faith.

Do you intend to live in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:  
to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

Do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

### **Oraciones de Intercesión**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

*Following each intercession: God of life, **hear our prayer.***

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths untrodden, through things unknown. **Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

✠ **comida**  
**meal** ✠

**La Paz**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*We offer signs and gestures of peace.  
We are aware of the desire for distance to be  
maintained and touch to be respected. We  
are invited to make a comment in the chat or  
to text someone.*

*La asamblea se sienta. / The assembly is seated.*

**Bendición de Cumpleaños**

**Birthday Blessing**

Gracious God, **our times are in your care. Bless your people as they live another year of grace. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and joy, and strengthen their trust in your abiding goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Ofreciendo Invitación**

**Offering Invitation**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of God in the world through the care of those in need.*

*Worshippers may give financially online at: [www.felcaustin.org/information/giving](http://www.felcaustin.org/information/giving)*

**Offering Music**

**“Up to the Hills I Lift My Eyes”**

Normand Gouin (b. 1970)

Up to the hills I lift my eyes, from where shall come my strength and help?  
My hope rests in the Lord, my God, the Maker of the earth and skies.

God guides our steps and guards our way. He never slumbers, never sleeps.  
God’s love and grace fill all our days, the guard and hope of Israel.

No sun shall cause you harm by day, nor moonbeams in the dark of night.  
The Lord will ever keep you safe till you ascend to heaven’s height.

The Lord will guard your soul from death; from every foe God sets you free.  
The Lord will guide your every step from now until eternity.

text: Psalm 121, adapted

*The assembly stands.*

Bread, wine, money, and other gifts are presented, and the altar is prepared.

**Presentación de las Ofrendas**

**Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 184)**

Ronald Nelson (1927-2014)



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 dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.



## Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O living God, through your goodness we offer you this bread:  
fruit of the earth and work of human hands.

**Blessed be God forever!**

Blessed are you, O living God, through your goodness we offer you this wine:  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

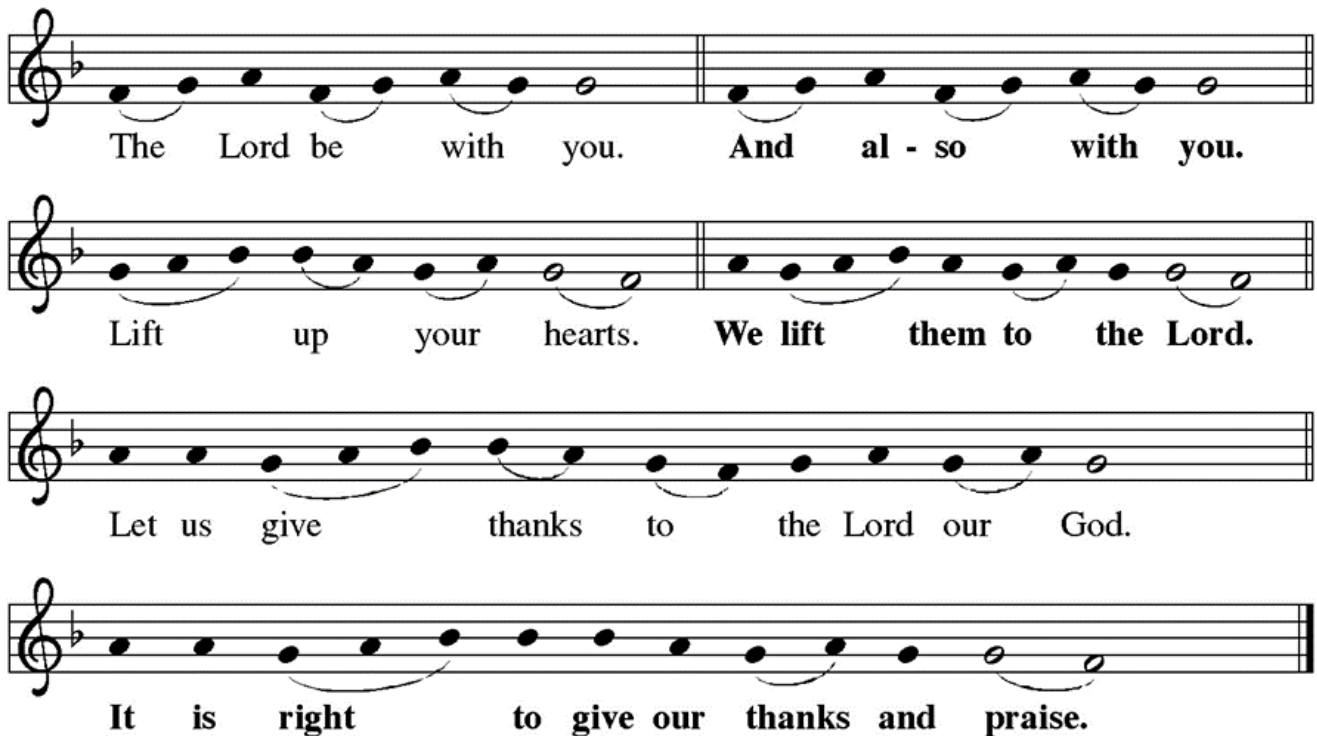
**Blessed be God forever!**

We praise you, O living God, for you create the fruits of the earth and vine.

**Amen.**

## Gran Plegaria Eucharística

ELW, Setting 1 Thomas Pavlechko (b. 1963)



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, living, and loving God . . .

and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed . . .

Remembering, therefore, Christ's life-giving death and glorious resurrection,  
 we await your promised life for all this hurting and beautiful world.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!**

Breathe your Spirit on us . . . clothed in the new life of Christ.

Through Christ † all glory and honor is yours, Almighty God,  
 with the Holy Spirit, in the church and in the world, both now and forever.

**Amen!**

## **Oración de los Discípulos**

## **Disciple's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray, in our own languages, as Jesus taught us:

**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**

**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.**

**Padre nuestro que estás en el  
cielo, santificado sea tu  
nombre. Venga tu reino.**

**Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra  
como en el cielo. Danos hoy  
nuestro pan de cada día.**

**Perdona nuestras ofensas  
como también nosotros  
perdonamos a los que nos**

**ofenden. No nos dejes caer en  
tentación y líbranos del mal.**

**Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es  
el poder, y tuya es la gloria,  
ahora y siempre. Amén.**

**Our Creator in heaven, holy is  
your name, your kin-dom  
come, your will be done, on  
earth as in heaven. Give us  
today our daily bread. Forgive  
us our sin, as we forgive those  
who sin against us. Save us  
from the time of trial, and  
deliver us from evil. For the  
kin-dom, the power, and the  
glory are yours, now and  
forever. Amen.**

## Partiendo el Pan

## Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia! Christ our Paschal Lamb has been sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

*La asamblea se sienta. / The assembly is seated.*

### Acclamation



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Invitación a la Comunión

#### Communion Distribution

*All people, including children, are invited to the Lord's Supper.*

*We encourage you to participate in a way that is meaningful for you.*

*Ushers will direct you by the center aisle to a station to receive bread in your hand.*

*Then you may proceed to a station and receive a small cup, where wine will be poured.*

*Gluten-free wafers/grape juice are available. Please ask a minister.*

*Then make your way to your seat by a side aisle.*

*You are invited to remain seated or kneel in prayer, meditation, and singing.*

*If you are not communing, you are invited to a station where a minister will offer a prayer of blessing. If you desire communion or a blessing at your seat, let an usher or minister know.*

*As you pass the baptismal font upon entering or leaving the space, and at communion distribution, you are invited to dip your hand in the water and make the sign of the cross. This is an ancient body prayer to remember baptism into the risen Christ. You may touch your hand to your forehead, then to your chest, then from one shoulder to another shoulder.*

## **Musica de Comunion**

**ELW 379** - the hymn is found in the red worship book.

## **Now the Green Blade Rises**

*The assembly remains seated as we offer our thanks.*

## **Oración Después de la Comunion**

## **Prayer after Communion**

Living God, thank you for making your home with us in this holy meal. Empowered by the Spirit, may we wipe away tears, tend to those in mourning and pain, seek the healing of the nations, and bring to earth the presence of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

✠ **envio**  
**sending** ✠

## **Anuncios**

## **Announcements**

*Please read your bulletin and view our website for information on ministries.*

*For those in the building, following the liturgy, we invite you to a time of hospitality.*

*As we receive God's protection and blessing, please stand.*

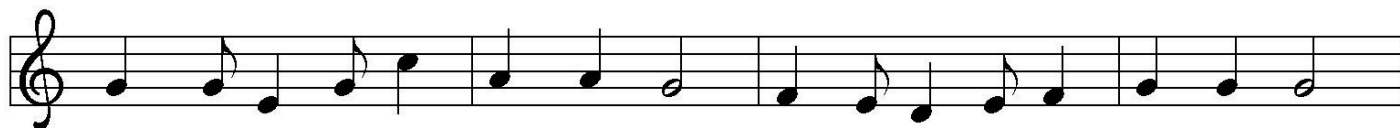
## **Bendición**

May the blessing of God, ✠ whose Spirit raised Christ to new life, strengthen you in faith, enrich you with hope, and fill you for love, now and forever. **Amen.**



## Sending Song

## Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (ELW 674)



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

### *Refrain*



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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## Dismissal to Mission

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

We go forth in the name of Christ.

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

## **Anuncios de la Comunidad de la Iglesia Church Community Announcements**

### **The Easter Season**

The Easter season is the church's fifty-day celebration of the resurrection of Christ. It is the time of greatest joy as we gather in the good news of God's victory over death and the power to renew our lives in Christ. It is the counterbalance to the forty-day season of Lent that prepared us for such a great celebration. In the tradition of the whole church, it was also the time for the newly baptized to deepen their connection to Christ through sharing in the resurrection meal of communion, and to experience the mystery of new life in Christ as a gift of grace. **A Paschal candle is a central symbol** in the church's worship life. The paschal candle, newly made and lit throughout the Easter season, shines forth with the light of Christ's resurrection, reminding us that we have new life in God's love.

### **Backpack Drive for Micah 6 Ministries: April**

We are collecting backpacks (new or slightly used) for our friends at Micah 6 Ministries during the month of April. Folks need a helpful way to carry food, clothing, and personal items. Bring a new or slightly used backpack to the church sanctuary and place it in a Micah 6 box in the north transept of the sanctuary. We are grateful to Derek Bridges for the idea to meet this need. Questions? Contact Andy MacLaren at [andymaclaren@cs.com](mailto:andymaclaren@cs.com). For more information visit <https://www.micah6austin.org>

### **FELC Book Club: TODAY**

The FELC Book Club gathers today, from, 1:00-3:00 pm. Our book this month is *Beyond Magenta: Transgender and Nonbinary Teens Speak Out*, Susan Kuklin. It's a fascinating book. Join the conversation; all are welcome, even if you haven't read the book. For information and meeting location contact Anne Wiebe at [wiebeanne@hotmail.com](mailto:wiebeanne@hotmail.com).

### **Austin Cantorum in Concert at FELC: Next Saturday, April 20 at 7:30pm**

#### ***Sparks! of Genius***

Join Austin Cantorum in a celebration of the human creative spirit as they honor historical discoveries and eureka moments of invention through the evolution of choral music. Featuring pieces by Eric Whitacre, Hildegard von Bingen, Christopher Tin, B. E. Boykin, and more, plus a brand new premiere by Dr. Thomas LaVoy. Presented in collaboration with Pianist Benjamin Dia. The concert is free, but we ask you to RSVP if able. For information, visit [www.austincantorum.com](http://www.austincantorum.com).



## **Learning Ministry: Next Sunday**

**Children's Faith Formation:** Today we learned about the bible parable of the Prodigal Son from Leigh Northcutt-Benson. **Next Sunday, April 21,** Bailey Barlow will be leading children's faith formation.

**Adult Faith Formation:** Today adults joined LaRu Woody with a follow-up session to talk about the issues raised in Leigh Northcutt-Benson's previous discussion of mass incarceration and the book *The New Jim Crow*. **Next Sunday, April 21,** Bob Brueck will conclude his sessions on the Dead Sea Scrolls and Metaphysics. The link to Bob's handouts is found on our website under Posts with this learning ministry post and in the weekly email news. Upcoming sessions will be announced soon!

## **Renewing our Ministry of Reconciling in Christ (RIC): Sunday, April 21**

On April 24, 1989, First English Lutheran Church was designated as a *Reconciled in Christ* congregation. Since that time, the designation has adapted to a more inclusive *Reconciling in Christ* - since we are always in a process of greater welcome, reconciliation, and inclusion. **On Sunday, April 21 we will celebrate the 35th anniversary (!!!) of this distinction and brave welcome.** Cantor Bryan Rust will preach and Pastor Bob Karli will preside. And, we'll have an anniversary cake during hospitality on April 21! Then on Sunday, April 28, Pastor Alex Darling-Raabe will be our guest preacher. Pastor Alex is the first openly gay and partnered pastor to be ordained in the Southwestern Texas Synod. Throughout this transition year we'll be invited to engage and learn more about how this bold welcome to everyone has been made known and challenged - in our life together *and* in our engagement in the broader community and wider church.

## **Update from our Transition Team**

Greetings! The FELC Transition Team has answered all of the questions in the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) and is beginning to wrap up our editing phase. The team is currently working on finalizing the wording and cohesiveness of the MSP and also focusing on our answers to the optional MSP component which is called "Seven Reflections on Ministry and Context." We will be coordinating with the Council soon to present the MSP draft for discussion and review. Once accepted by the Council and finalized, the MSP will be submitted to the Synod. A copy of the MSP will also be shared with the congregation at that time. Please note that when the MSP is shared with the congregational community, it will be in its final form and accepting no further edits. We will then await pastoral candidate matches from the Synod for discernment and interviews. The Transition Team continues to be grateful for your support, patience, and prayers. For more info: [FELCTransitionMinistry@felcaustin.org](mailto:FELCTransitionMinistry@felcaustin.org)

**Annual Chicken BBQ: Saturday, April 27, 4-8pm All are welcome!**

Everyone is invited to the longest-running community & social event of FELC (since 1964): our annual chicken BBQ, to be held in our parking lot (weather permitting)! Our pitmasters will start smoking chickens in our outdoor smoker pit in the afternoon, and our potato salad and beans team will be getting the sides ready.

**You're welcome to come and visit beginning at 4 pm. BYOB. Dinner will be served around 6 pm,** and includes BBQ chicken, beans, potato salad, drinks, and ice cream. Help set-up/clean-up, contact Randy Baden at [towbarcity@yahoo.com](mailto:towbarcity@yahoo.com)  
Help prepare potato salad, contact Trish Karli at [t\\_karli@hotmail.com](mailto:t_karli@hotmail.com)

**Game Night: moved from Third Saturday to Fourth Saturday for April**

This is an unusual month - solar eclipse, all the hype surrounding the solar eclipse, special eclipse donuts. And now, to make April more unusual, Game Night is moving from April 20 **to Saturday, April 27**. On April 20 the church is hosting the Austin Cantorum Sparks! of Genius concert (<https://www.austincantorum.com/>), so the space will be unavailable for Game Night entertainment. However, if you are a fan of Hildegard von Bingen, this is a chance to enjoy some of her music. But be forewarned - April 27 will not include a potluck. By fortunate happenstance, or perhaps because it was pre-ordained, April 27 is the church's annual Chicken BBQ! As always, everyone is welcome. And once we lick all the BBQ sauce from our fingers, we can play board games! Assuming we're not all in a food coma by then...! For more info contact: Charlie Boas at [charlie@boasfamily.com](mailto:charlie@boasfamily.com).

**For more information about the FELC welcome, worship, community life, learning, and engagement, racial justice and reconciliation ministries, our child development center, and ways to care and serve, visit our website.**

Since 1972, **the First English Lutheran Child Development Center** has been serving the community by offering safe, loving, and engaging care for children (infant - 5 years) and families of the Austin area. Our mission is to provide a quality full-day child care experience that helps each child develop cognitively, physically, socially, and emotionally, and we're passionate about our work. Visit <https://www.firstenglishcdc.org> or call 512-478-5424.

## **Ministers Serving in Liturgy & Hospitality Today**

Ministers	All the People of God
Altar Care Servers	Barbara Schutz
Assisting Minister	Gwen Flory
Lector	Jerry Don Aguirre
Livestream Minister	J.P. Northcutt-Benson
Music Ministers	FELC Choir
Offering Counters	Trish & Bob Karli
Hospitality Host	Anne Wiebe
Presiding Minister	Pastor Travis Fitgold
Usher	Heidi Goebel

### **Guest Preacher: Pastor Travis Fitzgold (he/him)**

Travis Fitzgold serves God in faith as a parent, spouse, development director for the League of Women Voters of Texas, and as a contemplative. Pastor Fitzgold is a former member of FELC and served as our 48th vicar from 2016-2018. A graduate of Austin Seminary, he most recently served as pastor with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Bastrop, and is on leave from call. He continues to be open to serving in ministry according to God's inscrutable will. Pr. Fitzgold is very grateful for the opportunity to lead together in community.

## **Calendar of Feasts, Commemorations, & Prayers this week**

**Olavus Petri, priest, died 1552;**

**Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573;**

**renewers of the church**

**Friday, April 19, 2024**

These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms. Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.

### **As a faith community, First English prays for...**

the citizens, immigrants, and refugees of the United States;

the national, state, local leaders of the United States;

the people of Ukraine, Russia, and the Middle East, and all places of war;

all communities and families, including those living with gun violence;

all in need of safe shelter, nourishing food, & quality care, and for those who offer it;

children, families, and caregivers living with and experiencing child abuse;

those responding to severe weather;

all who offer protection, defense, and advocacy, in this community and in our nation;

all who are LGBTQIA2S+, and for allies who advocate for safety, justice, and equity;

God's guidance for our faith community in this time of transition and renewal;

our staff, child development center board of directors,

and congregation council as they meet this week;

our child development center students and families;

our care ministers;

David Francis, William Nix, and Aditi Mitra, newly baptized on Easter Day;

Tim and Laura Lincoln as they move to Wisconsin this week;

all people seeking healing and justice; and all in any need and thanksgiving.

**The FELC Prayer Circle** gathers faithfully to offer prayer (including confidentially)

contact: [bschutz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bschutz@sbcglobal.net).

### **Word in Season Devotional Booklets**

April, May, June devotional books are available in the narthex at the main church entrance and near the Second Readings Library in the hallway to the fellowship hall. Large print editions are also available.

## Congregation Council

President LaRu Woody  
[felcpresident@felcaustin.org](mailto:felcpresident@felcaustin.org)  
Vice President Leigh Northcutt-Benson  
Secretary Nancy Baden  
Treasurer Allen Jensen  
Financial Secretary Gwen Flory  
Jerry Don Aguirre Paul Barlow  
Charlie Boas Margaret Bruesch  
Kristin Mondy Nancy Neuse  
Benjamin Rode Mari Ward  
Anne Wiebe

## Staff

**Pastor** In Transition

**Cantor** Bryan Rust (he/him)  
[cantor@felcaustin.org](mailto:cantor@felcaustin.org)

**Child Development Center Director**

Dr. Paulette Clemons (she/her)  
[director@firstenglishcdc.org](mailto:director@firstenglishcdc.org)

**CDC Assistant Director**

Cat Holness (she/her)  
[asstdirector@firstenglishcdc.org](mailto:asstdirector@firstenglishcdc.org)

**CDC Staff**

Lisa Brown, Lauren Eichhorn,  
Patricia Ortego, Sabrina Paiz,  
Alexis Tovar, Shelby Williams

**Church Office Administrator**

In Transition

**Custodial Care**

Teresa del Aguila & family

## Child Development Center Board of Directors

[CDCBoard@felcaustin.org](mailto:CDCBoard@felcaustin.org)  
President Sig Rydquist, FELCDC Parent  
Vice Pres. Merrily Porter, FELC  
Secretary Erin McCracken, FELC  
Treasurer Monica Lund, FELC  
Tim Atkinson (FELC),  
Kevin Incorvia (Parent),  
Drew Newell (Parent),  
Anne Wiebe (FELC)

## Transition Ministry Team

[FELCTransitionMinistry@felcaustin.org](mailto:FELCTransitionMinistry@felcaustin.org)  
Tim Atkinson Randy Baden  
Allen Jensen Erin McCracken  
Nikki Northcutt Lillian Martinez-Rodriguez  
Barbara Schutz

FELC is in a transition ministry that began in January, 2023. The transition ministry has two parts: the transition itself and the call process for our next pastor of word and sacrament. This transition is the work of the whole congregation and our partners, to God's glory, and for the congregation and community. For more information visit the *FELC in Transition* page on our website.



God Loves. We Love.  
Everyone!  
Dios Ama. Amamos.  
Todos!

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a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—a sanctuary church body in the United States