

Word & Eucharist
The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
The Resurrection of our Lord
Easter Day

March 31, 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 & Flowering of the Cross

Before and during the gathering music, the assembly is invited to decorate the cross with cut flowers. This wrapped cross was fashioned from a previous Christmas tree.

The assembly is seated.

Gathering Music

Instrumental music is offered.

Reconocimiento de Tierras

Land Acknowledgement

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.

The assembly stands and turns to face the main entrance of the nave for the procession.

The assembly offers acclamations and songs printed in bold.

Procession

Thine Is the Glory (ELW 376)

Edmond Budry (18954-1932); Judas Maccabaeus, George F. Handel (1685-1759)

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain
 where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

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

God of all grace, we no longer search for Jesus among the dead,
for he is alive and has become the Lord of life.
Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with him,
and help us to grow in the fullness of life with you and all creation;
through 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**Isaiah 25:1-4a, 6-8** New Revised Standard Version - English Updated

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
 for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
 For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin;
 the palace of rulers is a city no more; it will never be rebuilt.

Strong peoples will glorify you;
 cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

For you are a refuge to the poor,
 a refuge to the needy in their distress,
 a shelter from the rainstorm, and a shade from the heat.

⁶On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
 a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
 of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷And the Lord will destroy on this mountain
 a shroud cast over all peoples, a sheet spread over all nations;

⁸God will swallow up death forever!

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
 and the disgrace of the people God will take away from all the earth,
 for the Lord has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day,

This is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in God's salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem**"Prayer of Calling"**

Setting by Bryan Rust (b. 1975)

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet
 untrodden, through perils 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.

text: Eric Milner-White (1884-1963)

*The text of this prayer has been offered at each Sunday worship service throughout our
 transition ministry since January 2023.*

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

Throughout the liturgy we offer our “alleluia” which expresses resurrection in a variety of ways. Alleluia means “God be praised.”

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

Easter gift bags will be offered to children and their families.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Zimbabwe

The musical score is written for three parts: Soprano (top staff), Alto (middle staff), and Bass (bottom staff). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are written below each staff, with the English lyrics in a larger font and the Spanish lyrics in a smaller font below them. The score consists of two systems of three staves each. The first system ends with a comma, and the second system ends with a double bar line.

English lyrics: 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.

Spanish lyrics: 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.

Evangelio

Mark 16:1-8 NRSV

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus' body. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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.

Baptismal candidates and families gather at the font.

Song

Be Not Afraid (ELW 388) Taizé

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

✝ **santa bautismo**

holy baptism ✝

David Preston Francis | William Warren Nix | Aditi Juliette Mitra

The assembly is seated.

Children and adults worshipping today will be invited close to experience the baptisms.

Presentation of Candidates

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of holy baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Each candidate is presented for holy baptism.

Following the presentations, the assembly stands.

A minister addresses the assembly:

Do you promise to support David, William, and Aditi and pray for them in their new lives in Christ? If so, respond, we do!

We do!

Affirmation of Faith | Apostles' Creed

Let us boldly make affirmation of our faith before God 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 who are to be baptized, and all disciples of Jesus, to profess your faith, 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!

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.**

Baptismal Vows

You have made public commitment and affirmation of your faith.

Do you intend to live in the covenant God makes 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.

The assembly stands, as willing and able.

Thanksgiving at the Font

Water is poured into the font at the thanksgiving.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth.

You are the fire of rebirth. You breathe life into our dry bones.

Your Son Jesus sends the Spirit to all people
that the world may know your peace and love.

Pour out the Holy Spirit now, breathe new life into us,
and keep us as your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Baptism

A minister of word and sacrament baptizes each candidate.

I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen!

Anointing of the Spirit

A minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the newly baptized.

Oil prepared for this purpose is used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

David, William, Aditi, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Spirit

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in David, William, and Aditi the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Welcome to Christian Community

A lighted candle from the Paschal Candle is given to each of the newly baptized (to a sponsor of a young child) as a minister says:

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Gifts from the congregation of First English are presented to the newly baptized.

The ministers and the baptismal group face the assembly.

... let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God,
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word in all the world.**

The assembly stands to sing the hymn.

All return to their places.

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

✠ 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.*

*The prayers of intercession today are offered within the Thanksgiving at the Table at the
communion liturgy.*

La asamblea se sienta. / The assembly is seated.

Anuncios & Ofreciendo Invitación

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

Announcements & Offering Invitation

Offering Music

“Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands”

text: Martin Luther (1483-1546)

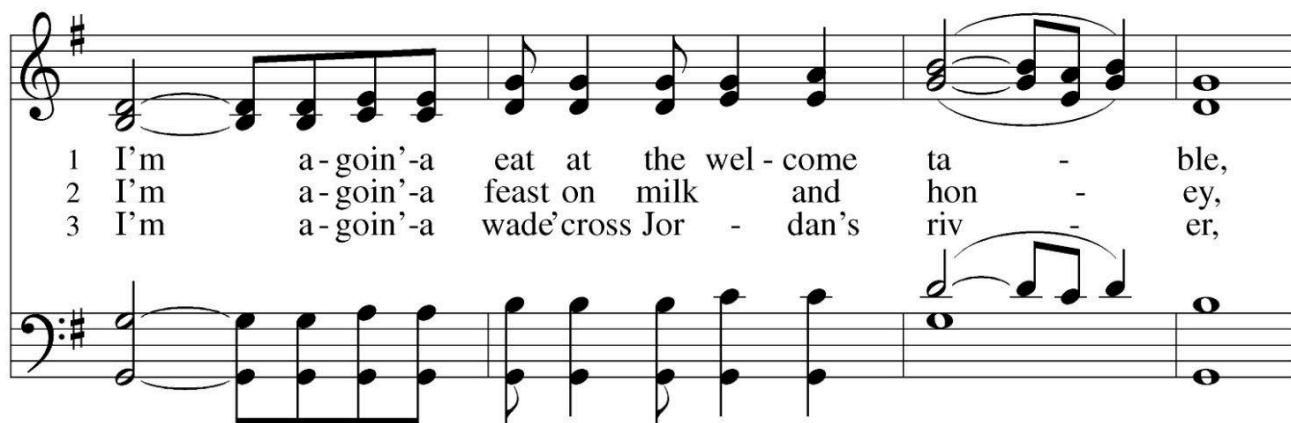
arr. J. S. Bach (March 31, 1685-July 28, 1750)

Christ Jesus lay in death’s strong bands for our offenses given;
but now at God’s right hand he stands and brings us life from heaven.
Therefore let us joyful be and sing to God right thankfully loud songs of hallelujah! Hallelujah!

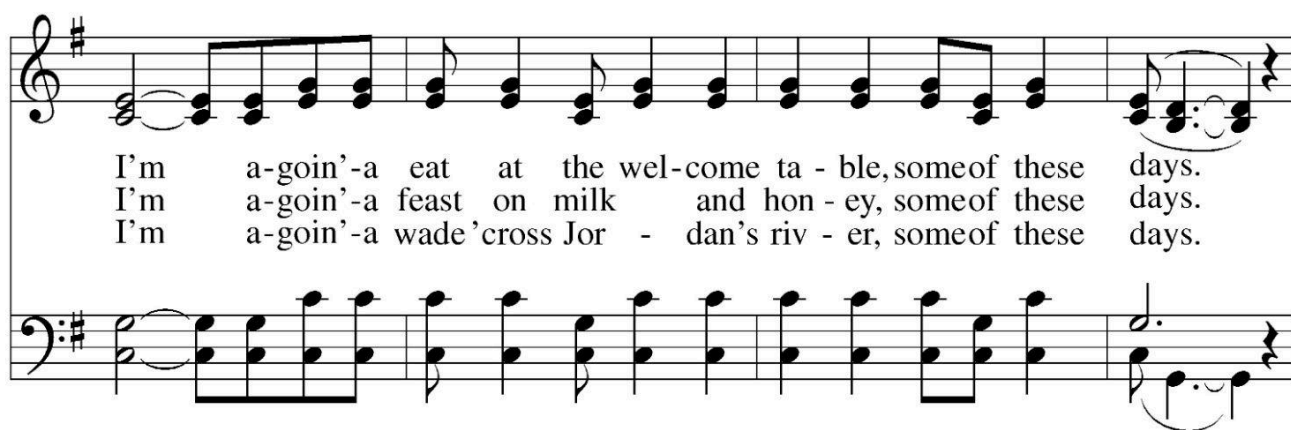
Then let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven;
the Word of grace has purged away the old and evil leaven.
Christ alone, our souls will feed, he is our meat and drink indeed; faith lives upon no other! Hallelujah!

The assembly stands.

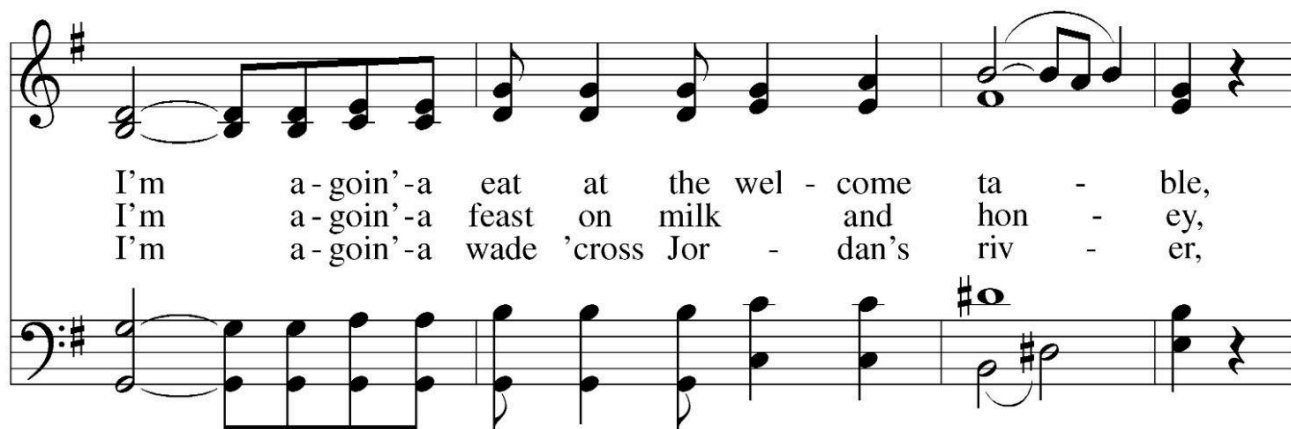
Bread, wine, money, and other gifts are presented, and the altar is prepared.



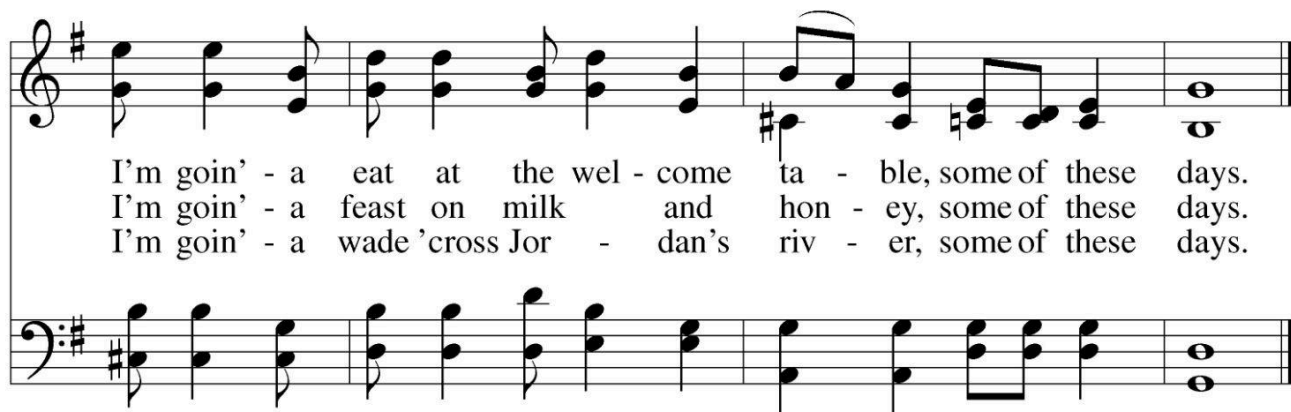
1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
 2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and hon - ey,
 3 I'm a-goin'-a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and hon - ey, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and hon - ey,
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a feast on milk and hon - ey, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

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.

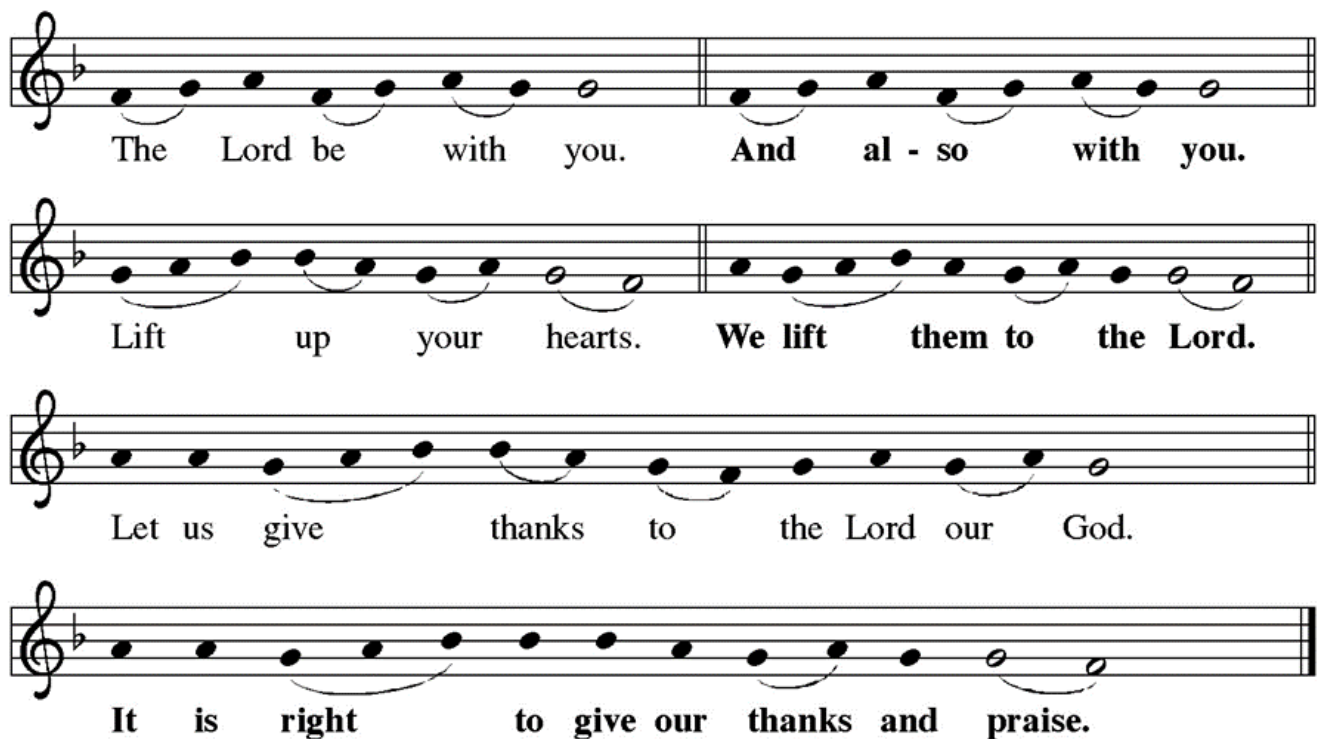
Blessed be God forever!

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

Amen.

Gran Plegaria Eucharística

music: Joel Martinson



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:

Sanctus: holy, holy, holy



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, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high-est, 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.

Remember, Lord, your one, holy, . . . and preserve us in peace.

Remember the people of the nations . . . new, peaceful day with lasting justice.

Remember the sick and all who cry out . . . grant them healing and restoration.

Remember the people in this assembly . . . that we may live for love alone.

Remember all the blessed dead . . . through the power of your love.

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 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.**

Acclamation

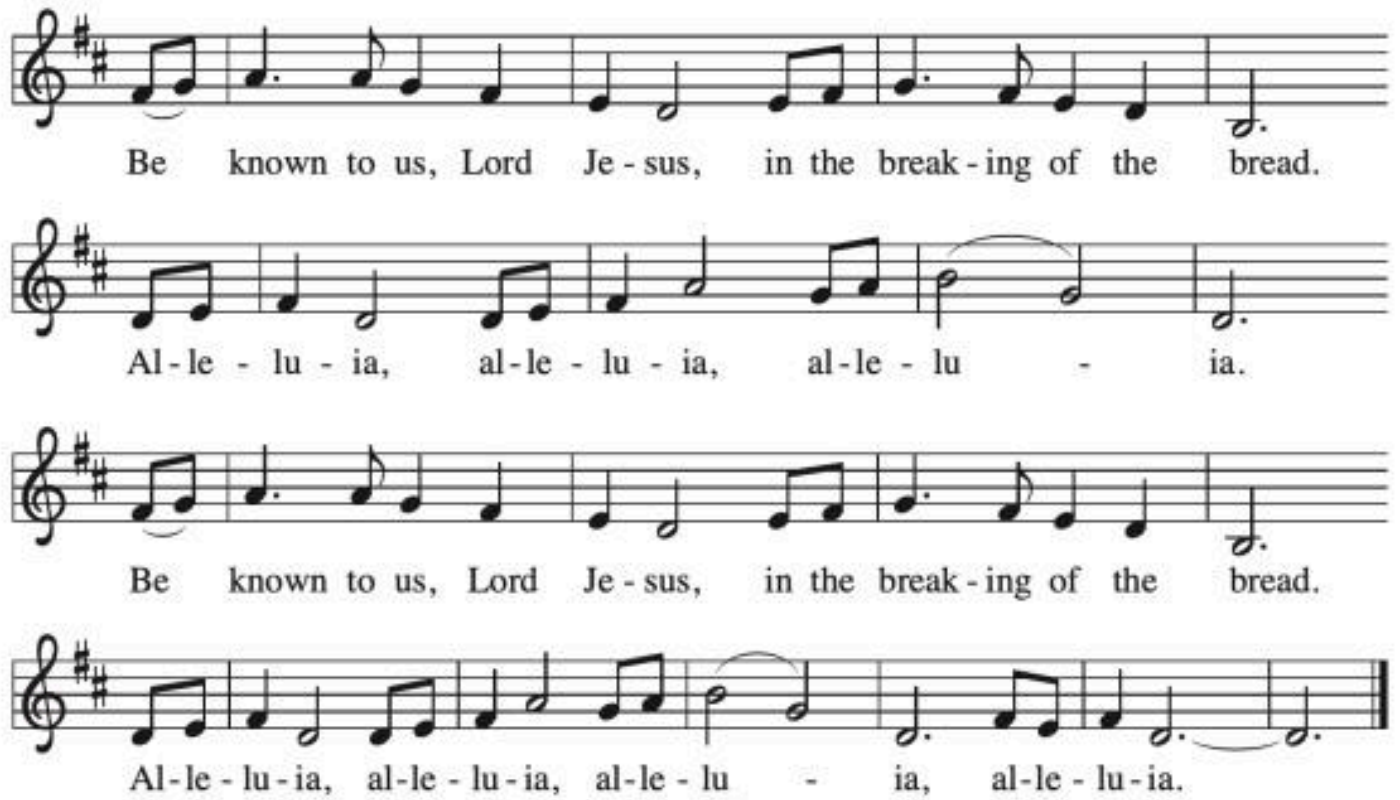
Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!

La asamblea se sienta. / The assembly is seated.

Partiendo el Pan

Breaking of the Bread



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 in two lines 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 in prayer and meditation.

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.

Musica de Comunion

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.

The assembly remains seated as we offer our thanks.

Oración Después de la Comunión

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.

✠ envío sending ✠

For those in the building, following the liturgy, we invite you to a time of hospitality and an Easter Egg Hunt.

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

Bendición

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

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.**

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Dismissal to Mission

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Y'all, go in peace to love and serve in newness of life!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Festive Hospitality & Easter Egg Hunt

All are invited to a time of hospitality on the front porch at the main entrance.

If weather does not permit, we will gather in the fellowship hall.

An Easter Egg hunt for little ones begins in the front courtyard during hospitality time.

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Baptism with **David Preston Francis**; with **William Warren Nix**, son of Caroline Porter Nix & Brady Nix, whose sponsors are Merrily & Terry Porter and Amy & Hardy Nix, and whose big brother is Andrew; and with **Aditi Juliette Mitra**, daughter of Anna Wilde Mitra & Sayantan Mitra, whose sponsor is Ashley Herron. We welcome family and friends to celebrate this special day. *May God's light continue to shine through you, David, William, and Aditi!*

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.

Learning Ministry Children & Adult Faith Formation: Sunday, April 7

Today we'll celebrate the resurrection of Christ in worship and hospitality and an Easter Egg Hunt during hospitality time! **The next gathering for children and adult faith formation will be on Sunday, April 7 at 9am.** Gwen Flory will engage adults in "Every Day is Earth Day: actionable ways each of us can protect our planet" as we celebrate Earth Day!

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. For more information on Micah 6 of Austin, visit <https://www.micah6austin.org/>

Romani Passion Concert: April 5 at 7:30pm

Join Oliver Rajamani with Via Romen in *Romani (Gypsy) Passion*, a concert of world Romani India and Texas connections **on Friday, April 5 at 7:30 pm at Scottish Rite Theatre**. Ticket info at www.taranada.org. For more information, visit www.oliverrajamani.com.

Benevolence Task Force: We Want Your Input!

The Benevolence Task Force is organized through the Congregation Council, and they have appointed Claudia Barlow, Teresa Ringness, Ben Rode, and Merrily Porter for 2024. The task force would like your input to identify organizations or agencies the congregation would like to financially support in 2024. The money has been approved by the congregation in the 2024 ministry budget. We're guided by our intention to consider organizations that reflect our biblical and congregational values; to support organizations that are local and others that are regional or global in their witness; and to financially support a group we are serving already in other ways, such as Micah 6 Ministries. We welcome your suggestions of organizations/groups that you would like to support. Pass your thoughts **to Merrily Porter by April 3: msporter58@gmail.com**.

National Child Abuse Prevention Month: Sunday, April 7. Wear BLUE!

On Sunday, April 7, FELC will join Upbring in calling awareness to and advocacy for the prevention of child abuse. This is an opportunity to join with churches across Texas to raise awareness of Upbring's efforts to break the cycle of child abuse and ask God to protect, comfort, and heal the thousands of children who are survivors of child abuse each year. For more than a century, from the service-minded Lutherans who dreamed of building an orphanage in the 1860s to the vital programs in place today throughout Texas, Upbring has grown and adapted to the changing needs of society. Although they have been known by different names, the meaning behind Upbring, honors the past while promising a commitment to the future – one that is long standing, innovative, and designed to “bring up” children and families just as predecessors have done. **On Sunday, April 7 we are invited to wear the color blue** in solidarity and awareness with children and families responding to child abuse. For more information, visit www.upbring.org

Feeding Hungry Students: Tuesday, April 9

FELC is serving at Lutheran Campus Ministry's Tailgate Tuesday on Tuesday, April 9. LuMin is now feeding over 450 students each week. Because of this, we've added additional slots to the signup. You can volunteer from 3-5pm to prepare for the meal, from 5-7pm to serve the meal, 7-8pm for cleanup, or for the full 5 hours. You may also come and offer support and presence - and you can give financially. There is parking on the south side of 21st St. If you need a ride, we will meet at FELC at 2:45 and carpool to West Campus, or you can meet us there. Your time will be greatly appreciated. Please sign up. Contact: Paul Barlow at tpaulbarlow@gmail.com.

FELC Book Club: Sunday, April 14

The FELC Book Club gathers (*second Sunday*) on April 14, 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.

Ministers Serving in Liturgy & Hospitality

Ministers	All the People of God
Altar Care Servers	Nancy Neuse, Margaret Bruesch
Assisting Minister	Shannon Aguirre
Baptismal Gifts	Lois Holck, Barbara Schutz, presenters
Communion Minister	Leigh Northcutt-Benson
Crucifer	Jerry Don Aguirre
Easter Egg Hunt	Sarah Roberts, facilitator
Flowers	Teresa Ringness
Land Acknowledgement	Fritz Woody
Lector	Desmond Peterson
Livestream Technician	J.P. Northcutt-Benson
Music Ministers	FELC Choir
	Instrumentalists: Elijah Aguirre, Holden Fuerst, Paula Limberg, Oliver Rajamani, Maria Straight
Offering Counter	Terry Porter
Hospitality Hosts	Merrily Porter, leader Henri & Tim Atkinson, Claudia Barlow, Nancy Baden, Michele Hockett Cooper & Jesse, Heidi Goebel, Nancy Neuse, Barbara Schutz, Anne Wiebe, LaRu & Fritz Woody.
Preaching Minister	Pastor Robert Karli, retired fourth pastor of FELC
Presiding Minister	Pastor Bradley Fuerst, campus pastor of LuMin
Sexton	Heidi Goebel
Ushers	Randy Baden, Terry Porter

We are pleased to include a Flemish virginal in today's worship service. Such instruments (a type of harpsichord) were common from about 1575 to 1650. This one was built by David Francis, and you are invited to view it following the close of the liturgy.

Easter Day Thanksgivings

We give thanks to God for many offerings, including:

- the people, families, and sponsors who offer themselves for holy baptism;
- the gift of Easter Lilies by Teresa Ringness in memory of her son, Jeffrey David Tice;
- the Easter Cross, from a previous Christmas tree, fashioned by Terry Porter;
- the stewardship of God's creation & our campus;
- those who prepare our hospitality time & Easter Egg Hunt;
- those who prepare & serve food for those who are hungry;
- those who give financially for the mission & engagement of this congregation;
- those who offer the gifts of art & music, poetry & preaching to glorify God;
- the gifts of children's wonder & elders wisdom;
- those who advocate, heal, teach, protect, care, & serve;
- those who work, pray, & protest for peace with justice;
- every blessing today, and for the joy of welcoming God's presence in one another.

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, and quality care, and for those who offer it;
our care ministers;
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;
our child development center students and families;
all people seeking healing and justice;
all in any need and thanksgiving.

The FELC Prayer Circle gathers faithfully to offer prayer (including confidentially) contact: 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.

SAVE THE DATE: 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.

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.

Congregation Council

President LaRu Woody
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

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Dr. Paulette Clemons (she/her)
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Cat Holness (she/her)
asstdirector@firstenglishcdc.org

CDC Staff

Lisa Brown, Patricia Ortego,
Sabrina Paiz, Alexis Tovar

Church Office Administrator

Randi Ladolcetta (she/her)
office@felcaustin.org

Custodial Care

Teresa del Aguila & family

Child Development Center Board of Directors

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
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