Sunday, November 22, 2026
The Reign of Christ the King
Word & Eucharist
10 AM - onsite & online



First English Lutheran Church

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

3001 Whitis Avenue
Austin, Texas 78705
info@felcaustin.org
512.478.1933 church

Welcome

Welcome to First English Lutheran Church (FELC). We are a congregation of the Southwestern Texas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). We are a community in and of the city where all are welcome in every aspect of congregational life. Following the example of Christ, we welcome you exactly as you are.

FELC is 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. To learn more, visit www.felcaustin.org.

Accessibility

All Gender Restrooms, with infant changing tables, are located in the hallway off of the sanctuary (main worship area) near the fellowship hall. **Hearing assistance devices** are available for use in the sanctuary, with two options: an earpiece, or a hearing loop for those who use hearing aids. Connect with the minister for a hearing assistance device. **Seat cushions**, for use on the wood pews are available in the narthex (main entrance area).

Liturgy

Worship and adoration of God is at the heart of life for disciples of Jesus. It is in worship that we encounter God, express our belonging, define our identity, and are formed as the people of God. Liturgy is a Greek work translated "the work of the people of God" as we gather. FELC holds the Word and Eucharist ordered framework in the tradition of the whole church, including from early centuries. We gather, we receive the Word of God, we give thanks and are nourished by Christ's presence in bread, wine, and blessing, and we are sent to be active images of divine love. The Meal is known by many names: the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion, the Mass, the Sacrament, the Eucharist. We celebrate at Christ's table, and all are welcome to receive holy communion no matter your background, faith practice, or curiosity. To learn more about Holy Baptism and discipleship with Jesus, please connect with the pastor. We utilize various biblical and contemporary images and names for God, Jesus, and humanity. The church season after Easter and Pentecost Days is half of the calendar year. Sometimes called "Ordinary Time" because of the numbering (ordinals) of the Sunday, it includes summer and fall with the primary growth color of green.

✢ GATHERING ✢ Feast of Christ the King

On this final Sunday of the church year the gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the joy of all things yet to come. The Feast of the Reign of Christ was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 to counter rising authoritarian rule. This feast reminds Christians to acknowledge Christ's sovereignty publicly and not only privately and personally. As disciples of Jesus, our ultimate allegiance is to Christ, and not to any earthly ruler. We witness to God's love, that Christ's reign may be known.

In our call and response, everyone is invited to pray aloud the text in bold print.
The songs and hymns are found in Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW), the red worship book in the pew.

Gathering Music

Singing bowls sound throughout the liturgy, calling us to prayer.

We stand, as able.

The cross moves in procession from the main entrance.

Gathering Song in Procession

***Blessing and Honor* | ELW 854**
Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889, alt
Music: Matthias Keller, 1813-1875

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

O God of power and might, Jesus shows us the way of service, and in him we witness the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right, and the strength to do what is just; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Be seated.

Welcome to Community

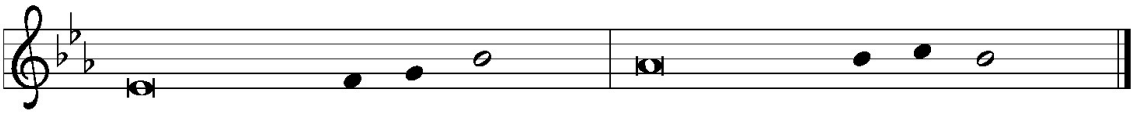
☩ WORD ☩

First Reading **Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24**

11 Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out.
12 As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will
sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been
scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the
peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and
I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the
inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain
heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land,
and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the
shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. 16 I will seek
the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will
strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with
justice. 20 Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the
fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and
butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide,
22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between
sheep and sheep. 23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he
shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the Lord will be
their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Response **Psalm 95:1-7a**



1 Come let us sing | to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.
2 Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the | Lord with psalms.
3 For you Lord, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.
4 In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours.
5 The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.
6 Come let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | Lord our maker.
7a For the Lord | is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep | of God's hand.

Time of Wisdom & Wonder

Children and adults are invited to gather at the baptismal font.

Second Reading **Ephesians 1:15-23**

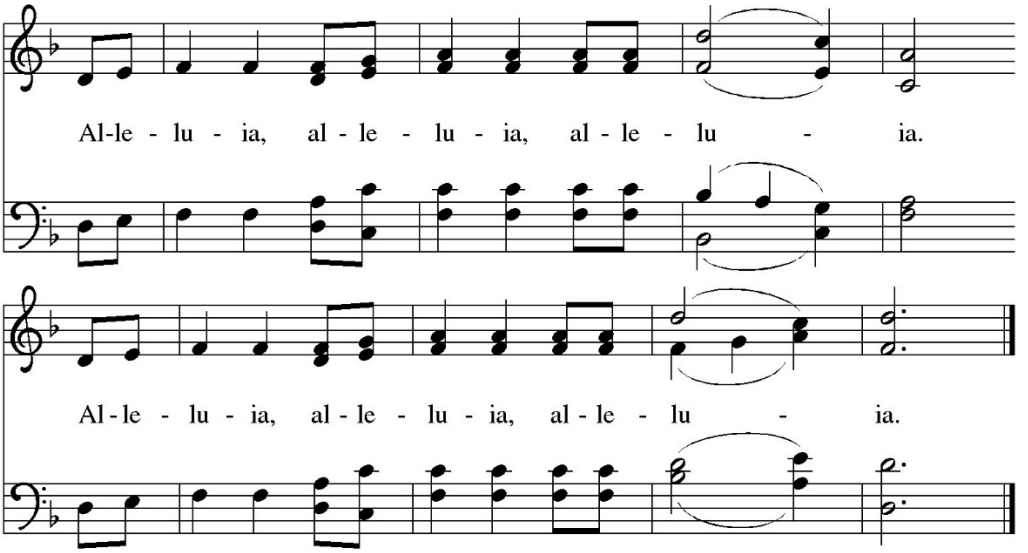
15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and
for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my
prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a
spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18 so that, with the eyes of
your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called
you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints,

19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according
to the working of his great power. 20 God put this power to work in Christ when he
raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,
21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name
that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. 22 And he has put all
things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church,
23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

We welcome Christ in the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation ***Alleluia*** Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994



Verse: Blessed is the one who comes in the name | of the Lord.
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our an | cestor David. Mark 11:9

We repeat the Alleluias.

The gospel is announced, ending with: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Holy Gospel **Matthew 25:31-46**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the
angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be
gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd
separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and
the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you
who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the
foundation of the world, 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and
you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was
naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison
and you visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we
saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And
when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you
clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And
the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of
these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' 41 Then he will say to those at his
left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for
the devil and his angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty
and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,
naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'
44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or
a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' 45 Then he will
answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these,
you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment but the
righteous into eternal life."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

We repeat the Alleluias.

Sermon

During the hymn and prayer time, you are invited to come pray, reflect upon the saint's icons, bring and view pictures and mementos at the Altar of Remembrance (Ofrenda), light a candle, write names in the Book of the Dead of those who have died in the past twelve months, and give thanks for those interred in the Columbarium. The hanging "Cloud of Witnesses" mobile in the Chapel contains the names of those form FELC who have died since our founding in 1936.

We are seated to sing.

Hymn of the Day ***O Christ, What Can it Mean for Us* | ELW 431**

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Music: Henry S. Cutler, 1824-1902

We remain seated for prayer.

A list of prayer concerns and joys is found on page 17.

Prayers of Intercession

Intercession response: God, in your mercy**, hear our prayer.**

We stand, as able.

Apostles' Creed

Let us affirm the baptismal faith of the whole church.

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

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.

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.

Sharing the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you all. A**nd also with you.**

We greet each other with gentle signs of reconciliation, peace, and love. This exchange of peace within the gathered community is an ancient Christian practice that builds and renews relationships.

Following sharing Christ's peace, we sit.

✢MEAL✢

Welcome to Communion & Offering

Your presence in worship and community is a gift. We reflect on the life God entrusts to us for the mission of the church and the care of those in need. Then we act through God's generosity. Financial gifts may be shared through the offering plate or online at www.felcaustin.org/information/giving.

Offering Music ***Above All Praise and All Majesty***

(Opus 79, No. 3) Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847

Above all praise and all majesty, Lord, thou reignest evermore. Hallelujah!

We stand, as bread, wine, money, and other gifts are presented.

Offering Song ***In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful***

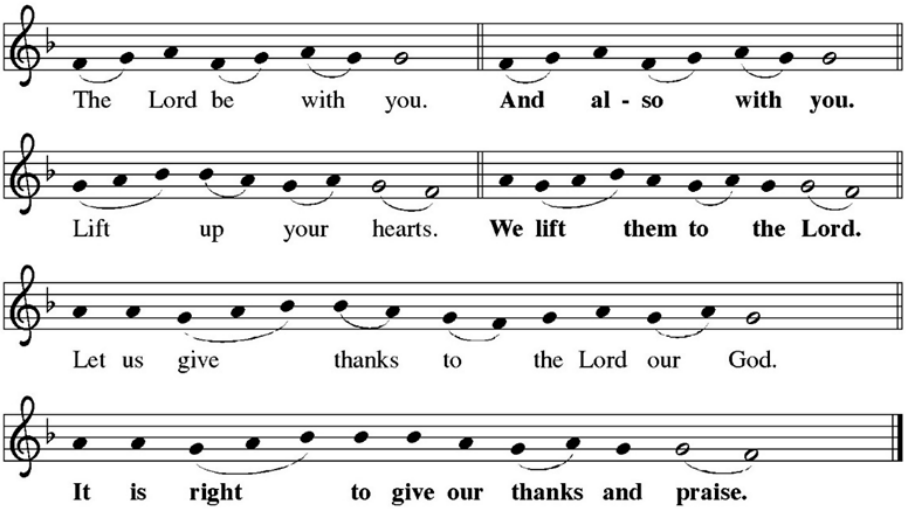


Text: Taizé Community, based on Isaiah 12
Music: Jacques Berthier

Offering Prayer A Table Blessing from Luther's Small Catechism. 1529

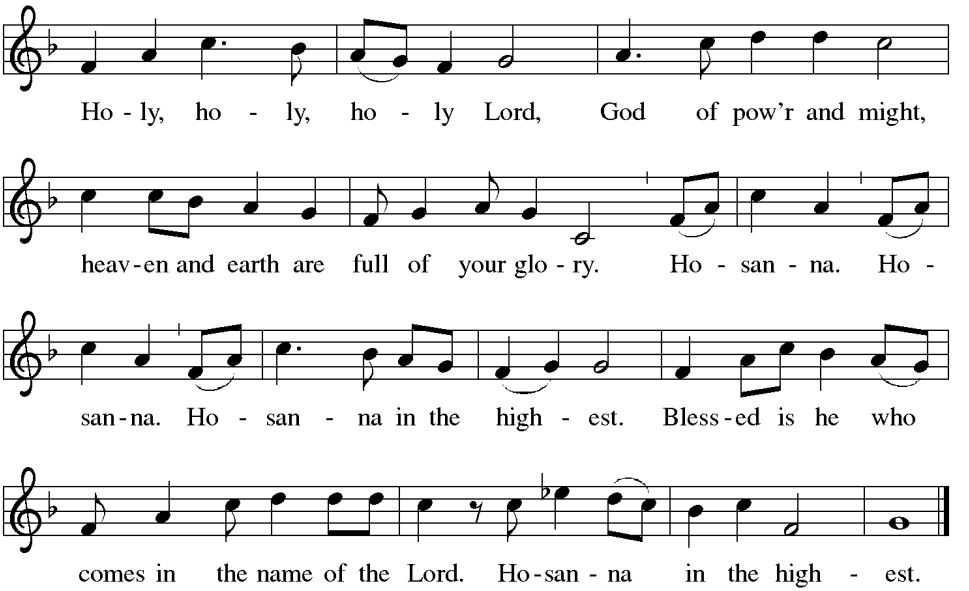
The eyes of all wait upon You, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season;
You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. Psalm 145:15-16
Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these your gifts which we receive from your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving ELW Holy Communion, Setting 3, Richard Hillert, 1923-2010



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy… join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



Thanksgiving at the Table

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. **In times of bitterness you do not abandon us. You guide us into paths of love and light.**

In every age you send prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. **The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger for justice is your own desire.**

In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to proclaim good news, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to end all war, violence, and sin.

In the night in which he was given to death, . . . Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim together the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering Christ's death and resurrection, we await the day for
his return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death.
Come, Lord of Hope! And let the people shout Amen. **Amen!**

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread, cup, and blessing with the courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the people shout Amen. **Amen!**

Join our prayers and praise with your saints, prophets, and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in freedom and lasting peace.

Through Christ, with Christ, ☩ in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, gracious God, in the church and in the world, now and forever. **Amen!**

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

Breaking the Bread

We break this bread to be the body of Christ.
We will love one another as Christ loves us.

Be seated.

Song of Response ***Lamb of God*** Richard Hillert



Invitation to Communion & Blessing

This is Christ's table. Christ is the host. All are welcome. We encourage you to participate in ways that are meaningful for you.

For those participating online, a minister will offer the invitation to receive any bread and juice in your home. For those onsite, you will be guided to receive bread in your hand to eat, then receive a small cup, where wine will be poured and consumed. Gluten-free wafers/grape juice are available upon request. If you desire not to receive bread or wine, you are invited to a station to receive a blessing. Return to your seat by a side aisle. If you desire communion or a blessing at your place, let an usher or minister know.

Communion Music ***Jesus, Remember Me* | ELW 616**
Text: Luke 23:42; Taize Community
Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Prayer after Communion A Table Blessing from Luther's Small Catechism

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good. **God's mercy endures forever.** Psalm 136:1
We thank you, heavenly Father, for all your benefits, through Jesus Christ our Lord, for you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

✢ SENDING ✢

Welcome to Hospitality

Sending Song ***Now, Thank We All Our God* | ELW 840**
Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878
Music: Johann Cruger, 1598-1662

Blessing & Dismissal to Mission Text: Wm. Sloane Coffin, 1924-2006

May God give you grace never to sell yourself short. Grace to risk something big for something good. Grace to remember that the world is too dangerous for anything but truth, and too small for anything but love; and the blessing of God, Creator, ✢ Christ, and Comforter, be with you, now and forever. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve as Christ**. Thanks be to God!**

Hospitality Time

Those who contributed items to the Altar of Remembrance (Ofrenda) this month are invited to take them following the worship service today.

WELCOME TO FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Visit felcaustin.org to learn more about the FELC faith community. To subscribe to a weekly email newsletter or connect with ministry leaders and staff, contact office@felcaustin.org. If you are new to the FELC community, use the QR code to connect.

WELCOME TODAY'S MUSIC LEADER

FELC friend and Austin musician, Marti Ahern, studied at Westminster Choir College, Princeton, New Jersey, is a prolific pianist, a private music teacher, and serves as artistic director of the Austin Chamber Ensemble. Cantor Bryan Rust will return on Sunday, November 29.

INTERFAITH DAY OF THANKS: SERVICE & CELEBRATION | TODAY

All are welcome to iACT's 42nd annual gathering at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W 15th St, Austin. Prelude by Conspirare: 2:45 pm. Service: 3:00 pm. Reception: 4:30 pm. Bring a dish to share, labeled for those dietary restrictions. www.interfaithtexas.org

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSING

The FELC Office will be closed Wednesday, November 25 - Friday, November 27, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION IN NOVEMBER

Nov. 29: "Sumud/Palestine Issues: A History" led by Rev. Sharon Wiggins

FLAMENCO INDIA IN CONCERT | DECEMBER 6 | 7 PM

Join Oliver Rajamani and friends in an unknown, historic story told through music and dance. Sunday, December 6 at 7 pm at State Side Paramount Theatre. For tickets: austintheatre.org.

REPERTORY CHORUS | DECEMBER 7 | 5 PM | FELC

Join Repertory Chorus on Monday, December 7, 5:00 pm, for a holiday concert. Graduate students and Undergrad music education majors will conduct. Free admission. FELC partners with UT's Butler School of Music to provide a laboratory, rehearsal, and venue experience for these professional, educational vocal leaders.

HARMONY FOR THE HOLIDAYS | DECEMBER 12 | 2 PM | FELC

Holiday concert presented by A Cappella Texas and A Cappella Unlimited.

CHORUS AUSTIN

Join Chorus Austin for three holiday concerts, including:

December 1: Messiah with the Austin Symphony Orchestra
December 6: Sing it Yourself Messiah
December 19: On a Winter's Eve – Gloria

For details, locations and tickets, visit chorusaustin.org.

LEADERS IN LEARNING, LITURGY, & HOSPITALITY

Ministers	All the People of God
Adult Faith Formation	Rev. Anamae Storbeck
Altar Care Server	Nancy Neuse
Assisting Minister	Shannon Aguirre
Council Stewards	Leigh Northcutt, Anne Wiebe
Crucifer	J.D. Aguirre
Hospitality Hosts	Hospitality Team
Lector	Ben Rode
Livestream Minister	J.P Northcutt-Benson
Music Ministers	FELC Choir; Marti Ahern, guest pianist; Eli Aguirre, oboe; Oliver Rajamani, percussion
Preaching & Presiding	Pastor Katie Rode
Ushers	Terry Porter, Randy Baden

PRAYER CONCERNS & JOYS

As a community of faith, we pray for:

in thanksgiving for the birth of Connor Christopher Lee, for Maddie Porter & Chris Lee, & Merrily & Terry Porter;
for all who travel in this holiday season;
FELC community & our mission renewal, as we recognize the Spirit in one another & in those who visit;
strength & a spirit of justice for all who work & continue to support peacemaking efforts in Gaza & in the world;
Micah 6 food ministries & Drop-in Center;
Lutheran Campus Ministry;
Casa Marianella;
those recovering from earthquakes, fires, & flooding;
places experiencing violence, war, oppression, disaster, conflict, & recovery;
those affected by gun violence;
those who advocate for healing, safety, justice, inclusion, peace, & equity;
citizens & leaders of, & immigrants & refugees to the United States;
all in need of safe shelter & nourishing food & for those who offer it;
all living with addiction, cancer, grief, & spiritual, health, & employment needs.
Sarah Roberts, her family, & friends, for her support in treatment;
Margaret VanAntwerp, friend of Kate Wanstrom, for care & support;
Rory Kelley & family, son-in-law of Donna & Don Wright, as Rory continues cancer treatment.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Leigh Northcutt-Benson, President
leigh.northcutt@gmail.com
Michele Hockett Cooper, Vice President
Betsy Appleton
Charlie Boas
Larry Collmann
Erin McCracken
Pastor Katie Rode
Anne Wiebe
Joe Cain, Treasurer
Gwen Flory, Financial Secretary

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Melissa Kruckenberg

NOTICES

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CELEBRATE ADVENT, CHRISTMAS, & EPIPHANY AT FIRST ENGLISH 2026

Sundays in Advent | November 29; December 6, 13, 20
Adult Faith Formation | 9:00 am
Holy Communion Worship Onsite & YouTube | 10:00 am
Hospitality following Worship Onsite

Wednesdays in Advent | December 2, 9, 16
Advent Bible Study in the FELC Library, led by Pastor Katie | 5:30 pm
Holden Evening Prayer Onsite & YouTube | 7 pm
Blue Christmas Evening Prayer | December 16 | 7 pm

Advent Open House | Sunday, December 6 | 11:15 am
Fellowship, treats, and Christmas tree decorating, hosted by Pastor Katie

Christmas Caroling | Saturday, December 19
Visit homebound folks to spread the joy of Christmas
Meet at FELC at 11:30 am

Christmas Eve | Thursday, December 24
Holy Communion & Candlelight | 7:00 pm
Prelude Music begins at 6:45 pm
Onsite & YouTube

Sunday after Christmas | December 27
Holy Communion Worship with Lessons & Carols | 10:00 am
Onsite & YouTube
Hospitality following Worship Onsite
No adult faith formation on December 27

Epiphany Sunday | January 3, 2027
Adult Faith Formation | 9:00 am
Holy Communion Worship Onsite & YouTube | 10:00 am
Hospitality following Worship Onsite

