

**Sunday, August 30, 2026**  
**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Word & Eucharist**  
**10 AM - onsite & online**



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

3001 Whitis Avenue  
Austin, Texas 78705  
[info@felcaustin.org](mailto: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](http://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.

In the bible readings for Sunday, the prophet Jeremiah speaks of his suffering. He finds God’s words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn’t grasp Jesus’ words about suffering, Jesus tells his disciples they will find their lives in losing them. These stories tell that sacrificial love is costly, challenging, and also life-changing. It’s really real. We gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of God’s world. God’s word, Christ’s life, and God’s people empower us to be, and go, and do.

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

Be Still and Know

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Be Still and Know'. The first staff is marked with a '1\*' and a '2' above the first two measures, indicating a canon. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics 'Be still and know that I am God.' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody, ending with a fermata over the final note. The lyrics 'Be still and know that I am God.' are written below the notes.

\* May be sung in canon

Text: Psalm 46:10  
Music: BE STILL AND KNOW (BELL), John L. Bell, b. 1949  
Music © 1989 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

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

We stand, as able.

## Gathering Song

## Spirit, Come, Our Souls Indwell

1. Spir - it, come, our souls in - dwell, here the gloom of fear dis - pel;  
2. To our trou - bled minds bring peace, from all fears our souls re - lease;  
3. May our hearts be filled with Light, may your love dis - pel the night;

The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. It features a piano accompaniment with a treble and bass staff. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with chords in the bass. The lyrics are written below the staff, with three verses provided.

bring your Love in - to our night, turn our dark - ness in - to light.  
tend' - rest calms our hearts in - fuse; may we ne'er thy Love re - fuse.  
may our lives with Peace be filled, as we here thy king - dom build.

The second system of the musical score continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It also features a piano accompaniment with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the staff, with three verses provided. The system ends with a double bar line.

TUNE: *Astcote* 7.7.7.7

Words & Music © 2026 Thurlow Weed

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## Confession & Forgiveness of Sin

*All are invited to make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.*

Blessed be God: our Maker, Redeemer, ✠ and Advocate.

**Blessed be God forever! Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and continue growing into the fullness of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another

*Silence is kept for self-reflection and examination.*

Gracious God, have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We humbly repent. In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, as we live and serve you in newness of life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

With joy I proclaim to you that God, rich in mercy and steadfast in love, forgives you all your sin, and freely gives you newness of life in the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## Song of Praise

**Gloria** Ronald Nelson, 1927-201

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

## Greeting & Prayer of the Day

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.**

Gracious God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of ultimate vulnerability for the love of the world. By your Spirit's power, humble us by his example, point us to faithfully trust you, and give us strength to follow your commands; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Be seated.*

## Welcome to Community

### ✝ WORD ✝

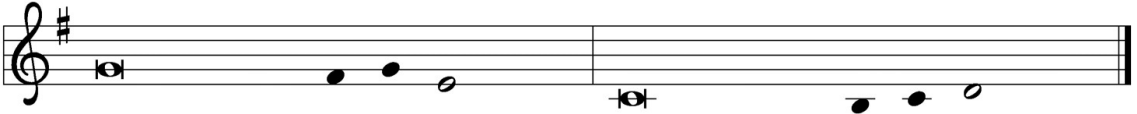
#### First Reading

**Jeremiah 15:15-21**

<sup>15</sup> O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. <sup>16</sup> Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. <sup>17</sup> I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation.

<sup>18</sup> Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. <sup>19</sup> Therefore thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. <sup>20</sup> And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord. <sup>21</sup> I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



<sup>1</sup> Give judgment for me O Lord, for I have lived | with integrity;  
I have trusted in the Lord and | have not faltered.

<sup>2</sup> **Test me O | Lord, and try me;**  
**examine my heart | and my mind.**

<sup>3</sup> For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes;  
I have walked faithful- | ly with you.

<sup>4</sup> **I have not sat | with the worthless,**  
**nor do I consort with | the deceitful.**

<sup>5</sup> I have hated the company of | evildoers;  
I will not sit down | with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup> **I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O Lord,**  
**that I may go in procession | round your altar,**

<sup>7</sup> singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving  
and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.

<sup>8</sup> **Lord I love the house in | which you dwell**  
**and the place where your glo- | ry abides.**

## Time of Wisdom & Wonder

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

## Second Reading

Romans 12:9-21

<sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup> love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup> Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. <sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup> Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup> If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup> Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord.” <sup>20</sup> Instead, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” <sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*We stand to welcome Christ in the gospel.*

## Gospel Acclamation

Text: John 6:68; James Capers, 1948-2025



This is the holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **Holy Gospel**

**Matthew 16:21-28**

<sup>21</sup> From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” <sup>23</sup> But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” <sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup> For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? <sup>27</sup> “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup> Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

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

## **Sermon**

*We stand, as able.*

# Hymn of the Day

# O Spirit All-Embracing



1 O Spir - it all-em-brac-ing and coun-sel - or all - wise,  
 2 O Beau - ty ev - er blaz-ing in flow - er, field, and face,  
 3 Come, pas - sion's pow-er ho - ly, your in - sight here im - part,



un - bound - ed splen-dor grac-ing a shore-less sea of skies:  
 you show your-self a - maz-ing in un - ex - pect - ed place.  
 and give your ser - vants low - ly an un - der-stand-ing heart



un - fail - ing is your trea-sure, un - fad - ing your re - ward;  
 We see you and re - mem - ber what once our dreams had been;  
 to know your care more clear - ly when faith and love are tried,



sur - pass - ing world-ly plea-sure, the rich-es you af - ford.  
 you fan the glow-ing em - ber and kin-dle hope with - in.  
 to seek you more sin - cere - ly when false i - deals have died:



Come, stream of end-less flow - ing, and res - cue us from death;  
 Come, fire of glo - ry gra - cious, bless all who trust in you;  
 for vi - sion we im - plore you, for wis-dom's pure de - light;



come, wind of spring-time blow - ing, and warm us by your breath.  
 un - dy - ing flame te - na - cious, burn in your church a - new.  
 in prayer we come be - fore you to wait up - on your light.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

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## Prayers of Intercession

Response: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*A prayer list is found on page 19.*

## Sharing Christ's Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you all. **And 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](http://www.felcaustin.org/information/giving).*

## Offering Music

## ***Farther Along***

William B. Stevens, 1862-1943

As sung by Dolly Parton, Linda Ronstadt, & Emmylou Harris, Trio album, 1987

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

## Offering Song

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.'

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the  
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,  
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 2004 Augsburg Fortress.

## Offering Prayer

**Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of the One who offered himself to us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

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 . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Sanctus

James Capers, 1948-2025

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,

heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

## Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful God, . . . remembering, Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming again, and we proclaim together the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pour out the Spirit of your love, holy God, and unite the wills of all who share this feast, the body, blood, and blessing of † Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by God's life-giving Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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** Music: Tillis Butler, 1941-2002

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## 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 Anthem

***Just as I Am, Without One Plea***

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1872; Music: Wm. Bradbury, 1826-186

## Communion Music

***Blest Be the Tie that Binds* | ELW 656**

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt

Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nageli, 1773-1836, adapt.

*We stand, as able.*

## Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, thank you for nourishing us with the love of Christ. Lead us to trust your love above all else. Amid the joys and cares of our lives, help us to see you in each person we meet, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## ✠ SENDING ✠

### Sending Song

***Son of God, Eternal Savior* | ELW 655**

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855-1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710;

arr. Julius Rontgen, 1855-1932

### Welcome to Hospitality

### God's Blessing

God the Creator who delights in us, Jesus the Savior who shines in us, ✠ and the life-giving Spirit who strengthens us, continue with us, and those we love, serve, and pray for, now and forever. **Amen.**

### Sending in Mission

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

## WELCOME TO FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Visit [felcaustin.org](http://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](mailto:office@felcaustin.org). If you are new to the FELC community, use the QR code to connect.



## COMMUNITY DISCERNMENT | TODAY

Congregational SWOT–Part 2 and identifying emerging themes; led by Donna Wright

## PRAYER FOR TRUST | AUGUST STEWARDSHIP THEME

I am an empty vessel that needs to be filled; my Lord, fill it. I am weak in faith; my Lord, strengthen me. I am cold in love; my Lord, make me fervent, that your love may go to my neighbors. When I doubt and am unable to trust you; my Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you, for you give me everything. Amen.

attributed to Martin Luther, 1483-1546

## CELEBRATION OF ABUNDANCE SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 20

September 20, 2026, is Celebration of Abundance Sunday! On this day, as we express gratitude for all that God provides, we will offer our financial commitments to support FELC's ministry in 2027. An image of the financial commitment card is included below for reflection. Physical cards will be available on September 13 and 20 and will be offered during the worship service on September 20. We will welcome Deacon John Dellis as our guest preacher. Following worship, the stewardship committee will host a Lunch & Learn about Legacy Generosity, presented by Signe Fredrickson, Gift Planner with the Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. Legacy generosity is a wonderful way to bless future generations. Plan to attend worship and Lunch & Learn on Sunday, September 20.

## 2027 Financial Commitment

Gracious God,

Out of gratitude for all that you provide,

I commit from my abundance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

With faith in Christ,

Giving Individual/Household (Please PRINT)

*Committed offerings will support FELC's 2027 ministry budget, to be given: weekly / monthly / annually (Please circle one)*

## PRAYER CONCERNS & JOYS

*As a community of faith, we pray for:*

the First English community, in this time of community discernment;  
the healing of creation & renewal of life;  
those affected by earthquakes;  
for the August Stewardship theme of trust, & for the work of the committee;  
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, & with spiritual, health, & employment needs;  
Rory Kelley & family, son-in-law of Donna & Don Wright, as Rory is in cancer treatment;  
family & friends of Ruth Akers Woody, sister-in-law of Fred Woody, upon her death;  
Ella Olson, mother of Pastor Gretchen Olson, undergoing palliative radiation;  
Barbara Wiederaenders, as she continues to heal & adjust to new ways of living;  
Carl Brockman, for healing.

## CONGREGATION COUNCIL

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

## STAFF

**Pastor** Katie Rode  
512-318-2749  
pastor@felcaustin.org  
**Cantor** Bryan Rust  
cantor@felcaustin.org  
**Church Office Administrator**  
Dawn Wetzel  
office@felcaustin.org  
**Custodial Care**  
Teresa del Aguila & family  
**Bookkeeper**  
Melissa Kruckenberg

## LEADERS IN LITURGY & HOSPITALITY

|                       |                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ministers             | All the People of God                                                                                                                         |
| Altar Care Server     | Margaret Bruesch                                                                                                                              |
| Assisting Minister    | Shannon Aguirre                                                                                                                               |
| Council Steward       | Erin McCracken                                                                                                                                |
| Hospitality Hosts     | FELC Council                                                                                                                                  |
| Lector                | Marilynn Olson                                                                                                                                |
| Livestream Minister   | J.P Northcutt-Benson                                                                                                                          |
| Music Ministers       | Cantor Bryan Rust; FELC Treble Choir;<br>Elijah Aguirre, oboe; Oliver Rajamani, percussion;<br>Nikki Northcutt & Leigh Northcutt-Benson, duet |
| Presiding & Preaching | Pastor Katie Rode                                                                                                                             |
| Ushers                | Randy Baden, Derek Bridges                                                                                                                    |

The FELC Founders Banner in the sanctuary displays the names of the 1936 founding families of First English. It was designed by Fred “Fritz” Woody and sewed by David Austin. This banner was originally created for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## NOTICES

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