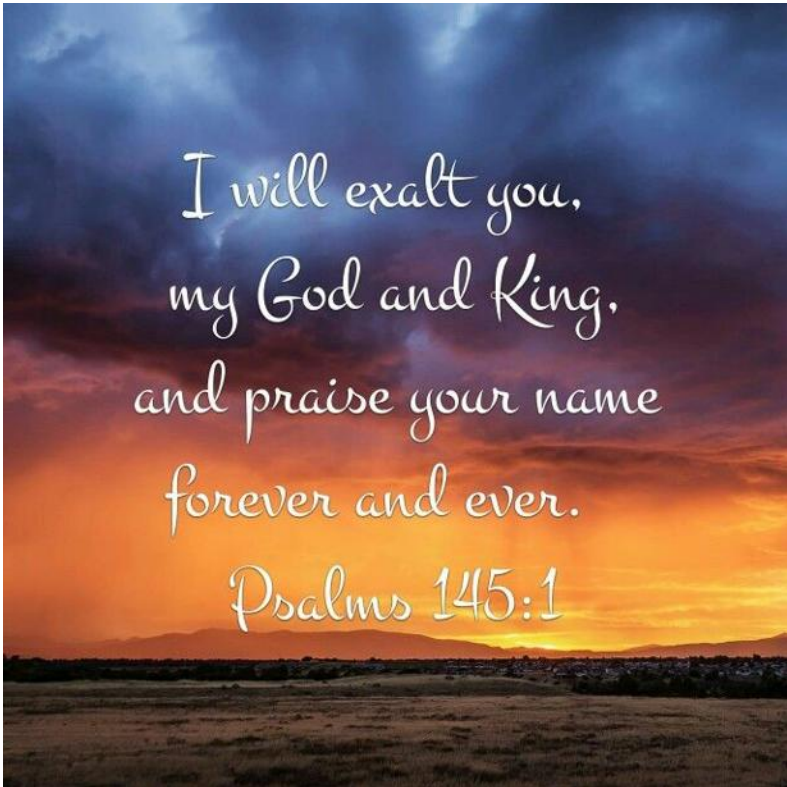




17 Pentecost
Thursday, September 17, 2026
6:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 20, 2026
10:30 a.m.

WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome to this time of worship. We are especially grateful for those of you who are visitors. You make us more whole. First Lutheran is a part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, a church body committed to the welcome of the stranger and to the questions and doubts of all seekers.

Contact Us

Pastor – Bill Uetracht

Pastoral Assistant – Paula Dusseljee

Parish Administrator – Lorey Montgomery

Music Director – Shar Bourdon

Asst. Music Director – Lisa Ziemelis

Ed. and Youth Coord. – Emma Johnston

MS and HS Youth – Jeff and Laura Lucht

Audio-Visual Technician – Karl Ziemelis

bill@firstlutheranmuskegon.org

paula@firstlutheranmuskegon.org

office@firstlutheranmuskegon.org

shar@firstlutheranmuskegon.org

lisa@firstlutheranmuskegon.org

emma@firstlutheranmuskegon.org

jllucht@firstlutheranmuskegon.org

karl@firstlutheranmuskegon.org

We are grateful you are here!

Thank you for your faithful giving.

Ways to give:

Scan the QR code below or use the “Simply Giving” program to make regular donations from your checking account. Download the form from our website and turn into the office.



The flowers on the altar and the eternal candle are given by Amy Werling in honor of those with Fall birthdays.

The eternal candle is given by Deb Roest.

Announcements

Our **next new members' class** will begin on Wednesday, September 30 at 6:10 p.m. The class will last four weeks. Please let Pastor Bill know if you plan to participate.

Grief share classes begin have started and take place on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. It's not too late to join! Questions? Contact Paula Dusseljee: paula@firstlutheranmuskegon.org or Evie DiPiazza: evie.dipiazza@gmail.com.

Any youth interested in attending the **National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in June 2027** should plan to attend a meeting here today (Sunday) at 6:30 p.m. with their parents. Registration will happen in October. Questions? Contact Laura Lucht at 616-638-2406 or email her at rocketkeep10@hotmail.com.

The **Listening for the Word** book group resumes on Sunday, September 27 at 6:00 p.m., meeting every other week for six weeks. They will read and discuss "The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry" by John Comer, a book about hurrying, technology effects, and restoring balance in life. If you would like to join, see either Sandra Fluharty or Jan Naymick (231-744-5601).

Be sure to **check out our bulletin board** for information about our own **Sandy Hutchin's yoga classes** and **massage therapy** business. Let's be sure to show her our support in her new endeavors!

Wednesday night Bible study will begin on **October 7** in the Upper Education Room at 6:10 p.m. Join us as we take a more in-depth look at the texts for the week.

The **end of the summer** has become a time of year when the church **faces financial struggles**. Please remember our church with your generous gifts.

Middle school and High School Youth: Kick off fall around our fire pit on Sunday, September 27 at 6:00 p.m. with some fellowship and devotion, as well as planning for the upcoming year. S'mores, hot dogs and beverages will be provided. Questions? See Jeff or Laura Lucht.

(more announcements on page 9)

Order of Service

“Grace Isn’t Fair”

Prelude

Order of Confession

(screen)

Hymn “As We Gather at Your Table”

#522 (red)

Greeting

(screen)

Kyrie



C Lord have mer - cy; mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy.



Lord have mer - cy; mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy.

P God is rich in mercy. So great is God’s love for us, that even when we were dead in sin, with Christ, God has made us alive again. By grace you have been saved through faith.



C By grace, by grace, by grace we have been saved through faith.



By grace, by grace, by grace we have been saved through faith.



By grace, by grace, by grace we have been saved.

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Hymn of Praise

(next page)

“Hymn of Praise” – (v.1)

Refrain



[C] We live for the praise of your glo - ry, your glo - ry that fills -



- ev - ery heav-en - ly place. — We live for the praise of your



Fine
glo - ry, and sing to your glo - ri - ous grace.



1. God of pow'r and glo - ry, cre - a - tor of all things, so
2. O liv - ing Christ, God raised you with pow - er from the dead. From
3. O God, so rich in mer - cy, you've cho - sen us in love. The



in - fi-nite your wis-dom and your plan be - yond im - a - gin - ing. Your
age to age you rule with love the Church, your bod - y, you our head. With
Spir - it seals your prom-ise, our re - demp - tion bought with Je - sus' blood. We



pow'r can-not be meas-ured in all of time and space, yet,
pow - er and do - min - ion you reign at God's right hand, and
wor - ship you, we bless you, we praise you for your grace, for



Refrain
you, to us, pro - claimed your peace, the word of truth, a gift of grace.
in the name of Je - sus Christ all heav'n and earth, u - nit - ed, stand.
we, no long - er strang - ers, now, to - geth - er, are your dwell-ing place.

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Salutation

Prayer of the Day

Special Music

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

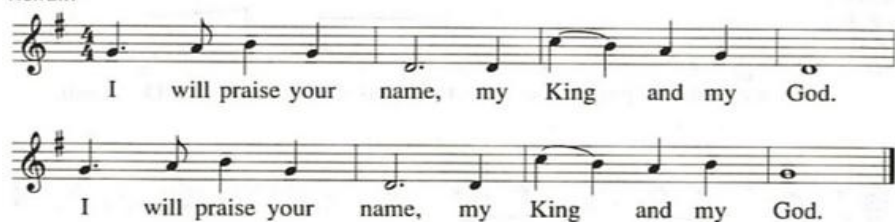
Choir

First Reading

Jonah 3:104:11

Psalm 145

Refrain



Second Reading

Philippians 1:21-30

Gospel Verse “Where Two or Three Are Gathered” (screen)

Gospel Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

Children’s Message/Junior Church/Summer Bible Adventure

This week’s noisy offering will be used for Lutheran World Relief to help offset the cost of shipping our quilts all over the world.

Hymn “We Rejoice in the Grace of God” #151 (purple)

Sermon

**Hymn “By Grace We Have Been Saved” #25 (purple)
(vv. 1, 3-5)**

Announcements/Prayers/Peace

Offering/Offertory Prayer

Great Thanksgiving (screen)

Holy, Holy (screen)

The Lord’s Prayer (screen)

Communion

“All Are Welcome” (screen)

“Here is Bread” #483 (red)

“Amazing Grace” (vv.1-4) #779 (red)

“Borning Cry” #732 (red)

“For the Fruit of All Creation” #679 (red)

Blessing

Post-Communion Song “We the Children of Light”



1. We, the chil-dren of light, _ go forth with a song in our hearts.
2. We, the chil-dren of light, _ go forth with the gos-pel of peace.
3. We, the chil-dren of light, _ go forth with a word of new life. _



We, the chil-dren of light, _ go forth with a song in our hearts.
We, the chil-dren of light, _ go forth with the gos-pel of peace.
We, the chil-dren of light, _ go forth with a word of new life. _



Filled with the Spir - it and marked with the sign, thank - ful to God in the
En - e - mies wel - come as chil - dren of God, the wound-ed are healed by the
Sleep - er a - wake now and rise from the dead, the light of the Sav - ior will



name of Christ, the chil-dren of light go forth with a song in our hearts.
blood of Christ, the chil-dren of light go forth with the gos-pel of peace.
shine on you, the chil-dren of light go forth with a word of new life. _

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Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction/Dismissal “Go in Peace” (screen)



ABC'S OF COOKING

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1206 N. WHITEHALL ROAD, MUSKEGON MI 49445



Join us as we **sing, read, and COOK!**

FOR KIDS AGES 3-5

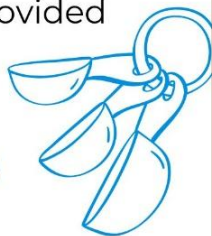
Free books and cooking supplies provided



Wednesdays from
October 21 - November 18



10:00am - 11:30am



REGISTER ONLINE OR CALL
(231) 747-7273 TO SIGN UP



Announcements

We would love to **stay connected to our college age students!** If your child (young adult) is attending a college or trade school locally or out- of-town, please provide us with their current address. AND...if you are interested in writing a note or sending a small care package to our students, see or contact Paula, 231-343-2644 or paula@firstlutheranmuskegon.org.

Ladies! If you are interested in attending our **synod's Fall Gathering**, on Saturday, September 26, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. please contact Paula. The event will be held at Evergreen Resort, 7880 Mackinaw Trail, Cadillac, MI. The cost is \$25.00. A registration form is required.

The local **Habitat for Humanity** affiliate is building three houses, which are located on Catherine Street in Muskegon. Volunteers are needed. Contact Kent Johnson at 231-670-7758 if you would like to help.

Our next **Highway Cleanup** is scheduled for Saturday, September 26. Meet at the church at 10:00 a.m. Bags and 'grabbers' will be provided.

Sign up at the information station if you would like to go to **Meijer Gardens** on Thursday, September 24th for the **Chihuly Glass exhibit**. Look for information on our website and see Deb Roest or Diane Kroll for more information.

Readings for Next Weekend

(for 09-27-26)

First Reading

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalm

Psalm 25:1-9

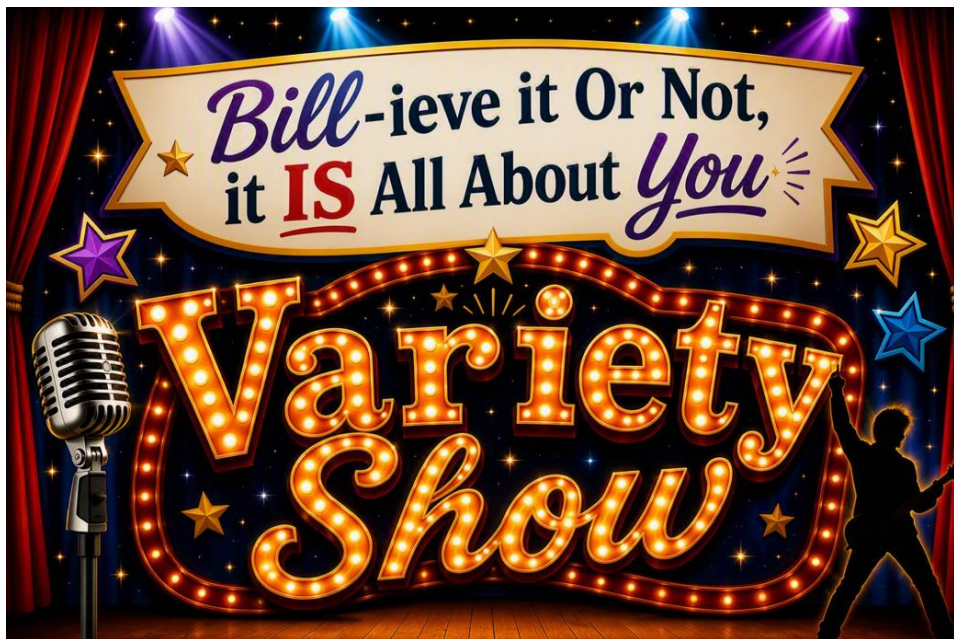
Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:23-32

Save the Date!
You Don't Want to Miss This!



- When? Friday, October 9th
- Time: 6:00 p.m.
- Where? Family Life Center
- Price is Free!

Look for sign-up sheets at either information station, if you would like to attend. There are also be sign-ups asking for desserts and hors d'oeuvres.

This show is going to be retrospective of Pastor Bill's years here at First Lutheran, including his internship. The celebration will be "All About Bill"!

THOSE WHO SERVE 09/17 and 09/20

Assisting Minister	Joel Westerholm
Lector Thurs. 6:00 p.m.	Bill Patterson
Lector Sun.10:00 a.m.	Piper Sweet
Servers Sun.10:00 a.m.	Larry Bringedahl, Tara Plekes
Acolytes Sun.10:00 a.m.	Sofia Besteman
Head Usher	Jeff Cooke
Ushers Sun.10:00 a.m.	Ben Werling, Phil Sielski Tara Plekes
Junior Church	Emma Johnston
Song Leaders	Mary Schoonover, Emily Traub
Sound System	Jeff Thomas
Information Stations	Stan Daszko, Open
Counters	Sandra Fluharty, Diana Duell
Communion Bread	Kim Westerholm
Communion Set-Up	Kim Westerholm
Clean-Up Sun.10:00 a.m.	Kim Westerholm
Coffee Hour Hosts	Marie Webber, Sandra Fluharty
Building Lockers	Fellowship Ministry
Bus Driver Pick Up, Drop Off	Amber Thomas

THOSE WHO SERVE 09/24 and 09/27

Assisting Minister	Joel Dulyea
Lector Thurs. 6:00 p.m.	Joe Labiak
Lector Sun.10:00 a.m.	Amy Werling
Servers Sun.10:00 a.m.	Annette Jack, Lori Archer
Acolytes Sun.10:00 a.m.	Sofia Besteman
Head Usher	Jeff Lucht
Ushers Sun.10:00 a.m.	Adam and Matthew Badley Kathryn Hall
Junior Church	Nate Johnston
Song Leaders	Mike Sweet, Phil Sielski
Sound System	Nate Johnston
Information Stations	Lisa Le, Amy Badley
Counters	Diane Kroll, Jenny Lindell
Communion Bread	Lisa Le
Communion Set-Up	Lisa Le
Clean-Up Sun.10:00 a.m.	Lisa Le
Coffee Hour Hosts	DiPiazas and Ferskis
Building Lockers	Stewardship Ministry
Bus Driver Pick Up, Drop Off	Amber Thomas

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

	Activity	Location
Sunday 09/20/2026		
9:15 a.m.	Faith Formation	Upper Room
9:15 a.m.	Confirmation	Gallery
9:15 a.m.	Youth Choir	Lower Music Room
10:30 a.m.	Worship	Sanctuary & Online
12:00 p.m.	Bells	Sanctuary
4:00 p.m.	Unraveled! Group	Gallery
6:30 p.m.	Meeting for National Gathering	Library
7:00 p.m.	AA	First Floor Education Room
Monday 09/21/2026		
12:00 p.m.	Quilt Group	Quilt Room
3:30 p.m.	Lisa's Music Lessons	Lower Music Room
6:00 p.m.	Overeaters Anonymous	Gallery
7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting	First Floor Education Room
7:00 p.m.	Cardio Drum Class	Family Life Center
Tuesday 09/22/2026 Bulletin Deadline		
9:00 a.m.	Pickleball	Family Life Center
9:00 a.m.	SHOP Group	Gallery
11:00 a.m.	Lisa's Music Lessons	Lower Music Room
4:00 p.m.	Lisa's Music Lessons	Lower Music Room
6:00 p.m.	Grief Share Group	Gallery
6:30 p.m.	Choir	Upper Music Room
9:00 p.m.	Compline	Facebook
Wednesday 09/23/2026		
9:00 a.m.	Pickleball	Family Life Center
9:00 a.m.	Music Together Class	Lower Music Room
2:00 p.m.	Lisa's Music Lessons	Lower Music Room
12:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting	Gallery
Thursday 09/24/2026		
10:00 a.m.	Chihuly Exhibit Outing	Meijer Gardens
12:00 p.m.	Bible Study	Gallery
4:00 p.m.	Burnished Brass Rehearsal	Sanctuary
4:00 p.m.	Lisa's Music Lessons	Lower Music Room
6:00 p.m.	Worship	Sanctuary
7:00 p.m.	Cardio Drum Class	Family Life Center
7:15 p.m.	Stewardship Ministry Meeting	Library
7:15 p.m.	Council Meeting	Gallery
Friday 09/25/2026		
7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting	First Floor Education Room
Saturday 09/26/2026		
9:00 a.m.	Rental – M.B. Liskey	Fellowship Hall
10:00 a.m.	Rental – Highway Cleanup	Meet Here