

**Christ is risen.  
The tomb is empty.  
Now what?**

MAY SERMON SERIES | THE BOOK OF JAMES

PRACTICE  
RESURRECTION

**SUNDAY, MAY 2**  
*JAMES 1:19-27*



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
INSPIRE · EQUIP · REACH



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

INSPIRE. EQUIP. REACH.

**WELCOME!** Whether you are feeling like a sinner or a saint today, you are **WELCOME**. We are just glad you are here.

Please make yourself at home and let us know if there is anything you need. This bulletin will help you navigate worship at First Lutheran and opportunities to serve and connect with our faith community.



## WHAT ARE WE ABOUT?

*We want to make Jesus famous.*

It is as simple as that. Our purpose in gathering here today is to make Jesus known and to know him better. Because if this isn't about Jesus, it isn't worth doing.



**COMMUNION** The sacrament of Communion is celebrated at all services the first and third Sundays and Wednesdays of each month. All are welcome to participate in this act of worship and remembrance. Children

who do not receive communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

**WORSHIP** We believe that all instruments, all voices and all people should praise the Lord. We do not worship a "style," we worship Jesus.



**Traditional Worship** follows a liturgy and the music centers around the organ and piano. The order of worship is inserted into the bulletin.

**9 a.m. Sundays; 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the Sanctuary on the north end of the church**



**CONNECTING** We would love to get to know you better. Peruse our website for ways to connect through service, study, or community-building events. Fill out the blue post-it so we can keep in touch.



**Celebration Worship** uses a praise band and the order of worship and song lyrics are projected on the wall.

**9 & 10:30 a.m. Sundays in the Celebration Center on the west end of the church**



**OFFERING** We give tithes and offerings as an act of worship, obedience, and thanksgiving. If you are a guest, you are not expected or obligated to give.



**BELONGING** Each quarter, we host a new member BELONG class to introduce and welcome new members to First Lutheran. The next class will be held Sunday, May 23. Contact the church office for details.

*The mission of First Lutheran Church is to bring people into a relationship with Jesus Christ and to help them grow in the Christian faith.*

## *May 2, 2021: Practice Resurrection*

### WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

<b>Message</b>	<b>Pastor Laurie Neill</b>
<b>Assisting Pastor</b>	<b>Pastor Marty Tollefson</b>
<b>Music Minister</b>	<b>Michael Olson</b>
<b>Cantor</b>	<b>Miriam Vogel</b>

### PRELUDE:

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness* — Dan Miller  
Michael Olson, organist

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS: *(please stand as you are able)*

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who gives us a new birth into a living hope, who raises us with Christ from death, who fills us with the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us repent of our sin, and claim the promise of God.

*Silence for reflection*

P: Living God,

**C: We confess before you and one another our wrongful ways, our pursuit of perishable things, our own part in crucifying our Lord, Jesus Christ. Forgive us, O God; renew the face of the earth; and give us the assurance that you have rescued us from the power of sin, and have made us alive in the Spirit forever. Amen.**

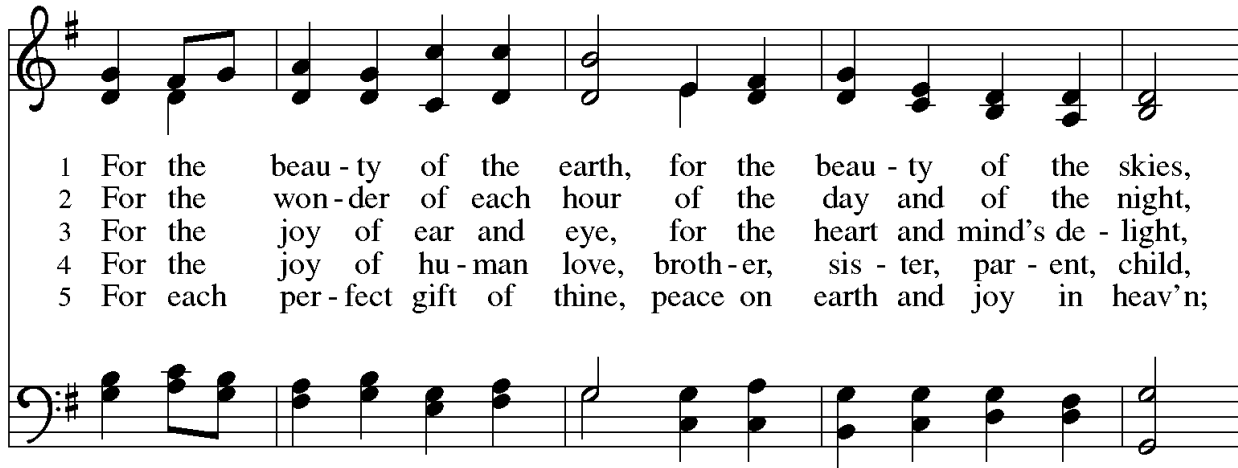
P: Christ suffered once and for all, in order to bring us back to God.

In the name of the risen Lord Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven. Lay aside guilt, put away shame, for you are chosen and precious in God's sight. Live in the marvelous light of Christ.

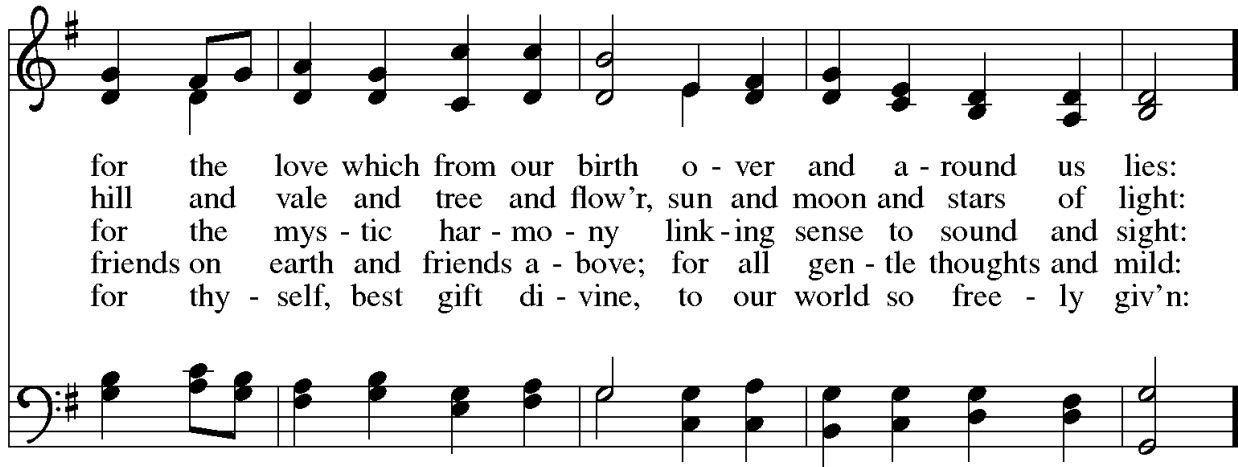
**C: Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: *For the Beauty of the Earth*

(ELW 879)




1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

*Refrain*



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

*(please be seated)*

**VOCAL ENSEMBLE:**

*Day by Day* — Stephen Schwartz, arr. Norman Leyden  
Carole and Mark Richman, Bonnie and Terry Yoney  
Kate Moe, Miriam Vogel, Herb Parker  
David Ferreira, conductor; Michael Olson, accompanist

**GREETING:**

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

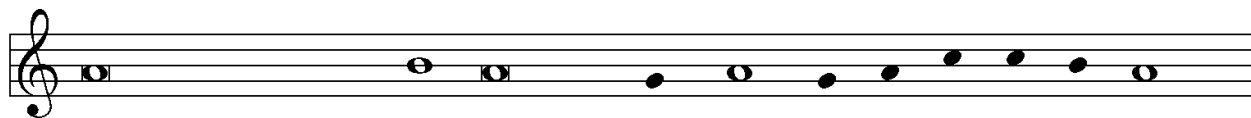
**C: And also with you.**

*(continued on the next page)*

**KYRIE:**



**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



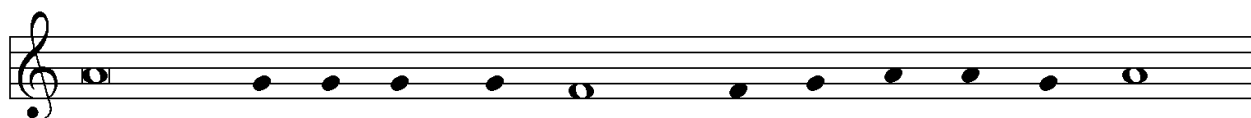
**A** For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



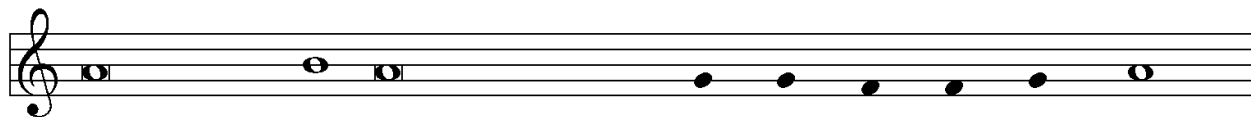
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



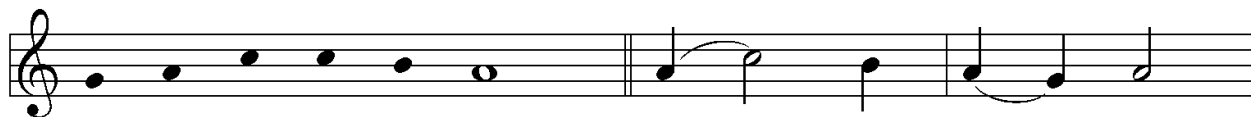
and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE:**



**A** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



**B** Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: Let us pray.

C: **O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*(please stand as you are able)*

**NEW TESTAMENT READING:** James 1:19-27

*(please be seated)*

**MESSAGE:** Pastor Laurie Neill

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (ELW 733)

1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no  
2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and  
3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear

shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-  
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in  
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 hope for to - mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!

*Refrain*

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy




hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un - to me.

**OFFERING:**

**OFFERING OPTIONS**

Thank you for your new or continued generosity towards God's mission at First Lutheran Church. In-person offerings may be dropped in the offering baskets at the entry/exit. Offerings can also be mailed to the church office and we encourage you to use our online giving and texting options.

**Online Giving is an easy and convenient way to "set it and forget it."**

-  **ONLINE GIVING:** [www.flcfargo.org](http://www.flcfargo.org) (from the Quick Links banner select **Donate Now**)
-  **TEXT TO GIVE:** Text 701.354.1495 with the dollar amount you would like to give
-  **MAIL A CHECK:** 619 Broadway, Fargo, ND 58102

*(continued on the next page)*

HYMN: *God of Grace and God of Glory*

(ELW 705)

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -  
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

**APOSTLES' CREED:** *(please stand as you are able)*

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

*(please be seated)*

## **PRAYERS FOR GOD'S PEOPLE**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*(please stand as you are able)*

## **BENEDICTION & THREEFOLD AMEN**

**SENDING HYMN:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

(LBW 564)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**POSTLUDE:**

*For the Beauty of the Earth* — Michael Burkhardt  
Michael Olson, organist



**FIRST  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

## Calling All Closet Cleaners and Miracle Makers...

*This spring,*

First Lutheran is partnering with Lutheran World Relief to make baby care kits to provide the basics to families in need. We invite you to participate!

Visit [lwr.org/babycarekits](http://lwr.org/babycarekits) for more information on kit items and instructions for making cloth diapers from flannel or cotton t-shirts.

Donations can be dropped off at the church Welcome Desk now through Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9.

### Kit items include

- » Lightweight cotton t-shirts (no onesies)
- » Long or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- » Receiving blankets; cloth diapers (flat fold preferred)
- » Jackets, sweaters, or sweatshirts with a hood
- » Socks
- » Hand towels (dark color recommended)
- » Bath-size bars of gentle soap
- » Diaper pins
- » Gently-used cloth diapers

**Questions?** Contact Pr. Stephanie Tollefson,  
[stollefson@flcfargo.org](mailto:stollefson@flcfargo.org), or 701.235.7389.

## NEWS & EVENTS

**Visit our website for more detailed information and to register, [flcfargo.org](http://flcfargo.org).**

### NEW WOMEN'S ONLINE BOOK STUDY

Tuesdays, May 4-June 1, 1:30 p.m.

Thursdays, May 6-June 3, 7 p.m.

Register at [flcfargo.org](http://flcfargo.org) for the Zoom link

For the month of May, we as a church will be looking at the book of James for our sermon series called, "Practice Resurrection." Christ is risen. The tomb is empty. NOW WHAT? James calls us to be doers of the Word, not just hearers. Bob Goff's book, *Love Does*, helps us explore what that looks like. Pick up a copy of the book from your favorite book seller.

Contact Pastor Laurie, [lneill@flcfargo.org](mailto:lneill@flcfargo.org), or 701.235.7389 with any questions.

### COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Sundays, May 2-May 30, 10:15 a.m., Adult Ed Room

Join us for coffee and conversation each Sunday during May to dive into the book of James and further learn what it means to "Practice Resurrection." We'll begin with James chapter 1 on May 2. The chapters are short - we encourage you to read them weekly!

### NEW MEMBER "BELONG" CLASS

Sunday, May 23, 10:15 a.m., CrossTalk Café

*Welcome!* Whether you have been coming to First Lutheran for a long time or are new to us, you are invited to make it official and become a member. Contact Missy Froeber, [mfroeber@flcfargo.org](mailto:mfroeber@flcfargo.org), or 701.235.7389.

**CHURCH OFFICE: 701.235.7389, [info@flcfargo.org](mailto:info@flcfargo.org)**

### OFFICE HOURS / WELCOME DESK:

**MON, TUES, WEDS, THURS 8 a.m.—5 p.m.**

**FRI: 8 a.m.—12 p.m.**

**SUN 8:30 a.m.—12 p.m.**

**Wi-Fi: FLCGuest, password: FirstLutheran619**

## CELEBRATE PRAYER

We as God's people believe in the power of prayer. Please pray for the following who have asked to be prayed for publicly: *Brenda Cummins, Gail Zimprich, Janice Ames, Pam Burley, Paul Hulberg, Orlan Loraas, Marilyn Parker, Marlene Young, Wes Briggs, Shawn Orvedal, Doug Aseby, Barb Orvedal, Charlotte Nielson, Nick DeNault, Gary Helland, Gerald Sauvageau, Janice Kloster, Darlene Birkholz, Warren Birkholz, Tammy Birkholz, and George.*

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Kids are an important part of FLC! In-person classes will resume in Fall 2021. Online classes and at-home resources will continue through the school year.

**Nursery (0-5 yrs):** Closed until further notice (COVID precaution)

**Kids at First (age 3-4th grade):** at-home FLOCK Magazine and FLOCK online resources

**56ers (5-6th grade):** Wednesdays, 6 p.m., online Zoom, last class is May 12

### Servant Leadership Academy/Confirmation

**(7-8th grade):** Wednesdays, 7 p.m., online Zoom, last class is May 5

**Youth Group (9-12th grade):** Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Great Hall, last meeting is May 12

## YOUR MINISTRY TEAM

**Pr. Corey Bjertness**

[cbjertness@flcfargo.org](mailto:cbjertness@flcfargo.org)

**Pr. Laurie Neill**

[lneill@flcfargo.org](mailto:lneill@flcfargo.org)

**Pr. Stephanie Tollefson**

[stollefson@flcfargo.org](mailto:stollefson@flcfargo.org)

**Pr. Marty Tollefson**

[mtollefson@flcfargo.org](mailto:mtollefson@flcfargo.org)

**Rollie Johnson**

[rjohnson@flcfargo.org](mailto:rjohnson@flcfargo.org)

**Shelly Erickson**

[serickson@flcfargo.org](mailto:serickson@flcfargo.org)

**Erik Carlson**

[ecarlson@flcfargo.org](mailto:ecarlson@flcfargo.org)

**Marlee Robertson**

[mrobertson@flcfargo.org](mailto:mrobertson@flcfargo.org)

**Polly Kloster**

[pkloster@flcfargo.org](mailto:pkloster@flcfargo.org)

*View the entire staff online at [flcfargo.org](http://flcfargo.org)*

### Council Officers:

Sindy Keller, President

701.238.2088

Gary Haugo, Vice President

701.261.5172

Tracy Farmer, Treasurer

701.356.0324

Chris Kraemer, Secretary

701.371.5718

Gary Inman, Past Chair

701.371.1563

## THIS WEEK

### Sunday, May 2 - Communion Sunday

- 9 a.m. Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
- 9 a.m. Contemporary Worship, Celebration Center
- 10 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, Great Hall
- 10:15 a.m. Coffee and Conversation (book of James), Adult Ed Room
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship, Celebration Center
- 12:30 p.m. Open Doors For All Nations Worship, CrossTalk Café
- 2 p.m. Vonnie Halstenson's Students in Recital, Celebration Center

### Monday, May 3

- 9 a.m. Quilters Ministry Meeting, Fellowship Hall
- 1 p.m. Staff Meeting, Adult Ed Room

### Tuesday, May 4

- 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Fellowship Hall
- 8 a.m. Helping Hands, Fellowship Hall
- 9 a.m. MomTalk Spring Brunch, Great Hall
- 1 p.m. Knit and Crochet Group, Bethany on 42nd
- 1:30 p.m. Women's Book Study, online Zoom
- 5:30 p.m. Health Ministry Meeting, online Zoom
- 6 p.m. Tae Kwon Do, Gym

### Wednesday, May 5

- 12:45 p.m. Organ Recital by Michael Olson, Sanctuary
- 1:30 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship, Chapel/Great Hall
- 6 p.m. *Face-to-Face* Online Worship, [flcfargo.org](http://flcfargo.org) and Facebook
- 6 p.m. 56ers, online Zoom
- 7 p.m. SLA/Confirmation, online Zoom
- 8 p.m. Youth Group, Great Hall

### Thursday, May 6

- 12 p.m. Small Group Bible Study, Heritage Room
- 7 p.m. Women's Book Study, online Zoom

### Friday, May 7

- 12 p.m. Church/Church Office Closed

### Saturday, May 8

No Scheduled Activities

### Sunday, May 9

- 9 a.m. Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
- 9 a.m. Contemporary Worship, Celebration Center
- 10 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, Great Hall
- 10:15 a.m. Coffee and Conversation (book of James), Adult Ed Room
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship, Celebration Center
- 12:30 p.m. Open Doors For All Nations Worship, CrossTalk Café

## FAMILY LIFE SUMMER EVENTS

First Lutheran's summer theme is FLC @. Because where you are @ is where God is @! Check out where Kids @ First and the Family Life Team will take you this summer.

- **FLC @ Harvest Hope Farm**, June 12, 9-11:30 a.m., preschool - kindergarten
- **FLC @ Rusty K Ranch**, June 28-July 1, 8:30 a.m.-noon, kids who have completed kindergarten-4th grade
- **FLC @ Fargo Basketball Academy for Holy Hoops**, July 26-27, 9 a.m.-noon, kids who have completed 1st-6th grade
- **FLC @ Camp Wilderness**, August 8-10, kids who have completed 5th-6th grade

Visit [flcfargo.org](http://flcfargo.org) to register. Questions?: contact Marlee Robertson, [mrobertson@flcfargo.org](mailto:mrobertson@flcfargo.org).

## NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

Sunday, May 9: James, chapter 2.

## BAPTISM

Today we celebrate the baptism of **Brooks Lehmann**, son of McKenzie and Zachary Lehmann.

## SUPPORT FLC MINISTRIES

- **Online Giving:** [flcfargo.org](http://flcfargo.org) (from the Quick Links banner, select "Donate Now")
- **Text to Give:** Text 701.354.1495 with the dollar amount you would like to give
- **Mail a Check:** 619 Broadway N, Fargo, ND 58102

## BROADCAST SCHEDULE

- **Online:** Sundays 9 & 10:30 a.m., [flcfargo.org](http://flcfargo.org) and Facebook.
- **Radio:** Sundays 9 a.m., 970AM and 93.1FM.
- **TV:** Fargo: Sundays 1:30 p.m., Tuesdays 6:30 p.m. (channels Midco 68, Sparklight 1068); Moorhead: Sundays 5 p.m., Tuesdays 7 p.m. (channels Midco 99, Sparklight 69).