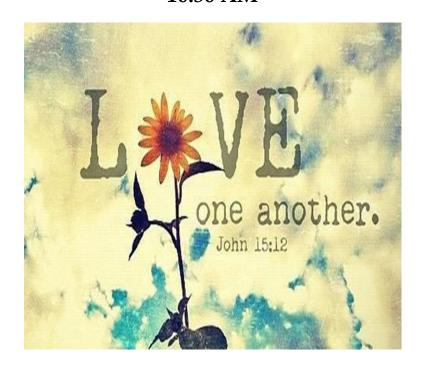
First Evangelical Lutheran Church The Sixth Sunday of Easter May 5, 2024 10:30 AM



Our Identity

- We are a diverse, welcoming, loving, grace-filled community.
- We are a safe place of acceptance and forgiveness.
- It feels good to be here.

The Rev. Matthew L. Miller, Pastor

320 South State Street , PO Box 308 Lexington, NC 27292 336.248.6018 Phone www.flclex.org

Now The Feast and Celebration Holy Communion

ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE!

We are so glad you are able to worship with us today. We hope you feel the love of God and the friendly warmth of our church family. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to consider First Evangelical Lutheran Church.

+ + GATHERING + +

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Jesus and His Love"
FLC Handbells

Benjamin A. Tucker

We turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the Altar, reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence and love of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.
- Amen.
- P Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

(We pause for reflection.)

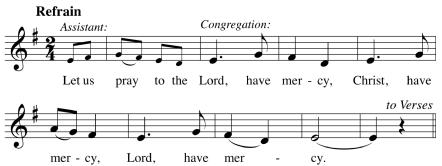
- P God of grace and glory,
- you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.
- P Rejoice with all creation around God's throne! The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride. Jesus Christ loves you and # frees you from your sins by his blood. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!
- Amen!
- P Christ is risen!
- **9** He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P 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.

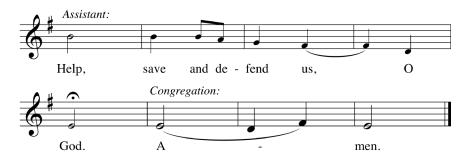
KYRIE

A In peace, in peace,



Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)



HYMN OF PRAISE



HYMN OF PRAISE (continued)



PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray.
- P O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

NOISY OFFERING — Proceeds will benefit the Humane Society.

+ + WORD + +

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

L The word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 98 (read responsively)

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²O LORD, you have made known your victory,

you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;

lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,

with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,

the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸Let the rivers clap their hands,

and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.

The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

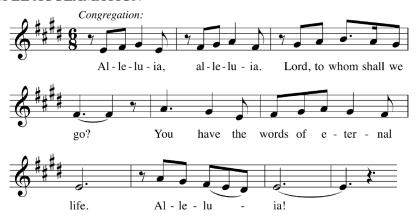
¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

- P The holy gospel according to St. John the fifteenth chapter.
- Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ⁹"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

12"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

The Rev. Matthew L. Miller

A BRIEF MOMENT OF REFLECTION

HYMN: (Bulletin, pg. 19) "Jesus Loves Me!"

Jesus Loves Me Anna B. Warner

APOSTLES' CREED

- P God has made us his people through our baptism in Christ. Living together in trust and hope let us confess our faith.
- 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 to the dead. 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.

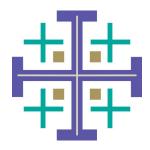
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(after each petition)...... God of grace,

- hear our prayer.
- P Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
- C Amen.

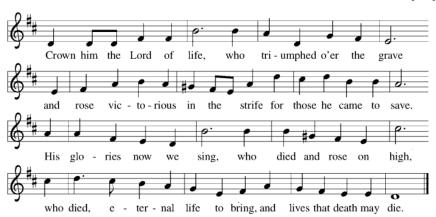
PEACE

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- And also with you.



PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

"Crown Him the Lord of Life"



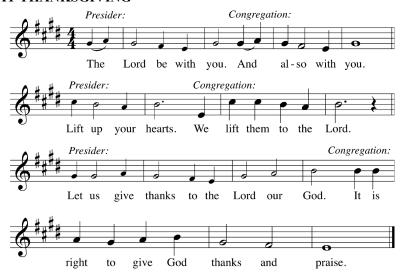
OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A Let us pray. Risen One,
- **Q** you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.



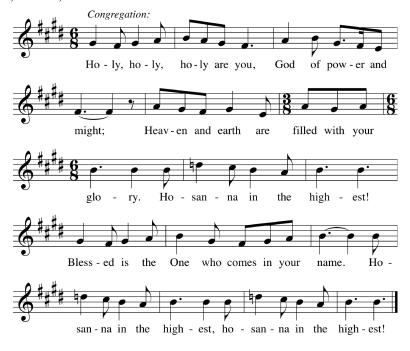
+ + MEAL + +

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P It is our duty and delight . . . We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

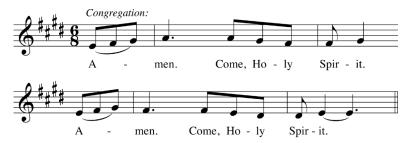
EUCHARISTIC ACCLAMATION

P Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.



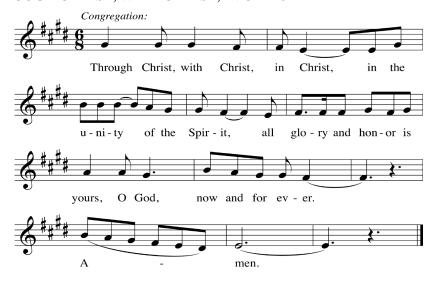
The minister continues with the Eucharistic Prayer

P Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.



P Gather our prayers with those of the apostles, prophets, martyrs, and all the faithful who have gone before us, and unite them with the unceasing prayer of the One who lives in us and in whom we live, Jesus Christ.

THROUGH CHRIST, WITH CHRIST, IN CHRIST



P Make us bold, O Merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Sung)



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

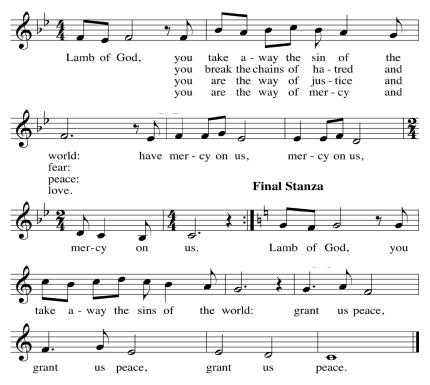
☑ Thanks be to God!

All are welcome to the table to receive Holy Communion. If you are unable to receive communion at the altar, please notify an usher so that communion can be brought to you.

Please refrain from conversation during the distribution of Holy Communion in respect for those who may be in prayer.

If you prefer to receive a **gluten-free** communion wafer, please tell the minister or assisting minister as you are served. White grape juice is also available at each wine station in the center ring.

LAMB OF GOD



MUSIC DURING COMMUNION — A time for quiet reflection.



TABLE BLESSING

- May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.
- C Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

- A Let us pray. Shepherding God,
- **Q** you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

+ + SENDING + +

SENDING OF COMMUNION

- A Eternal God, whose glory is revealed in the crucified and risen Lord, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our sisters and brothers who are unable to be with us today. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion in the body and blood of your Son, that we may all feast upon your abundant love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

BLESSING

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- **©** Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.
- Amen.

During the sending hymn, we face the cross as it passes to the rear of the sanctuary, it reminds us, it is Christ who leads and calls us into God's World to bring God's healing love as we carry out his mission and ministry.

HYMN: (Bulletin, pg. 20) "We Know That Christ Is Raised"

Engelberg
John B. Geyer

DISMISSAL

- Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
- **☑** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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+ + ANNOUNCEMENTS + +

SERVING DURING WORSHIP — May 5, 2024

Assisting Minister: Aaron Barr

Communion Stewards: Jim Lovelace, Rebecca Moretz **Communion Preparation:** Don and Debi Henderson

Acolyte: Sydney England Crucifer: Tim Conrad Lector: Darrell Parks

Ushers: Danny and Carol Leonard Sound System: John Conrad

SERVING DURING WORSHIP — May 12, 2024

Assisting Minister: Danny Leonard

Communion Stewards: Jim Lovelace, Rebecca Moretz Communion Preparation: Don and Debi Henderson

Acolyte: Sydney England Crucifer: Tim Conrad Lector: Darrell Parks

Ushers: Pat Richardson, Carol Leonard

Sound System: John Conrad

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers at the Altar are given by Dalane Kitzman to the Glory of almighty God and in celebration of Debra's birthday on April 23.

SCRIPTURES – May 12, 2024

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1

1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19

PRAYER LIST

Please take a moment to carefully review the prayer list. If there are changes or updates that may be made, please notify the church office.

WE ASK FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE

We have been experiencing a significant increase of doors being found unlocked. If you come into the church building for any reason throughout the week, please take that extra moment to be certain the doors are locked as you leave.

PERICOPE

Join us for Pericope at 9:30 AM on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at Southern Lunch.

WEDNESDAY DEVOTION

Join Pastor Matt each Wednesday for devotions on Facebook Live at 10:00 AM. Join the devotion here: http://www.facebook.com/flclex

AGAPE CIRCLE HOSTING AN EVENT — This afternoon!

The Agape Circle will gather at Pick and Paint Ceramics this afternoon at 2:00 PM. Please direct any questions to Sabrina Conrad.

CHOIR AND HANDBELLS

- The Handbell Choir will rehearse on Wednesday, May 8, at 6:30 PM.
- The Chancel Choir will rehearse on Sunday, May 12, at 10:00 AM.

BEER AND BIBLE

Join us at Goose and the Monkey at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 6:00 PM. All are welcome to participate!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Thursday, May 9, 2024, in the Family Life Center. Newcomers are always welcome!

PASTORS PANTRY

We are collecting **instant mashed potatoes** during the month of May. Please place your donations on the rack on the Chapel hallway off the Narthex.

LOOKING AHEAD:

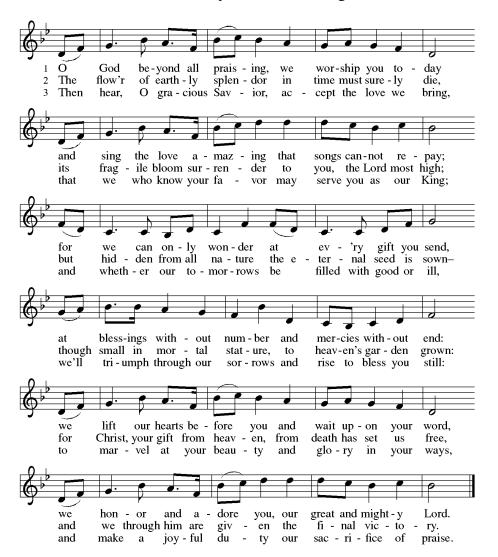
• Mary Circle: May 14, 11:30 AM

Clothes Closet Open: May 18, 9:00 AM
Worship Team: May 20, 11:00 AM
Beer and Bible: May 21, 6:00 PM

• Prayer Shawl Ministry: May 23, 7:00 PM

Stewardship and Attendance April 28, 2024	
Attendance	77
Current	\$1,971.00
Youth	\$10.00
Building Fund	\$45.00
Clothing Closet	\$100.00
Pastor's Pantry	\$20.00
TOTAL	\$2,146.00

O God beyond All Praising



Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996 Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

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Jesus Loves Me!



Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt. Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

We Know That Christ Is Raised



Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932 Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924 Text © John B. Geyer.



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Let us remember in prayer:

CHURCH FAMILY:

Christopher Bartholomew

Sam Campbell

Lorraine Carlson

Jean Conrad Darstein

Craven Ford

Rick Foster

Norma Heath

Matt Hogrefe

Dan Huber

Steve Ketner

Katie Lemly Lewis McMillan

Tracy Miller

Frank and Pat Mills

Willie Ruth Pless

Bob Redwine

Barbara Carlson Romaine

Joe Romaine

Ron Sink

Gracie Shepherd

Jody Shepherd

Dan Smith

Debbie and Terry Triplett

Laura Turlington

Deborah Wertman

Pr. Bob Young

LOVED ONES, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS:

Tonya Adams (Friend of David Smith)

Larry and Donna B. (friends of John and Sabrina Conrad)

Richard and Toni Berish (Brother and sister-in-law of the Wertman family)

Brad, Melody, and Erick Bizzell (Son and family of Susan Bizzell)

Vickie Bliss (friend of Bill and Patsie Baker)

Mary Brink (Niece of Pauletta Conrad)

Anne Burkhart (friend of Pam Mabry)

Mike Byrd (Friend of Bob Sink)

Eula Carroll (Joe Carroll's mother)

Elaine Childress (friend of Sabrina Conrad)

Paul and Dawn Cohen (friends of the Wertmans)

Paul and Carolina Conrad (Larry Conrad's aunt and

Don and Jackie Craft (parents of Rebecca Moretz) Margie Coggins (friend of Kelly Newsome and FLC)

Amy and Wes Cups

Greg D'Ambrosio (friend of John Conrad)

Robert Dasch (Father of Keith Dasch)

Connie Dillard (friend of the Wertman family)

Marina Dunaway& family (friends of Karen Riggs)

Juan Escobedo (cousin of Amanda Hathcock)

Danny Fine (Lynn Smith's brother) John Fisher (Bleasha Carroll's uncle)

Abby Fobes (friend of Bing Grubb)

Kay Fortner (friend of Dalane Kitzman)

Marc Frve (friend of Craig and Robin Deal)

The Greer Family (friends of Karen Riggs)

Mike and Sharon Heffner (friends of John and

Sabrina Conrad)

Marion Hibbett (Rebecca Moretz' aunt)

Kenny Hirsch (friend of Rick Grubb)

Capt. Matthew Honeycutt (friend of the Carroll and

Scott Family)

Scott Hummel (friend of the Turlingtons) **Betty Jordan** (friend of the Carlsons)

Larry Kerns (Tim Welther's husband)

Bob and Karen Kernstine (friends of Sabrina

Conrad)

Mandy Kiser and son, Sammy Jones (friends of Patti Grant)

Thomas and Toni L. (friends of John and Sabrina Conrad)

Larry Leonard (John Leonard's brother)

Franklin Mabry

Mandy Marshall (Debbie Triplett's daughter)

Pam and Madison McDaniel (friends of Bob Sink) **Donna Miller** (friend of Kelsey Lambert)

Sarah Montross (friend of the Turlingtons)

Matthew and Faith Moretz (nephew and wife of Rebecca Moretz)

Dermont Morris (friend of Ken Clodfelter)

Todd Morris (father of Michael Gauldin)

Becky Osborne (friend of Karen Riggs)

Barbara Ann Owen (Laura Turlington's aunt) Linda Owings (friend of John and Sabrina Conrad)

Hap Palmer (Pauletta Conrad's brother-in-law)

Mickey Persinger (Tracy Miller's cousin) Brenda Safrit (Beth Huber's cousin)

Kim Schlueter (Trisha Reichard's mother)

Robin Schuster (friend of FLC)

Doug Sink (Bob Sink's brother)

Peggy Sipe (mother of Pr. Ray Sipe) Mark Sives (Bleasha Carroll's cousin)

Aubrev Smith (Dan Smith's dad)

David Smith (Nephew of Bob Sink) Sherry Snyder (friend of Lynn Smith)

Marilee Strasser (friend of Bill and Patsie Baker)

Johnny and Pat Straughn (friends of Sylvia Sink) **Denny Swimley** (brother-in-law of Scott and Deborah

Wertman) Jackie Taylor (Lorraine Carlson's sister)

Juliet Teachey (great-granddaughter of Jon and Celie Lough)

Stephen Thompson (Danny Thompson's father)

Mary and Doug Walser (friends of Sylvia Sink) Charlie Ward (friend of Kim Odum)

Jennifer Way (Sylvia Sink's niece)

Jon Whalen (Denny Whalen's brother)

Mary Louise Wilkerson (Friend of FLC)

Devone Wohl (Dalane Kitzman's sister) Nathaniel Wohl (Dalane Kitzman's nephew)

Ken Woisin (Lorraine Carlson's brother)

The families of those who have passed to life eternal:

Lucy Finley (Mary Beth Farris' mother and Mary Kate Farris' grandmother)

Billy McGuinn (friend of Lewis and Connie McMillan)

Expectant Parents:

Eric and Ashlev Carroll Kathleen Lockwood and Munashe Magarira JJ and Trisha Reichard Jeb and Hailee (Moretz) Smith

