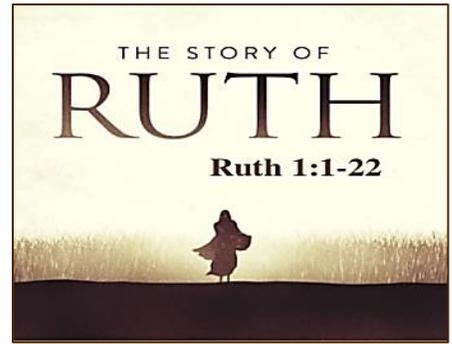


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FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



August 15, 2021

Time after Pentecost

I've been meaning to ask...where do we go from here?

RINGING OF BELL

PRELUDE *Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown – We Walk by Faith*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAND

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: If you come into this place with a hope of growing deeper,
with the hope of connecting, with the hope of glimpsing God,

**C: and if all of those things take place, and your spirit is moved, and
you know God is near, and you feel more than lucky for the gift of faith,**

L: and then the service comes to an end, and it's time for you to leave,
and you ask yourself,

C: "Where do we go from here?"

L: Then I would say to you, "Go out into the world to love and share
and to learn, but come back soon, because this is the beginning.

C: This is only the beginning.

L: So come on in. Fill your cup here. Be present here.
God is here." Let us worship Holy God.

** Congregation is encouraged to use hymnals for note reading*

GATHERING SONG: *We Walk by Faith*

vss. 1,2,3 ELW #635

- 1 **We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."**
- 2 **We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;
But in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"**
- 3 **Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
To call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.**

CONFESSION—TRUTH TELLING AND FORGIVENESS

P: When we pray together the prayer of confession it allows us to claim that we are works in progress, and there is beauty in that. You don't have to be perfect here. You don't have to have it all figured out here. You just have to show up with your messy, beautiful self, and be honest. Let's be here as we pray this prayer of confession together...

C: Holy God, we are naturals when it comes to stalling out. We reach a certain point in the relationship, in the conversation, in our faith, and then we stall. We buy property on the top of the plateau and build a house there, destined to never dig deeper or climb higher. Forgive us for giving up on the things that matter. Forgive us for confusing the plateau with the mountain top. Forgive us for talking the easy way out instead of doing the hard work of curiosity, relationship-building, vulnerability and connection. Inspire us to see new paths for where can we go from here. With hope and honesty we pray. Amen.

P: Family of faith, we are works in progress, but we are works in progress designed, created and claimed by God. No matter what you have done or left undone this week, today is a new start. Hear and believe the good news,

ALL: God is with me on the mountain top, and God is with me on the plateau. I am loved, claimed and forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY *We pray together*

Holy God, we know that you are always speaking – through strangers and friends, through sunrise and sunset, through acts of kindness and feelings that stir hope awake in us. We know that you speak through dreams and prayer, through a still, small voice and the bursts of overwhelming joy. We know that you are always speaking, but we also know that we are inclined to miss it. Settle our spirits now to hear your word fully. AMEN.

SIT

READING: RUTH 1:1-22

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. ² The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. ³ But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴ These took Moabite wives; the name of one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there for about ten years, ⁵ both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons or her husband.

⁶ Then [Naomi] started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had had consideration for his people and given them food. ⁷ So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. ⁸ But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, 'Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me.' ⁹ The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband.' Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. ¹⁰ They said to her, 'No, we will return with you to your people.' ¹¹ But Naomi said, 'Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands?' ¹² Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, ¹³ would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me.' ¹⁴ Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

SIT

OFFERING OF GIFTS & OFFERING PRAYER

P. Faithful God,

All: thank you that you give the gift of abundant, eternal life. You have said that you are a Good Father who gives us good gifts. Your generosity overflows to us. Everything we have is a gift from you. As we bring our offerings to you, we give back to you from the abundant blessings you have given us. May our gifts be acceptable in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS

INVITATION TO THE TABLE *One of the holiest things about sharing a meal together...*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION – LORD’S PRAYER

COMMUNION – COMMUNION BLESSING

BLESSING

P: Family of faith, as you leave this place may God grant you the curiosity to counter assumptions, the vulnerability to befriend, the bravery to speak the truth, the wisdom to listen, the strength to ask for help, the resiliency to choose love, even when it’s hard, and the awareness of the Holy Spirit always beside you.

All: Amen.

STAND

HYMN

On Our Way Rejoicing

ELW # 537

1 **On our way rejoicing gladly let us go.
Christ our Lord has conquered; vanquished is the foe.
Christ without, our safety; Christ within, our joy;
Who if we be faithful, can our hope destroy?**

REFRAIN **On our way rejoicing; as we forward move,
Hearken to our praises, O blest God of love!**

2 **Unto God the Father joyful songs we sing;
Unto God the Savior thankful hearts we bring;
Unto God the Spirit bow we and adore,
On our way rejoicing now and evermore. REFRAIN..**

RINGING OF BELL

DISMISSAL

L: In the name of the Great Connector – Love itself – go in peace.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Everywhere I Go* NATALIE SLEETH

PARTICIPANTS

PASTOR: Julie L. Rogness ASSISTANT: Leah Berg

MUSIC STAFF: Tammy Hanson–Organ; Annette Thunhorst–Piano/Keyboard

TECH CREW: Jim Braaten, Steve Johnson, Bill Lewis, Dan Rogness, Holly Aldorfer, Heidi Haugen

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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HYM OF THE DAY *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer* PUBLIC DOMAIN

CLZG HYMN *On Our Way Rejoicing*, ELW #537 PUBLIC DOMAIN

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PRELUDE¹ *Come O Thou Traveler Unknown*, arr.for piano by Jason Krug, Music © 2012 Lorenz Publishing Company [CHURCH PIANIST 7-12]

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REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sid Strandemo, Faye Marcuson, Ron Grose, Lila Cole, Mona Boomgarden, Pat Rollie, Joan Forsberg, the Family of Sherman Benson.

C A L E N D A R

Sun/Aug 15	9 am	WORSHIP – In-Person & Live-Streamed
Sun/Aug 15	1-3 pm	Mini-Vacation Bible Camp
Sun/Aug 15	7 pm	AA
Wed/Aug 18	6 pm	WED WORSHIP – outdoors, weather permitting
Wed/Aug 18	7 pm	Council
Thu/AUG 19	7 pm	AA
Sat/Aug 21	--	Burial for Kathy & Bob Ersland
Sun/Aug 22	9 am	WORSHIP – In-Person & Live-Streamed
Sun/Aug 22	7 pm	AA

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
309 Forest St., Kenyon, MN 55946

August 15, 2021
Worship Bulletin



+ + +
We Walk by Faith
+ + +