First Lutheran Church Newsletter



Sunday Service

21st Sunday after Pentecost

With Pastor Schneider
9:30am Fellowship
10:00am Worship



<u>This Week at First</u>

Worship: 21st Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Isaiah 45:1-7

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 22:15-22

<u>In-Person Worship</u>

<u>Sunday – October 18 , 2026</u>

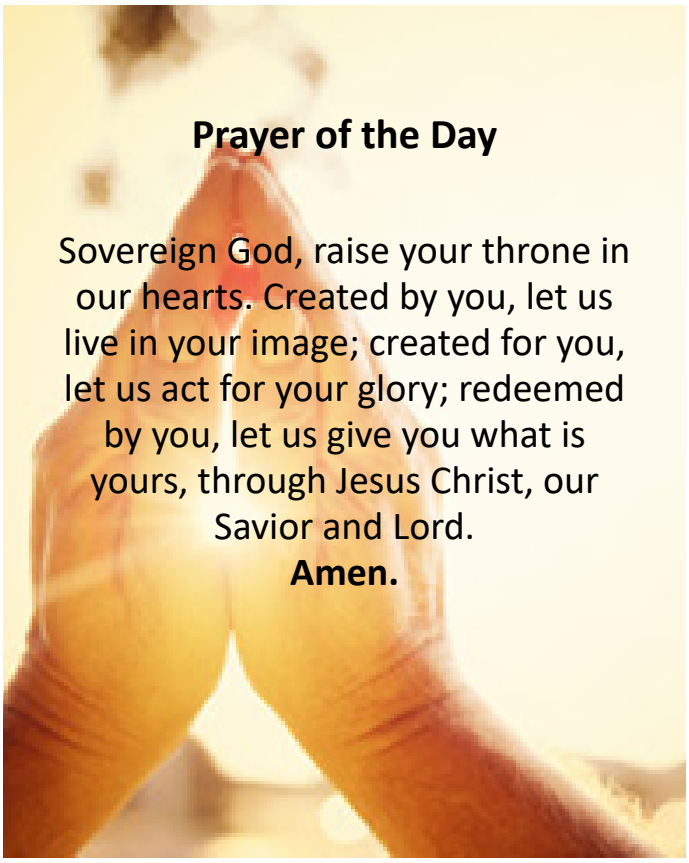
10:00am - Lutheran Partnership Worship at St. Paul Lutheran Church in North Robinson

<u>Tuesday, October 20, 2026</u>

3:00pm - Prayer Shawl Outreach

<u>Saturday, October 24, 2026</u>

9:00am - Community Breakfast



Prayer of the Day

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



Pastor Shawn Schneider

Ponderings on Last Sunday's Sermon



A Tux Won't Do It!

The "Parable of the Badly Dressed Wedding Guest" (more commonly known as the Parable of the Wedding Banquet" (Matt. 22:1-14) does not end well for said guest. The king asks, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' (Matt. 22:12) The man is speechless, and the king suddenly cries, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' (Matt. 22:13)

What can I say? I tried to warn you that it didn't end well. If you're anything like me, then perhaps you're wondering, "What, exactly, does this wedding robe look like?" As our comic suggests, Augustine thought it was charity. And Gregory the Great suggested its close cousin, love. Our dear friend, Martin Luther, will have nothing of it - clothing ourselves in charity and love sounds an awful lot like works righteousness for Luther.

In a sermon first printed in 1523, Luther, to no surprise, claims "the wedding garment is Christ himself." Love and charity result from being clothed in Christ; they are not the garments themselves. Luther explains: "the garment gives forth a luster of itself, that is, faith in Christ bears fruit of itself, namely, love which works through faith in Christ."

Luther goes so far as to suggest that what the robe covers is "filth, like [...] slime, pus, and ulcers..." In this case, it is obvious why king would so readily notice someone without a robe! And so obvious, to us, why we need the robe - that is - Jesus Christ.

I will conclude this short pondering about this very difficult parable just as Luther concluded his sermon:

Let us pray to God for grace, that none of us may come to such a precious and glorious marriage feast without a wedding garment.

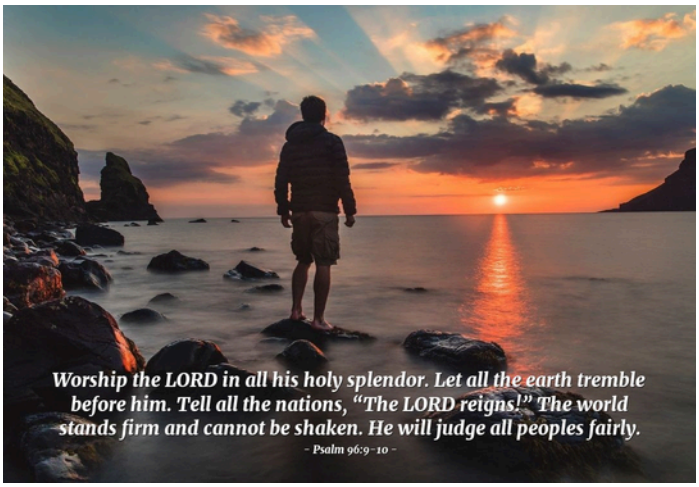
That is to say, let us pray that Jesus Christ is always with us.

If you have comments or questions, would like to talk, or desire a visit, please call or e-mail either me or the church office.
Peace,
Pastor Shawn Schneider
937-726-3831
pastor@flcgalion.com



Sharon Benedum - October 22
Dianne Naufzinger - October 24



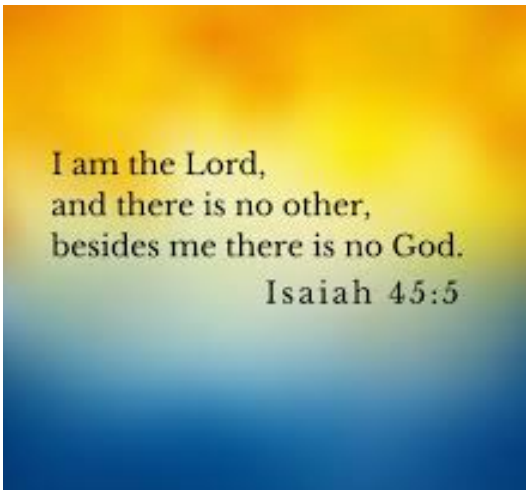


We are praying for:
Family and friends of Doug May, Sue McElhatten, Phil Vanderkooi, Ashley (Cecil) Finley, Holly Bomer, Kayla Bohland, Kevin McNeal, Joe Kokiko, Patty Owens, Tyler McMillan, and Clint and Barb Howe

Long Term Prayer List: Joe Chiko, Mr. Robert, Tonya McElree, Rick Stone, Pastor Tim Keeler, Joe Beaty, Marlene Leme, Chloe, Kaden Allerding, Haylee Lilly, Jean Henry, Tina Fuson, Ed Smith, Linda Kahler, and Bobbie Jo Seighman

Homebound, Assisted Living, or Limited Mobility: Chuck Robinson, Betty Sargel, Jay DeNise, Jack Harpst, Jr., Millie Haas, Brenda Haas, Janet Hammermiller, Phyllis Straka, and Fred Watkins

To add someone to our prayer list or prayer chain, call the church office or email us at pastor@flcgalion.com



Talk To Us
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Puzzle of the Week

Psalm 96

G R C T S W Y P R A I S E A Y A R
R F I V L I T R O D N E L P S E Z
E R F F H Z N D L E G M O G J D O
A N Z R L T J G T P T N W O V B A
T H Z E X O G K E A Y M I M Y R B
K U O C D J Y N K T I C G A V T P
U W W X L O J N E A E J R R E O F
A S S M V C O U L R H V G V R I P
S W Q C T I P C B E T O R E A M W
C D D H T W O W A I U S P L L K M
S U E A I R O V O M L M M O C R A
K O E E P Y E R C R X A F U E B J
T R N A D N C Y Y N T S N S D Y E
C V T G S S L B G R S H L T N R S
W I T P I H S R O W O H Y T X O T
Q S A N C T U A R Y H L X J B B Y
K G U T S S E N I L O H G W U K S

SANCTUARY
HOLINESS
REJOICE
DECLARE
GREAT
MARVELOUS
SPLENDOR
WORSHIP
WORTHY
DEEDS
CREATION
STRENGTH
MAJESTY
PRAISE
SONG
JUBILANT
PROCLAIM
HEAVENS
GLORY
SING