

# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

109 West Third Avenue, Warren, Pennsylvania

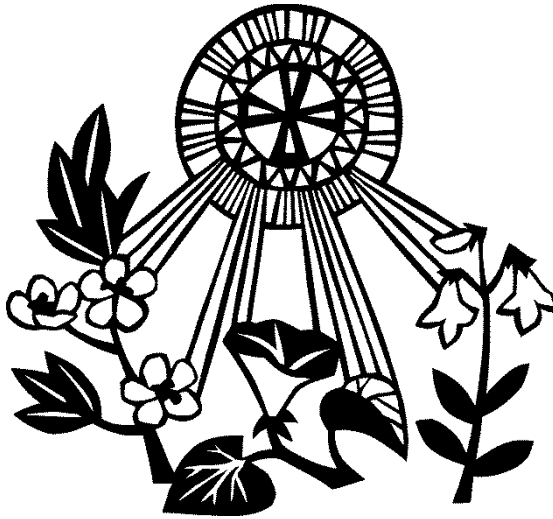
Phone: 814/723-6450

Email Office: [office@flcwarren.com](mailto:office@flcwarren.com)

Website: [www.flcwarren.com](http://www.flcwarren.com)

The Rev. Jeffrey B. Ewing, Pastor, [pastor@flcwarren.com](mailto:pastor@flcwarren.com)

Jack Hemink, Minister of Music



*Setting III*  
*May 10, 2026*

*“All are accepted and affirmed just as we are, with all our differences and gifts – unique children of God. No matter your race, ethnicity, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental abilities, social or economic status, we have a place for you. We commit ourselves to embracing the work of anti-racism, anti-homophobia, social & economic justice, and environmental care. As part of the whole complex, colorful spectrum of God’s creation in all its diversity we are all one in Christ!”*



## ***Land Acknowledgement Statement***

*As we gather in this place, we acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Seneca Nation (Onödowá'ga:'). We remember that we also share this land with other parts of God’s good creation: plants, birds, and animals. May we be good stewards and good neighbors.*

Scan for online giving.



## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



*Please let the lighting of the altar candles signal our time  
to quietly prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*

**PRELUDE** [8AM]  
[11AM]

*Children of the Heavenly Father  
Gaudeamus (Let Us Be Joyful)*  
Joyful Sounds Handbell Choir  
Denise Person, director

Edward Boughton  
Arnold Sherman

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,  
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:  
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*).

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness  
who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,  
and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

## \*GREETING

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

*Congregation:* **And also with you.**

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

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

*Refrain*

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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



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

*Refrain*



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



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

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

#### **FIRST LESSON: Acts 17:22-31**

*In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the "unknown god" whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.*

<sup>22</sup> Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. <sup>23</sup> For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup> From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup> so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup> For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we, too, are his offspring.'

<sup>29</sup> "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 66:8-20** *Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard. (Ps. 66:8)*



Bless our God, you peo - ples; let the sound of praise be heard.

Psalm 66:8

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress  
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- <sup>8</sup> Bless our <sup>1</sup> God, you peoples;  
let the sound of <sup>1</sup> praise be heard.
- <sup>9</sup> **Our God has kept us a- <sup>1</sup> mong the living  
and has not allowed our <sup>1</sup> feet to slip. R**
- <sup>10</sup> For you, O God, have <sup>1</sup> tested us;  
you have tried us just as sil- <sup>1</sup> ver is tried.
- <sup>11</sup> **You brought us in- <sup>1</sup> to the net;  
you laid heavy burdens up- <sup>1</sup> on our backs.**
- <sup>12</sup> You let people ride over our heads; we went through <sup>1</sup> fire and water,  
but you brought us out into a place <sup>1</sup> of refreshment.
- <sup>13</sup> **I will enter your house <sup>1</sup> with burnt offerings  
and will pay <sup>1</sup> you my vows—**
- <sup>14</sup> those that I promised <sup>1</sup> with my lips  
and spoke with my mouth when I <sup>1</sup> was in trouble.
- <sup>15</sup> **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the <sup>1</sup> smoke of rams;  
I will give you ox- <sup>1</sup> en and goats. R**
- <sup>16</sup> Come and listen, all you <sup>1</sup> who believe,  
and I will tell you what God has <sup>1</sup> done for me.
- <sup>17</sup> **I called out to God <sup>1</sup> with my mouth,  
and praised the Lord <sup>1</sup> with my tongue.**
- <sup>18</sup> If I had cherished evil <sup>1</sup> in my heart,  
the Lord would <sup>1</sup> not have heard me;
- <sup>19</sup> **but in truth <sup>1</sup> God has heard me  
and has attended to the sound <sup>1</sup> of my prayer.**
- <sup>20</sup> Blessed be God, who has not reject- <sup>1</sup> ed my prayer,  
nor withheld unfailing <sup>1</sup> love from me. **R**

## SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 3:13-22

*The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.*

<sup>13</sup> Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup> but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, <sup>16</sup> yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup> in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup> And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Presider:* The Holy Gospel according to ...

*Congregation:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**\*GOSPEL LESSON: John 14:15-21**

*In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

*Presider:* The Word of God. The Word of life.

*Congregation:* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

*Pastor Jeffrey Ewing*

*Silence for reflection may follow.*

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Loving Spirit*

#397

**\*NICENE CREED**

*Assistant: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;**

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

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**A:** Merciful God,

**C:** receive our prayer.

## **SHARING THE PEACE**

**A:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C:** And also with you.

## ***MEAL***\_\_\_\_\_

## **OFFERING**

*An offering tray is available at the entrance of the sanctuary.*

*For those wishing to do so, we encourage you to donate online at [flcwarren.com/give](http://flcwarren.com/give).*

*As always, thank you for supporting the work of bringing God's love to all people through First Lutheran!*

**OFFERTORY** [8AM]  
[11AM]

*Draw Unto You  
I Will Not Leave You Comfortless*  
Senior Choir

Michael Burkhardt  
Carlton A Young

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE**     *Blessing, Honor, and Glory*

#433

Blessing, honor, glory to the Lamb.  
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb.  
Death could not hold him down, for he is risen!  
Seated upon the throne, he is the Lamb of God!  
Blessing, honor, glory to the Lamb.  
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb.  
Death could not hold him down, for he is risen!  
Seated upon the throne, he is the Lamb of God!  
Blessing, honor, glory to the Lamb.  
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb of God.

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Merciful God,  
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.  
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day  
when we will hunger and thirst no more.  
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
that goodness and mercy may follow us  
and bless the world you love.  
In the name of Jesus,  
Amen.

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*Presider: The Lord be with you.*

*Congregation: And also with you.*

*Presider: Lift up your hearts.*

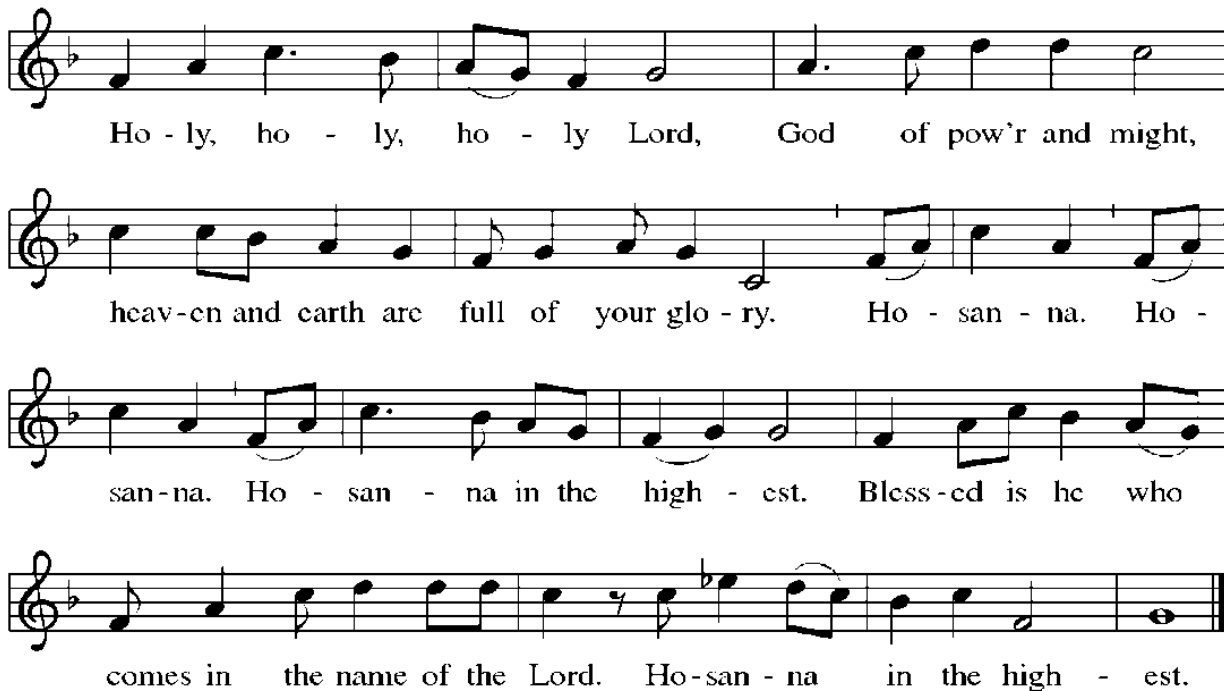
*Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.*

*Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

*Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

*Presider: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... (the preface is sung)...we praise your name  
and join their unending hymn:*

**\*SANCTUS** *Congregation:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

**\*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

On the night he was betrayed, our Savior Jesus, bowed and prayed,  
With his disciples he is speaking to us....

He took the loaf and broke the bread, held it high and then he said  
This is my body, remember me, Hallelujah.

**Hallelujah... Hallelujah... Hallelujah... Hallelujah...**

After the meal, the cup he raised, the Father's name again he praised  
This is my blood poured out for your forgiveness.

A promise given and fulfilled, though I am taken away and killed  
Remember me, I am with you, Hallelujah.

**Hallelujah... Hallelujah... Hallelujah... Hallelujah...**

So, gathered as His body here, refusing to give in to fear  
And all the powers of death that seek to lead us.

We stretch our hands, we cry and sing and tell the world HE is our KING  
We cannot help but claim this Hallelujah!

**Hallelujah... Hallelujah... Hallelujah... Hallelujah...**

## 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

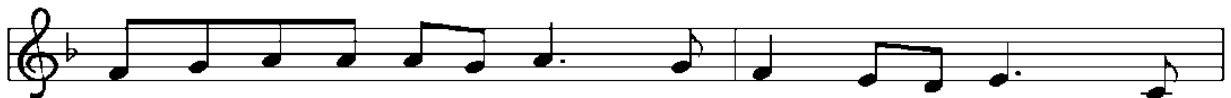
**Thanks be to God!**

As Lutherans we believe that Jesus is present in the elements of communion, bringing forgiveness and new life to all who receive it. The table is open to everyone, and the gift is always given, never taken. Simply make a cradle with your hand(s) as you receive the bread. **Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available from the ushers. Bring them forward to be blessed by the pastor.** The response after receiving both the gift of bread and wine is *"Amen."*

*For those who would like to continue to celebrate in the pews, please let the usher know.*

*For our friends who are not celebrating communion, simply fold your arms across your chest and receive a blessing.*

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

*Children of the Heavenly Father  
Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life*

#781  
#816

P: 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.**

**\*CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

*Be Not Afraid*

#388

**Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!**

**Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!**

**\* POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: Holy One,

**C: through this meal you have made your home among us  
and are making all things new.**

**Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,  
to love our enemies,  
and to bring your healing to the nations.**

**In the name of Jesus,  
Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,

✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen**

## ***SENDING***

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**\*HYMN**

*We Know That Christ is Raised*

#449

**DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE**

*Postlude in E<sup>b</sup>*

Flor Peeters

Please feel free to exit during the postlude.

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## MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS

This Mother's Day we celebrate *all the women of our church* as they take on the call to nurture our community by allowing God's loving light to shine through them in all they do. All women should receive a carnation from the ushers as token of our gratitude and blessing for the future.

### *Today's Altar Flowers*

*Given by Alice Engle and Connie Semintelli in loving memory of David R. Engle and Robert and Jean Engle.*

*Given by Tim & Cheryl Huber in loving memory of Ruth Huber.*

*Organ Vase given by Karen Schumacher, Fred & Barb Smith in loving memory of Betty & Howard Schumacher*

**Serving Today**  
**Cantor**

**May 10**

(8AM) John Beard  
(11AM) Tom Pierotti

**May 17**

John Beard  
Carolyn Worley

**Assisting Minister**

(8AM) John Kersey  
(11AM) Addy Landrio

Lori Nowacki  
Barb Luce

**Acolyte**

(8AM) Jen Kersey  
(11AM) Justin Klenowski

Jen Kersey  
Reagan Moore

**Children's Message**

Cynthia Klenowski

Cheri Kellogg

**Digital Deacon**

Denny Pearson

Denise Whipp

**Counters**

Gloria Genberg

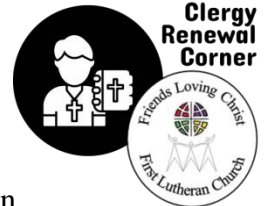
Cathy Hall

Cathy Hall

Barb Hill

## CLERGY RENEWAL CORNER

We are getting excited about Pastor and Kari's Clergy Renewal Leave. While they are on leave, our church family will also be enjoying a number of special opportunities such as hikes, book clubs, cultural presentations, increased gardening, creation of a FLC heritage cookbook and more. Stay tuned for more information each week. There has been a change in the renewal schedule, as Pastor Jeff and Kari will be back in Warren during the month of August, and then Pastor will leave for the month of September as he engages in solitude and reflection while traveling around the United States. He'll be back with us in October! Please remember that Tom Pierotti is available to all of us, to help answer any questions or concerns that arise. He can be contacted at 724-355-9933. Please mark **Sunday, May 31, 2026 as our Farewell Brunch. There will be one church service at 9am**, followed by a brunch celebrating Pastor and Kari. Watch this space for weekly updates!



## **PRAYER LIST**

*Names will remain on the list for a period of three weeks.*

*Names may be returned to the prayer list by contacting the church office.*

*Please receive permission before submitting names to be included on the Prayer List.*

**Prayer Requests:** *servicemen & women, especially Andrew Shodi, Swede Backhus, Adam & Ben Frederick, Shane Simpson, Curtis Royek, Ty Elmquist, Julie & Joey Gilman, Hunter Feeny, Kohl Feeny, Jordan Curtis, Erik Dippold*

**May 10:** *Christopher Smith, Brooke Benton, Annabelle Hartman, Jeff Granger, Carol Stone, Mike Madigan, Jan Thorpe, Katie Silvey, Margie Campbell, Laura Dieter, RoseMary Landon, Ralph Gallo, Phil Howard, Cindy Hillard, The Family & Friends of Pat Crandall*

**May 3:** *Larry Rambish, Alyssa Dennewitz, Ron & Lois Hart, Connie Buerkle, Rita Hawk, Terry Pearson, Val & Nancy Condio, Brent Casey, Kristin Frick, Joel Nowacki, Doug Granger, Sarah Downey, MaryBeth Nawrocki, Ariel Mickle, Dee Schultz, Mitch Tabol, Addy Landrio, Robert Cooper, Corey Spattifor, Christopher Saylor, Denny Hedges, Margie Campbell, Judith Melton, Mike Doty*

**April 26:** *Kim Tome, Rose Troyan, Holly Schubert, Bonnie Gray, Velma Zock, Janet Wilson, Sarah Downey, Jeff Bastow, Elaine Powers, Donna Smith, Kia Lee, Betty Berdine, Vic Wolfe, Cara Smith, Joe Krall, Jerry Johnson, Mariah Nowacki, Barry Seastead, Maryann Long, Denise Cederquist, Jim Rapp, Linda Philhower, Dusty Johnson, Lori Lee, Roberta "Bobbi" Hessley, Sue Burke, Nicole Hall, Cody Fetzec, Family & Friends of Madolyn Elder, Family & Friends of Jim Marquis*

***Please contact the Church Office if you, a family member or someone from the parish is in the hospital.***

***Help us help you when pastoral care is needed!***

**BABY BOTTLES  
ARE AVAILABLE  
IN THE NARTHEX  
TO FILL!**

**PLEASE RETURN  
THEM BY  
FATHER'S DAY  
(JUNE 21).**

*Just a few handfuls of change  
can help change lives!*



# Change For Life

**It's in your hands!**

Pregnancy Tests, 24-Hour Helpline, Doctor Referrals, Sonograms, Counseling



STD Testing and Treatment, Adoption, Education, Classes and More!



# Refrigerator Schedule

## NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETS Monday, Wednesday, & Saturday at 6:30 PM (YR)

*HP/Hansen Parlor; NH/Niewoehner Hall; OFH/Old Fellowship Hall,  
YR/Youth Room, UC/Upstairs Classroom, SY/Sanctuary, CR/Choir Room  
UCR/Upstairs Community Room, NX/Narthex, K/Kitchen*

Sunday, May 10

### **MOTHER'S DAY**

8:00 AM **Communion Service (SY)**  
9:28 AM **Sunday's Cool (OFH/NH)**  
11:00 AM **Communion Service (SY)**  
4:00 PM Warren Philharmonic Concert (SY)

Monday, May 11

1:00 PM Mahjongg (NH)  
6:00 PM Silver Winds Rehearsal (SY)  
6:00 PM WP AIW Rehearsal (UC)

Tuesday, May 12

11:00 AM **Senior Fellowship (SY/NX)**  
1:30 PM **Social Ministry (HP)**  
5:00 PM Ukrainian Bible Study (YR)  
6:00 PM **ESOL (UC)**  
6:00 PM WP AIW Rehearsal (SY)

Wednesday, May 13

12:00 PM **Bible Study (HP)**  
5:15 PM **Handbells (SY)**  
7:00 PM **Choir (CR)**

Thursday, May 14

10:00 AM **Prayer Shawl (HP)**  
6:00 PM WP AIWC Rehearsal (SY)

Friday, May 15

6:00 PM **FNO @ Arbor House**

Sunday, May 17

### **CREATED WHOLE WORSHIP**

8:00 AM **Communion Service (SY)**  
9:28 AM **Sunday's Cool (OFH/NH)**  
11:00 AM **Communion Service (SY)**  
4:00 PM Warren Philharmonic Concert (SY)



It's **BRING YOUR BIKES TO CHURCH** on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. (note summer schedule worship time ☺). We'll have our annual blessing of the bikes during worship. Two wheelers, 4-wheel bikes, we'll even bless tricycles! It's the church's way of bringing in a new season and asking God's protection on the road!

**SHOE DRIVE** Clean out those closets! Throughout the month of May our Social Ministry Committee, along with House of Hope volunteer Cathy Southwell, will be collecting used boots and shoes, a long-standing fundraiser for House of Hope. Look for the box in the Narthex. They have partnered with the organization Funds2org, who pick them up quarterly. They place 25 pairs of shoes in decent condition in bags provided and are paid by the pound. They rejoice over men's work boots!



The shoes are shipped to third world nations where they are then given to small local business owners to help entrepreneurship. It is not a handout but a hand up is one of the sayings. This also keeps shoes out of landfills.

Also the House of Hope residents can participate and it gives them a chance to give back.



### **Holiday Hot Meals**

60 volunteers cooked and distributed about 390 meals throughout Warren and Forest Counties the day before Easter. We thank all the volunteers who helped with the meal. The primary funding for this ministry comes through gifts given as part of the Warren Gives appeal. If you would like to support this ministry shared by a number of congregations, please give this coming

Wednesday during the Warren Gives appeal. The Hot Meals program is found under the Episcopal Mission of Warren County's link. The Episcopal mission handles the finances for this ministry. Thank you for your support.

**FRIDAY NIGHT OUT** will be at the Arbor House on May 15th at 6PM. We'll order off the menu. Seating is limited to 28 people. A few spaces remain so sign up in the narthex if you would like to join us!

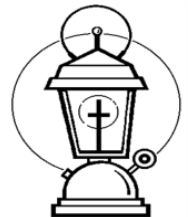


### **PHILHARMONIC MOTHER'S DAY CONCERT- TODAY- 4PM**

The Warren Philharmonic is returning to First Lutheran for their Mother's Day concert today. The concert title is *Bach in America* and will feature the Mecham Duo on violin.

### **JUNE/JULY LANTERN INFO DUE – MAY 12**

All information for the June/July Lantern is due to the office by Tuesday, May 12, 2026. You can send it via email or drop it at the office.

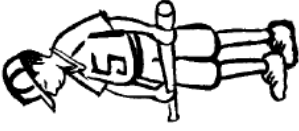


## An advocate

John 14:15-21

Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to the disciples. He calls the Holy Spirit the *Advocate*.

The disciples could see Jesus. He had been with them to teach and guide them. Now the Holy Spirit would do the same thing in an unseen way forever. The Holy Spirit guides us too.



An *advocate* is someone who speaks or acts to help someone else.

Each of these young people has an advocate. Draw lines to match the pairs. Circle the person who is the advocate.



Help us hear you speaking to us, God.  
Help us speak to others about you. Amen



Notice unseen things during worship by hearing, touching, smelling and tasting.