

First  
Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church of  
Redlands

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[www.firstlutheranredlands.org](http://www.firstlutheranredlands.org)

*Bridge Pastor:*  
Woody Hall

*Ministers:*  
Each Member



ELCA

Sixteenth Sunday after  
Pentecost



September 17, 2023

9:00 a.m.



## Welcome to Worship

### Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,

**you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world’s violence and suffering.**

**We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God’s justice stretches beyond all understanding. God’s compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**Amen.**

# Gathering 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:



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



## Greeting

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.**

# Hymn of Praise

## “The Magnificent”

from Holden Evening Prayer—Haugen



1., 3. My soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my  
2. You have cast the might - y down from their thrones, and up -



spir - it re - joic - es in you. You have looked with love on your  
lift - ed the hum - ble of heart. You have filled the hun - gry with



ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.  
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.



Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,  
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,



strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more. How you fa - vor the  
strong is your jus - tice, strong your love, as you prom - ised to



weak and low - ly one, hum - bling the proud of heart!  
Sar - ah and A - bra - ham, kind - ness for - ev - er - more. D.C.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**Anthem** "Where Two or Three Are Gathered" - Gavid Lang  
*Chancel Choir*

**Lesson** Romans 14:1-12 NT pg. 124

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation** pg. 188



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

**Gospel** Matthew 18:21-35 NT pg. 15-16

The holy gospel according to Matthew  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Hymn of the Day "Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive" ELW 605



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.  
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
 how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!  
 then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

## Apostles Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

## Prayers of God's People

Merciful God,  
**Receive Our Prayer.**

## The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always,  
**And also with you.**

## Offertory

“Allegro”

- A. Vivaldi

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, (... ..)  
And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

## Thanksgiving at the Table

### 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; 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

## Communion Distribution

*The Pastor will distribute the bread, and a communion assistant will offer your choice of red wine or white grape juice. You may dispose of your cup at the hand sanitizer station at the front of the side aisles. All are welcome.*

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
**Amen.**

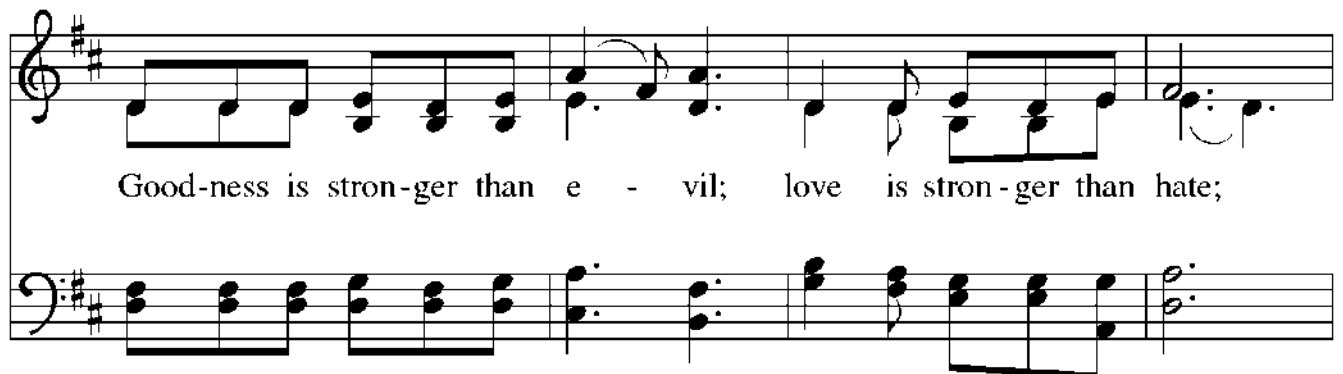
## Prayer After Communion

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.  
**Amen.**

## Blessing

The God of glory, Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## Sending Hymn "Goodness Is Stronger than Evil" ELW 721



Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;

The image shows the first two staves of a musical score for the hymn "Goodness Is Stronger than Evil". The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics "Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;" are written below the notes. The music consists of a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef.

light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death; vic-t'ry is

Oh.

ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic-t'ry is

vic - t'ry is ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Oh.

ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

vic - t'ry is ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

## Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

“Postlude on ‘*Llangloffan*’”

- J. S. Dixon

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# Life in Christ

## Church as a VERB – WORSHIP

**In person worship** each Sunday at 9am.

**Online Worship** is available every Sunday through our website at [www.firstlutheranredlands.org](http://www.firstlutheranredlands.org).

**Choir is back** and rehearsing on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm. Everyone is welcome!

**Blessing of the Pets Service** — Wednesday, October 4, 5:30 p.m. at the Humane Society, 374 W. Orange Show Road in San Bernardino. Pastor Woody has been conducting this service at the Humane Society for many years in honor of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi. All pets are welcome: furry, scaly, with feathers, large and small.

## Church as a VERB – LEARN

**Thursday Morning Bible Study** — Join us via zoom on Thursdays at 11:00 am. Meeting ID: 873 1032 5401 Code: 401510

**Adult Forum** — We meet each Sunday following worship, join us in the Chapel at 10:15am. Grab some coffee and join us for good questions and good conversation.

# Life in Christ

## Church as a VERB – SERVE

**Lutheran Disaster Response** is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the Maui wildfires and to provide for immediate needs and recovery amid the widespread destruction. To help with relief efforts, you can donate to Lutheran Disaster Response through First Lutheran.

## Church as a VERB – PLAY

**COMIC Quilters** — meets Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the Fireside Room. We welcome anyone interested in quilting — no prior sewing experience needed. We are working on quilts to donate to the CCLM Men's Shelter in San Bernardino.

## This Week at First

<b>Sunday 17</b>	9:00 AM	Worship — Sanctuary
	10:15 AM	Adult Forum—Chapel
	1:00 PM	BATAK Worship — Sanctuary
<b>Monday 18</b>	6:00 PM	Action Teams—Parish Hall
<b>Wednesday 20</b>	10:00 AM	COMIC Quilters — Parish Hall
<b>Thursday 21</b>	11:00 AM	Bible Study — Zoom
	<i>** Zoom Meeting ID: 873 1032 5401 Passcode: 401510</i>	
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
<b>Saturday 23</b>	11:00 AM	SDA Worship — Sanctuary / PH
	7:00 PM	AA Care and Share — PH

Sunday September 17		Next Sunday September 24
Claudia Havard Mitch Heitritter	Altar Guild	Claudia Havard Mitch Heitritter
Debbie Olsen Kathy Aldrighetti	Reader Communion Assist	Diane Brown Debbie Olsen
Theron Pace <i>** Needed</i>	Greeter / Ushers	Mike Murphy <i>** Needed</i>
Tom Olsen	Sound / IT	Tom Olsen
Debbie Westen	Hospitality	<i>** Needed</i>
Jerry Bean	Security	Debbie Westen

*Kimberly Amin, Organist*

*Ernesto Herrera, Music / Choir Director*

*Melanie Hendrickson, Administration / Bookkeeper*

E-mail: [office@firstlutheranredlands.org](mailto:office@firstlutheranredlands.org)

[www.firstlutheranredlands.org](http://www.firstlutheranredlands.org)

# Prayer Ventures from the ELCA

**17** Reflect on what hinders us from exercising forgiveness and patience with others, including those we see as adversaries. Ask the Spirit to recenter our lives and interactions with people in the boundless and undeserved mercy that God demonstrates with us.

**18** Pray that students and teachers in our schools will be safe and that students who suffer trauma, anxiety, depression and other mental health concerns will have ready access to counselors, social workers and psychologists.

**19** Pray for the congregations, youth and adults registering for the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans and for those who prayerfully consider participating.

**20** “The prophet Miriam, Aaron’s sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: ‘Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea’” (Exodus 15:20-21). Give thanks for the wonderful variety of instruments and musicians who help us praise God, and recall God’s activity in the world throughout history.

**21** *International Day of Peace* With our global neighbors and siblings in Christ, pray for peace, reconciliation and unity wherever conflict divides our communities and the world.

**22** Ask God for strength and boldness to fight the rising tide of hate crimes motivated by race, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, sexual orientation, disability, gender, gender identity, and social and economic status.

**23** What an amazing and reassuring gift it is to know that God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love for all people, everywhere. Give praise and thanks to God!

## Remember in prayer...

***“Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,  
and for all people according to their needs:”***

**Those who mourn:** The family of former member, Troy Wideman.

***“Rest Eternal grant, O Lord; And let perpetual light upon him.”***

**Healing and strength:** Karen Fredricksen as she prepares for surgery; Jeanne Fortier; sister of Kathy Swenson, Jennifer, and friends, Marcy, Amy, and Chantel; friend of Pastor Kim, Bruce; friends of the Garcia's, the Smith Family; family of the Havards, Richie and Richard; friend of the Griesemer's, Penny and Susan; family of the Pace's, Bill, Nancy, Tammy, and Kayla; Maggie, Alyssa, Laura, and Bronson.

**Continuing prayers:** Wayne Barnhart; Donna Barnes; mother of Karen Fredricksen, Charlene; Scott Huseh; relative of the Kundigs, Ellamae; Jan Martus; Tom and Debbie Olsen; Nancy Sturlaugson; Roger Swenson; Richard Thibedeau; Lynda Wandler; friends of the Barnes, Larry and Pam Renon; friend of the Finks, Bill; friend of Karen Fredricksen, Spencer.

**Our homebound:** Arlene Coleman; Betty Frannea; John McMunn; Carlton Peterson.

\*\* Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, Elizabeth Eaton and Bishop of the Pacifica Synod, Dave Nagler.

\*\* This congregation during this time of transition, the Call Committee, and the pastor God is preparing for this congregation.

\*\* The people of Lahaina, Maui, and Hawaii

\*\* Peace.

***Into your hand we commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”***

\*\* *The prayer list is refreshed each week using the “Welcome to Worship” slips.*

*If you have a prayer request, please include it on those slips*

*or contact the Pastor or church office. \*\**