

First
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church of
Redlands

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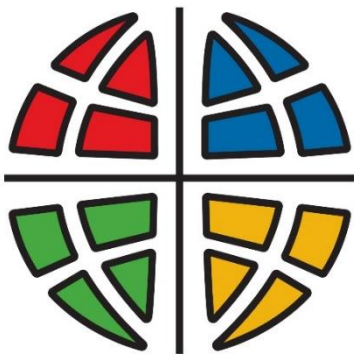
www.firstlutheranredlands.org

Follow us on: 

Office Hours
12:30 pm ~ 5 pm, Mon - Thu

Pastor:
Rachel Reeder

Ministers:
Each Member



ELCA

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



September 22, 2024

9:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Please rise as you are able

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 733

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

GREETINGS

In the name of the Creator, who colors the sky,
the name of Christ, who died under dark skies,
and the name of the Spirit, the wind in the sky. Amen.

Holy! Holy! Holy!

Sky is filled with God’s presence.

Christ, we come to into your presence today,
to worship in this sanctuary called Earth,

Holy! Holy! Holy!

Earth is filled with your presence.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose
mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, have mercy on us. **We confess that we have become alienated from Earth and viewed this planet as disposable, a source of endless resources, a mere stopping place en route to heaven. We**

have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of **+** Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, our Creator, as we look into the skies we celebrate the wonders of the worlds that surround us. Help us to see your presence in the evening sky, your spirit in the wind, your mercy in the falling rain. Teach us to hear the good news from the sky celebrating the glory of God in Earth. Rejoice with us as we behold the dawn revealing the mysteries of the skies above and Earth below. In the name of Christ who unites heaven and Earth. **Amen.**

Please be seated

FIRST READING Jeremiah 4:23-28

OT pg. 545

A reading from Jeremiah. ²³I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light. ²⁴I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro. ²⁵I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled. ²⁶I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the LORD, before his fierce anger. ²⁷For thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end. ²⁸Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.

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

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:14-18

NT pg. 153

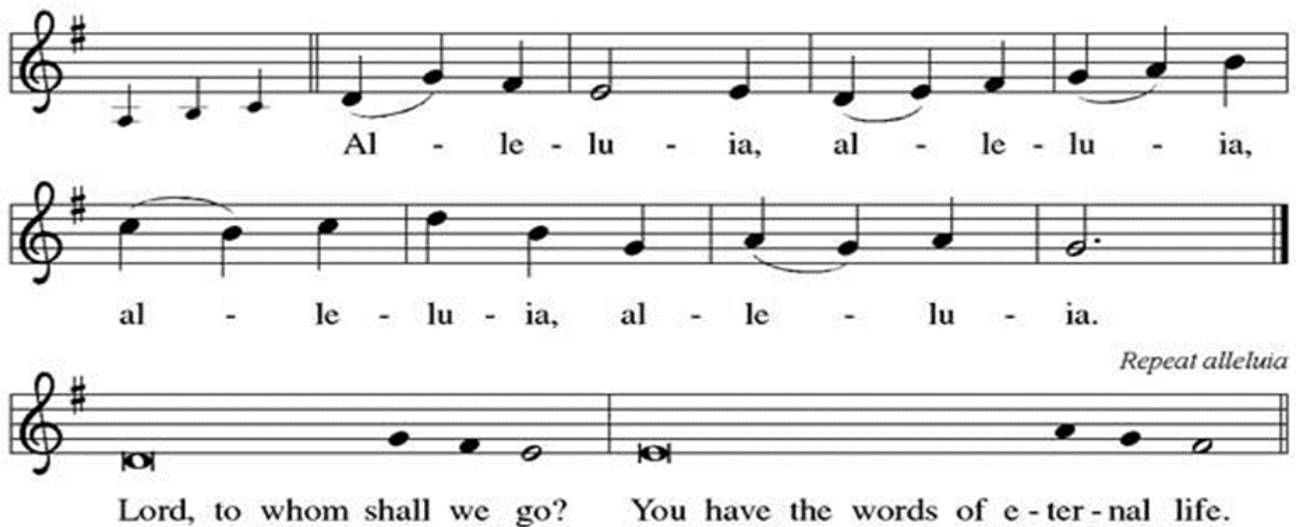
A Reading from Philippians. ¹⁴Do all things without murmuring and arguing, ¹⁵so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. ¹⁶It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you — ¹⁸and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

The word of Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM “All Things Bright and Beautiful” - John Rutter

Please rise as you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 16:1-4

NT pg. 14

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

¹The Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test Jesus they asked him to show them a sign from heaven. ²He answered them, "When it is evening,

you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' ³And in the morning, 'It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times. ⁴An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah." Then he left them and went away.

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

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Rachel Reeder

Please rise as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY

- Jesse Reeves, Laura Story

“Indescribable”

1.From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea
Creations revealing Your majesty
From the colors of Fall to the fragrance of Spring
Ev'ry creature unique in the song that it sings
All exclaiming

Chorus 1: Indescribable, uncontainable
You placed the stars in the sky
And You know them by name
You are amazing, God
All powerful, untameable
Awestruck, we fall to our knees
As we humbly proclaim
You are amazing, God

2.Who has told every lightning bolt where it should go?
Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow

Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light?
Yet, conceals it to bring us the coolness of night
None can fathom

Interlude:
You are amazing God.

Chorus 2:
Indescribable, uncontainable
You placed the stars in the sky
And You know them by name
You are amazing, God
Incomparable unchangeable
You see the depths of my heart
And You love me the same
You are amazing God

Ending:
You see the depths of my heart
And You love me the same
You are amazing, God
You see the depths of my heart
And You love me the same
You are amazing, God

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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. Amen.

Please be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

.....Hear us, O God,

You mercy is great.

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER

God, our Creator, through your love you have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our deep thanks and our concern for those in need, including our fellow creatures on planet Earth.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

Lift up your heart. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is right to give you thanks, loving Creator. Your Word is the impulse for all things to be, for space, stars and stardust to appear, for Earth to emerge from the deep, for life to be born of Earth and for humans to be born of Earth and the Spirit. You chose to be born a human being, to become a part of Earth, to suffer, die and rise from death to redeem humankind, renew creation, and affirm all born of Earth and the Spirit. Your presence is the living impulse in all things, the Christ deep among us, filling Earth—land, sea and air; filling every element and place; filling the grain and the grape we share with you this day. Therefore, with angels and archangel ancient voices in the forest, high voices from the sky, deep voices from the sea and the whole company of creation, we proclaim your presence among us.

Holy, holy, holy, God of all life, Earth and sea and sky are full of your presence and glorify your name. Amen

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath. **We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future. **We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now. **We thank you, O God.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Come, taste and see, that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8). All are welcome. Please follow the directions of the ushers to come forward. You will be given the bread and your choice of either red wine or white grape juice. You may dispose of your cup in the wastebasket at the side aisle.

COMMUNION HYMN

ELW 638

“Blessed Assurance”

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May the Spirit of God, who is above all and in all and through all, fill you with the knowledge of God’s presence in Earth and the pulsing of Christ ✝ within you. **Amen.**

Please rise as you are able

SENDING HYMN

ELW 412

“Come, Join the Dance of the Trinity”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace! Serving Christ and loving Earth!
We go in peace, serving Christ and loving Earth.

POSTLUDE

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<p style="text-align: center;"> Rachel Reeder, Pastor Kimberly Amin, Organist Ernesto Herrera, Music/Choir Director Lauren Schafer, Administrative Assistant Email: Office@firstlutheranredlands.org Pastor Rachel@firstlutheranredlands.org www.firstlutheranredlands.org Office hours: Monday – Thursday 12:30 – 5:00 pm </p>

Stewardship

Sept 22

Sept 29

Usher (1)	Dave Garcia	Theron Pace
Usher (2)	Theron Pace	Jim Lehner
Reader / Comm. Asst. (1)	Bob Close	Julie Thoms
Communion Assistant (2)		
Sound/IT	Tom Olsen	Tom Olsen
Sound/IT Assistant	Jack Caballero	Jack Caballero
Altar Guild	Marilyn & Diane	Julie & Nancy
Security	Abreham Dree	Abreham Dree

Life in Christ

- **Adult Forum** - Sunday after service @ 10:30 am
- **Online Worship** - every Sunday through our website at www.firstlutheranredlands.org.
- **Flower Chart for 2024** is in the Narthex. Please sign up to purchase flowers for our back altar. The cost is \$50. Please call or email your dedication to office@firstlutheranredlands.org by the Tuesday prior to your dedication. Available Dates: Sep 29, Nov. 10, Dec 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
- **Zoom Bible Study** - Thursday Mornings weekly at 11:00 am. Join us via zoom for a discussion on the upcoming Gospel lesson. Zoom Meeting ID: 895 4566 3534 Code: 313299.
- **COMIC Quilters** - Wednesday morning meetings at 10:00 am in the Fireside Room.

- **Redland Family Services** – Annual Fall Drive will be Saturday, Nov 9th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the donation center on Lawton Street. Collection of food items, to be placed under the altar, will begin on Sunday, October 6th and continue through Sunday, Nov 3. If you are interested in not only donating food during the in-gathering time here at First but also donating your time at FSA on Nov. 9, please contact Mike Murphy or sign up on the bulletin board outside the narthex on Sundays, starting Oct. 6. **Make sure any non-perishable items you donate do NOT have expired "use by" dates.**

For new bulletin and/or e-news announcement(s), please send requests to the office by **Tuesday** prior to your desired publishing date(s).

This Week at First

Sunday	9/22	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship – Sanctuary
		10:30 AM	Adult Forum – Chapel
		11:30 AM	Fall Potluck – Parish Hall
		1:00 PM	BATAK Church - Sanctuary
Wednesday	9/24	10:00 AM	COMIC Quilters – Fireside Room
Thursday	9/25	11:00 AM	Bible Study
		7:00 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	9/28	10:00 AM	SDA Worship – Sanctuary/Parish Hall
		6:00 PM	AA Care and Share – Parish Hall
Sunday	9/29	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship – Sanctuary
		10:30 AM	Adult Forum – Chapel
		1:00 PM	BATAK Church - Sanctuary

Upcoming Dates

CELEBRATING THE SEASON OF CREATION

- September 22 – Sky Sunday/
Fall Potluck after worship
- September 29 – Mountain Sunday
- October 06 – Blessing of the Animals

Tuesday 10/8/24 6:30pm Book Club “Love Without Limits”

CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL -- The Chancel Choir rehearses at 7 p.m. every Thursday, in the sanctuary. Current choir members and those interested in joining the choir are encouraged to attend rehearsals.

The Altar Guild is looking for new members to join a great group of women AND men who prepare for Sunday services and special holidays. Each team serves 1-2 Sundays every 4-6 weeks. And yes, you can miss a scheduled Sunday as we all help each other as needed. If you have any questions, call Mitch at 909-798-3320 for more information.

Ushers and Greeters Needed -- While First Lutheran is fortunate to have several members, both men and women, who serve the church in the capacity of usher/greeters. We can always use more volunteers to spread the wealth and reduce the frequency some usher/greeters are called on to serve on Sundays and special occasions such as funerals, weddings, etc. If you are interested in helping this positive and joyful ministry, please contact Mike Murphy, at mnlmurphy@yahoo.com. He will provide instruction and training along with a list of do's and don'ts.

Looking For First Lutheran Activity Photos -- The Church Council decided to move forward with a redesign of the church's website to bring it up to date with content and in terms of content and make it more user friendly. Council member B.B. Quinones is coordinating the update. She is asking church members who may have photos they took at church activities during the past year to submit to her those photos for possible use on the website. The preferred format is .jpeg for these photos. Members can email her at julieta.quinones@sevitahealth.com. If you have questions, call BB at 909-844-4430.

Celebrating the Season of Creation in September

The Season of Creation is an annual ecumenical celebration. It is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation we join our siblings in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home.

Theme for 2024 Romans 8:19-25 – To Hope and Act with Creation

September 22, Sky Sunday - We worship this Sunday with the skies. We celebrate with the clouds, the winds, the dusk and the dawn. We listen to the sounds of sky

proclaiming God's presence. We stand in awe before the vast reaches of space above us and thank God for the fragile piece of stardust we call Earth.

September 29, Mountain Sunday - We worship this Sunday with the mountains. We sing with the rocks and hills. We enjoy the wonders of the wild. We connect with the mystery of the mountains through majestic rocks that surround our community. We celebrate in the mountain of God.

October 6 – Blessing Of the Animals. The Season of Creation will culminate on this Sunday. Bring an animal or a picture of an animal to be blessed. Join us for outdoor worship! We worship this Sunday with all the creatures we love. We join the Psalmists and rejoice with all living things. We sing with the all the birds and animals that make our lives richer because of their presence. Our Youth Group will be assisting in this special service!

Remember in prayer...

"Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs"

Healing and strength: Chris, Alice, Molly & Phil, Erin, requested by Larry & Kathy Davenport;

Scott; (husband to niece of Jim & Janet Fink) prayers for healing;

Nancy Priesz (Sister in Law to Larry Anderson) prayers for strength;

Pastor Ray Wade, Richard & J'nene, requested from Jeanne Fortier;

Allan, requested by the Griesemers family;

BB, lift her up in health, strength and healing;

Jeanne, please lift her up in prayer, requested by Joe Koenig;

Sandy and Sharon, requested by Jeanne Fortier;

Jim, Daniel and Andrew, requested by Sue Lehner;

Granddaughter Katie and Sean, cancer diagnosis, requested by Karen Fredricksen;

*Bill, Nancy, Tammy and Nikki requested by Marilyn and Theron Pace;

Kathy for healing from eye surgery;

Family of Gloria Cipres Gonzalez upon her death;

Linda Marie, Matthew Ramos and Javier Hernandez, Emery, May;

The family of Gilbert Logg who passed away, requested by Mando Quinones

Rhonda, who passed away. Please keep husband, Rocky and their son in your prayers requested by BB Quinones;

Jerri for recent diagnosis of cancer, requested by Alison and Bob Schooley;

Jack Hough, requested by Dave and Julie Garcia;

Mike and Valerie evacuated from home due to the fires, Karen Fredricksen
Debbie Belmuder, requested by Maria and Craig Baker and Logan;
Bill Lockridge praying that cancer has not returned, requested by Kim Hudson;
Nancy, requested by Allan Griesemer;
Anne Foley and cousin Peg Sheridan, requested by Diane Brown;
Logan, Debbie, Bonnie and Fred, requested by Maria Baker;
Rosie, David and Debbie, requested by Logan Cassells;
Those affected by the Line Fire, Highland and Mountain, Arrow, Bear and Running
Springs residents, requested by DeeAnn M Grip, The Murphys, Mitch Heitritter;
All the firefighters, requested by Maria and Craig Baker and Logan, Bob and Ginger
Close, and the Murphys;

Continuing prayers for: Bill, Nancy, and Tammy family of Paces; Mac & Donna
Barnes; Walter, brother of Ginger Close

Our homebound: Betty Frannea; Carlton Peterson; Kay and John McMunn;

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

** The people of Israel and Palestine.

** 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 updated 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.