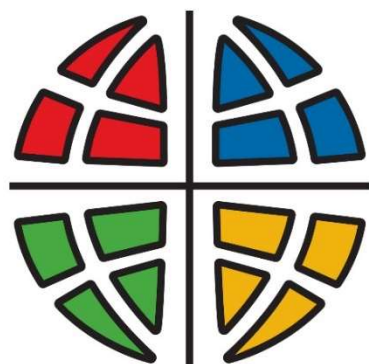


First  
Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church of  
Redlands

1207 West Cypress Ave.,  
Redlands CA 92373-5725  
(909) 793-2267  
[www.firstlutheranredlands.org](http://www.firstlutheranredlands.org)

*Pastor:*  
Rachel Reeder

*Ministers:*  
Each Member



ELCA

# Pentecost

# 12



August 31, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Добро пожаловать! Witam Cię Bem-vinda أهلاً وسهلاً  
 ברוך-הבא Bienvenue Tere tulemast خوش آمدید Bienvenido  
 सवागत हैं **Welcome** ยินดีต้อนรับ Karibu  
 Ngiyakwemukela Hoş geldiniz Hoan nghênh  
 Tere tulõmast Välkommen Ласкаво просимо Velkommen Zoo siab txais tos!  
 Soo dhowow قارشى نالمنز Ласкаво просимо 환영합니다

*Please fill out the “Welcome to Worship” slip  
 in the pew rack and pass to the side aisles*

Guidance for using this bulletin and the hymnal:

At First Evangelical Lutheran all are welcome here – disciples  
 and doubters, sinners and saints, wanderers and wonderers, young  
 and young at heart, insiders and outsiders – all of God’s children  
 are welcome in this community as we **worship** together, **learn**  
 together, **serve** together, **pray** together and **play** together seeking  
 to follow Jesus in our daily lives. We are blessed by your presence  
 here today!

**You belong, here!**

- ☐ All are invited to speak those responses printed in **bold**.
- ☐ **ELW** refers to material from the **Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal** located in the pew rack in front of you. It is the Red Hymnal.
- ☐ Numbers preceded by “ELW” refer to the hymns and songs found in the middle and back portions of the hymnal.
- ☐ Numbers preceded by the word “pg” refer to material found in the front portion of the hymnal.
- ☐ **WOV** refers to the **With One Voice songbook**. It is the blue songbook located in the pew rack in front of you.
- ☐ “OT pg.” Or “NT” pg. Are in the Old and New Testament of the pew Bible.

*We live stream our worship services on YouTube  
 Hearing Assist devices available from the sound booth.  
 You can also connect hearing aides through our T coil / Loop system*

**PRELUDE** "Holy Sovereign Lord"

- L. Larson

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please rise as you are able*

**GATHERING HYMN** Hymn Sing

## **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.**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Baptized in Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. **Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of ✙ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**FIRST READING** Proverbs 25:6-7a

OT pg. 471

**A reading from Proverbs.** Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

**SECOND READING** Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

NT pg. 177

**A reading from Hebrews.**

Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

**SPECIAL MUSIC** Pie Jesu from “Requiem” by Andrew Lloyd Weber  
David Griesemer & BB Quinones, Vocals  
Kim Amin, Accompanist

*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** Luke 14:1, 7-14 NT pg. 59

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

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

<sup>7</sup> When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup> “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, <sup>9</sup> and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup> But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup> For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

<sup>12</sup> He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup> And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

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

*Please be seated*

**SERMON**

Rev. Rachel Reeder

*Please rise as you are able*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

ELW 651 V. 1-5

“Oh, Praise the Gracious Power”

**APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

**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. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERTORY** "Leggiero"

- L. Smith

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

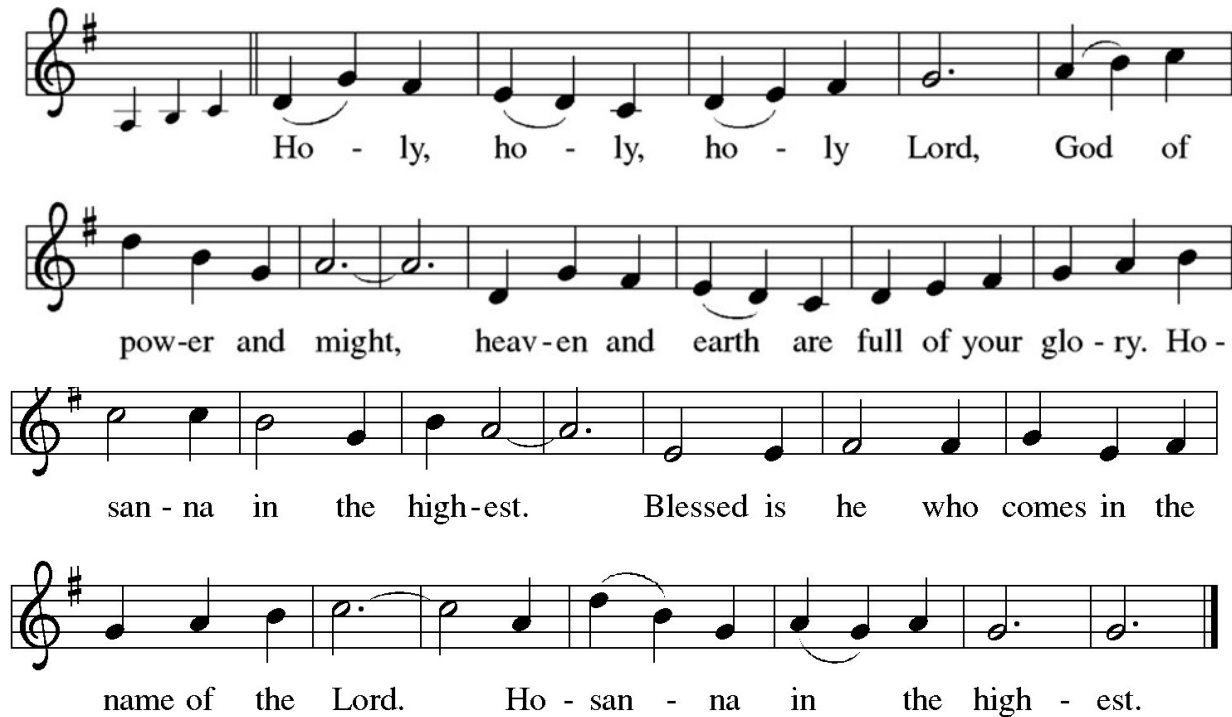
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

## **PREFACE**

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, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord.....

....to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **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

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.



## 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 stands at the side aisle.*

## COMMUNION HYMN “Now We Join in Celebration” ELW 462

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

## BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✝ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

*Please rise as you are able*

## SENDING HYMN “Now Thank We All Our God” ELW 840

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE Recessional on “Aberystwyth” - Wagner

# Stewardship

*Please Note: The Reader serves as a Communion Assistant #1. The Worship Assistants (BB/Kevin) will also serve as a Communion Assistant. We are asking for one person to sign up each Sunday to be the Communion Assistant #2 as we need four Celebrants for Communion. Thank you!*

	August 31	Sep 7
Ushers	Allan Griesemer	
Reader/Assistant Communion #1	Julie Thoms	Theron Pace
Communion Assistant #2	Quinn Shea	Jenny Zorn
Sound/IT	Tom Olsen Jack Caballero	Tom Olsen Jack Caballero
Altar Guild	Mitch Hietritter & Claudia Havard	Mitch Heitritter & Claudia Havard
Security		

## This Week at First

Sunday	08/31	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship – Sanctuary
		10:30 AM	Adult Forum
		1:00 PM	BATAK Church – Sanctuary/PH
Wednesday	09/3	10:00 AM	COMIC Quilters – Fireside
Thursday	09/4	11:00 AM	Zoom Bible Study
Saturday	09/6	10:00 AM	SDA Worship – Sanctuary/PH
		6:00 PM	Caring and Sharing AA - PH

## Upcoming Dates

- Aug 31 Hymn Sunday at the beginning of worship 9:00 AM  
Adult Forum 10:30 AM in the Chapel
- Sep 13 Youth Hope – A Day in the Park Car Show
- Sep 19-21 Tapestry Retreat # 2
- Oct 2 Blessing of the Animals Service at HSSBV 5:15 PM

## Life in Christ

- Our **Children's Church program** is for children aged 1-8 years old. Alison Schooley will be escorting children to the nursery just before the start of the sermon for a Bible story, snack and perhaps a quick craft or coloring sheet tied to the story. This will give caregivers an opportunity to listen to the sermon and the child an opportunity to take a break during the service. If you have any questions – please see Alison Schooley.
- **September Worship Services** – Pastor Rachel will be preaching on the Season of Creation which is the annual Christian celebration to pray and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to contemplate and care for our common home, the Oikos of God. We'll observe the Season of Creation during the month of September with the following focus. September 7 – Ocean, September 14 – Fauna, September 21 – Storm, September 28 – Cosmos. Please join us in this Celebration of Creation.
- **Adult Forum** - Sunday after service @ 10:30 am
- **Online Worship** - every Sunday through our website at [www.firstlutheranredlands.org](http://www.firstlutheranredlands.org). **We have a great website. Check it out!**
- **Flower Chart for 2025-** We love it when flowers grace the worship space! Please reserve your bouquet by following the process: **Reserve your date** by writing your name AND phone on the Flower Chart on the date(s) you select. **Fill out a reservation form at the same time as your reservation on the chart.** The forms are located next to the chart and should then be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office. ***The flowers will be ordered for you.*** Please pay the church \$55 during the month of your reservation. Please note with your payment the date of your reservation. Questions: Contact Mitch (909-798-3320)
- **Zoom Bible Study** –Thursday Mornings weekly at 11:00 am. Join us via zoom for a discussion on the upcoming Gospel lesson. **NEW** Zoom Meeting ID: 898 6088 6981 **NEW** Passcode: 739765
- **COMIC Quilters** - Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am in Fireside Room.
- **Would you like to receive our weekly newsletter by email?** Fill out a yellow pew slip indicating you want to receive the newsletter and provide your email address along with your name. You can give the slip to an usher.

# Ministry Opportunities

- **We invite you to participate as a Reader/Communion Assistant #1 or a Communion Assistant #2 in the months of October and beyond.** Each Sunday we need three Communion Assistants. Our Worship Assistants will distribute Bread with Pastor Rachel. The Communion Assistants #1 and #2 will dispense the wine/grape juice elements. If you feel called to participate, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. We will make accommodations for those that need assistance.
- **Youth Hope Meal Delivery** First Lutheran is happy to support Youth Hope Ministries. In addition, in cooperation with Plymouth Village, we pick up meals they have prepared, and deliver them to the Youth Hope facility (on Redlands Blvd). This simple service happens about once a month. If you would like more information please contact Karen Frederickson. ***Next delivery is August 28th.***
- **Tapestry Retreat #2 September 19-21, 2025** Tapestry is a ministry of the Pacifica Synod of the ELCA, dedicated to inspiring and educating LGBTQIA+ individuals and allies. Through our retreat weekends, we foster community and deepen our understanding of Christ from a Queer perspective. Participants leave these retreats empowered to serve as beacons of faith, providing support and connection to those seeking a safe space to express their spirituality. This is our second retreat weekend and we look forward to sharing God's love with our communities once more. Join us for a weekend of spiritual renewal. We will hear talks from LGBTQ+ clergy and lay leaders; spend time in small groups to reflect, connect and create; enjoy free time for creating, praying or holy rest. The Retreat Center charges \$253 for the weekend but you are invited to pay whatever you can to attend, even if it's \$0! Those who are able to donate more to support others are encouraged to do so. Come experience God's love for you in a space designed with you in mind! Register here at <https://tinyurl.com/5bjyh47w>. **Registration is required to attend, so register by September 11.** If you have questions about this event, please contact Pastor Rachel Reeder at [revrachelreeder@gmail.com](mailto:revrachelreeder@gmail.com).
- **Loma Linda Chaplain Seeking Space to Rent** do you have a pet friendly ADU or space to lease? Contact Jennifer Fischer at 202-413-2684 She's looking to

rent come September for a year.

- **Did you know? We have several WAYS to GIVE to our CHURCH:**
  - ✓ Pew Envelopes - Cash or check. Please write your personal tithing number on the front.
  - ✓ Online giving through ServantKeeper .
  - ✓ Scan the QR Code below and it will take you to our website where you can find the Green Give button.



## Prayer List

### 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:*

Corey Brecker on dialysis.

Marisue and Lynne battling cancer and Mike having medical tests, requested by Mitch Heitritter.

The Family of Sean Malloy, Roger Raumin and John Klava, requested by the Johnstons.

Newborn Wyatt Kinneman and his parents as he recovers from problems at birth, requested by Larry and Kathy Davenport.

Deborah Ramos, dear friend of BB Quinones.

Nancy Newsome and Kathryn, requested by Marilyn and Theron Pace.

Jeanne Koenig for recovery, Lucas as he has been harassed at Mifflin Board meetings, Jessica Callender who is recovering from surgery, requested by Lucas Shea.

Prayers for our LGBTQ+ students, advocates and families, requested by Jessica Callender

Scotty and Regina who are dealing with aggressive cancers, requested by Jeanne Fortier.

Anita and family at the loss of Kevin, Cheryl recovering from cancer surgery and Maryann diagnosed with cancer, requested by Tina Kundig.

Jerri in her ongoing battle with cancer, requested by Alison and Bob Schooley.

Jerry Bean, who fell and broke his hip. Surgery was last week.

**Brookside Community Prayer requests:**

**Dino** for his lower extremities.

**Judy** is grateful to rise each morning and God's work and blessing amid the tragic floods in Texas.

**Georgia** requests God's comfort amidst losing two close relatives this week.

**Lay Ministry Visitations -**

**Bob Bray** who is homebound and would like prayers as he goes through medical issue.

**Continuing prayers for:** Nancy Sturlaugson, & Nancy Newsome, Mac & Donna Barnes; Walter, brother of Ginger Close; Jeanne Koenig.

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

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

**\*\* The people of Israel and Palestine.**

**\*\* Peace.**

**Let us pray for Peace and Justice in Ukraine.**

## Public Policy and Witness Weekly Prayers

(<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/>)

### ***FOR VICTIMS OF TERROR AND THOSE WHO SEEK PEACE***

*Almighty God, source of justice and our everlasting hope, through your prophet Isaiah you spoke of a day when terror shall give way to peace. We mourn with all communities shattered by violence, where lives are stolen, and fear thrives in darkness. Comfort those who grieve and shelter the wounded in your mercy. Strengthen all who stand for justice and peace in places torn by hatred. Guide leaders and neighbors alike to reject vengeance and pursue reconciliation. Give us courage to name evil, faith to hold fast to your promises, and love to overcome fear. Through Jesus Christ, our light in the darkest hour. Amen*

*"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, or an update please include it on those slips  
or contact the Pastor at/ or the church office.*

*Rachel Reeder, Pastor*

*Kimberly Amin, Organist*

*Lauren Schafer, Administrative Assistant*

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*[PastorRachel@FirstLutheranRedlands.org](mailto:PastorRachel@FirstLutheranRedlands.org)*

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