



Today we celebrate the Confirmation of thirty youth. With their affirmation of faith, we are reminded that Christ calls us to be an active participant in His Community. Each of us has unique talents, gifts, passions and personality, but none of these help if they are hidden away. Only when we are willing to open up and share these unique pieces of ourselves can we share God's light with the world! How will you share God's light with the world?

*\*those who are able may stand*

*+those who are able may kneel*

Preparation for Worship

+Silent Prayer

Greeting

Prelude

**++ God Gathers Us Together ++**

\*Thanksgiving for Baptism

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Assembly: Amen.**

Leader: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,

**Assembly: we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.**

Leader: Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters

**Assembly: and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.**

Leader: Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

**Assembly: At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.**

Leader: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

**Assembly: Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

Leader: To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Assembly: Amen.**

\*Gathering Song

"Immortal, Invisible, God only Wise"

Hymn 834

\*Greeting

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

Assembly: **And also with you.**

\*Kyrie

ELW Page 203

\*Canticle of Praise

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\*Prayer of the Day

Leader: Let us pray. Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

Assembly: **Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**++ God Speaks to Us ++**

Children's Sermon

Pastor Charlie Zimmerman

Lesson

Exodus 34:29-35

Pages 80-81

\*Gospel Acclamation



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

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

\*Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

Page 968

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon "The Mystery of Love" Pastor Charlie Zimmerman

\*Hymn of the Day "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" Hymn 802

**++ We Respond to God's Grace ++**

\*Apostles' Creed ELW Page 105

Offering and Signing of Fellowship Books

Musical Offering

\*Offertory "For the Fruit of All Creation" Hymn 679, v. 3

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.  
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us.  
Most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

**++ God Empowers and Sends Us ++**

+Prayers

Leader: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

**Assembly: Hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

Leader: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Assembly: Amen**

\*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**

\*Benediction

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**Assembly: Amen.**

\*Sending Song "Alleluia, Song of Gladness" Hymn 318

Leader: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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*To share this service or hear it again, please visit  
the website [Worship page](#) later this week or request a CD.*

*After 8:45 and 9:00 worship, you are invited to the Fellowship Hall/Cafe for coffee and  
conversation, then attend the Faith Formation class of your choice at 10:00 am.*

**We will receive into membership** by the sacrament of Holy Baptism today at this service Finn Callum Riley, son of Tai and Denise Riley. Godparents are Katie Ries and Michael Berent. Grandparents are Jean and Tom Ries and Kevin and Jane Riley. Youth assisting is Patrick Riley. The Baptismal Napkin was lovingly made by a member of the former Lydia Shenk Circle.

## *Thank You to Those Serving Today*

**Lay Reader:** 8:45: Wayne Ford

**Flowers in the Worship Room are given to the glory of God** by Susan Brodeur in memory of Kim Freitag, Sydney's faith friend for confirmation and by Jean Lapeirre in celebration of Sarah Lapeirre's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

## *Prayer Concerns*

**Congratulations to** Jason and Mary Aufdemberg upon the birth of a son, Elliott Lloyd on 2/9. The rose on the altar today is in recognition of the joy which is shared by the parents and the congregation and is provided by the Sullivan-Huddle Circle.

**Karen Brown celebrates her 10 year anniversary at FLC this month!** Please join us for a reception in her honor on February 28 at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to write a note or card for Karen on this special occasion, please leave in the church office for Maryellen Paton or bring with you on the 28th. Thank you, Karen, for sharing your musical gifts with FLC for the past decade!!



**Warm greetings to all who have come to worship. Your presence is a blessing for us. Please be ready to respond to outreached hands and words of gladness. Faith Formation begins at 10:00 am. Nursery care is available for those up to 4 years old.**

## *Congregational Ministries*

**The overview of the NCD process which was to be held on January 31 at 10 AM in the fellowship hall has been rescheduled for Sunday, February 21 at 11 am in the Fellowship Hall.** The information about Natural Church Development in last month's newsletter is still available online on the News page by opening the January 17—January 30 First Focus and scrolling to page 3.

**WELCA Bunko night is Friday, Feb 19 starting at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall.** Please sign-up on the WELCA board. All females are welcome...any age as long as they can keep up with the play...bring a friend! Looking forward to seeing you there!

**School for Young Children Benefit Concert...**Tuesday, February 16 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring family and friends to a night of music brought to you by professional musicians who happen to live in your community, attend your church, or send their children to this wonderful preschool! The concert is free but a donation of \$5 is being suggested with all proceeds going to benefit the children of SFYC.

**If you like to cook** - here is a great way to support FLC's once-a-month dinner commitment to Greensboro Urban Ministry (GUM)! We need cooks willing to pre-make a Chicken Tetrazzini casserole (in a 9 x 13 disposable pan) for our February GUM dinner. Please e-mail [carol@firstlutheran.com](mailto:carol@firstlutheran.com) or see the youth board near the library to sign up and pick up the recipe. We will need the casseroles in our church refrigerator by Wednesday, February 24. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth & Families will be preparing, serving and providing the rest of this dinner on Thursday night, February 25.

**The Nominating Committee is beginning the process** of identifying and selecting nominees for the following positions: Council Vice President (3 year term, moving from VP, to President, and lastly At Large member), Stewardship Chair (2 year term), Endowment Committee (2 year term), and Nominating Committee (2 year term). Forms can be picked up in the church office or you can have it emailed to you, and can be placed in the nominating committee box in the church office. All forms should be returned by March 1.

## *Youth Ministries*

**24-Hour Hunger Lock-In Event Has Been Rescheduled!** All Youth Grades 7-12 are welcome to join! Friday, February 26, arrive at FLC at 7 pm Event ends Saturday, February 27 at 1:30 pm. Cost- \$13 (covers t-shirt and supplies & 'break-fast' meal). Fasting Time by the honor system begins at 12:30 pm Friday. \*\*Sign up by February 14 (or re-confirm your participation) on the youth board!

**Service Project and Pizza for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders on Sunday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>, from 4-6:15 pm** in the Fellowship Hall: We're making catnip toys for local animal shelter. Please bring old socks (no holes!) and \$4 to cover supplies and food. Pizza, drinks, and dessert will be served.

## *Children's Ministries*

**Children's Ministry Planning Meeting...** Anyone interested in planning for Children's Ministry please join us as we plan for the 2010-2011 year, on Sunday February 28 at 10:15 or immediately following the reception for Karen Brown in Room 1.

**Parents, do you talk to your kids about Sex?** We are offering a forum for parents to discuss when, how and why as Christians do we talk to our children about sex. Dr. Rob Harmon will lead us in how to answer tough questions and when is the timing right. Please join us on Sunday February 21 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a friend!

## *Community Ministries*

**THANK YOU!** Thanks for mentoring children about the joy of giving and sharing by generously providing \$1,068 for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal, 441 cans of food, 82 jars of jelly (and 25 jars of peanut butter) to fight hunger on SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY! You easily surpassed 2 of the 3 goals, and jars of jelly are still being taken in Frank Moore's office.

**Explore discipleship at First Lutheran** in the New Beginnings Class at 10 am, March 7 in the parlor. The class focuses on discipleship through a Lutheran lens and gives an overview of ministries here. The next joining date is March 14. Questions? Please ask a pastor or Frank Moore, [frank@firstlutheran.com](mailto:frank@firstlutheran.com), 292-9125 Extension 102.

**CHICKS FOR CHANGE!:** For Lent 2010, parents and other caring adults can teach children to show love in action through God's Global Barnyard!

"Chicks for Change" will focus on collecting 100 chicks for a needy part of the world, **Little chicks can make a big difference!** Within a few months of birth, chicks begin laying eggs. Eggs make nutritious meals for growing children, and the extra eggs generate income to grow a small business.

From February 21 though April 4 (Easter), look near the library for a bulletin board full of chicks. Pick a chick, sign it (or buy one or more with friends!) and post it on the board. When we reach 100 chicks, which cost \$10 each, the pastors will appear in a chicken suit or mask to thank everyone! You'll want to see that! Also, little paper banks will be distributed.

Stay tuned for updates, a Children's Message and announcements! Please make checks to First Lutheran Church or the ELCA World Hunger Appeal and put "chicks" on your offering envelope.

Community Ministries and Children's Ministries are working together so that children will learn about sharing and caring. For more information, ask coordinator Amy Schenck (540-8395, [aschenck73@gmail.com](mailto:aschenck73@gmail.com)), Denise Riley, Frank Moore or go to [www.elca.org/hunger/barnyard](http://www.elca.org/hunger/barnyard).

## *Stewardship*

**GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.** Discover how to get connected with mission and ministry at and through First Lutheran by contacting Rachel Gardner (Congregational Ministries), Maryellen Paton (Worship Ministries), Kimberly Embry (Community Ministries), Kathy Peterson (Stewardship Ministries) or Jackie Freeman (Administration Ministries) or any staff member. Call the church office, 292-9125, for email addresses or phone numbers.

### ***"The Week That Changed The World"***

February 17 (Ash Wednesday) through April 4 (Easter Sunday)

Our Lenten Journey at First Lutheran Church will take us back in time to explore that pivotal and climactic "Last Week" in Jerusalem for Jesus and his disciples. Over time, the events of that week became what Christians now call "Holy Week", culminating in one of Christianity's major festivals and biggest celebrations -- Easter Sunday and the Resurrection of our Lord. What really took place in that last week? Why did Jesus die, and who killed Jesus? What were his last and most urgent teachings for his followers, knowing that his time on earth was short? And of course, what are the implications for our faithful following of Jesus in Greater Greensboro and the world in the year 2010?

Together we'll experience and read about Holy Week, one day at a time, using the Gospel According to Mark as our major source. The earliest of the four New Testament gospels -- written about 70 AD -- Mark presents a unique account of that infamous week through his combination of both "history remembered" and "history interpreted". Our pastors and other leaders will also be utilizing Marcus Borg's and John Dominic Crossan's book "The Last Week" as a resource for preaching, teaching, devotions and reflection.

You are invited to join the journey in a number of ways, including:

- + Weekly Sunday Sermon series, beginning Sunday, February 21
- + Mid-week worship, reflection and conversation on Tuesdays at 11 AM, and Wednesdays at 7 PM, including Holy Communion
- + Daily Devotional Guide written by Pastors Jay, Charlie and Brady Faggart, for use from February 21 through April 4
- + Children's Sunday School classes that follow the Holy Week story
- + Weekly Take-Home materials for families for sharing faith in the home
- + Some of our adult classes on Sunday morning will discuss the weekly themes

You are invited to join the Lenten Journey as we experience together *"The Week That Changed The World."*