

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**  
**April 27, 2025**



**First Evangelical & Holy Cross Churches**  
**2740 Parker Ave.**  
**West Palm Beach, FL 33405**  
**[www.felcwpb.com](http://www.felcwpb.com)**

*“We are a community of churches and a church to the community.”*

## WELCOME / INVOCATION

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN: *"Morning Has Broken"*



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.  
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.  
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

## **GREETING**

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

**C:** And also with you.

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**P:** The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence, drawing near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find help in times of need. Christ, the light of the world, has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. Let us confess our sins.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination*

**P:** Gracious God,

**C:** We confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**P:** There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You, who were lost, are found. Hear the good news of the Gospel: in accordance to the command of our Lord Jesus, and by his authority alone, I forgive you the entirety of all your sins.

**C:** Amen.

## HYMN OF PRAISE: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

### *Refrain*



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. . .

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our guest preacher this morning is **Sera Butz**. Thank you for sharing the Gospel with us!
- Please join us after worship for **refreshments** in the Fellowship Hall.
- A memorial service will be held for **Patrick Gilland** on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. at the South Florida National Cemetery, 6501 State Road 7, Lake Worth, FL.
- **Tabernacle Church of Restoration** (with Pastor Frantz Beaubrun) is having their Women's Group 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration here this afternoon from 3:00-6:00 p.m. Congratulations!
- We are having **Vacation Bible School** on June 24-25-26 from 6:30-8:00 pm. We need volunteers - contact Kaitlyn Hallett to sign up. Registration for youth 1st to 5th grade (ages 6-12) will open at a later date.
- First Lutheran's **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary subcommittee** (gathering names, addresses) will meet following worship today in the Fellowship Hall.
- The elementary aged children are excused to take part in our **FLAME Sunday School** following the announcements.

## **FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32**

<sup>27</sup> The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. <sup>28</sup> “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,” he said. “Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man’s blood.”

<sup>29</sup> Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings! <sup>30</sup> The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. <sup>31</sup> God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. <sup>32</sup> We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

**R:** Word of God, Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God**

## **SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8**

<sup>4</sup> John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits[a] before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

<sup>7</sup> “Look, he is coming with the clouds,”

and “every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him”;

and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.”

So shall it be! Amen.

<sup>8</sup> “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

**R:** Word of God, Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God**

## **GOSPEL READING: John 20:19-31**

**P:** The Holy Gospel, according to Saint John.

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

<sup>19</sup> On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

<sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

<sup>30</sup> Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**SERMON**

Serenity Butz

## HYMN OF THE DAY: *We Walk By Faith*



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are  
5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter  
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
you are near and seek where you are found:  
and the word, be - neath the bread and wine,  
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

## APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.**

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

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen**



## THE OFFERING



*Your OFFERING is received in the back of the church. Separate BOXES are available for both Holy Cross & First Evangelical churches.*

**For First Evangelical only, you can give online at [www.felcwpb.com](http://www.felcwpb.com)  
Or TEXT2GIVE 844-504-1678**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and Praise.**

**SONG:** “*Holy, Holy, Holy*”

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of pow’r and might,  
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER

**C:** 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.

### THE DISTRIBUTION – CONTINUOUS FORMAT *(Silence is appreciated)*

We practice Open Communion at Holy Cross and First Evangelical. If you believe that the Holy Sacrament carries with it the promises of the forgiveness of sins and eternal life and are a **baptized Christian** – you are welcome to receive. We do ask, however, that younger children who have not yet been instructed in the meaning of the sacrament - please come to the chancel for a blessing but refrain from receiving. Grape juice is in the center of the communion trays.

### BENEDICTION/ BLESSING

**P:** Holy God, who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn,  
now and always.

**C: Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL SONG: *Go My Children*



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.  
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

## DISMISSAL

**P:** Christ is risen.

**C:** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

**P:** Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.

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

**WELCOME** to all and thank you for joining us in worship today as we give thanks and praise to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We pray that the service will be meaningful and uplifting for you. If you are a first-time visitor, please sign the Guest Register. You are invited to stay for coffee and refreshments following the service. We very much would like to greet you and hope to make you feel welcome.

### **Serving in Worship**

<b>Pastors</b>	- Rev. Daniel D. Baker & Rev. Dr. Michael Breznen
<b>Crucifers</b>	- Tom Kalorgis, Hilkka Schroderus-Rowe
<b>Liturgists</b>	- Dianne Breznen, Sera Butz
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	- Dianne Breznen, Sera Butz, Hilkka Schroderus-Rowe
<b>Sound/Live Stream</b>	- Ken Burton
<b>Video</b>	- Sera Butz, Scot Alexander

	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Next Week</b>
<b>Musicians</b>	Sandra Baran	CAC-WPB
<b>Lector</b>	Judith Miller	Hilkka Schroderus-Rowe

### **Remember in Prayer**

We pray for peace between nations and peoples and for just resolutions to the conflicts throughout the world – especially the people of Israel and fellow believers facing life-threatening persecution; those in war-torn countries; for all members of our armed services and law enforcement personnel; for our country and our nation's leaders; for the Church, Church leaders, for **Youth for Christ**, and all faithful witnesses to the Gospel; for our missionaries – **Anthony and Soyoung Sellari** and their work in Egypt.

We pray for comfort and peace for the family and friends of **Patrick Gilland**. We also pray for God's healing presence to be with: **Patrick Murphy** – addiction; **Elizabeth Ducally**- breast cancer (Tracy Graham's mother); **Cyndy Sellari** - for healing; **Joan Cannon** – health issues; and members of the **Holy Cross and First Evangelical Church** families who are at home and unable to attend.

Holy Cross prayer requests: **Sandy Waldron, Carl Lindstrom, Trish, Lou Lanza, Allan, Carson, David S., Gertrude, Holly, Katie, Linda, Marilynn, Patrick and Christopher.**

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### **First Evangelical & Holy Cross Churches**

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Church Office Hours  
Monday – Wednesday – Friday  
9 a.m. until 1 p.m.