

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**  
**Sunday, July 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 to worship with First Evangelical and Holy Cross churches. We come together for worship each Sunday to share in the ministry and mission of our Lord Jesus Christ with our own unique traditions and history. Seven other Christian ministries are located onsite with us.

If you are a guest or visitor and would like to know more about First Evangelical or Holy Cross, please reach out to one of our ushers, pastors, or fill out a welcome card and drop it in the offering boxes. Thank you for joining us in worship this morning. May God bless you.

## WELCOME / INVOCATION

**SONG:** *Blessed Assurance* – Frank Eddie

- 1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine;  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

### CHORUS

This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

- 2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending, bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

- 3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

## 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.

**SONG:** (Frank Eddie & Maxine Davidson leading worship)

- *Lord, I lift your name on high*
- *Here I am to worship*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . .

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Are you looking for a **church home**? Join us! Talk to one of the pastors or call or email the church office (See information on back cover of bulletin). We have a group we are welcoming on August 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Help feed a friend with our **Food Drive** this summer! Dry goods are being collected at the back of the church and given to the Palm Beach County Food Bank. Please, **NO GLASS** items. Jhadha delivered **92 pounds** of food last week, helping to provide over **77 nutritious meals** to families, children, seniors and individuals in need throughout Palm Beach County. This mission project will continue through August, keep the food coming! Thank you.
- Join us for a **delicious lunch** following worship today in the Fellowship Hall.

**CHILDREN'S CLASS:** *The elementary-aged children are excused for **Sunday School class**.*

## FIRST READING: Genesis 18:20-32

*In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom for the sake of the few righteous people there, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.*

<sup>20</sup> Then the Lord said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous <sup>21</sup> that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know."

<sup>22</sup> The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the Lord. <sup>23</sup> Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup> What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? <sup>25</sup> Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

<sup>26</sup> The Lord said, "If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

<sup>27</sup> Then Abraham spoke up again: "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes, <sup>28</sup> what if the number of the righteous is five less than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five people?" "If I find forty-five there," he said, "I will not destroy it."

<sup>29</sup> Once again he spoke to him, "What if only forty are found there?" He said, "For the sake of forty, I will not do it."

<sup>30</sup> Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak. What if only thirty can be found there?"

He answered, "I will not do it if I find thirty there."

<sup>31</sup> Abraham said, "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, what if only twenty can be found there?"

He said, "For the sake of twenty, I will not destroy it."

<sup>32</sup> Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?"

He answered, "For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it."

R: Word of God, Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God**

## SECOND READING: Colossians 2:6-19

*The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about “the empty lure” of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection which is enacted in baptism.*

<sup>6</sup> So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

<sup>8</sup> See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

<sup>9</sup> For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, <sup>10</sup> and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. <sup>11</sup> In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh[b] was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, <sup>12</sup> having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

<sup>13</sup> When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, <sup>14</sup> having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. <sup>17</sup> These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ. <sup>18</sup> Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you. Such a person also goes into great detail about what they have seen; they are puffed up with idle notions by their unspiritual mind. <sup>19</sup> They have lost connection with the head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God**

## **SERMON READING: Acts 3:1-10**

*The power of Pentecost makes you better than a beggar.*

### **Peter Heals a Lame Beggar**

**3** One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. **2** Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. **3** When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. **4** Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” **5** So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. **6** Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” **7** Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. **8** He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. **9** When all the people saw him walking and praising God, **10** they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

**SERMON**

Pastor Michael Breznen

***SERMON SONG*** by Maxine Davidson

## CONFESSION & 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.**

## 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 or Scan QR Code.



## **THE PRAYERS**

### **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.

### **SANCTUS** - *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Holy, Holy, Holy,

Lord, God of Hosts

Heaven and Earth

Are full of Your Glory!

Hosanna! (Hosanna!)

In the Highest

Blessed is he who comes

In the name of the Lord!

Hosanna! (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.

**SONG:** *The Blood* – Maxine Davidson

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

## **BENEDICTION/ BLESSING**

## **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**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> | Frank Eddie, Maxine Davidson | CAC-WPB          |
| <b>Lector</b>    | Judith Miller                | Gary Sellari     |

### **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 God’s healing presence to be with: **Leona; George & Susan Butz** (Sera’s parents); **Linda Zier** – lung cancer (Lori Kinney’s friend); **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: **Lisa & Don, Sandy Waldron, Carl Lindstrom, Trish, Lou Lanza, Allan, Carson, David S., Gertrude, Holly, Katie, Linda, Marilynn, Patrick and Christopher.**

Visit, like, and follow us on our social media platforms and website.



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

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