

WELCOME TO WORSHIP
Sunday, August 3, 2025



First Evangelical & Holy Cross Churches
2740 Parker Ave.
West Palm Beach, FL 33405
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: *Our God* by Chris Tomlin

Verse:

Water You turned into wine
Opened the eyes of the blind
There's no one like You
None like You

Into the darkness You shine
Out of the ashes we rise
There's no one like You
None like You

Chorus:

Our God is greater, our God is stronger
God, You are higher than any other
Our God is healer, awesome in power
Our God, our God

Verse:

Water You turned into wine
Opened the eyes of the blind
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Bridge:

And if our God is for us, then who
could ever stop us?
And if our God is with us, then what
can stand against?

And if Our God is for us, then who
could ever stop us
And if our God is with us, then what
can stand against?

Then what could stand against? X2

Chorus:

Our God is greater, our God is stronger
God, You are higher than any other
Our God is healer, awesome in power
Our God, our God

SONG: *Because of Who You Are* by Vicki Yohe

Verse:

Because of who you are,
I give you glory
Because of who you are,
I give you praise
Because of who you are,
I will lift my voice and say
Lord, I worship you
because of who you are

Because of who you are,
I give you glory
Because of who you are,
I give you praise
Because of who you are,
I will lift my voice and say
Lord, I worship you
because of who you are

Chorus:

Jehovah Jireh, my provider
Jehovah Nissi, Lord,
you reign in victory
Jehovah Shalom, my Prince of Peace
And I worship you
because of who you are

Verse:

Because of who you are,
I give you glory
Because of who you are,
I give you praise
Because of who you are,
I will lift my voice and say
Lord, I worship you
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Chorus:

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And I worship because of who you are
x3

SONG: *Agnus Dei* by Michael W Smith

<p>Verse: Alleluia, Alleluia For the Lord God Almighty reigns Alleluia, Alleluia For the Lord God Almighty reigns</p> <p>Alleluia, Alleluia For the Lord God Almighty reigns Alleluia, Alleluia For the Lord God Almighty reigns</p> <p>Alleluia</p> <p>Chorus: Holy, Holy Are You Lord God, Almighty Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb</p> <p>You are Holy, Holy Are You Lord God, Almighty Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb</p> <p>Amen</p>	<p>Verse: Alleluia, Alleluia For the Lord God Almighty reigns</p> <p>Alleluia, Alleluia For the Lord God Almighty reigns</p> <p>Alleluia</p> <p>Chorus: Holy, Holy Are You Lord God, Almighty Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb</p> <p>You are Holy, Holy Are You Lord God, Almighty Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb</p> <p>You are Holy, Holy Are You Lord God, Almighty Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb</p> <p>Amen x3</p>
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . .

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through 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 17th.
- **Mission Update:** Gary Sellari will be giving an update this morning from Anthony & Soyoung Sellari, our missionaries in Egypt.
- First Evangelical's **Church Council** will be next Sunday (8th) after worship.
- First Evangelical's **Centennial Anniversary Committee** will meet on August 17th after worship.
- 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 MESSAGE

*The elementary-aged children are excused for FLAME, our **Sunday School class**.*

From our missionaries Anthony and Soyoung Sellari:

May grace and peace be with you in Cairo! Thank you so much for your continued prayers and support while we serve in Egypt.

It's hot summer here again (temperatures are over 107 degrees Fahrenheit and 85 degrees Fahrenheit at night). I want to update you on what's happening here. Soyoung and I lead Bible studies three times a week (not counting Soyoung's two 1-1 Bible trainings), which is a great blessing. Usually, 3-8 people gather in a group, read a chapter of the Bible, share their thoughts on the chapter, and find answers to questions. We share our thoughts for 2 hours.

Unlike lecture style Bible studies, it requires us (those who attend) to think for ourselves, which helps us not forget what we've learned, and apply it to our lives. We (and the Holy Spirit) told ourselves we should do it after all. Not someone telling us what to do.

Soyoung is in charge of all the worship services while the senior pastor of our church is away for a month. We have a very tight schedule, including leading daily prayer meetings, Friday services, Sunday services, Saturday dawn services (5:30 am), and 1:1 discipleship, home visits, and new believer education. We continue to send food boxes (for 300 households) to Syrian and Sudanese refugees every month.

In addition, we continue to provide scholarships (15 or more children) once a year to Sudanese school students. They cannot attend public schools, and their average annual income of \$2,000 per household is not enough. I can't tell you the names of the groups here, but there are several groups of Muslims who have converted to Christianity, and we are also helping them. The church leaders we work with train them and hold retreats to encourage them to seek the Lord more firmly.

We also support a farm (no name). There, we also support those who newly share our faith in Jesus and have been rejected by their families as a result. The ones on the farm raise chickens and sell fresh eggs to make a living. These are primary source of eggs, actually.

We are praying for wisdom so that God's grace can flow to places where it is needed more through the Good Samaritan ministry. During the recent missile attack by Iran, our church members provided temporary shelter for a few days for temporary refugees who came overland from Israel. This is the third time since we came here (2019) that we have accepted refugees from three conflicts involving Israel.

It seems to be the eighth armed conflict that Israel has been involved in in the past six years. I know that many people have been praying for peace in the Middle East for a long time, but I continue to pray that God's kingdom will bring peace here. I think many problems will disappear if everyone finds the peace and love of Christ. Actually, this letter took me a while to write. During that time the war in Israel quieted down (Alhamdulillah! Praise be to God!) and they have since returned to Israel.

Please pray for: wisdom and vitality in leading Bible studies and discipling new believers. For Sudanese refugee families to meet Jesus and stay with Him. For the continued unity and vision of our ministry team. Thank you for your support and prayers!

Anthony and Soyoung Sellari

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

² Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹² I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³ applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴ I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18} I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹ —and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³ For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹ In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

SERMON READING: Acts 4:1-13

Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin

⁴ The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. ² They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. ³ They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. ⁴ But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.

⁵ The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. ⁶ Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. ⁷ They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹ If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, ¹⁰ then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹ Jesus is

“the stone you builders rejected,
which has become the cornerstone.”

¹² Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

¹³ When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

R: The Word of The Lord

C: Thanks be to God

SERMON

Pastor Michael Breznen

HYMN "The Church's One Foundation"



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
by schisms. . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

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 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.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

P: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C: Amen

BENEDICTION/ 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.

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

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

	This Week	Next Week
Musicians	CAC-WPB	Sandra Baran
Lector	Gary Sellari	Kathrine Summers

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: **Kirk, Leona, Lisa & Don, Sandy, Carl, Trish, Lou, Allan, Carson, David S., Gertrude, Holly, Katie, Linda, Marilynn, Patrick and Christopher, George & Susan Butz** (Sera’s parents); **Linda Zier** – lung cancer (Lori Kinney’s friend); **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.

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



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2740 Parker Avenue
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Church Office Hours
Monday – Wednesday – Friday
9 a.m. until 1 p.m.