

WELCOME TO WORSHIP
Sunday, September 21, 2025
15th Sunday after Pentecost



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: *Friend of God*

SONG: *We Fall Down*

Verse

Who am I that You are mindful of me
That You hear me when I call
Is it true that You are thinking of me
How You love me it's amazing
(Repeat)

Chorus

I am a friend of God
I am a friend of God
I am a friend of God
He calls me friend
(Repeat)

[Verse] *(1 time)*

[Chorus] *(1 time)*

Bridge

God Almighty, Lord of Glory
You have called me friend

God Almighty, Lord of Glory
You have called me friend

God Almighty, Lord of Glory
You have called me friend

[Chorus] *(1 time)*

Verse

We fall down
We lay our crowns
At the feet of Jesus
The greatness of
Mercy and love
At the feet of Jesus

Chorus

And we cry holy holy holy
And we cry holy holy holy
And we cry holy holy holy
Is the Lamb

[Verse] *(1 time)*

[Chorus] *(2 times)*

SONG: *Worthy of it All*

Verse

All the saints and angels,
they bow before Your throne
All the elders cast
their crowns before the Lamb of God and sing
(Repeat)

Chorus

You are worthy of it all
You are worthy of it all, Jesus
For from You are all things
And to You are all things
You deserve the glory!

[Verse] *(1 time)*

[Chorus] *(2 times)*

Bridge

Day and night, night and day, let incense arise
Day and night, night and day, let incense arise!
Day and night, night and day, let incense arise!
Day and night, night and day, let incense arise
Day and night, night and day, let incense arise!
Day and night, night and day, let incense arise!

[Chorus] *(1 time)*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . .

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another.
Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the
grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our hearts go out to the family and friends of **Franklin Eddie**, who went to be with the Lord this last Thursday. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Arrangements are pending.
- The **Centennial Committee** will meet on 28th after worship to continue planning for our Centennial Celebration on Sunday, April 12, 2026. We will be sending out “Save the Date” postcards in October.
- Can you help us with **ushering** or **greeting** for worship? We need people to open doors, welcome visitors, hand out bulletins, provide security, clean up, and direct people for communion or other needs? We will provide training on Sunday, October 5th after lunch (11:45 a.m.).
- Do you love decorating and a heart for worship? Come find out more about our **Altar Guild** on Sunday, October 19th after lunch (11:45 a.m.). Join our team that blesses our worship by preparing for communion and baptisms, put up banners, paraments, and seasonal decorations. Join us after lunch (11:45 a.m.) in the sanctuary as we offer a training and opportunity to serve in this special ministry.
- The **Palm Beach Atlantic University - Symphonic Band and Symphony** will be performing a concert here in our sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. on October 11th at 7:30. The Symphony and Symphonic Band will unite for a powerful performance featuring a diverse repertoire. From sweeping symphonic movements to bold, brassy marches, this performance will showcase the talents of their dedicated student musicians. \$15 general admission; PBA students and those under 18 free.
- **Conniston Middle School** is in need of the following items to be donated so they can hand them out to students in need. The need is great throughout the year. Drop off items until October 1st when we'll deliver them to school.
Mesh Backpacks (clear or mesh fabric) - Glue Sticks
Notebooks with lined paper - Pencil Pouches
- 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**.*

FIRST READING: Amos 8:4-7

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

⁴ Hear this, you who trample the needy
and do away with the poor of the land,

⁵ saying,

“When will the New Moon be over
that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath be ended
that we may market wheat?”—

skimping on the measure,
boosting the price
and cheating with dishonest scales,

⁶ buying the poor with silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
selling even the sweepings with the wheat.

⁷ The Lord has sworn by himself, the Pride of Jacob: “I will never forget anything they have done.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

2:¹ I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. ⁷ And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING: Luke 16:1-13

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

The Parable of the Shrewd Manager

16:¹ Jesus told his disciples: “There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. ² So he called him in and asked him, ‘What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.’

³ “The manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg— ⁴ I know what I’ll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.’

⁵ “So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’

⁶ “‘Nine hundred gallons of olive oil,’ he replied.

“The manager told him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.’

⁷ “Then he asked the second, ‘And how much do you owe?’

“‘A thousand bushels of wheat,’ he replied.

“He told him, ‘Take your bill and make it eight hundred.’

⁸ “The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. ⁹ I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

¹⁰ “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. ¹¹ So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? ¹² And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?

¹³ “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Daniel Baker

HYMN: "Be Thou My Vision"



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Father of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

P: Everlasting Father,

C: We confess how we have not lived as your people.

**We serve many masters—work, wealth, power, addictions—
yet find no hope in them.**

**We hear the cries of the poor,
and shut the doors of our hearts to them.**

We ridicule those who expose their hopes and dreams to us.

**Forgive us, our compassionate God,
and heal us of our brokenness.**

**Make us well, so that by our healing,
we might be the hope and love others need in their lives,
even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,
brought these gifts to us,
calling us to be faithful
with the grace, peace, and joy entrusted to us.**

P: Now that we have let go of the pain,
the bitterness, the anger of our lives,
let us be kind, tender-hearted, and gentle towards each other,
forgiving as God has forgiven us.

**C: We are God's beloved children,
and will model God's grace and love in our hearts.
Thanks be to God! We are forgiven! 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.

SONG: “*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

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

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

	This Week	Next Week
Musicians	CAC-WPB	Sandra Baran
Lector	Judith Miller	Vince Burkhardt

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. Sympathy and peace for the family and friends of **Franklin Eddie**.

We pray for God’s healing presence to be with: **Cynthia Amsden, Dylan Bauer, John Ackerman, Leona, Lisa & Don, Sandy, Carl, Trish, Lou, Allan, Carson, David S, Gertrude, Holly, Katie, Linda, Marilynn, and Patrick; Lesley Hogan** (friend of Katherine Summers); **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.



First Evangelical & Holy Cross Churches

2740 Parker Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL 33405
Ph: 561-833-9653
Website: felcwpb.com
Email: info@felcwpb.com

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