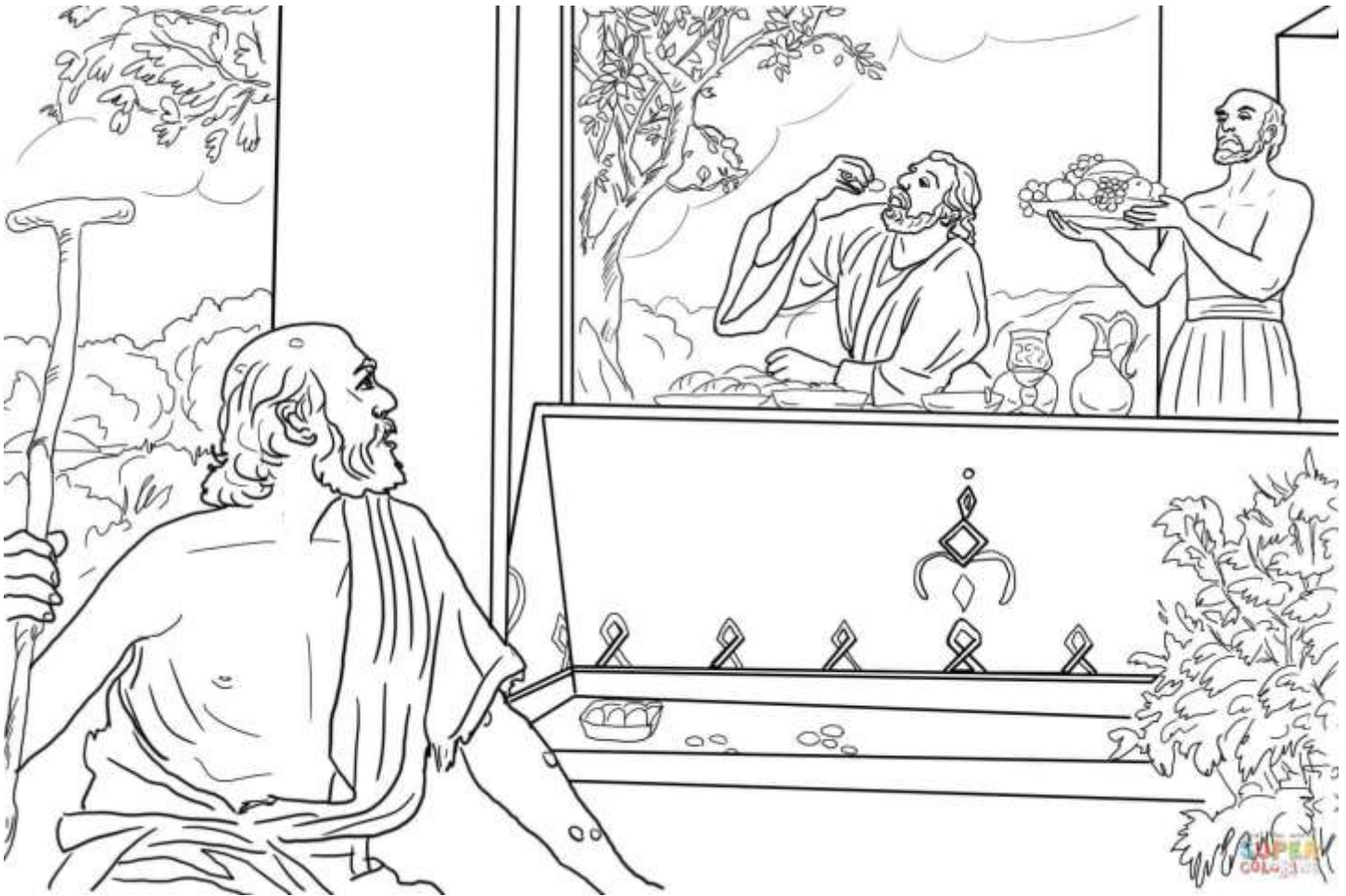


WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Sunday, September 28, 2025

16th 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

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "All Are Welcome"



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -

Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:

all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: *“What Does the Lord Require of You?”*
Sung by the Church Choir

What does the Lord require of you?
To seek justice and love kindness
And to walk, humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . .

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us
with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We will have a brief Memorial Service for Frank Eddie after worship this Sunday in the front of the sanctuary. There will be a funeral service on Monday at Brooks Memorial Home, 275 Warburton Ave, Yonkers, NY 10701. See <https://www.brooksmemorialhome.com>
- The **Centennial Committee** will meet today 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 Orchestra** will be performing a concert here in our sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. on October 11th at 7:30. The Symphony Orchestra 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 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.

⁶ Woe to you who are complacent in Zion,
and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
you notable men of the foremost nation,
to whom the people of Israel come!

⁴ You lie on beds adorned with ivory
and lounge on your couches.
You dine on choice lambs
and fattened calves.

⁵ You strum away on your harps like David
and improvise on musical instruments.

⁶ You drink wine by the bowlful
and use the finest lotions,
but you do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph.

⁷ Therefore you will be among the first to go into exile;
your feasting and lounging will end.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: **Thanks be to God**

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, we will

be content with that. ⁹ Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

¹¹ But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING: Luke 16:19-31

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰ At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹ and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

²² “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ So he called

to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’

²⁵ “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

²⁷ “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, ²⁸ for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

²⁹ “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

³⁰ ““No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

³¹ “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Michael Breznen

Sermon Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³ But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. ¹⁵ For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: ¹⁷ Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

¹⁸ Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

SPECIAL MUSIC: *"Take our Bread" Sung by the Church Choir*

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 or TEXT2GIVE 844-504-1678 or Scan QR Code.



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.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus’ name.

Amen.

BENEDICTION/ BLESSING

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL SONG: "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics in Spanish and English. The lyrics are: "En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá / The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give, / pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal. / to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live. / Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar / The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain / un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor; / to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name; / me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad. / that falls to you and me and all who are made free. / A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad. / Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day." The score consists of six staves of music, each with a line of Spanish and English lyrics underneath. The music is in 4/4 time, with a tempo of moderate. The lyrics are written in a simple, sans-serif font.

En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,
pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.
Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain
un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
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me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.
A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

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	Sandra Baran	Sandra Baran
Lector	Vince Burkhardt	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. Sympathy and peace for the family and friends of **Franklin Eddie**.

We pray for God’s healing presence to be with: **Dennis, Bill, 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.

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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.