

WELCOME TO WORSHIP
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Sunday, February 8, 2026



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: Open the Eyes of My Heart

[Verse]

Open the eyes of my heart Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see you
I want to see you

Open the eyes of my heart Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see you
I want to see you

[Chorus]

To see you high and lifted up
Shinin' in the light of Your glory
Pour out your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy

[Verse] (2 times)

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

[Chorus] (2 times)

[Chorus]

To see you high and lifted up
Shining in the light of your glory
Pour out your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy
Holy (holy, holy, holy)
I want to see you

SONG: No Body

[Verse]

Behold the Lamb, upon the cross
Who takes away, the sins of all
Forgiveness flows, from hands and feet
As violence meets, the Prince of Peace
Behold the King

[Chorus]

Light of the world, Lamb that was slain
Lion who rose, mighty to save
The fullness of God, won't be kept in a grave
Darkness your hour is over

[Verse]

Behold the love, His dying plea
Behold the grace, of Calvary
That rugged cross, soon to be
The emblem of, a risen King
Behold the King

[Chorus] (2 times)

Light of the world, Lamb that was slain
Lion who rose, mighty to save
The fullness of God, won't be kept in a grave
Darkness your hour is over

[Bridge] (4 times)

No enemy can hold You down
'Cause there's no body in the grave now
One head gets to wear that crown
'Cause there's no body in the grave now

[Chorus] (2 times)

Light of the world, Lamb that was slain
Lion who rose, mighty to save
The fullness of God, won't be kept in a grave
Darkness your hour is over

SONG: Great Are You Lord

[Verse]

You give life, You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, You restore
Every heart that is broken
Great are You, Lord

[Chorus]

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only

[Verse]

You give life, You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, You restore
Every heart that is broken
Great are You, Lord

[Chorus] (2 times)

[Bridge] (3 times)

All the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing
Great are You, Lord

[Chorus] (2 times)

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . .

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Welcome** to worship with First and Holy Cross churches! Remember to join us for a delicious lunch today following worship today in the Fellowship Hall.
- We are welcoming our former interim pastor, **Carsten “Judd” and his wife Theresa Ludder** as our special guests in two Sundays as a part of our Centennial Celebrations this year.
- Are you looking for a **church home**, or do you know someone who might be? Please contact the office or talk to one of the pastors for more information.
- **First Ev. Church Council** will meet in the Fellowship Hall after worship.
- **Holy Cross’ – Church Council** will meet after worship today in the sanctuary, the *Annual Congregational* meeting will be after worship on February 15th.
- Would you like to know what’s happening at church each week? Receive a brief email from Pastor Dan called “**First Word**” by emailing him at felcpastor1@gmail.com. You can unsubscribe at any time.
- Join us on **Ash Wednesday**, February 18th, for the imposition of ashes. Drop by from noon to 1:00 or 6:00-7:00 p.m. for a brief prayer and ashes. Beginning February 25th, we will have a study on the **Miracles of Jesus**. Come at 6:30 for a soup supper, and the study begins at 7:00 pm. In the Fellowship Hall.

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-12

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

58:¹ “Shout it aloud, do not hold back.

Raise your voice like a trumpet.

Declare to my people their rebellion

and to the descendants of Jacob their sins.

² For day after day they seek me out;

they seem eager to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that does what is right

and has not forsaken the commands of its God.

They ask me for just decisions

and seem eager for God to come near them.

³ ‘Why have we fasted,’ they say,

‘and you have not seen it?’

Why have we humbled ourselves,

and you have not noticed?’

“Yet on the day of your fasting, you do as you please

and exploit all your workers.

⁴ Your fasting ends in quarreling and strife,

and in striking each other with wicked fists.

You cannot fast as you do today

and expect your voice to be heard on high.

⁵ Is this the kind of fast I have chosen,

only a day for people to humble themselves?

Is it only for bowing one’s head like a reed

and for lying in sackcloth and ashes?

Is that what you call a fast,

a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶ “Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:

to loose the chains of injustice

and untie the cords of the yoke,

to set the oppressed free

and break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your food with the hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—
when you see the naked, to clothe them,
and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

⁸ Then your light will break forth like the dawn,
and your healing will quickly appear;
then your righteousness will go before you,
and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you will call, and the Lord will answer;
you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.

“If you do away with the yoke of oppression,
with the pointing finger and malicious talk,
¹⁰ and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the oppressed,
then your light will rise in the darkness,
and your night will become like the noonday.

¹¹ The Lord will guide you always;
he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land
and will strengthen your frame.

You will be like a well-watered garden,
like a spring whose waters never fail.

¹² Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins
and will raise up the age-old foundations;
you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls,
Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. ² For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. ⁴ My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, ⁵ so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.

⁶ We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷ No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. ⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ However, as it is written:

“What no eye has seen,
what no ear has heard,
and what no human mind has conceived”—

the things God has prepared for those who love him—

¹⁰ these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.

The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. ¹¹ For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. ¹³ This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. ¹⁴ The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. ¹⁵ The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments, ¹⁶ for,

“Who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 5:13-20

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Matthew.

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

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Michael Breznen

VIDEO ANTHEM

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: Most merciful God,

C: We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and are not worthy to be called your children. Have mercy on us and turn us from our sinful ways. Bring us back to you as those who were once dead but now have life, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in love. Through the Holy Spirit God gives life, freedom from the power of sin, and resurrection from the dead. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Live and walk in the newness of life.

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.



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

BLESSING

P: May our God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit
who has put a new song in your mouth
and tuned your heart for praise
✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

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
Communion Assistants	- Dianne Breznen, Hilkka Schroderus-Rowe
Sound/Live Stream	- Ken Burton
Video	- Sera Butz, Scot Alexander

	This Week	Next Week
Musicians / Singer	CAC-WPB	CAC-WPB
Lector	Hilkka Schroderus-Rowe	Vince Burkhardt
Ushers	Katherine S., Judith M.	Katherine S., Judith M.
Greeters	Bob S. & Susan M.	Bob S. & Susan M.

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: **Debbie Ann, Luis & Foil, Saul & Martha, Carol & Darryl, Dennis, Bill, Cynthia, Dylan, John, Leona, Lisa & Don, Raj, Sandy, Carl, Trish, Lou, Allan, Carson, David, Gertrude, Holly, Katie, Linda, Marilynn & Patrick; Lesley; Linda; Cyndy; Joan;** 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.