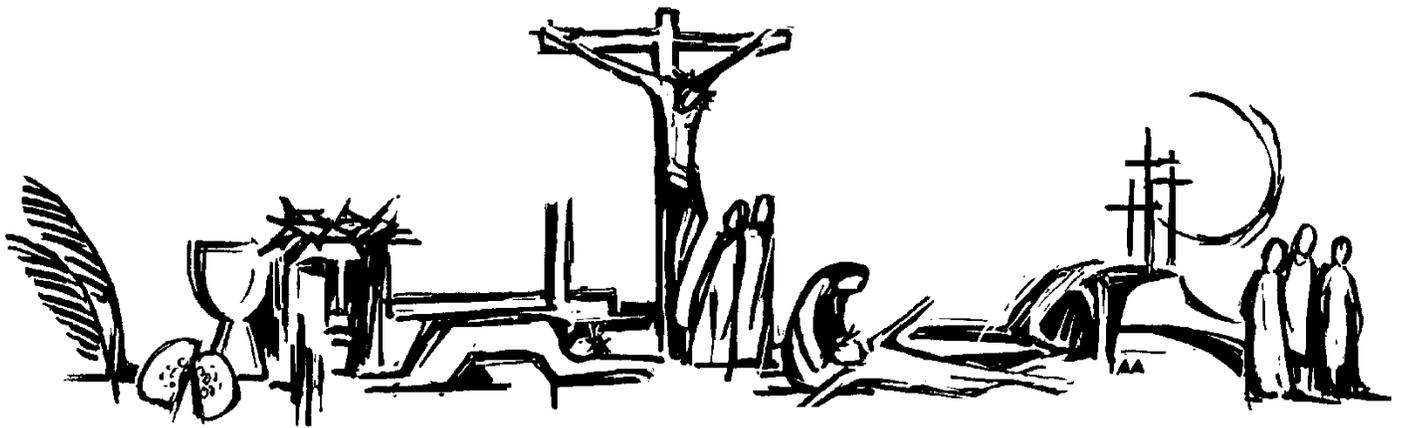


**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**  
Sunday, February 22, 2026  
**First Sunday in Lent**



**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

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "My Life Flows On in Endless Song"



1 My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en-ta-tion,  
2 Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing.  
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv-eth.  
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion.  
It finds an ech-o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE:** *"The Lord is My Light"* - Emely Rowan

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. . .

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Welcome** to worship with First and Holy Cross churches! Remember to join us for a delicious lunch today following worship in the Fellowship Hall.
- Today we are welcoming our former interim pastor, **Carsten “Judd” and his wife Teresa Ludder**, as our special guests as a part of our Centennial Celebrations this year. Let’s thank them for all their ministry with us!
- We will be honoring the life of **Cyndy Sellari** with a funeral service at the church on Monday, February 23, 2026. The viewing will begin at 10:00, followed by the service at 11:00 in the sanctuary. A meal will be served in the chapel at 1:00 PM. Please keep Cyndy’s family in your prayers.
- Join us for our weekly Lenten study this Wednesday! We will discover the meanings behind the miracles of **Jesus feeding the 5000 and 4000**. The soup supper begins at 6:00 and study at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. It’s free!
- Mark your calendars! Join us for a beautiful evening concert with the **Palm Beach Atlantic Symphony Band** on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door.

## **CHILDRENS MESSAGE**

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

## **FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7**

<sup>15</sup> The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. <sup>16</sup> And the Lord God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; <sup>17</sup> but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”

**3** Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

<sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

<sup>4</sup> “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. <sup>5</sup> “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

<sup>6</sup> When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

**R:** Word of God, Word of Life

**C:** Thanks be to God

## **SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

<sup>13</sup> To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone’s account where there is no law. <sup>14</sup> Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

<sup>15</sup> But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! <sup>16</sup> Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. <sup>17</sup> For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

<sup>18</sup> Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. <sup>19</sup> For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

**R:** Word of God, Word of Life

**C:** Thanks be to God

#### **GOSPEL READING: Matthew 4:1-11**

**P:** The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Matthew.

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

**4** Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

<sup>4</sup> Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. <sup>6</sup> "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you,  
and they will lift you up in their hands,  
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup> “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’” <sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

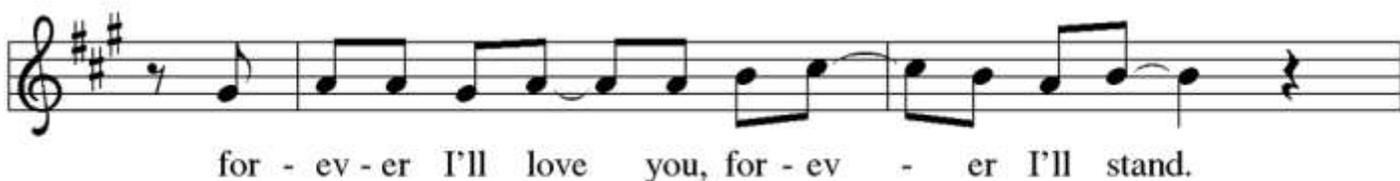
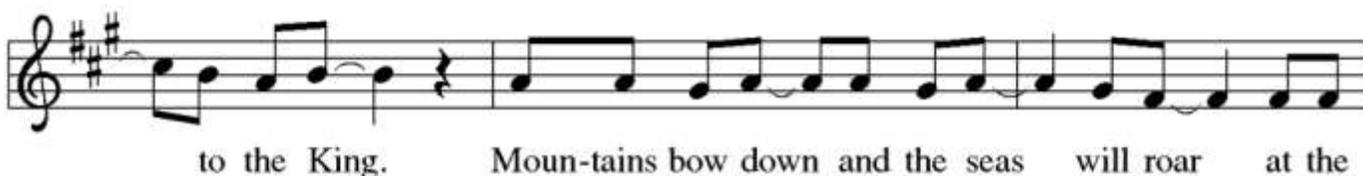
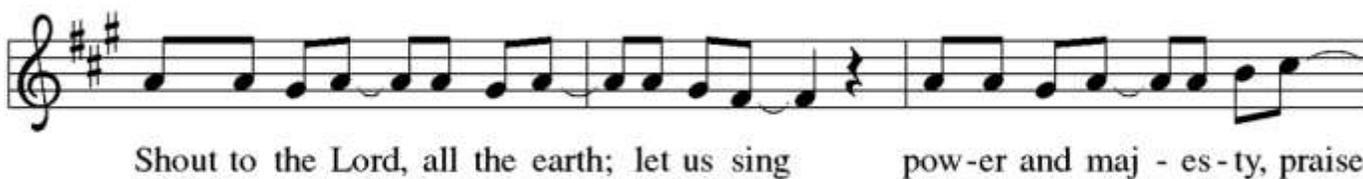
**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**SERMON**

**Pastor Carsten J. Ludder**

## HYMN OF THE DAY: "Shout to the Lord"



# CHURCH CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY PASTORAL RECOGNITION

Pastor Carsten “Judd” and Teresa Ludder

## 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.



## 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**

### **THE BLESSING**

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:

God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us,  
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,

✠ bless you now and always.

**C: Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL SONG: "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"

The image shows a musical score for a recession song. It consists of seven staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes in Spanish and English. The music is in a simple, melodic style with a steady rhythm. 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."

En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá  
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pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.  
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.  
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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 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, Hilka Schroderus-Rowe
- Liturgists** - Dianne Breznen
- Communion Assistants** - Dianne Breznen, Hilka Schroderus-Rowe
- Sound/Live Stream** - Ken Burton
- Video** - Sera Butz, Scot Alexander

	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Next Week</b>
<b>Musicians / Singers</b>	Sandra Baran, Emely Rowan (voice) & Tammy Roggen (flute)	CAC-WPB
<b>Lector</b>	Bob Krauss	Judith Miller
<b>Ushers</b>	Katherine S., Judith M.	Katherine S., Judith M.
<b>Greeters</b>	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: **Sellari Family, Debbie Ann, Luis & Foil, Saul & Martha, Carol & Darryl, Dennis, Bill, Cynthia, Dylan, John, Lisa & Don, Raj, Sandy, Carl, Trish, Lou, Allan, Carson, David, Gertrude, Holly, Katie, Linda, Marilynn & Patrick, Lesley, Linda, Joan** 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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**First Evangelical & Holy Cross Churches**

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

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