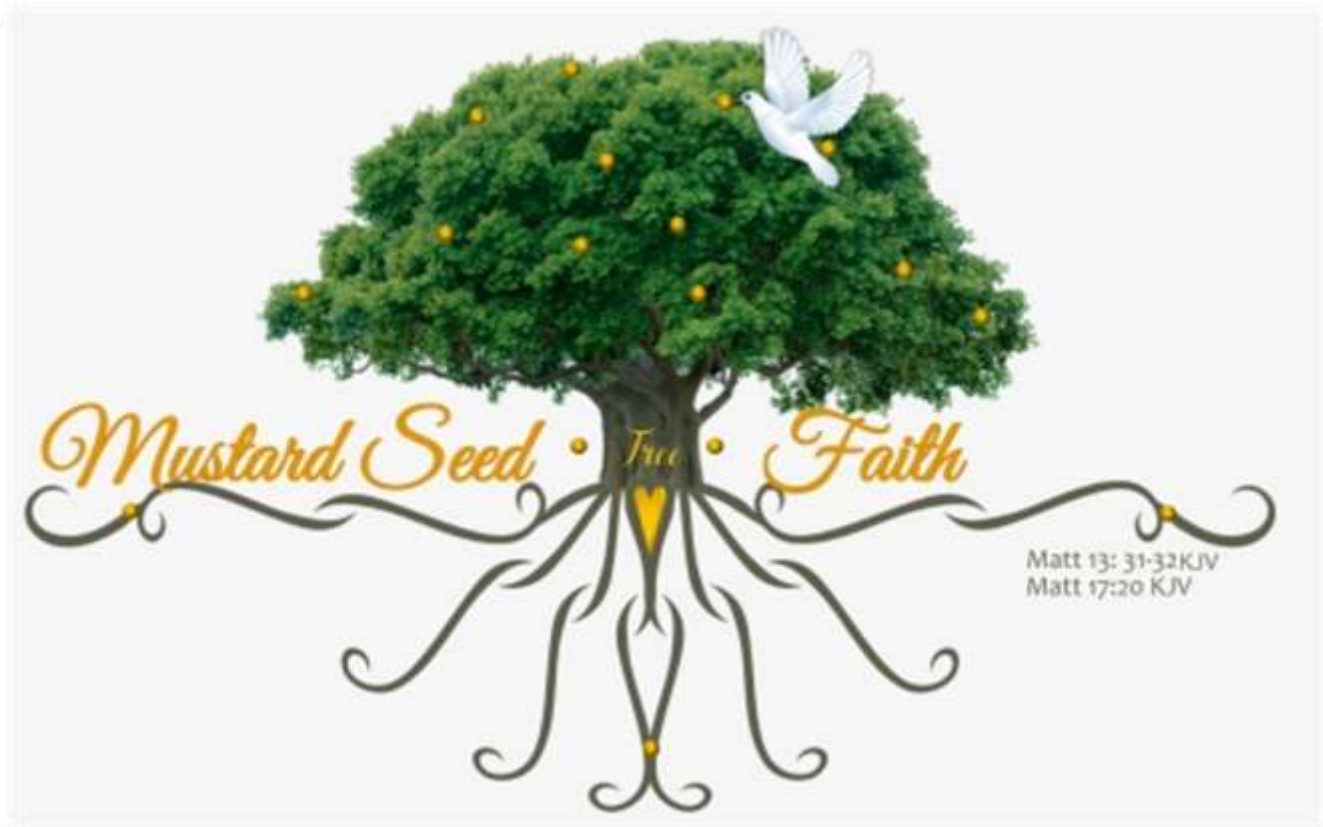


WELCOME TO WORSHIP
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 26, 2026



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

PROCESSIONAL SONG: *Our God*

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
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
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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

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

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: *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
Great are You, Lord

Repeat Verse

Chorus (x2)

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

Bridge (x3)

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

Chorus (x2)

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

SONG: “How Great is Our God”

Verse 1

The splendor of a King, clothed in
majesty

Let all the Earth rejoice

All the Earth rejoice

He wraps himself in light

And darkness tries to hide

And trembles at His voice

Trembles at His voice

Chorus

How great is our God, sing with me

How great is our God, and all will see

How great, how great is our God

Verse 2

Age to age He stands

And time is in His hands

Beginning and the end

Beginning and the end

The Godhead Three in One

Father Spirit Son

The Lion and the Lamb

The Lion and the Lamb

Repeat Chorus 2x

Bridge

Name above all names

Worthy of our praise

My heart will sing

How great is our God

You're the name above all names

You are worthy of our praise

And my heart will sing

Repeat Chorus

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . .

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through 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 Evangelical and Holy Cross churches. If you would like more information about our churches, please talk to one of the pastors, call, or email the office. We look forward to hearing from you!
- Thank you to Carol Roberts for providing special music during communion.
- Please join us for lunch following worship today in the Fellowship Hall.
- Would you like an Anniversary T-shirt or Polo? How about special souvenir pens, stickers, or hats? Or a color program from the afternoon? All are still available from the office.
- We're looking for volunteers to help with Vacation Bible School this spring. Mark your calendars for June 15-19, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Our theme this year is: "True North", where the kids will have an unforgettable Alaskan adventure! Registration will begin soon for 4-&5-year-olds and elementary youth.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² "He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING: John 10:1-10

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint John.

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

[Jesus said:] ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON READING:

MATTHEW 13:31-32 The Parable of the Mustard Seed

³¹ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. ³² Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

SERMON

Pastor Michael Breznen

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 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.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

*I Know It Was the Blood and/or
Jesus You're the Center of my Joy*

Solo by Carol Roberts

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

AARONIC BLESSING AND BENEDICTION IN HEBREW

P: “The LORD bless you and keep you,
Y’varech’cha Adonai v’yeesh’m’reicha.

The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
Yaer Adonai panav eleicha veechooneka.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.”
Yeesa Adonai panav eleicha v’yasem l’cha shalom.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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.

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/Live Stream** - Scot Alexander/Sera Butz

	This Week	Next Week
Musicians / Singers	CAC-WPB	CAC-WPB
Lector	Bob Krauss	Hilkka Schroderus-Rowe
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: **Hal, Elihana, 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

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