

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Sunday, August 16, 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

OPENING SONG: *"You are good"*

Verse:

Lord You are Good
And your mercy endureth forever
Lord You are good
And your mercy endureth forever

Pre Chorus:

People from every nation and tongue
From generation to generation

Chorus:

We worship you
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
We worship you for who you are.
We worship you
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
We worship you for who you are

Verse:

Lord You are Good
And your mercy endureth forever
Lord You are good
And your mercy endureth forever

Pre Chorus:

People from every nation and tongue
From generation to generation

Chorus:

We worship you
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
We worship you for who you are.
We worship you
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
We worship you for who you are

Bridge:

You are good all the time
All the time, You are good.
You are Good All the Time

All The Time, You are Good
You are Good All the Time
All the Time, You are Good
You are Good All The Time
All the Time, You are Good

Chorus:

We worship you
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
We worship you for who you are.
We worship you
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
We worship you for who you are

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

Pre Chorus:

And great are You, Lord
And 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

Pre Chorus:

And great are You, Lord
And 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
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

Pre Chorus:

And great are You, Lord
And great are You, Lord

Bridge:

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

LITURGICAL DANCE: *“Our God” by Chris Tomlin*

PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Welcome to worship** with First Evangelical and Holy Cross churches. We pray you experience God's love and grace in worship today. Please join us after worship for a delicious **lunch** in the Fellowship Hall.
- Our prayers go out to **Carol Roberts'** husband, Darryl, her family and friends. Carol went home to the Lord this past Wednesday. A Memorial Service in her honor will be held in the Chapel on August 24th at 11:00 a.m.
- First Evangelical's **Church Council** will meet after worship today, Rm #1.
- Help kids at Conniston Middle School by gathering items for our **"Back to School Supplies Drive"** through the end of August – Drop off items include: *mesh backpacks, 6-tab dividers, 1 subject spiral notebooks, three-hole punch pencil pouches, three hole punch rulers, sharpened #2 pencils, magic rub erasers, black-blue-red pens, college ruled notebook paper, reinforcement labels, glue sticks, highlighters.* Place items in the box at the back of church.
- Join us for a **Special Sunday Cultural Meal** on September 6th after worship, featuring an Ecuadorian food prepared by the Luzuriagga family. **RSVP** on the sign-up sheet at the back of church. *Free will offering will be received.*
- **Special Request:** Please do not feed the cats! Our church cats are old and need very special dietary restrictions. Additional unapproved food is causing serious issues for them. They are cared for very well by the Bedwells and Sera, who feed them twice a day; they receive regular veterinarian care.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

56 This is what the Lord says:

“Maintain justice and do what is right,
for my salvation is close at hand

and my righteousness will soon be revealed.

⁶ And foreigners who bind themselves to the Lord
to minister to him,

to love the name of the Lord,

and to be his servants,

all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it

and who hold fast to my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain

and give them joy in my house of prayer.

Their burnt offerings and sacrifices

will be accepted on my altar;

for my house will be called

a house of prayer for all nations.”

⁸ The Sovereign Lord declares—

he who gathers the exiles of Israel:

“I will gather still others to them

besides those already gathered.”

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

11 I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. ² God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Don't you know what Scripture says in the passage about Elijah—how he appealed to God against Israel:

²⁹ for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. ³² For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 15:10-28

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen and understand. ¹¹ What goes into someone’s mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them.”

¹² Then the disciples came to him and asked, “Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this?”

¹³ He replied, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the roots. ¹⁴ Leave them; they are blind guides. If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit.”

¹⁵ Peter said, “Explain the parable to us.”

¹⁶ “Are you still so dull?” Jesus asked them. ¹⁷ “Don’t you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? ¹⁸ But the things that come out of a person’s mouth come from the heart, and these defile them. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person; but eating with unwashed hands does not defile them.”

²¹ Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.”

²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”

²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”

²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.

²⁶ He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”

²⁷ “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”

²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Daniel Baker

HYMN – “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

P: Most Merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake, God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

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 - *(Sung acapella by all)*

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 debts,

As we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

And the power,

And the glory, forever.

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.

AARONIC BLESSING IN HEBREW & ENGLISH

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: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

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	Sandra Baran
Lector	Vince Burkhardt	Gary Sellari
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. **The Family & Friends of Carol Roberts**– may her memory forever be a song in your heart.

We pray for God’s healing presence to be with: **Nick, Jamie, Elihana, Debbie Ann, Saul & Martha, 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.

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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.