

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Sunday, August 23, 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: *“This Is The Day”*

This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made.

This is the day, this is the day
that He rose again, that He rose again
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that He rose again
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that that rose again.

This is the day, this is the day
that the Spirit came, that the Spirit came
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Spirit came
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that that the Spirit came.

(Repeat first verse)

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.

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!

HYMN OF PRAISE: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . .

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

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.
- There will be a **Celebration of Life Memorial Service** for **Carol Roberts** tomorrow at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel. Please keep her husband, Darryl, her family and friends in your prayers.
- We will have a special **Playground Dedication Service** next Sunday! It was installed this past week and will be a blessing to our youth. Check it out!
- **Holy Cross Church Council** will meet on **September 6th** after worship, with a **Special Church Congregational** meeting on **September 13th** after worship, *all* Holy Cross members are encouraged to attend.
- Our "**Back to School Supplies Drive**" for Conniston Middle School ends next Sunday. Please 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 beef stew, prepared by the Luzuriagga family. **RSVP** by September 1st. Sign-up at the back of church. *Free will offering received.*
- **Bible Study** starting September 16th. See details in back of bulletin.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Kenneth Burton, Bonita Griffith, Darryl Roberts

Congregational Response: We welcome you as fellow members, as you join with us in worshipping God, hearing his Word and sharing his supper, proclaiming the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, serving all people, and striving for justice and peace in all the earth.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

51 “Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness
and who seek the Lord:

Look to the rock from which you were cut
and to the quarry from which you were hewn;

² look to Abraham, your father,
and to Sarah, who gave you birth.

When I called him he was only one man,
and I blessed him and made him many.

³ The Lord will surely comfort Zion
and will look with compassion on all her ruins;

he will make her deserts like Eden,
her wastelands like the garden of the Lord.

Joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the sound of singing.

⁴ “Listen to me, my people;
hear me, my nation:

Instruction will go out from me;
my justice will become a light to the nations.

⁵ My righteousness draws near speedily,
my salvation is on the way,
and my arm will bring justice to the nations.

The islands will look to me
and wait in hope for my arm.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
look at the earth beneath;
the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment
and its inhabitants die like flies.
But my salvation will last forever,
my righteousness will never fail.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8

12 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

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 OF THE DAY: "How Firm a Foundation"



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

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.

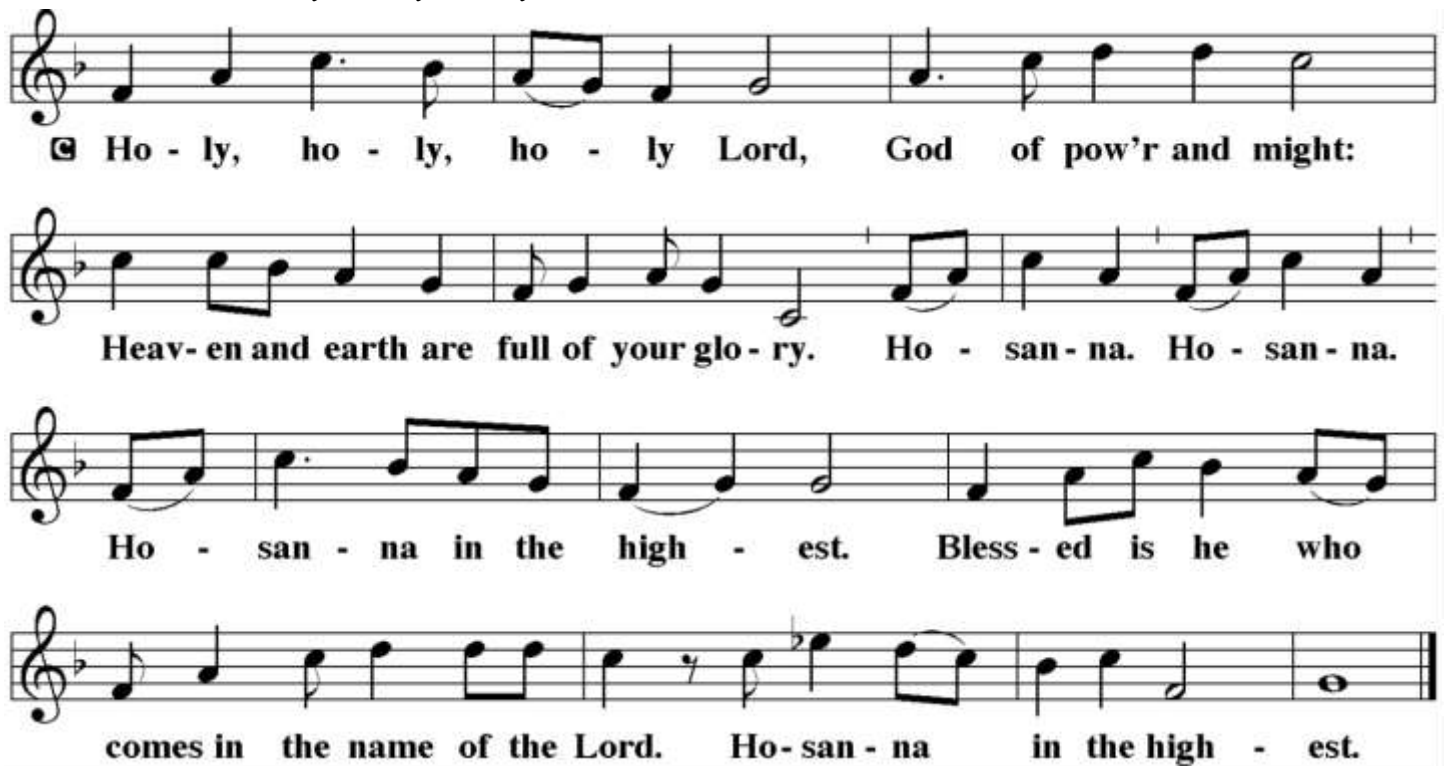
P: Lift up your hearts.

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.

SANCTUS: “*Holy, Holy, Holy*”



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

SOLO: *“The Lord Keep You” - Emely Rowan, accompanied by Sandra Baran*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

RECESSIONAL SONG: "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth/Enviado soy de Dios"

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.

DISMISSAL

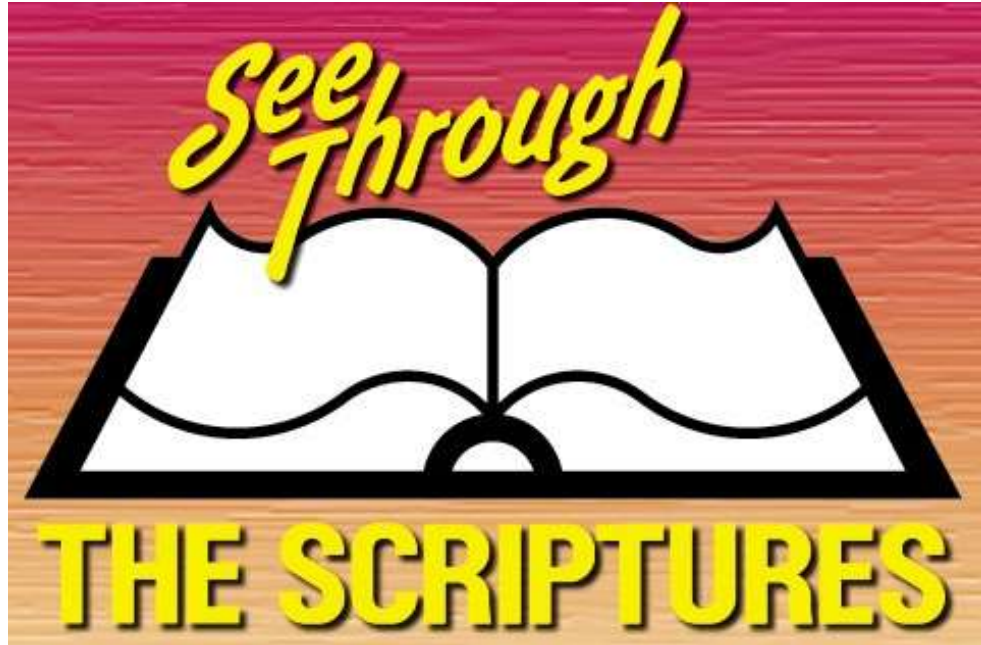
P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

Come grow in the Word of God!

Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

Starting September 16th.



Understanding the Bible can be daunting. ***See Through the Scriptures*** makes the Bible more accessible by taking readers step-by-step through the entire biblical narrative from Genesis to Revelation, putting everything in clear context.

This study uses 44 full-color teaching graphics designed to help people grasp and remember the key events and concepts of the Bible. Students gain a new appreciation for everything that preceded Jesus in order to more fully understand the deeper meaning of His ministry and message of love and servanthood.

We will gather for an hour and a half each week for 10 weeks, walk through 5-6 graphics, and discuss the overarching story we find in the Bible. Along with the guide & workbook, you will receive a full color laminated wall chart that displays the Biblical Timeline, helping you understand the Bible, making reference to names and dates.

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

A snack will be provided. Free materials. Bring your Bible.

September 16, 23, 30

October 7, 14, 21, 28

November 4, 11, 18

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

	This Week	Next Week
Musicians / Singers	Sandra Baran, Emely Rowan, Elijah Bartimore	CAC-WPB
Lector	Hilikka Schroderus-Rowe	Cheryl Richter
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

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.