

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Sunday, October 4, 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: "All Creatures of Our God and King"



- 1 All crea-tures, wor - ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
- 2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
- 3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth - ful, strong; drive far the shad - ows, join the
- 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

- 5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Alleluia.

- 6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: With humility and honesty, let us confess our sins to our God who is slow to anger and quick to forgive.

You may stand or kneel

C: Abundant God, so much of our harmful behavior is rooted in our envy. You have given us our manna – our daily bread – but we want more. We have allowed ourselves to be seduced by commercialism, telling ourselves that we are not complete until we have the nicest things. Forgive us when our actions convey that you are not enough for us. Help us to live our lives simply and faithfully, trusting in your steadfast love to provide all that we need. Amen.

P: Friends, our salvation is not something that can be purchased with money or fame. Our salvation comes from Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ alone. I announce to you this day, your sins are forgiven.

ALL: Alleluia! Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "Make Me A Channel of Your Peace"



1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.



Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your love;
Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope;
It is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned,



where there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord;
where there is dark - ness, on - ly light;
in giv - ing of our - selves that we re



and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
and where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.



3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so



much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be

un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be
D.C. (stanza 4) al coda

loved as to love with all my soul.

Coda

ceive, and in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . .

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, 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. Join us for a delicious lunch following worship in the Fellowship Hall.
- Our condolences to the family and friends of **Joan Cannon**. She went to be with the Lord on September 10th following a brief hospitalization. Services were performed through All County Funeral Home of Lake Worth.
- Join us on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel for our new **Bible Study**, ***"See Through the Scriptures"***. We will go step-by-step through the biblical narrative from Genesis to Revelation, putting everything in clear context.

- There will be a celebration worship service honoring **Pastor Alva and First Lady Elaine Donaldson** on Saturday, October 11th at 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. They have served the Church of God 7th Day for over 50 years. You are also invited to a banquet in their honor their legacy of ministry on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. at the Green Acres Community Center (RSVP).
- A limited first printing of **Pastor Paul F. Arnold's** book ***Martin Luther Exhibition at New Ebenezer*** is now available. This 278-page coffee table book documents his 4000 item collection housed at the New Ebenezer Retreat Center in Rincon, Georgia. The book shares the story of the Lutheran Salzburger, exiled from Austria, who came to Georgia seeking a place of religious freedom and a chance for a new beginning. They built the historic Jerusalem Lutheran Church, now the oldest actively worshipping Lutheran church in America. To order the book, visit [**www.newebenezer.org/shop**](http://www.newebenezer.org/shop).
- **The Light WPB** is hosting a **Job Fair** with Better Together on Saturday, October 17 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Chapel. If you, or you know of someone looking for a job, please share this information with them. Text JOBS to (844) 987-3949 to start. <https://bettertogetherus.org/events/west-palm-beach-fl-job-fair-hosted-by-the-light-wpb-10-17-26/>
- Help us build a safe and secure fence for the new playground! We will have a **“Noisy Offering”** on Sundays, October 4th and 25th during worship. Drop your loose change in the buckets as they pass and make a lot of noise! Your loose change and paper donations will go toward the fencing equipment needed to keep the kids safe from the cars in the parking lot for years to come.

NOISY OFFERING

Our youth will help collect your loose change and paper donations this morning. Please drop them in the buckets as they walk through the church. Let's make some noise!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

The Song of the Vineyard

5 I will sing for the one I love

a song about his vineyard:

My loved one had a vineyard

on a fertile hillside.

² He dug it up and cleared it of stones

and planted it with the choicest vines.

He built a watchtower in it

and cut out a winepress as well.

Then he looked for a crop of good grapes,

but it yielded only bad fruit.

³ “Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah,

judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴ What more could have been done for my vineyard

than I have done for it?

When I looked for good grapes,

why did it yield only bad?

⁵ Now I will tell you

what I am going to do to my vineyard:

I will take away its hedge,

and it will be destroyed;

I will break down its wall,

and it will be trampled.

⁶ I will make it a wasteland,

neither pruned nor cultivated,

and briars and thorns will grow there.

I will command the clouds

not to rain on it.”

⁷ The vineyard of the Lord Almighty

is the nation of Israel,

and the people of Judah

are the vines he delighted in.

And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed;

for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: Hebrews 9:11-14, 23-26

The Blood of Christ

¹¹ But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. ¹² He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. ¹³ The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. ¹⁴ How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

²³ It was necessary, then, for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. ²⁴ For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with human hands that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence. ²⁵ Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own. ²⁶ Otherwise Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But he has appeared once for all at the culmination of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 21:33-46

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Parable of the Tenants

³³ “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. ³⁴ When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

³⁵ “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third.

³⁶ Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. ³⁷ Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said.

³⁸ “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

⁴⁰ “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

⁴¹ “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
the Lord has done this,
and it is marvelous in our eyes”?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. ⁴⁴ Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. ⁴⁶ They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

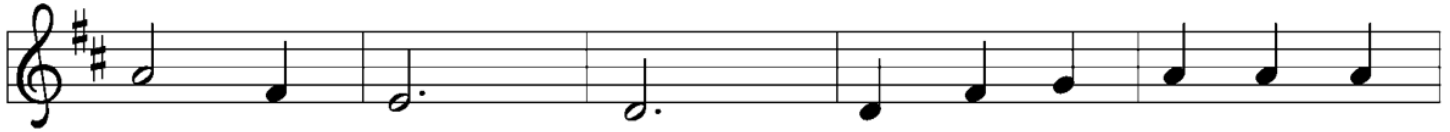
SERMON

Pastor Michael Breznen

HYMN OF THE DAY: "I Want To Walk As A Child of the Light"



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

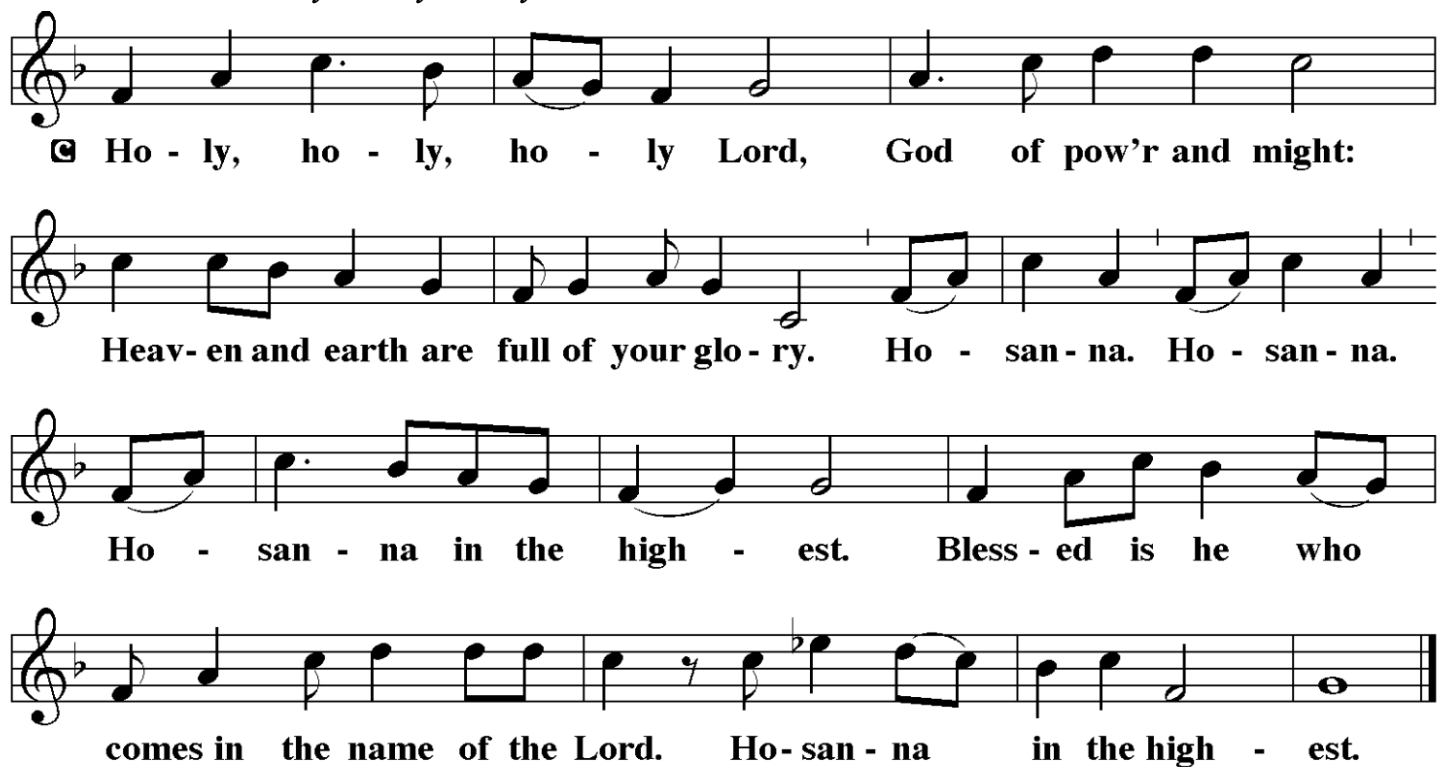
P: Lift up your hearts.

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.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL SONG: "Go My Children"



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

DISMISSAL

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

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	Sandra Baran	CAC
Lector	Susan Moncher	Judith Miller
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. Family & Friends of **Joan Cannon**.

We pray for God’s healing presence to be with: Kay Taylor’s grandson **Matthew, Ken, Addie, Silas, 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**, 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.



The musical and liturgical content is licensed through CCLI #2555583 Sunday & Seasons #SB164185.

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.