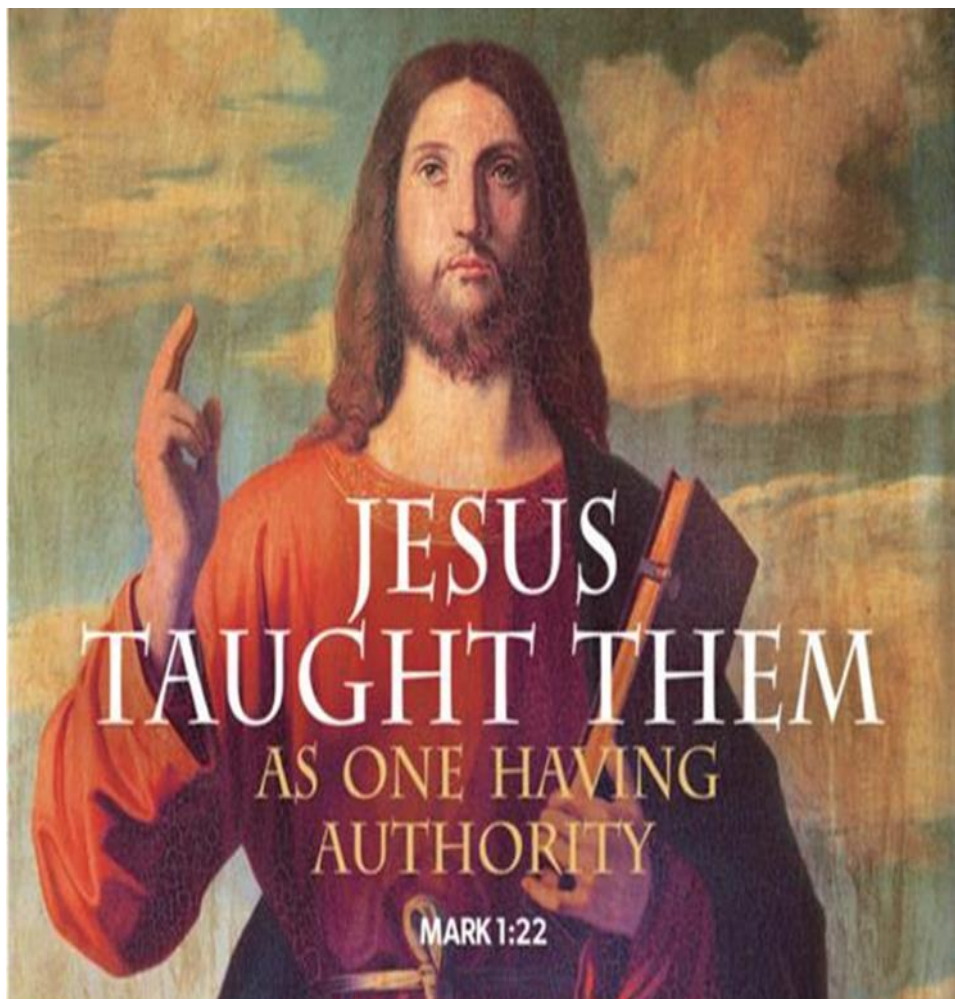


First United Lutheran Church

3481 Campus Loop Road
Kennesaw, GA. 30144
770-427-0325 • www.fulc.org



FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

9:30 am Worship Service

January 28, 2024

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to all who have chosen to worship at First United Lutheran Church today. On your way in you may have received a "Welcome Card" to place in the offering plate. If not, you can find those, along with our guest book, on the left in the hallway exiting the sanctuary.

REMINDERS

Your children are welcome in our worship! At the entrance to the sanctuary, we have tool kits with age-appropriate items to help children participate in worship. Please help your child take a drawer, with supplies and instructions, to your pew and return it to the drawer unit after the service. At the front of the sanctuary there is a quiet play space for younger children. If needed, we also have an unstaffed nursery room located in the hallway to the sanctuary.

As we prepare for worship: Please respect those who are in the sanctuary for meditation and the prelude with silence.

Online worship: To view the service online visit fulc.org and select the worship button on the homepage.

PRELUDE "*Butterfly*" by E. Grieg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

C: Amen.

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

Silence for reflection

P: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God, of one another, and the hosts of heaven. Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and ✙ of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN “*Gather Us In*” (ELW 532)

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

P: Lord Jesus, you raise the dead to life in the Spirit: Lord have mercy.

C: Lord have mercy.

P: You bring pardon and peace to the sinner: Christ have mercy.

C: Christ have mercy.

P: Lord Jesus, you bring light to those in darkness: Lord have mercy.

C: Lord have mercy.

HYMN OF PRAISE “*Gloria*” (page 148)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray:

Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 18:15-20

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: “If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMS Psalm 111

R: *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. (Ps. 111:10)*

C: ¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation. ²Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them. ³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever. ⁴You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion. ⁵You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant. ⁶You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations. ⁷The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure. ⁸They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity. ⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name. ¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God’s praise endures forever.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵Indeed, even

though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA (page 142)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL TEXT Mark 1:21-28

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

After the reading of the Gospel:

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

SERMON HYMN "*There Is a Balm in Gilead*" (ELW 614)

CREED *Nicene Creed*

A: God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Each portion of the prayer ends with these words:

A: God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: and also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING “*Canon of Praise*” by W.A. Mozart

(Place your offering in the offering plate as you enter the nave)

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name, in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

OUR FATHER

P: And now we are bold to pray.

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.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

P: Behold the Lamb of God who bears away the sin of the world.

C: Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE “*Lamb of God*” (ELW page 135)

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Please sit.)

The Communion follows. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. If you are visiting us today, please know that as baptized members of the body of Christ, you are welcome at the Eucharistic Feast.

COMMUNION HYMN “*Healer of Our Every Ill*” (ELW 612)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace to eternal life.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN “Let All Things Now Living” (ELW 881)

SENDING

A: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE “Fanfare” by J. Cook

January 21, 2023 Attendance and Giving

Attendance: 45

Offering: \$ 2725

Simply Giving & E giving: 01/15/24–01/19/24 = \$ 2443

<u>Month of December 2023</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>75K Capital Campaign</u>	
Actual Expenses	\$22,644	Pledged	\$81,457
Actual Giving	\$25,112	Received	\$88,487
Variance	+\$2,465		

Pastor: Randy Jones

Vicar: Kat Folk

Sunday Servants

Serving Today January 28th

Head Counter: Linda Hull

Counters: Frank Hull, Carolyn McCarthy

Assisting Minister: Norm Kendrick

Reader: Jerry Arends

Acolyte: TBA

Musician: Ben Wadsworth

Altar Guild: Lois Gilbert, Lindsay Harris

Ushers: Ed Einert, Dave Gustafson, Peder Fagerholm, Frank Hull (as available)

Serving Next Service February 4th

Head Counter: Harry Grubb

Counters: Kay Grubb, Krista Moran

Assisting Minister: TBA

Reader: TBA

Acolyte: TBA

Musician: Ben Wadsworth

Altar Guild: Diane Moulton, Kelly Francis-Wadsworth

Ushers: Ed Einert, Dave Gustafson, Peder Fagerholm, Frank Hull (as available)

Birthdays for the Month of January

Norm Kendrick III, Alex Spitz, Rose Mary Werner, Carolyn Tabanelli, Krystle Meyer, Emma Harrison, Charlene Gazdik, Ed Gunther, Jacob Mahan, Eva Haitchi, Annabelle Javier-Camesa, Bryana Christman Kendrick, John Beyer

Weekly Calendar Office is Open:

Mon.-Thur., 8:30am-1:30pm

3481 Campus Loop Rd ~ Kennesaw, GA 30144

770-427-0325

You can always visit us at www.fulc.org or contact us at office@fulc.org

SUNDAY: January 28th

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Worship Service

11:00 AM

Living Our Mission

(Fellowship Hall after morning worship)

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Kenyan Baraka Church (FH)

MONDAY: January 29th

TUESDAY: January 30th

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Levites Group (TC)

WEDNESDAY: January 31st

THURSDAY: February 1st

10:30 AM

Thursday Morning Bible Study

FRIDAY: February 2nd

6:30 PM

First Friday Game Night

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM

The Depot AA Meeting (FH)

SATURDAY: February 3rd

Visit <https://www.fulc.org/> and select the worship button on the home page for our online service.



TO REQUEST PRAYERS OR JOIN THE
PRAYER TEAM CONTACT:
LINDA GEORGE AT
PRAYERCHAIN@FULC.ORG

WE PRAY FOR THE FAMILIES OF FIRST UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH
Those in need of healing, comfort and strength:

Pour out your Spirit of comfort, gracious God. Heal your children in need. We pray especially for K Moran's daughter, **Meghan** & friend-**Jamie; Brian**, son of G & S Power; **Pastor Randy; Gene** Douglass; **Jill & Jim Ragsdale;** Vicar Kat's friends, **Bob & Becky;** D & W Mize's daughter, **Stephanie;** Janet Stover & daughter, **Nora,** & neighbor, **Chris; Steve** Hoge; **Mark** Brandau-Shirley; **Harry** Grubb; **Anthony** Ward; **Lisa** Byrn; B Kennell's family **Paul, Mark & Alan;** **Sharon** Moe & **Sherry** Quitter; **Ginnie** Frederick; **Lou & Ardy** Boyer; D Ellsworth & D Moulton's parents, **Roy & Ruth** & friends **Ken & Cindy;** B Newton's family & friends **Terry & Lee, Betty, Brian, Charleen, Tom & Billie; Vi** Tatz; **Barbara** Schwanebeck; D Fischer's mother, **Anne;** Emberg family friend, **Shelly; Mike & Anna** Seden; **Pastor Daryl** Porter; **Molly** Werner; **Jim & Janet** Rooks; **Megan** Mosholder; **Joanne** Einert; **Elsie** Howard; E Tennis' daughter, **Diane.**

Those serving in our military:

Pour out your Spirit of love, glorious God. We pray for your blessings upon the **students, staff & faculty of KSU** and for those bravely serving our country at home and around the world especially Bock Lyke son-in-law in Washington D.C., **Officer Huck Sarin;** Hextell nephew, Illinois **K9 Officer Tyler Post, Brian** Uncapher, Navy; Great grandson of Evelyn Tennis, **Casey Peterson,** Army; & Brandau-Shirley family, **Marshall Wish** currently stationed with his family in South Korea.

Thanksgiving for those who have gone before us:

Pour out your Spirit of peace, resurrecting God. Bring all who grieve into a community rooted in you. We pray especially for K Moran's dear friend, **Ed;** J Griffin's dad, **Jim;** B Newton's BFF from 5th grade, **Doreen;** B Schwanabeck's sister, **Carol.** Uphold their families with your grace and keep us all grounded in your promise of life eternal.

Those in Mission for Christ Overseas:

JULIA & VINCENT Leiyoole 2023 has seen the expansion of their ministry in Sambura, Kenya far exceed all expectations. **ILAG** The Augustinian Lutheran Church in Guatemala & for their pastor, **Karen** Castillo, & her son, **Diego** Gil.