

First United Lutheran Church

3481 Campus Loop Road
Kennesaw, GA. 30144



Life

does not consist
in the abundance
of possessions

LUKE 12:15

LECTIONARY 18

9:30 am Worship Service

July 31, 2022

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.

Alternate worship options: The worship service is available to listen to in our parking lot by tuning your car radio to FM 98.1. To view the service online visit ful.org and select the worship button on the homepage

PRELUDE “*Bruyeres*” by C. Debussy

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit whose steadfast kindness endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: I confess before you, my sisters and brothers here present, and all the hosts of heaven that I have sinned. I have too often put myself before others. I have not cared for those who are in need. I have wounded others by my actions and with my words. I want to do better. Save me from myself and by your Holy Spirit free me from my bondage to sin.

P: Hear the Good News! God is merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast kindness, and relents from punishing. By the death and resurrection of Jesus, our Savior, God has defeated death. Therefore, your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus who is God’s Messiah.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *“Come Thou Font of Every Blessing”*

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.

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

CALL TO WORSHIP (Children & youth of all ages please step out into one of the 2 middle aisles)

ONE: Calling all children and youth of the Living God: the gospel is good news for every age and every stage.

ALL: Let us worship together, the young and the old.

ONE: The good news is proclaimed in God’s words, and also with colorful crayons, pointy pencils, and blank white pages waiting to be filled.

ALL: Let us worship together, every generation.

ONE: We come together with different abilities and disabilities, learning in a rainbow of ways and styles.

ALL: Let us worship together, with our family of faith.

ONE: All are welcome in the arms of Christ who proclaimed, “Let the children come!”

ALL: Let us worship together, united in our eternal hope.

OPENING PRAYER/BLESSING

Let us pray:

God, you came into this world as a baby to be fully human and show us how to be children of God. As a child in the temple, you showed your longing to learn. You have given our children minds that grow and develop in unique ways, and we are astounded by that miracle. You speak to us through the words, actions, and feelings of children. You call us to listen to the Spirit speaking through our young siblings in Christ. Jesus our teacher, as an adult you taught by story and example, guide us as we learn about the world around us. May all schools be lively centers for new discovery and the pursuit of goodness and truth. We thank you for the privilege of education. You have blessed our communities with teachers who take new skills and concepts and pass them along to each new class of young people. There are endless possibilities of what this new year might bring— of what we might learn, who we might meet, and who we might become.

We celebrate the beginning of this school year and ask for your blessings upon the children, the educators, and the families who support them. But in this celebration, we do not forget there are families who

do not have the resources they need. When systems are unjust, the outcomes are unacceptable. Today we remember those who have what they need to learn and grow in safety, and those who lack supplies, teachers and safe buildings. We ask that your blessing will follow the school supply donations made today to the students who receive them. Help these items to be a visual reminder of your immense love for all. We come to worship together, to lift up our young people and all those who care for and teach them. Wrap them in your reassuring love as they face this new school year and let them know you will hold them all the way through.

Amen.

GIVING OF BLESSING CARDS

Now the congregation will share their own blessings with the special cards they have written on for the students.

(please give your card to a youth standing near you).

HYMN OF PRAISE Gloria “To God Be the Glory”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray:

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23

The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher. vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I

must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMS Psalm 49:1-12

R: *My mouth shall speak of wisdom. (Ps. 49:3)*

C:¹Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all you who dwell in the world, ²you of high degree and low, rich and poor together. ³My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding. ⁴I will incline my ear to a proverb and set forth my riddle upon the harp. ⁵Why should I be afraid in evil days, when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me, ⁶the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess, and boast of their great riches? ⁷One can never redeem another, or give to God the ransom for another's life; ⁸for the ransom of a life is so great that there would never be enough to pay it, ⁹in order to live forever and ever and never see the grave. ¹⁰For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them. ¹¹Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation, though they had named lands after themselves. ¹²Even though honored, they cannot live forever; they are like the beasts that perish.

SECOND READING Colossians 3:1-11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed,

then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

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 Luke 12:13-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

After the reading of the Gospel:

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

SERMON HYMN *"Be Thou My Vision"*

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: Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P: Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: and also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING *“Will The Circle Be Broken”*

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

OFFERING PLAYER

A: God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus.

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 ELW, Pg. 144

**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.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

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

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN Angus Dei *“Nothing by the Blood”*

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 *“Softly and Tenderly” & “Just as I Am”*

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: Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.

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 *“When We All Get to Heaven”*

SENDING

A: Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold onto what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *“Back Country Gospel”* by C. Hairston

July 24, 2022 Attendance and Giving

Attendance:

Offering: \$2064.00

Simply Giving & E giving: 07/18/22–07/22/22 = \$1116.00

<u>Month of June 2022</u>		<u>Year to Date</u>		<u>75K Capital Campaign</u>
Actual Expenses	\$25,847	\$158,949		Pledged \$81,457
Actual Giving	\$19,948	\$152,234		Received \$64,792

Pastor: Rev. Randy Jones Sunday Servants Serving Today July 31

Head Counter: Harry Grubb

Counters: Kay Grubb & Krista Moran

Assisting Minister: Ben Harris

Reader: Lindsay Harris

Musicians: Charlie Hairston & Ben Wadsworth

Alter Guild: Lois Gilbert & Rose Werner

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

Serving Next Service August 7th

Head Counter: David Gustafson

Counters: Helen Gustafson & John Camesa

Assisting Minister: Linda Hull

Reader: Bev Metcalf

Musicians: Charlie Hairston & Ben Wadsworth

Alter Guild: Diane Moulton, Lindsay Harris

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

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: July 31st

9:30 AM

Worship Service
Back to School Sunday

MONDAY: August 1st

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Dorcas Circle (SA)

TUESDAY: August 2nd

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Levites Group (TC)
Ewe Are Loved (116)

WEDNESDAY: August 3rd

THURSDAY: August 4th

FRIDAY: August 5th

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

The Depot AA Meeting (FH)

SATURDAY: August 6th

See the Weekly Uniter for the drive-in worship instructions.

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 **Hextell** family; **Roger** Weinhold, **Gladys** Schlegel, **Steve** Hoge; **Jerry** Finley; **Lisa** Byrn; **Debbie** Dubov; **Anthony** Ward; **Gene** Douglass, Carla's sister, **Lori** & their friend, **Tom**; S Link's son, **Chris**; **Marty** & **Steve** Stahlman & her family-**John**; **Vi** Tatz; **Lou** & **Ardy** Boyer; **Damon** Denzin & Lucy's sister, **Lynn**; **Megan** Mosholder; **Ed** Gunther; **Cathy** Hairston, & her father, **Pete** Swenson; P Fagerholm's friend, **Kent**; Pat Warner's sister, **Cathy**; **Lisa** & **Amari** Nyabinghi, Strudthoff's daughter, **Teri**; B Newton's friends-**Ruthann**, **Betty** & **Rink**; **Pastor Porter** of Mt Zion AME Church; **Kara-Sha** Scrudato, a relative-**Sandra** & friend-**Natalie**; **Sharon** Moe & **Sherry** Quitter; **Molly** Werner & her friends **Kayla**, **Keesha** & **Serena**; E Tennis' daughter, **Diane**; Merriman's friends & family, **Carrie**, **Joyce**, **Brian**, **Jane** & **Eddie**; **Carolyn** Tabanelli, N Boccadoro's friends **Marti** & **Owen**, **Brian**, **Jenise**; **Mary** Chegwiddden; H Gustafson's sister, **Terisa** Bunch & their neighbor, **Gaynelle** Rider.

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: BockLyke 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**.

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 Ann Thomas' father, **Elmer** Thomas; Lucy Denzin's father, **Gordon** Lepley; **Bonnie** Hoge; H Gustafson's sister, **Betty** Garrett; N Boccadoro's friend, **Jaelyn** Maxwell. 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 in Kenya, **ILAG** The Augustinian Lutheran Church in Guatemala.