



# “Follow the Leader”

August 28, 2022

# Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church

LCMS

765 E Chinden Blvd. Meridian, ID 83646  
Church and Preschool Phone: 208-288-2404

[www.friendshipcelebration.org](http://www.friendshipcelebration.org)  
[www.fclcpreschool.org](http://www.fclcpreschool.org)

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**Elders Serving Today:**

8:15am Lynn House – 11:00am Blair Peters

August 28, 2022

## Preservice Song: “Ancient of Days”

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall  
There is still one King reigning over all  
So I will not fear for this truth remains  
That my God is the Ancient of Days

None above Him none before Him  
All of time in His hands  
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand  
All the power all the glory  
I will trust in His name  
For my God is the Ancient of Days

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul  
He is here with me I am not alone  
O His love is sure and He knows my name  
For my God is the Ancient of Days

None above Him none before Him  
All of time in His hands  
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand  
All the power all the glory  
I will trust in His name  
For my God is the Ancient of Days

Though I may not see what the future brings  
I will watch and wait for the Savior King  
Then my joy complete standing face to face  
In the presence of the Ancient of Days

None above Him none before Him  
All of time in His hands  
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand  
All the power all the glory  
I will trust in His name  
For my God is the Ancient of Days  
For my God is the Ancient of Days

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## Welcome & Announcements

### Call to Worship

**Pastor:** Glory to God the Father, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ and crowned Him with glory and honor. Glory to God the Son, who lives to plead our cause at the right hand of God and who will come again to make all things new. Glory to God the Holy Spirit, who brings us the taste of the good Word of God and the power of the age to come.

**Congregation:** **Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor, power and might be to our Lord forever! Amen.**

## Opening Song: *“Before the Throne of God Above”*

Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong and perfect plea  
A great High Priest whose name is Love  
Who ever lives and pleads for me  
My name is graven on His hands  
My name is written on His heart  
I know that while in heaven He stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart  
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair  
And tells me of the guilt within  
Upward I look and see Him there  
Who made an end of all my sin  
Because the sinless Savior died  
My sinful soul is counted free  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me  
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there the risen Lamb  
My perfect spotless righteousness  
The great unchangeable I Am  
The King of glory and of grace  
One with Himself I cannot die  
My soul is purchased by His blood  
My life is hid with Christ on high  
With Christ my Savior and my God

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My life is hid with Christ on high  
With Christ my Savior and my God  
With Christ my Savior and my God

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## Friendship Fotos

## First Reading

## Proverbs 25:2-10 ESV

8:15am Mary Lou Heinrich

11:00am Greg Schweigert

<sup>2</sup>It is the glory of God to conceal things,  
but the glory of kings is to search things out.  
<sup>3</sup>As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth,  
so the heart of kings is unsearchable.  
<sup>4</sup>Take away the dross from the silver,  
And the smith has material for a vessel;  
<sup>5</sup>take away the wicked from the presence of the king,  
and his throne will be established in righteousness.  
<sup>6</sup>Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence  
or stand in the place of the great,  
<sup>7</sup>for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"  
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.  
What your eyes have seen  
<sup>8</sup>do not hastily bring into court,  
For what will you do in the end,  
when your neighbor puts you to shame?  
<sup>9</sup>Argue your case with your neighbor himself,  
and do not reveal another's secret,  
<sup>10</sup>lest he who hears you bring shame upon you,  
and your ill repute have no end.

## Epistle

## Hebrews 13:1-17 ESV

<sup>13</sup>Let brotherly love continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. <sup>3</sup>Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. <sup>4</sup>Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. <sup>5</sup>Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." <sup>6</sup>So we can confidently say,

"The Lord is my helper;  
I will not fear;  
what can man do to me?"

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. <sup>9</sup>Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them.

<sup>10</sup>We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. <sup>11</sup>For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. <sup>12</sup>So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. <sup>13</sup>Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. <sup>14</sup>For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. <sup>15</sup>Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. <sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

<sup>17</sup>Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

## Holy Gospel

## Luke 14:1-14 ESV

**14** One Sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. <sup>2</sup>And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. <sup>3</sup>And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" <sup>4</sup>But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. <sup>5</sup>And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" <sup>6</sup>And they could not reply to these things.

<sup>7</sup>Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, <sup>8</sup>"When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, <sup>9</sup>and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. <sup>11</sup>For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

<sup>12</sup>He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup>and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

## **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come 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.

## **Children's Message**

*Joelle Holmquist*

**Friendship Cards/Prayer Requests** *We ask all who are present today to please fill out a Friendship Card and place it on the offering table on either side of the sanctuary. (Any updated member information is especially appreciated!)*

**Offering** *You may give your offering online through the church website [www.friendshipcelebration.org](http://www.friendshipcelebration.org), by signing up for automatic withdrawals which links to savings/checking account or debit/credit card (form is also available on church website), or by mailing your check to the church office.*

## **Sermon Song: "The Servant King"**

From heaven You came, helpless babe  
Entered our world, Your glory veiled  
Not to be served but to serve  
And give Your Life that we might live

This is our God, the Servant King  
He calls us now to follow Him  
To bring our lives as a daily offering  
Of worship to the servant King

There in the garden of tears  
My heavy load He chose to bear  
His heart with sorrow was torn  
"Yet not my will but Yours" He said

This is our God, the Servant King  
He calls us now to follow Him  
To bring our lives as a daily offering  
Of worship to the servant

Come see His hands and His feet  
The scars that speak of sacrifice  
Hands that flung stars into space  
To cruel nails surrendered

This is our God, the Servant King  
He calls us now to follow Him  
To bring our lives as a daily offering  
Of worship to the servant King

So let us learn how to serve  
And in our lives enthrone Him  
Each other's needs to prefer  
For it is Christ we're serving

This is our God, the Servant King  
He calls us now to follow Him  
To bring our lives as a daily offering  
Of worship to the servant King  
Of worship to the servant King

CCLI Song # 78897

Graham Kendrick

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## **Sermon: “Follow the Leader”**

## **Hebrews 13**

Hebrews 13 is a text about Christian living—whom should we imitate, what example should we give? The relationship between the leaders of the church and the people of God is meant to strengthen the heart. Since Jesus is the ultimate leader who does not change, we always have a point of reference and reverence.

### **Core Classes**

What should the Christian life look like?

Note how these are \_\_\_\_\_ instructions. They needed to be taught how to live in relationship to others. We innately know how to live for ourselves.

“Hospitality is a sustained commitment to the belief that how we treat one another matters deeply.”

*Didache* (early Christian instruction manual)

## **Outside the Camp**

Why does it matter *where* Jesus died?

The profane becomes \_\_\_\_\_ and the holy becomes \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Take Me to Your Leader**

Heb. 13:8 and the past, present, future

Why did the “Shepherding Movement” happen?

As a leader, I am to teach people to submit to \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Head (what?)**

Why is showing love to one another a necessity of Christian living?

What benefits are there to be content with what you have?

What spiritual privilege and responsibility does God place on pastors and leaders?

## **Heart (so what?)**

What personal sacrifices has God asked you to endure to follow Him?

Why may we be hesitant to trust, obey and/or imitate our leaders?

Do people think more or less of Jesus by the way you lead your life?

How does discipling someone usher in accountability?

## **Hands (now what?)**

Where is God calling you to “do good” in your home, work, and community?

How will you help your pastor or elder “keep watch over your soul”? (v. 17)

How will you be more mindful of others who are out of sight—strangers, fellow believers in prison, etc?

## **Dedication of Quilts**

Orphan Grain Train is a Christian volunteer network that ships donated food, clothing, medical and other needed items to people in almost 70 countries including the USA. Their mission: “In loving response to Christ, the Servant, the Orphan Grain Train movement encourages and enables God's people to share personal and material resources in bringing Christ's name and character to needy people both far and near.”

Last year, Orphan Grain Train shipped 5.1 million meals to the hungry and malnourished. They gave \$37.7 million worth in humanitarian aid. An amazing 98.2% of all donations go toward Orphan Grain Train mission projects. Only 1.8% of donations go toward administrative and fundraising expenses! They gather supplies from 29 locations across the US. Learn more at [www.ogt.org](http://www.ogt.org).

## **Song of Response** *“Blest Be The Tie That Binds”*

Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above

Before our Father’s throne  
We pour our ardent prayers  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one  
Our comforts and our cares

From sorrow, toil and pain  
And sin we shall be free  
And perfect love and friendship reign  
Through all eternity

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## **Prayers**

Pastor: Eternal God, in all times and places you have provided your church with individuals who have been used to point others to you. We are grateful for the testimony of the great cloud of witnesses who surround your throne:

for the apostles and first believers...

for those in the early church...

for the martyrs of all ages...

for those who have reformed the church in every age

for those who have ministered to us

For these great examples of the faith we give you praise.

As we join this communion of saints, we pray that we too may be worthy witnesses for you

in our care of creation...

in our interaction with people of other nations and ethnicities...

in our respect for those in authority...

in our care for those in our broader community...

in our support of Christians around the world...  
in our daily lives of ministry...  
as we support persons with particular needs, especially...  
In all of this we look forward to the day when we will join those who  
have gone before us in praising you, the one eternal God, forever and  
ever.

**Congregation: Amen.**

## **Sending**

Pastor: Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to  
strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without  
knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in  
prison with them. Be content with what you have. And remember that  
God has promised, "I will never leave you or forsake you."

## **Blessing**

Pastor: The God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will,  
working among us that which is pleasing in God's sight, through Jesus  
Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever!

**Congregation: Amen.**

## **Closing Song: "I Will Follow"**

When the sea is calm and all is right  
When I feel Your favor flood my life  
Even in the good I'll follow You  
Even in the good I'll follow You

When the boat is tossed upon the waves  
When I wonder if You'll keep me safe  
Even in the storms I'll follow You  
Even in the storms I'll follow You

I believe everything that You say You are  
I believe that I have seen Your unchanging heart  
In the good things and in the hardest part  
I believe and I will follow You  
I believe and I will follow You

When I see the wicked prospering  
When I feel I have no voice to sing  
Even in the want I'll follow You  
Even in the want I'll follow You

I believe everything that You say You are  
I believe that I have seen Your unchanging heart  
In the good things and in the hardest part  
I believe and I will follow You  
I believe and I will follow You

When I find myself so far from home  
And You lead me where I don't wanna go  
Even in my death I'll follow You  
Even in my death I'll follow You

When I come to end this race I've run  
And I receive the prize that Christ has won  
I will be with You in Paradise  
I will be with You in Paradise

I believe everything that You say You are  
I believe that I have seen Your unchanging heart  
In the good things and in the hardest part  
I believe and I will follow You  
I believe and I will follow You

I believe everything that You say You are  
I believe that I have seen Your unchanging heart  
In the good things and in the hardest part  
I believe and I will follow You  
I believe and I will follow You  
I believe and I will follow You

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## Friendship Celebration Announcements ~ August 28, 2022

### **Charlie and the Church Factory**

We have Charlie Young to thank for many of the wonderful things that have happened in youth group over this year. Charlie has done a wonderful job carrying forward all the programs and events that Brett built up and has been very helpful in the transition between DCEs. As announced last week, Charlie will be going to part-time (15 hrs. week) after Labor Day and stay on staff through the end of October. Thank you Charlie for your ministry!

### **DCE Installation and Dinner**

We are pleased to welcome Tim and Joy Kaufmann to Idaho! The installation service for Tim Kaufmann as our DCE will be on Sunday, Sept. 11th at 4 pm. We will enjoy a lasagna dinner afterward. Please save this date on your calendar! We are excited to welcome Tim and Joy and give thanks to God for their arrival and positive response to the call we extended on June 26.

### **Ministry Fair**

The annual FCLC Ministry Fair is happening on Sunday, Sept. 11, from 9:45-10:45 am. This is your prime opportunity to see all the ministry opportunities at FCLC and get connected by joining, learning and serving! We'll also have a bounce house for the kiddos and some fun activities outside. Ministry leaders: if you would like to reserve a table, contact Beca in the church office at [office@friendshipcelebration.org](mailto:office@friendshipcelebration.org) by Sept. 4. Thanks very much!

**Spiritual Gifts:** Each of us has spiritual gifts. Do you know what they are? Do you know how to use them? Join Pastor Matt in the sanctuary on Sundays, Aug. 28<sup>th</sup> and Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:45-10:45 am, for a spiritual gifts inventory. The Spirit gives gifts as He wills. Come and discover the uniqueness of your gifting! Special thanks to Joan Hammerson for the class materials!

**Greeters Needed:** Would you be willing to stand at the sanctuary door and greet folks? You don't have to shake hands or hug. Just acknowledge people and welcome them. Volunteers for second service especially needed. If interested, please contact Paul Graham at: (208) 850-7646 or email at [paulg57@hotmail.com](mailto:paulg57@hotmail.com).

**Advent By Candlelight & The Christmas Shoppe:** The next Advent By Candlelight will be held December 3rd at 10am. What we need now are crafters to make things to be sold in the Christmas Shoppe. Men and women, young and old are invited to share their crafting talents. All sizes of gifts are needed. Proceeds from the sale will be donated. Contact Marla Olsen at 208-631-3325 with questions or to sign up to help.

**Lutheran Hour Ministries Virtual Event:** LHM is a trusted resource in global media that equips and engages a vibrant volunteer base to passionately proclaim the Gospel to more than 150 million people worldwide each week. Join us from 9:30am to noon Saturday, September 24 at FCLC, or from your home computer, to learn and celebrate how the Gospel is proclaimed in over 60 countries. The event will include: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Speaker of The Lutheran Hour® with a special devotion, President & CEO Kurt Buchholz and Vice President of Global Ministries Rev. Dr. Tony Cook sharing updates on LHM's international outreach and global expansion, videos from some of our ministry centers, and information about LHM's online mission trip, Gospel Adventures. Register today at [lhm.org/III2022](http://lhm.org/III2022) selecting Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church or participate from home. For more information contact Dale Bentley, [bentleydale1976@gmail.com](mailto:bentleydale1976@gmail.com). Online registration is open through September 22, 2022.

**Lutherans For Life:** The Southern Idaho Chapter of Lutherans For Life is holding their quarterly meeting at Zion Lutheran Church in Nampa, ID on September 11th at 3pm. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss how Lutherans for Life can continue operating in the Treasure Valley, whether as congregational Life Teams, or via the existing Southern Idaho Chapter, or as a new area Life Chapter. Can't make the meeting in person?

**Welcome Desk Hosts Needed:** Love to meet new people? Consider volunteering to help out at the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings. You would be at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall to greet our guests, visitors, and newer members and answer any questions they might have about Friendship Celebration. Interested in serving? Contact Paul Graham (208-850-7646).

**Ladies, Mark Your Calendar:** The Women's Fellowship Brunch is happening on Saturday, September 17th at 10am. Our guest speaker will be Becki Walters. Come join us for fellowship, food, and fun. Bring a friend or two (or more). All women are welcome! Need more info? Contact Dottie Basye (208-949-5020) or Joan Hammerson (208-961-6503). We look forward to seeing you!!

#### **TWO NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES:**

**ON THURSDAY:** "Romans-In the Grip of Grace" by Max Lucado. This 6 session study begins September 8th at 9:30am. Women of all ages are invited to join us as Max guides us through Paul's letter to the Romans revealing what the apostle's words meant to his original readers and how they apply to you today. The study guide cost is \$8.50. To join us, contact Joan Hammerson at [johammerson@msn.com](mailto:johammerson@msn.com) or text "I'm in!" to 208-861-6503. If you need a scholarship for the study guide, we've got you covered!

**ON FRIDAY:** "He Speaks to Me" by Priscilla Shirer beginning Friday September 9th from 10 to 11:30. This 6 week Bible study will cover how God speaks to us and each week we'll learn a new way that God has given us a heart and ears to hear. Text or email Nancy Cizmar if interested; 661-904-1593, [nancycizmar@gmail.com](mailto:nancycizmar@gmail.com).

**Wilderness Wanderings Study:** Matt Holmquist is continuing to lead this study of the Israelites' exodus and God's covenant of faithfulness. If you are interested please join us in room 132 during the Sunday school hour. Contact Matt at [mattholmquist@msn.com](mailto:mattholmquist@msn.com) for more info.

**Need a Ride to FCLC?** Simply call Green City Taxi at 208-353-1693 to request rides to and from FCLC. This service is available to those who are not able to drive or don't have a mode of transportation. FCLC is providing this service at no cost to the rider. If you have any questions, please contact the church office or your Elder.

**Men's Breakfast:** The next men's breakfast will be September 3rd. Our speaker will be Charlie Young and food will be prepared by Ron Bischoff. For more information on this or future breakfast's contact Ray Ohlaug at [rohlaug0604@gmail.com](mailto:rohlaug0604@gmail.com) or 208-908-3281.

**Food Bank:** For the month of August we are collecting baby/toddler food and baby formula for the Idaho Food Bank. Any non-perishable food items are much welcomed. Please leave them in the plastic bin in the Fellowship Hall by the west doors.

**Prayer Chain-Prayer Requests:** If you would like to add a prayer to the prayer chain, please contact Donnette House@ 208-297-0775 or [donnette15@gmail.com](mailto:donnette15@gmail.com) to request

**Friendship Fotos:** From traveling abroad to visiting national parks to staycations, it has been a busy summer for many of you and we want to see what you're up to. Emphasis on you, members of FCLC, not photos of just pets or beautiful scenery. Send your fun family photos to: [office@friendshipcelebration.org](mailto:office@friendshipcelebration.org) by 9am Friday mornings to be included in the following Sunday's video.

**Stay Connected!** FCLC's Friendly 411 is a weekly e-newsletter that comes out on Thursdays directly to your email inbox. To sign up, email the church office at [office@friendshipcelebration.org](mailto:office@friendshipcelebration.org). You may also request a PDF copy of our monthly Friendly Findings newsletter. Just include "Subscribe FF" to the subject line in your email. All issues of the monthly newsletter are also available on our website.



## **Friendship Celebration's Top Ten Core Values**

1. Bible-centered Preaching, Teaching and Discipleship  
(2 Timothy 3:16-17; Ephesians 2:8-10)
2. All People Matter to God  
(Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 28:18-20)
3. Praise and Worship  
(Acts 2:42; Psalm 26:8, Colossians 3:16)
4. Well-Mobilized Lay Leadership and Ministerial Staff  
(Ephesians 4:11-13; 1 Peter 4:10)
5. Life Groups, Support Groups and Small Groups  
(Hebrews 10:25)
6. Prayer  
(Matthew 7:7-11; James 5:13-18)
7. Excellence, Process and Evaluation  
(Romans 8:32; Colossians 3:23)
8. Financial Responsibility  
(2 Corinthians 8-9)
9. Fellowship, a Loving Christian Community  
(Acts 2:42; 1 Timothy 6:17)
10. Evangelism, Outreach and Lifestyle Witness  
(Acts 1:8; 1 Peter 3:15)

### ***Our Mission Statement***

**Celebrating:** God the Father's love for us in creating us and giving His Son

**Connecting:** In faith with Jesus, Our Savior, and with others in love and care

**Communicating:** God's love in the power of the Holy Spirit