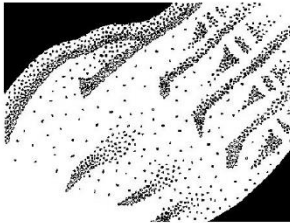
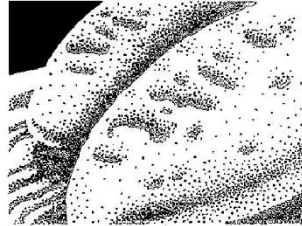


Faith Lutheran Church

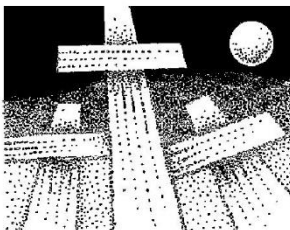
April 30, 2017

**HE TOOK
BREAD**



**GAVE
THANKS**

BROKE IT



& THEY RECOGNIZED

HIM

LUKE 24:30-31

Pastor Ellen Schoepf
prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620
www.faithlutheranokemos.org

GOSPEL MESSAGE

April 30, 2017

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Table Grace

At every meal, they held hands and prayed, “Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. Let these gifts to us be blessed.” Fifty years of marriage, three children, and five grandchildren meant many meals were served and eaten around their table.

The gifts and blessings at each meal were certainly the peas and carrots, chicken and rice, or even peanut butter and jelly, but they were also the tiny hands grasping peas from the high chair tray; the small hands with dirt under the fingernails from the playground. The gifts and blessings at each meal were hands that grasped handlebars, a softball bat, or a steering wheel. They were hands that wore an engagement ring, were tired from a day’s work, were wrinkled with age, or ached from arthritis. They were hands that had done both good and ill, but were still welcome at the table.

The gifts and blessings at their table were the hands of family and friends, but also of people from across the country and even across the sea. On their travels together they ate at many tables, each with the blessings of food and the gifts of people whose hands were of all different shades and shapes.

And then her hands became thin and her skin like paper from the chemo, yet they carefully held the blessings of bread and wine the pastor brought to the kitchen table. The hospice chaplain brought the gift of a hand-knit prayer shawl and laid its softness in her hands. “Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. Let these gifts to us be blessed,” she responded automatically.

Many hands received the gift and blessing of Jesus’ presence in the bread and wine at the communion table the day of her funeral celebrating new life. “Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.” Grace our tables with your presence.

Sunday, April 30, 2017

3 Easter

Hymn Sing Sunday

Introduction to the day

Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them, and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.

If hearing assistance is needed, please ask an usher for a personal PA receiver.

The ushers also have large print copies of today's worship folder available.

If it will be difficult for you to stand along with the congregation during any part of the worship service, please feel free to remain seated.

There is a nursery available during the worship service for those who wish to use it. It is located at the end of the hall beyond the coat racks.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.
Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.*

Prayer Requests

PRELUDE

"Come Away to the Skies" arranged by George Shearing

The pre-service music signals the beginning of the worship service. Silence during the pre-service music enables worshipers to prepare for worship through quiet meditation.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GATHERING SONG

To be announced

GREETING

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

And also with you.

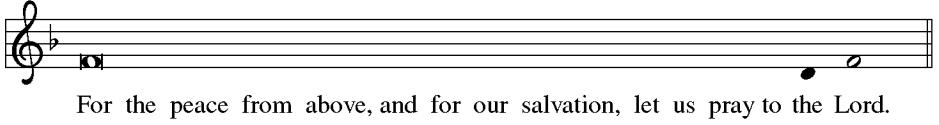
We have
peace with
God
through
our
Lord
Jesus Christ.
R O M A N S 5 : 1

A decorative graphic consisting of three stylized purple flowers of varying sizes, arranged in a cluster on the left side of the text. The flowers are composed of many small, pointed petals, creating a starburst or sunburst effect.

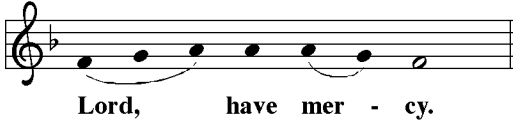
KYRIE



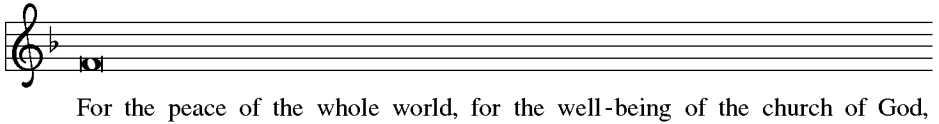
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



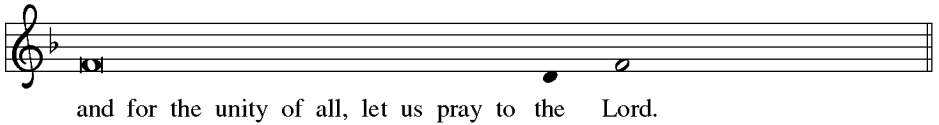
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



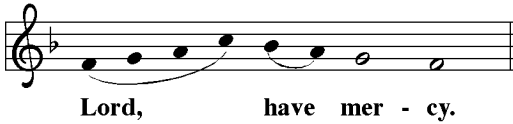
Lord, have mer - cy.



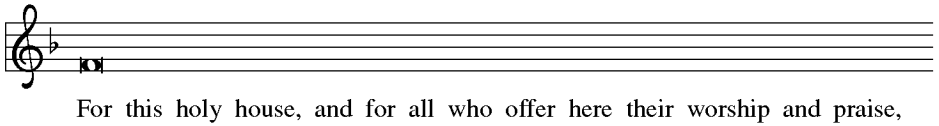
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

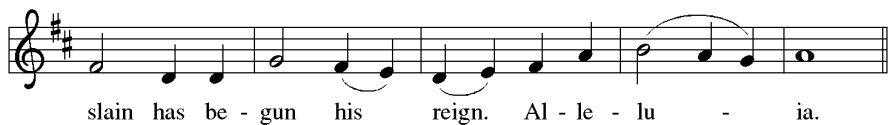
Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,



al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

A reading from Acts.

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”

³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

To be announced.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

A reading from 1 Peter.

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

To be announced.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” ²⁵Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and

broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

The assembly is seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

To be announced.

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

The presiding minister begins. Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Marshall Cowell and Alexa Warwick, united with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome into the life and ministry of Faith Lutheran Church.

APOSTLES’ CREED

The presiding minister continues.

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS

In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

The presiding minister addresses the new member.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

Those being welcomed respond.

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for this new member in Christian living?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

WELCOME

Those being welcomed face the assembly. The pastor addresses the assembly.

Let us welcome our new members to this community of faith.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to the entire world.

The congregation gives acclamation and thanks.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing in the risen life of Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*Prayers of intercession are prayed.
To each petition, the assembly responds:*

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

*The presiding minister concludes the
prayers, and the assembly responds:*

Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place,
we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our
Lord.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say,
"Peace be with you," or similar words.*

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Chancel Choir "Run, Mary, Run" (Martin)

OFFERING RESPONSE

To be announced.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
as you were made known to the disciples.

Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives,
that we may be your risen body in the world.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of
the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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.



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Now let us feast this Easter day
on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

The assembly is seated

COMMUNION

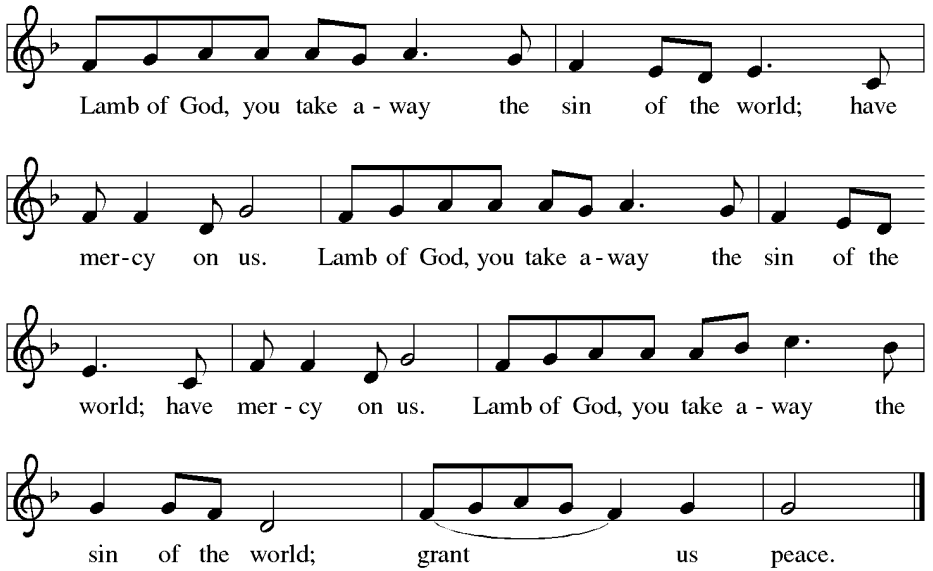
When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond

Amen.

The ministers commune either after or before others commune.

COMMUNION SONG



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

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Abide with Me

ELW #629

The assembly is seated

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ELW #773

The assembly is seated

The assembly stands

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

May God who has brought us from death to life
fill you with great joy.
Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

To be announced.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Resurrection Hymn"

Getty/Townsend, arr. James Koerts

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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A Warm Welcome

Pastor	Ellen Schoepf	prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Secretary	Katie Love	klove@faithlutheranokemos.org
Director of Christian Education		Melinda Schultz
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

April 23, 2017 Attendance: 114

Serving Faith	April 30	May 7
Acolyte	Lauren Schultz	
Altar Care	Gretchen Bills & Gail Barricklow	
		Gretchen Bills & Becky Bills
Communion Assistants	Lauren Schultz	
	Zachary Hereza	Walter Kopf
	Jeff Rosenthal	Brenda Kopf
Greeters	Bill & Pam Williams	Jeff & Melinda Schultz
Lay Assistants	Zachary Hereza	Walter Kopf
Readers	Jeff Rosenthal	Brenda Kopf
Ushers	Bowers/Whitmyers	Walter & Brenda Kopf
Nursery	Drew & Pam Williams	Connie Nelson



Many openings remain for altar flower dedications this year. If you would like to sign up please write your name on the flower chart across from the coat rack.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Faith Family & Friends

April 30, 2017

Log onto Faith's website www.faithlutheranokemos.org 24/7 for updates

DEADLINES

Sunday worship folder announcements—Tuesday of each week
Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

June Faith Family News newsletter—
Please submit by Monday May 15

Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please lift up in prayer this week:

- † Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne, Harry Nawrock, Harold Sollenberger and Ken Whitmyer.
- † Friends and family—
Harriet, Pat Belonga, Todd Barricklow, Greg Beckwith, Carol Coyer, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Allyson, Heather, Al, Lilly, Sai, Jeanne Hicks, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Jeanne and Leonard, Tom Brown, Susan Heft, Pat Hillberg & Family, Dennis Cobler, John Joseph Lanzetta, Bethany Robison, and the White family. Please keep Rich Weingartner's mother, Sally Weingartner and his sister Lani Yearicks in your prayers.
- † Our mission partner congregation—Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- † Those in military service—Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks, Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.
- † Samaritan children who seek adoption— Giovanni, Jessica, LeeAnn and Valerie. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friend.

NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Pastor Sarah Friesen-Carper and the congregation of Edgewood Lutheran Church of Fruitport, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekly Offering **04/23/17** Year-to-date as of 03/31/2017

N/A	Income	\$66,758.61
	Expenses	<u>\$74,284.29</u>
	Net Income	-7525.68

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Faith Lutheran Church.

THIS WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Today Hymn Sing Sunday & Compassion Sunday

If God is calling you to sponsor a child, we encourage you to go out to that sponsorship table in the narthex and find the sponsorship packets, because there's one there that needs you. You can start your sponsorship experience today.

Compassion is more than sponsoring a child...it's
about releasing entire families from poverty in
Jesus' name!

- Compassion has been helping children through sponsorship for 65 years.
- 1.8 million children across the globe receive assistance, help and support from Compassion.
- People like you sponsor children in 25 countries through Compassion.

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

Following Worship

Quarterly Meeting

Following Quarterly Meeting

Quiche Meal: Youth Fundraiser

2:30 p.m. Green Team showing *Before the Flood* showing at Okemos Library.





Faith's Welcoming Statement and Vote

At the congregational meeting today, the RIC team will be presenting the below welcoming statement to be voted on for approval. If the welcoming statement is approved, that will allow the RIC team to continue forward with submitting the statement to Reconciling Works for Faith to be listed as an RIC congregation.

The proposed Welcoming Statement is:

We, at Faith Lutheran Church, welcome you as a child of God. As Paul said in his letter to the Galatians, “for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.” (Galatians 3:26) We strive to be a place where everyone is welcomed and affirmed.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, marital status, faith background, political leanings, or mental or physical ability - you are welcome as you are. As children of God, we are all one in Christ Jesus and rely on the unconditional nature of God’s love and grace to be our help and guide.

Monday, May 1st

Tuesday, May 2nd

Worship folder announcements deadline

Noon: Study in Pastor Ellen’s office

6:30 p.m. Shalom Church Bible Study at Old Chicago

Wednesday, May 3rd

7:30 a.m. Men’s Study

9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritans ACTION

5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise
6:00 p.m. Confirmation Dinner and Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. Faith Bells
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 4th

Friday, May 5th

Saturday, May 6th

NEW MEMBER “GET TO KNOW YOU” OPEN HOUSE – On

Saturday, May 6, from 6:00 – 8:00, Pastor Ellen and Ken will be hosting a **New Member “Get To Know**

You” OPEN HOUSE. Anyone in the congregation is invited to attend and get to know some of the newest members in our Faith community. If you are able to attend, bring an appetizer to share and come and enjoy the conversation.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



We are so EXCITED!!

Vacation Bible School will be held on June 19th – 23rd from 9:00-12:00. Ages 3yrs - 5th grade completed. Pre-registration is greatly appreciated. You can sign up by filling out the registration form on the VBS table in the narthex or by visiting <https://vbspro.events/p/692364>

We are looking for volunteers to help out with the various stations and with the groups. Please sign up through the link above or by emailing Melinda Schultz at mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net.

The Property Team wants to thank the big group of volunteers for the Earth Day weekend cleanup last Sunday. The grounds look so much better thanks to all of your efforts. And thanks to the Green Team for the lunch.



A pair of black and silver hand pruners were left at the clean-up. Please see Bob Nelson if they belong to you

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Publicly Engaged Church Committee of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod will be hosting a day-long educational event on **Saturday, June 17, at University Lutheran Church in East Lansing**. This event, billed as *Lutherans Always Reforming: A Day of Social Change Conversation*, will begin at 9:00 AM and conclude with Closing Worship at 3:00 PM. Keynote speaker for the day will be Dr. Craig L. Nesson, Academic Dean and Professor of Contextual Theology at Wartburg Seminary (*Please see attached informational flyer*). A variety of workshops will also be offered throughout the day focusing on topics the PEC Committee is addressing.

These include:

Immigration

Criminal Justice

Advocacy

Open Hearts. Open Church (Synod Task Force on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity)

Environmental Concerns/Climate Change

Hunger Issues

Human Trafficking

Faith, Sexism, Justice: Conversations Toward a Social Statement

Anti-Racism

The Shalom Church (hosted by Dr. Nesson)

REGISTER NOW AT MITTENSYNOD.ORG



Friday, June 16, 2017 is Faith Family Fun night at the Lugnuts game!
Seniors eat FREE on June 16th, and after the game stay and enjoy a beautiful fireworks display!

Sign up deadline is Sunday, May 21st. Please see Michelle Ransom or call the church office with any questions.

WAYS TO HELP

What are those Laundry Baskets for??

ARROW TREE FOOD PANTRY



The Caring Committee is launching a community outreach program to help support the Arrow Tree Apartment complex across the street from Faith Lutheran Church. Pastor Ellen and Katie Love have been in contact with the apartment complex manager, Janice, and she has expressed the need for non-perishable food items for some of the residents.

We will be collecting food items in baskets in the lower main church entry, as an ongoing project. Members can drop food items at any time in the baskets. Janice from Arrow Tree will come over and pick up the food items, or Pastor Ellen and Katie will deliver them. Janice will be responsible for distributing the food items on an as needed basis to residents and will store the extra items. Pastor Ellen and Katie will be in contact with Janice as needed.

Suggested items needed: SOUP, MAC & CHEESE, CEREAL, OATMEAL, PASTAS, PEANUT BUTTER, HEALTHY SNACK BARS, TUNA, CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ETC.

Thank you members of Faith Lutheran for your continued help and support as we reach out to help those in need.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT Group Meeting

Join us at 11:30am for a light lunch and discussion. All are Welcome!

Thursday, May 11th: Kristin Creighton, Fahrenheit Massage will speak on Self-Care tips for the Caregiver and Free Chair Massage.

Thursday, June 8th: Jason Gauna with The Care Team will present a Virtual Dementia Tour. This “tour” walks you through the different senses that we experience everyday but in the shoes of a person with Alzheimer’s.

***Sixty Plus or Minus: Wednesday, May 17, 2017,
11:30 a.m.***

***Brown Bag Lunch and Program
George Ellena, Sightedless Chair Caning
Craftsman
and Inspirational Speaker
“Fingers that See”***



How much inspiration and motivation can you get from a **chair**?? Perhaps not a great deal, until you meet the master craftsman who overcame the limitation of blindness to create its beautiful cane seat! Join us on May 17 to meet George Ellena, a friend of our member Dale Halvorson. George will share with us how he overcame his physical limitations to build a business and a productive, rewarding life by caning chairs.

Meet with us in Faith’s lower level fellowship hall for a brown bag lunch, followed by an inspirational presentation by George Ellena. Please sign up on the “Faith @ Work” Board in the narthex so we know how many friends to expect!

FROM THE GREEN TEAM

Just a reminder: The Boxes in the Foyer of both West Church Doors can be used to recycle department store shopping bags, vegetable bags, dry cleaning bags, mailing bags, as well as grocery store bags. Essentially any plastic bag that is clean and dry can be placed in the big cardboard boxes for recycling. If you have questions, please call Cecelia Kramer [517-349-3297](tel:517-349-3297)

*******TODAY - Compassion Sunday**

We will be giving the congregation updates on the children we currently sponsor through the Sunday School collection, and we will also give out information on how church members can become sponsors as well. Please consider helping out one or more of these children who are so in need.



*******TODAY - Quiche Meal, Youth Fundraiser, April 30th, immediately following the Quarterly Meeting**

The Youth are holding this luncheon fundraiser in the Large Fellowship Hall. We will have several varieties of quiches to

choose from, as well as salad and fruit. We appreciate your support!!



*******LAST DAY - Mother's Day Bouquets, Youth Fundraiser for May, pre-order on April 23rd & 30th**

The Youth will be taking orders in the Narthex before and after service for beautiful Mother's Day Bouquets. We will hand out the bouquets on Mother's Day during the Offering. They are a lovely combination of Spring flowers and colors. The cost is \$10.00. Thank you for your support!



2017 COLLEGE GRADUATES

I need information for the June/July newsletter for all of the 2017 **COLLEGE** graduates. Please email me or Katie as soon as possible, so that your graduate can be recognized for their achievements.

mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net or

klove@faithlutheranokemos.org



Vacation Bible School will be held on June 19th – 23rd from 9:00-12:15 . VBS Sunday will be on June 25th. We are looking for volunteers to help out with the various stations and with the groups. This year's theme is "**Maker Fun Factory**"! The following dates are for making decorations: Wednesday, May 10th from 6:00-8:00 and Saturday, June 3rd from 1:00-3:00. Please let

Melinda know if you are able to assist with these events in any way.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS CONT.



Thrivent Action Teams are needed again!!!

Please apply to help your youth group in a one-time fundraiser, service activity or educational event that can be completed within 90 days. Here are some suggestions for your Thrivent Action Teams: **Faith Vacation Bible School**. Use this link to get started:

<https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-action-teams/> Please see Melinda to get specific details or if you have any questions.

Important Dates in April

30th Youth Fundraiser, pre-order Mother's Day

Bouquets

30th Compassion Sunday

30th Youth Fundraising, Quiche Meal, 11:30-12:30pm

Important Dates in May

3rd Confirmation Dinner/Rehearsal, 7:00

7th Confirmation Sunday

10th VBS Decorations, 6:00-8:00pm

14th Mother's Day Bouquets distributed

14th Children sing during service.

21st Last Sunday School, Pancake Breakfast or Panera Trip, dependent on age.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Bring the World to Your Home and Heart

The Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE), founded in 1947, offers high school students from around the world the opportunity to live and study in the United States. Would you consider opening your home to a student? It is a great way for families to learn about another culture, share their lives and culture, and make forever connections. For more information contact Pam Williams at 517-927-7703.





The Green Team will be presenting a showing of the documentary, *Before the Flood*, at Okemos Public Library (4321 Okemos Rd.) **TODAY at 2:30 PM.**

Before the Flood, presented by National Geographic, features Leonardo DiCaprio on a journey as a United Nations Messenger of Peace, traveling to five continents and the Arctic to witness climate change firsthand. He goes on expeditions with scientists

uncovering the reality of climate change and meets with political leaders fighting against inaction. He also discovers a calculated disinformation campaign orchestrated by powerful special interests working to confuse the public about the urgency of the growing climate crisis. With unprecedented access to thought leaders around the world, DiCaprio searches for hope in a rising tide of catastrophic news.

Following the showing of this documentary, the Rev. Dr. John Schleicher will be leading a conversation and discussion about the movie. Pastor Schleicher is the President of Michigan Interfaith Power & Light.

This event is free and the public is invited. Please email Pastor Ellen at prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org with any questions.

****Fun Fact: One of the producers of *Before the Flood* is Class of 2000 Okemos Graduate, Trevor Davidoski. ****

<https://www.facebook.com/events/172008216649497/>

Tear out and use to invite friends and neighbors



Location: Faith Lutheran Church

Dates: June 19 - June 23

Times: 9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

For more information: Call 517-349-0620

To Sign up: <https://vbspro.events/p/692364>