

Welcome to Faith Lutheran

May 28, 2017



Jesus' High Priestly Prayer

Pastor Ellen Schoepf
prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org

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



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



To make disciples for Jesus Christ. . .
.. **we Gather** in faith for worship, prayer,
study and fellowship
.. **we Equip** the people of God with a faith
that works in real life
.. **we Serve** the world in the name of Jesus Christ



Faith Lutheran Church's Welcoming Statement:

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.

Email address

faith@faithlutheranokemos.org

Websites

Faith Lutheran Church ≈ www.faithlutheranokemos.org
North/West Lower Michigan Synod ≈ www.mittensynod.org
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ≈ www.elca.org

Facebook

facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

You also can find the audio available on Faith's website under worship
Sermons

<http://faithlutheranokemos.org/sermons/>

Special music

<http://faithlutheranokemos.org/category/special-music/>

God Doesn't Do Magic

It happens in the movies all the time: just as we are made to believe that all hope is lost and evil will triumph, suddenly the hero discovers a mystical phrase that will give him supernatural strength to defeat the enemy. Or the heroine finds a charmed sword that gives her the power to do the same. Believing in movie magic can be a welcome respite from the grind of everyday life. Knowing an enchanted word that keeps us impervious to harm sounds incredible—who wouldn't want that? Those moments may work in the movies, but they don't happen in real life.

Don't confuse Jesus' words in today's gospel with a magic spell or incantation. As Jesus prays for his disciples, he knows the suffering they will soon endure because they have come to believe in him. There is no way to avert what they will undergo; each one of his disciples is headed toward a certain and painful death just as Jesus is. Jesus knows these things cannot be prevented, but that isn't the point of his prayer.

Being in the world means bad things will happen to us. Crosses aren't special charms that keep evil away, and wearing one won't keep you from harm. Tragedies take place, people get sick, bullies victimize, the innocent get blamed. There are no magic words to prevent hardships or disasters. When Jesus prays for the Father to protect those who belong to him, he isn't asking God to keep those bad things from happening. The name of God was never intended to create force fields around us keeping bad things out. God and the one who comes in God's name make us one together with them. In this unity, life always triumphs in the end.

Sunday, May 28, 2017

7 Easter

Introduction to the day

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

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

"Shall We Gather at the River"

arr. Gordon Young

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.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✚ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,
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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

ELW #373

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

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.

Refrain

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.

Refrain

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.

PRAAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, 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 1:6-14

Today's reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension.

A reading from Acts.

⁶When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip

and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others, because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.

A reading from 1 Peter.

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

ELW #363

HOLY BAPTISM

Nikola (Cole) Kartub Rajkovich

Presentation

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love and obedience to the will of God.

I present Nikola (Cole) Kartub Rajkovich for baptism.

To parents:

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Nikola baptized into Christ?

I do.

As you bring him to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed
and the Ten Commandments,

place in his hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture him in faith and prayer,
so that he may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Nikola grow in the Christian faith and life?
I do.

To sponsors:

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Nikola in the Christian faith
as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the
covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

I do.

To the assembly:

People of God, do you promise to support Nikola and pray for him
in his new life in Christ?

We do.

Profession of Faith

To parents and sponsors:

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin and
confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

To parents, sponsors and the assembly:

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and
earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

Baptism

Nikola (Cole) Kartub Rajkovich
I baptize you in the name
of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

**You belong to Christ, in whom
you have been baptized. Alleluia.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit
you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from
sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Nikola with the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of
wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the
spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in
your presence, both now and forever.

Amen

Nikola (Cole) Kartub Rajkovich, child of God,
you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit
and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen

Welcome

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good
works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission
we share; join us in giving thanks and praise to God and
bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

Those gathered at the font may return to their seats.

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
"Morning Has Broken"

(Stevens, arr. Simeone)

OFFERING RESPONSE

We Are an Offering

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in 7/8 time. It consists of six lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voice-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. we are an of-fer-ing." There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) in the first, third, and sixth lines of music.

We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voice-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing. we are an of-fer-ing.

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.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy". It consists of four staves of music in a single system, written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,". The second staff continues with "heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -". The third staff continues with "san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who". The fourth staff concludes with "comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est." The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some notes beamed together. There are also rests and a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

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

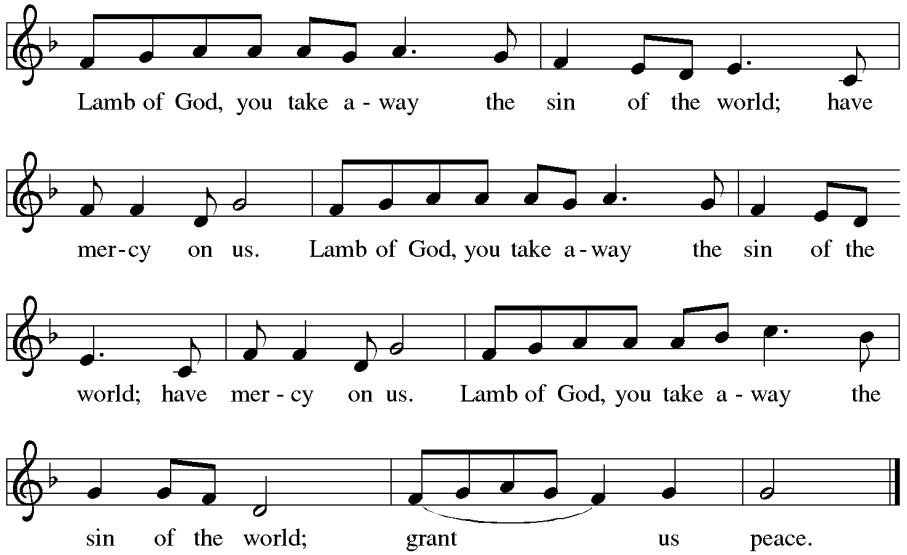
Now let us feast this Easter day
on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

The assembly is seated

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

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

O Bread of Life from Heaven

ELW #480

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

I Come with Joy

ELW #482

The assembly stands

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

ELW #888

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.

POSTLUDE

"Come Ye Faithful Rains the Strain"

arr. Wilbur Held

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

A Warm Welcome



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

May 21, 2017 Attendance: 144

Serving Faith	May 28	June 4
Acolyte	Zach Hereza	Adelle Dingedine
Altar Care	Gretchen Bills & Becky Bills	Ledith Ambs & Jennifer Coe
Communion Assistants	Zach Hereza	Adelle Dingedine
	Bob Nelson	Mike Eschelbach
	Diane Wilke	David Baker
Greeters	Brian & Michelle Ransom	Brendan Guenther
Lay Assistants	Bob Nelson	Mike Eschelbach
Readers	Diane Wilke	David Baker
Ushers	Walter & Brenda Kopf	Jeremy & Jennifer Coe
Nursery	Lori Webb	Jennifer & Maia Guenther

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Faith Family & Friends

May 28, 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

August Faith Family News newsletter—
Please submit by Monday July 17

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, and Ken Whitmyer.
- † Friends and family—
Harriet, Pat Belonga, Todd Barricklow, Greg Beckwith, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, 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, Loretta Milne, Bethany Robison, and the White family. Please keep Rich Weingartners 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.
- † Samaritas 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 Charles Foerster and the congregation of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Grand Ledge, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekly Offering	05/21/17	Year-to-date as of 04/30/2017	
Loose Cash	\$ 138.00	Income	\$85,262.61
Loose Checks	\$ 30.00	Expenses	<u>\$98,750.61</u>
Flowers	\$ 25.00	Net Income	-13,488.00
Green Team T-Shirts	\$ 15.00		
Lois Sollenberger Mem.	\$ 100.00		
Tanzania Water Offering	\$ 268.00		
Synod Offering	\$ 40.00		
General Fund	<u>\$ 2935.00</u>		
Subtotal	\$ 3551.00		
Simply Giving	\$ 2826.00		
Total	<u>\$ 6377.00</u>		

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Arnold & Linda Kartub in celebration of the baptism of their grandson Nikola Kartub Rajkovich.

THIS WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, May 29th
Church Office Closed

Tuesday, May 30th
Worship folder announcements deadline
Noon Study in Pastor Ellen's office
6:30 p.m. Shalom Church Bible Study at Old Chicago

Wednesday, May 31st
7:30 a.m. Men's Study
9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritas ACTION
 Staff Meeting
5:00 p.m. Final Joyful Noise Rehearsal
5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise Pizza Party
6:30 p.m. Final Faith Bells Rehearsal
7:30 p.m. Last Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, June 1st
7:00 p.m. RIC Meeting

Friday, June 2nd

Saturday, June 3rd

1:00pm-3:00 p.m.

VBS Decorating



Can you help us decorate the Sunday School Rooms?? Stop by Saturday, we have LOTS TO DO and can use your help! Thanks in advance!!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Tent Help Needed!!!!!!

Sunday, June 11th from 1:00-3:00ish –

Please come join us as we set-up our new tent for the first time and mark the poles for future use, in order to make installation of the tent much easier. We need all hands on

deck for this to go smoothly, so please let Melinda know if you are able to help at mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

What are those Laundry Baskets for?? ARROW TREE FOOD PANTRY

Thank you so much for being so generous over the past few months! Arrow Tree apartments are very thankful for your donations. Residents there are very appreciative. Suggested items needed: SOUP, MAC & CHEESE, CEREAL, OATMEAL, PASTAS, PEANUT BUTTER, HEALTHY SNACK BARS, TUNA, CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ETC.



Diversity Sunday is Coming on June 18



You are invited to join us for a special worship service on June 18, which we are calling Diversity Sunday. We will be celebrating our newly adopted welcoming statement and designation as an RIC congregation. We will celebrate the wonderful diversity that makes up our community - age, gender, sexual orientation, careers, race, ethnicity, cultural background, hobbies, etc. Join us and invite your friends and family to celebrate with us. Here are some planned highlights for Diversity Sunday.

- We encourage everyone to wear something that makes you unique. Are you a nurse or doctor? Maybe wear your scrubs. Do you like fishing as a hobby? Wear some fishing gear. You can wear something that celebrates your cultural or ethnic heritage, maybe just your favorite color, anything that lets you tell a story about who you are. Feel free to be bold!
- Our worship service will focus on our welcoming statement and becoming RIC with specially selected hymns, prayers, and messages.
- We will commit to our welcoming statement during the service and receive official recognition as an RIC congregation with representatives from Reconciling Works and Open Hearts. Open Church. (The North/West Lower Michigan Synod Task Force on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity)
- We will unveil our new Diversity Center - a central location for resources on a variety of diversity topics.
- Special coffee hour after the service with cake and other refreshments.

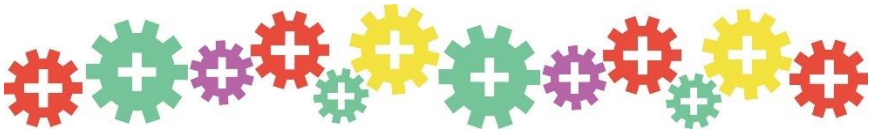
We hope you will make plans to join and celebrate with us on June 18. Spread the word that Faith is welcoming and affirming and we are going to celebrate! If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Ellen or Rich Weingartner.



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 Katie Love at kllove@faithlutheranokemos.org

A BIG THANK YOU to all those who took home donation circles already!! The **VBS Donation Robot** has more circles left. Please take a circle (or a couple) home with you today! Your donations are greatly appreciated as we prepare for VBS!



◆◆ **DATE CHANGE** ◆◆
VBS PICNIC

Sunday, June 25th 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
MARK YOUR CALENDARS
ALL ARE INVITED to the VBS Picnic!!
More information to come!

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT Group Meeting

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

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.



A Florida Sampler: Birds, Animals, Flowers and More

***Wednesday, June 28,
2017, 11:30 a.m.***

(Note that this is the 4th Wednesday, one week later than usual because of Vacation Bible School)

A program featuring Tom Rasmussen and his beautiful nature photography is a perennial favorite! You haven’t seen Florida until you’ve seen it through Tom’s lens. Join us for a potluck lunch and the most recent photos and stories from Tom’s gallery.

Invite a friend!

Please sign up on the clipboard on the Faith @ Work display board in the narthex.

60 +/-

Looking ahead:

We plan our usual informal lunch gatherings at Coral Gables for July 19 and August 16. Pencil in the dates on your summer calendar!



2017 COLLEGE GRADUATES

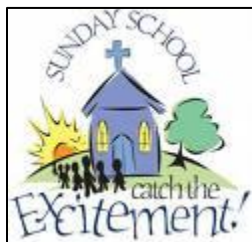
I need information for the June/July newsletter for all of the 2017 **COLLEGE** graduates. Please email me or Katie as soon as possible, so that your graduate can be recognized for their achievements.

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: Saturday, June 3rd from 1:00-3:00. Please let Melinda or Katie know if you are able to assist with these events in any way.



*****NEEDED - Sunday School Teachers**

for 2016-2017 – Thank you to all of the volunteers who have stepped forward to donate their time. We truly appreciate your support. There are still several positions available, so please consider helping. The curriculum is VERY easy and the children

are great. If we have multiple teachers per grade, it allows for some flexibility on how often you have to teach. We also need a substitute list.

Pre-School – Kim O'Brien, Brenda Kopf, Laurie Hereza

1-3 Grades – Lori Webb, need 2 more

4-6 Grades (Trinity) – Ransom, need 3 (offered both Sunday and Wednesday night, where a meal is included).

7-8 Grades (Confirmation) – Ellen Schoepf, Brendan Guenther, Melinda Schultz (offered both Sunday and Wednesday night, where a meal is included).

Youth (9-12 Grades) – Katie Love

On Thursday evening, June 15, from 6:00- 9:00 PM, Action of Greater Lansing will be hosting a viewing of the documentary **13th** at Faith. They will be hosting a discussion following the video. Everyone is invited to attend this event.



Forum Planning Committee News - As we continue to address the issues of racial inequality in our community and culture, our **Faith Lutheran Forum Planning Committee** is partnering with **One Love Global** and other groups in our area to begin showing the documentary series ***America Divided***. This eight session series addresses issues of inequality in our present culture. We will be showing one video each month. Each showing will be followed by a discussion. **This eight session series will take place on the second Monday evening of each month at 7:00 PM. The first video will be presented at Faith Lutheran Church in Okemos on Monday evening, June 12.**

Shonda Rhimes, Common, and Norman Lear executive-produce this series, which was created by Solly Granatstein, Lucian Read, and Richard Rowley. Each episode will focus on celebrities exploring inequality in the context of their own lives. America Ferrera, Jesse Williams, Zach Galifianakis, Amy Poehler, and Peter Sarsgaard are all set to appear.

“This series cuts to the heart of the inequality crisis, exploring life-and-death struggles around the economic, social, and political divide,” the show’s creators said in a statement. “Our aim is to expose the damage extreme inequality inflicts on all Americans, reveal its systemic causes, and celebrate real-world heroes fighting for solutions.”

Both Common and Lear will also headline segments, with Common returning to his home of Chicago to examine the criminal justice system and Lear looking at New York’s housing crisis.

AMERICA D I V I D E D

In a divided America, #StoriesUniteUs, the following stories will be presented:

Episode 101 – A House Divided – Housing Discrimination (45 min)

Episode 102 – The Class Divided – Separate and Unequal Education (40 min)

Episode 103 – The Epidemic – Substance Abuse (34 min)

Episode 104 – Democracy for Sale – Corporate Influence In Government and Electoral Politics (42 min)

Episode 105 – The System – Disproportionality in Criminal Justice (43 min)

Episode 106 – Out of Reach – Immigration and Denial of Citizenship (42 min)

Episode 107 – Something in the Water – Flint Water Crisis (42 min)

Episode 108 – Home Economics – Domestic Workers (33 min)

These videos can be shown in any order. The first to be screened will be *Democracy for Sale*. Please join us at 7:00 PM on Monday evening, June 12, at Faith Lutheran Church, 4515 Dobie Rd. in Okemos as this important educational series begins.

AMERICA D I V I D E D