

# Welcome to Faith Lutheran

June 18, 2017



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR  
AS YOURSELF.

MATTHEW 22:39

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# 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

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## 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](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org)  
North/West Lower Michigan Synod ≈ [www.mittensynod.org](http://www.mittensynod.org)  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ≈ [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

### Facebook

[facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos](https://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/>

## Have Courage, Take Heart

By the time he pulled together his disciples and spelled out the mission he had for them, Jesus had become rather famous. His exciting tour throughout the villages and countryside of Galilee drew huge crowds eager to hear any good news that mattered in their burdened lives. He attracted staggering parades of people offering him their pain and long-lost hopes. By most any standard his mission looked immensely successful and wildly popular. Who would not want to ride the thrilling wave of a movement so promising? Imagine, then, how shocking his instructions to the disciples must have sounded when he told them what to expect in the future. Suddenly Jesus exposed their need for courage!

The English word *courage* comes from the old Norman French word *coeur*, meaning “heart.” Courage to go where Jesus leads is a matter of the heart. It is beautiful, holy, courage that not only proclaims the good news but, yes, does the good news! Impart wholeness to the afflicted; unearth life where it is buried; expose the beauty in the untouchables; embrace the despised outcasts; and defy the faces and fists of evil. Jesus’ courage takes heart!

Jesus gives instructions and Jesus makes promises, both unnerving and inspiring. Listen. Take heart. Have courage. Disciples, the center and the cause of discord, will be like sheep in the midst of wolves, rejected, abused, hated, and punished when the compassion of Jesus collides with a world of resistance. Listen. Take heart. Have courage. Disciples have authority from Jesus, are shown the way, receive all that they need, and are given the Spirit of God.

Jesus’ way of grace breaks hearts open to receive and give peace and to embrace a new future where the kingdom of heaven stuns the world with compassion.

Have courage. Take heart.

**Sunday, June 18, 2017**

Diversity Sunday

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

**Introduction to the day**

Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, sharing God's compassion with our needy world. From the Lord's table, we go forth to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.

*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**

**“All are Welcome”** **arr. Ron Schmoltze**

*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.*

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## GATHERING

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

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
full of compassion and mercy,  
abounding in steadfast love.

**Amen.**

Trusting God's promise of forgiveness,  
let us confess our sin against God and one another.  
*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Eternal God our creator,  
**in you we live and move and have our being.**  
**Look upon us, your children,**  
**the work of your hands.**  
**Forgive us all our offenses,**  
**and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires.**  
**By your grace draw us near to you,**  
**our refuge and our strength;**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Since we are justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
God's love has been poured into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit given to us.  
In the mercy of almighty God,  
Christ died for us while we still were sinners;  
and for his sake, God ✝ forgives you all your sins.  
**Amen.**

### GATHERING SONG

*All Are Welcome*

***ELW #641***

## 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



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

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## WORD

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

### **FIRST READING: Exodus 19:2-8a**

*At Sinai God assured Israel, “You shall be my treasured possession,” and commissioned them to serve as mediating priests for the nations. The people commit themselves completely to God’s will.*

A reading from Exodus.

<sup>2</sup>[The Israelites] had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.<sup>3</sup>Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: <sup>4</sup>You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

<sup>7</sup>So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him.

<sup>8a</sup>The people all answered as one: “Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-8**

*We are no longer God’s enemies but have peace with God, because we were brought into a right relationship with God through Christ’s death. A tested character has been forged for us which empowers endurance in the midst of suffering and hope for final salvation.*

A reading from Romans.

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.



## **GOSPEL: Matthew 9:35--10:8 [9-23]**

*The mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus himself. Here, he instructs his first disciples how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>35</sup>Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup>therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

<sup>10:1</sup>Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup>These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' <sup>8</sup>Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. [<sup>9</sup>Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, <sup>10</sup>no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. <sup>11</sup>Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. <sup>12</sup>As you enter the house, greet it. <sup>13</sup>If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. <sup>14</sup>If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

<sup>16</sup>“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup>Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; <sup>18</sup>and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; <sup>20</sup>for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. <sup>21</sup>Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; <sup>22</sup>and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”]

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON**

Rich Weingartner

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Oh, Praise the Gracious Power*

***ELW #651***

*After the Hymn of the Day is sung, the pastor, representative of the RIC/Welcoming Task Force or other congregational leader, the synodical representative, and the Reconciling Works representative gather near the Baptismal font.*

*Congregation faces baptismal font*

**P:** Dear friends in Christ, in Holy Baptism God liberates us from sin and death and reconciles us to God and one another through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. By water and the Holy Spirit we are united in the Body of Christ, which is the church. The Reconciling in Christ Community provides a visible way for Lutheran Congregations to express the unity of all people by worshiping God, sharing the sacraments and providing ministry, sanctuary and council with all those in need, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. Today we join the Reconciling in Christ Community.

**C: From now on, therefore, we see all people through Christ. Through Christ there is a new creation: Everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God. By God through Christ we are reconciled. For our sake God made to be sin the one who knew no sin, so that in Christ, we might become the righteousness of God.**

*Representative (Rep.) of the RIC/Welcoming Task Force addresses the congregation:*

**Rep:** Recognizing that we are reconciled to God and reconciling to each other only by Christ's dying and rising, and in obedience to God's will for healing, peace, and wholeness, we, the community of Faith Lutheran Church come here to make a covenant of support with God.

We also gather to declare our congregation to be a Reconciling in Christ Community in partnership with Reconciling Works: Lutherans for Full Participation according to that which is set forth in our Welcoming Statement.

*Water is poured into the baptismal font.*

P: In water and the Word,  
God delivers us from sin and death  
and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ.  
In the midst of this promise let us affirm our commitment  
as a Reconciling in Christ community.

*The Representative of the RIC/Welcoming Task Force addresses the pastor.*

Rep: Will you, Pastor Ellen Schoepf, fully live into our welcoming statement, guide our congregation to be fully welcoming, and lead services and preach messages that are fully welcoming and inclusive, and bring reconciliation to all of God's Children?

P: I will and I ask God to help and guide me.

*The pastor addresses the Representative of the RIC/Welcoming Task Force.*

P: Will you continue to lead the RIC Task Force so that they can continue providing guidance, suggestions, and educational opportunities, so that our congregation can fully live into our welcoming statement?

Rep: I will and I ask God to help and guide me.

*The Representative of the RIC/Welcoming Task Force addresses the synodical representative.*

Rep: On behalf of Open Hearts. Open Church., will you continue to provide guidance, leadership, and resources to all congregations in our synod as they address and discuss topics of sexual orientation and gender identity?

R: I will and I ask God to help and guide us.

*The Representative of the RIC/Welcoming Task Force addresses the ReconcilingWorks representative.*

Rep: On behalf of ReconcilingWorks, will you continue to provide guidance, resources, educational opportunities, and other materials to help congregations on their RIC journey, wherever they are in the process?

R: I will and I ask God to help and guide us.

*The pastor addresses the congregation.*

P: Do you, members of Faith Lutheran Church, commit yourselves to fully living into our welcoming statement of reconciliation, educating yourselves on the diversity of others, and extending a full welcome to all God's Children?

**C: We will and we ask God to help and guide us.**

P: Do you affirm that everyone of all ages, marital status, race, ethnicity, faith background, political leanings, and mental and physical abilities share with all others the worth that comes from being unique individuals and are welcome as full members participating in the sacramental and general life of this congregation upon making the same affirmation of faith that all people make?

**C: We do.**

P: Do you affirm that everyone of all sexual orientations and gender identities, including those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer, share with all others the worth that comes from being unique individuals and are welcome as full members participating in the sacramental and general life of this congregation upon making the same affirmation of faith that all people make?

C: **We do.**

P: Therefore, recalling this unity in Christ, let us now profess our faith in the triune God, the faith in which we baptize.

**ALL: 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.**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us give thanks to God.

We give you thanks, O God, that you have made each of us reflective of your own image and have forgiven us all, making us new creations. Therefore, since our sins are forgiven, let us go forth with love and peace, honoring and upholding the dignity of all we meet, knowing we see reflections of your image all around.

C: **Amen.**

*At this time the ReconcilingWorks representative may present the Reconciling in Christ Commemorative Certificate. Anyone who wishes to may also make remarks at this time. The Representative of the RIC/Welcoming Task Force then addresses the congregation.*

Rep: In this Baptismal promise and in deep commitment to living out our welcoming statement, I declare Faith Lutheran Church to be a Reconciling in Christ congregation in the name of our savior Jesus Christ.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Called together in the Spirit's embrace, let us pray for the mending of God's world.

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

Lord, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

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

All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your care through 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.*

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## MEAL

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*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## OFFERING

Men's Choir

"Amazing Grace"

(arr. Burgess)

amazing  
GRACE 



# OFFERING RESPONSE

## Give Thanks



Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,



give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,



give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Text: Henry Smith

Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith

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## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.  
Merciful God,  
you open wide your hand  
and satisfy the need of every living thing.  
You have set this feast before us.  
Open our hands to receive it.  
Open our hearts to embrace it.  
Open our lives to live it.  
We pray this through Christ our Lord.  
**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,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of  
everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho-san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**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**

Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
Our Lord's body let us take together.

## 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.*

WE WELCOME ALL GUESTS worshiping with us this evening and invite all baptized Christians to come to the Lord's table. Children who have not yet received First Communion instruction are invited to come forward with their families to receive a blessing. There will be one chalice (cup) of wine, as well trays of individual cups. In the center of each tray, there are a few glasses filled with white grape juice for those who prefer juice rather than wine.

## COMMUNION SONG



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*Although I Speak*

***ELW #644***

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

***ELW #659***

*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.

Jesus Christ, host of this meal,  
you have given us not only this bread and cup,  
but your very self, that we may feast on your great love.  
Filled again by these signs of your grace,  
may we hunger for your reign of justice,  
may we thirst for your way of peace,  
for you are Lord forevermore.

**Amen.**

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## **SENDING**

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

## **BLESSING**

May God, whose power working in us  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine,  
grant you the gifts of faith and hope.

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

*We Are Called*

***ELW #720***

## **DISMISSAL**

As God has made us all unique individuals, let us go in peace into  
the world to share God's love with all our diverse neighbors.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **POSTLUDE**

“Sortie in F major”

Cesar Franck

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

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Welcome to worship and Christian fellowship! Happy Father's Day to dads, grandpas, and father-figures who rely on our heavenly Father as their model of love and faithfulness.

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

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June 11, 2017 Attendance: 79

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Serving Faith	June 18	June 25
Acolyte		
Altar Care	Ledith Ambs & Jennifer Coe	
Communion Assistants	Adelle Dingledine	VBS
	Rich Weingartner	VBS
	Deb Borton-McDonough	VBS
Greeters	Mark & Molly DeHate	Jeff & Melinda Schultz
Lay Assistants	Rich Weingartner	VBS
Readers	Deb Borton-McDonough	VBS
Ushers	Warren & Tammy Heilman	Heilman's
Nursery	O'Briens	

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Faith Family & Friends

June 18, 2017

Log onto Faith's website [www.faithlutheranokemos.org](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org) 24/7 for updates

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### DEADLINES

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Sunday worship folder announcements—Tuesday of each week  
Submit to Katie at [klove@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org)

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

Submit to Katie at [klove@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org)

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### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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Please lift up in prayer this week:

- † Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne, and Harry Nawrock
- † 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.
- † Samaritan children who seek adoption— Giovanni, Jessica, LeeAnn and Valerie. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friend.

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### NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

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As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Pastor David Blank and Pastor Marcy Miller and the congregation of St. Luke's Lutheran Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.



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## FINANCIAL UPDATE

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<b>Weekly Offering</b>	<b>06/11/17</b>	Year-to-date as of 04/30/2017	
Loose Cash	\$ 43.00	Income	\$85,262.61
Loose Checks	\$ 245.00	Expenses	<u>\$98,750.61</u>
VBS Product Refund	\$ 1128.81	Net Income	<b>-13,488.00</b>
VBS T Shirts	\$ 63.00		
World Hunger	\$ 25.00		
General Fund	<u>\$ 1120.00</u>		
Subtotal	\$ 2624.81		
Total	<b><u>\$ 2624.81</u></b>		

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## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

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

Vase 1: Jack, Natalie and Adelle Dingleline in celebration of Owen's 16<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Vase 2: The Belonga's in celebration of their anniversary.

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## THIS WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

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10:00 a.m.      Worship Service: Diversity Sunday  
                    Bass/Tenor Choir Sunday  
                    Tanzania Water Offering

Following        Reception in the narthex: All are Welcome!  
                    Following the reception, we will be putting the final  
                    details together for VBS! If you are able to help please  
                    see Katie following the service.

Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>  
9:00-12:15      VBS

Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>  
                    Worship folder announcements deadline  
                    No Noon Study  
9:00-12:15      VBS

Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>  
7:30 a.m.        Men's Study  
9:30 a.m.        Quilting and Samaritas ACTION  
9:00-12:15      VBS

Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>  
9:00-12:15      VBS

11:00 a.m.      Worship at Dobie Road

Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>  
9:00-12:15      VBS

Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>  
VBS Sunday  
All Church VBS Picnic!!

## **VBS PICNIC**

**Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup> 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**ALL ARE INVITED to the VBS Picnic!!**

**Sign up in the narthex or online at**

**[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/508094CAA623A3F49-faith](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/508094CAA623A3F49-faith)**

**Can you help get the food out and organized for the VBS picnic? Thank you to Brandon Pratt for volunteering to grill the hot dogs!**

### **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.



## It's Diversity Sunday!

Thank you for joining us as we celebrate the wonderful diversity that makes up our community - age, gender, sexual orientation, careers, race, ethnicity, cultural background, hobbies, etc. We are thrilled to be recognized as an RIC congregation today while we commit ourselves to our new Welcoming Statement.



We welcome Merton Spencer, the Regional Coordinator for ReconcilingWorks, and Diane Madej, co-chair of Open Hearts. Open Church., the North/West Lower Michigan Synod Task Force on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity. We thank them for being here as part of our special celebration.

After the worship service, prior to the dismissal and postlude, we would like everyone to join together for a group picture of our entire congregation celebrating our diversity. This picture will be used in announcements by ReconcilingWorks that we are an RIC congregation and other ways as we share that Faith is RIC and Welcoming and Affirming.

Please check out the new Diversity Center in the narthex. This is a central location for a variety of resources to help us learn more about a variety topics. Many items are for you to take and keep, while some are for you to borrow and return, these are clearly marked with a label.

Join us for a special coffee hour with cake, other snacks, and drinks after the worship service. This is a great time to share a story about what makes you unique and what diversity you bring to our congregation.



**Vacation Bible School** will be held on June 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00-12:00. Ages 3yrs - 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:kllove@faithlutheranokemos.org)

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



## ***A Florida Sampler:***

***Birds, Animals, Flowers and More***

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

***(Note that this is the 4<sup>th</sup> 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!

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## **Upcoming Caregiving Meeting**

July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 11:30 a.m. Join us for a lite lunch and discussion.

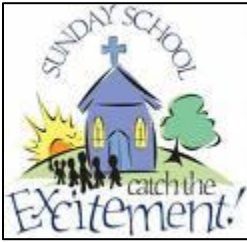
July Meeting- Nutrition for Self-Care with speaker Debbie Miller of Inspired Health for Michigan

August 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting- Ingham County Medical Care Facility and Rehabilitation (Dobie Road)- Driving Resources/Assessment and Wellness Opportunities.

September 14<sup>th</sup> – An afternoon of sharing and caring

October 12<sup>th</sup>- An afternoon of sharing and caring

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



### \*\*\*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, Lois Neves, Jean Lewis

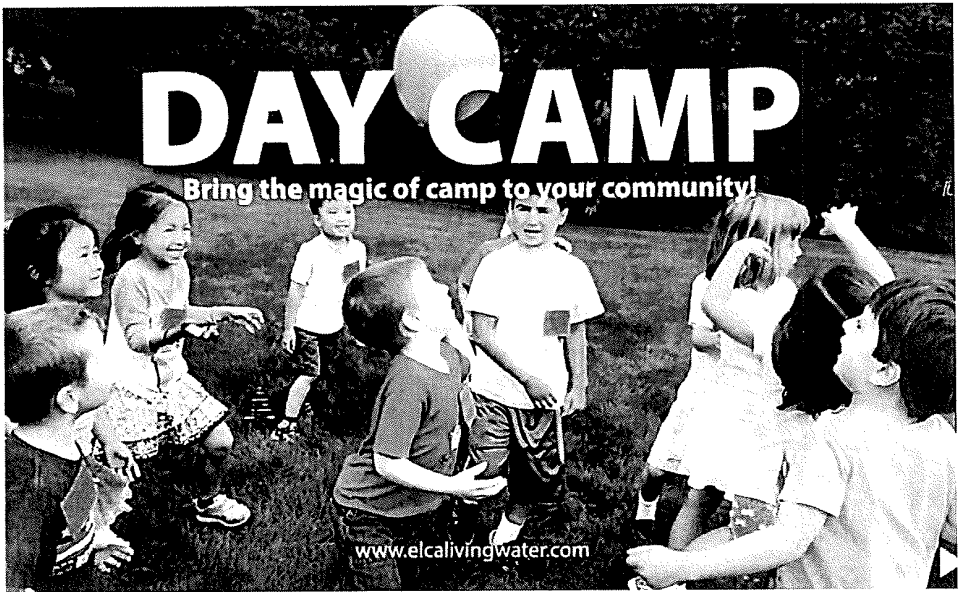
4-6 Grades (Trinity) – Ransom, need 3 (offered both Sunday and Wednesday night, where a meal is included).

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

## FORUM PLANNING COMMITTEE

**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 next video will be presented at Faith Lutheran Church in Okemos on Monday evening, July 10<sup>th</sup>.**



*August 7-11, 2017*

Enjoy the love of Christ in your community! Join us at Bethlehem, August 7-11, Monday through Friday, 1:30-6:30 pm for our Summer Day Camp, a week of excitement leading up to our Faith, Family, Fun Day on Saturday, August 12.

We will rotate through various activities: Bible Study, Arts and crafts, recreation, music and worship, nature activities and more, all with a lot of singing, dancing and games. Each day will include a nutritious dinner.

Ages are 5-12. The cost is **FREE** for non-members, guests and friends. Member registration is \$15 per youth or \$25 per family. Scholarships are available, and donations are always welcome!

Complete and return the registration form by as soon as possible and call the church at 482.3225 with any questions.

*Bethlehem*  
Lutheran Church Lansing

549 E. Mt. Hope Ave.  
Lansing, MI 48910  
517.482.3225  
bethlutheran.org