

Welcome to Faith Lutheran

October 29, 2017

50TH Anniversary OF THE REFORMATION

Pastor Ellen Schoepf
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4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620



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/>

Free Indeed

The beginning of today's reading from John places the gospel at the heart of Christian discipleship: "If you continue in my word," Jesus says, "you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free" (John 8:31-32).

Today many congregations will observe the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, begun by a small-town German monk and university professor named Martin Luther. Luther was deeply concerned about the concept of truth and searched the scriptures diligently, looking for facts and certainty about the grace of God. What he found caught him by surprise. During Luther's time people were given the impression that good works and sincere hearts earned the love and forgiveness of God. But Luther read the Bible for himself and found that Jesus' love and forgiveness come without strings attached. This simple rediscovery sent shock waves through the church.

Jesus himself is the truth, and Jesus is the Son who sets every one of us free—free from sin, death, and the power of the devil. Our gathering for worship brings us into direct encounter with this truth-telling, life-giving word. We encounter this word in scripture reading, preaching, and song. Most of all, we encounter Jesus, the Word of God, the Word made flesh. All of our other understandings of the word spring from our understanding of Jesus as God's Word to us.

God has a profound and deep desire to be revealed to us. God wants to communicate with us, to let us know we are loved, claimed, valued, blessed, and called. God also makes it clear that we are called to repent, turning from sin to live for God alone. Jesus himself directly and clearly reveals the fullness of God with us. This is the good news, the truth, that makes us free—free indeed!

Sunday, October 29, 2017

Reformation Sunday

Introduction to the day

On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table.

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

“A Mighty Fortress”

arr. Wilbur Held

GATHERING

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,
the one who fashions us,
the one who heals us,
the one who reforms us again and again.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.
Source of all life,
**we confess that we have not allowed
your grace to set us free.**
We fear that we are not good enough.
**We hear your word of love freely given to us,
yet we expect others to earn it.**
**We turn the church inward,
rather than moving it outward.**
Forgive us. Stir us.
**Reform us to be a church powered by love,
willing to speak for what is right,
act for what is just,
and seek the healing of your whole creation.**
Amen.

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us
and to empower our lives in the world.
Our sins are forgiven,
✠ God's love is unconditional,
and we are raised up as God's people
who will always be made new,
in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

ELW #631

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-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. 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. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



Refrain
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 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.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, 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: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

A reading from Romans.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

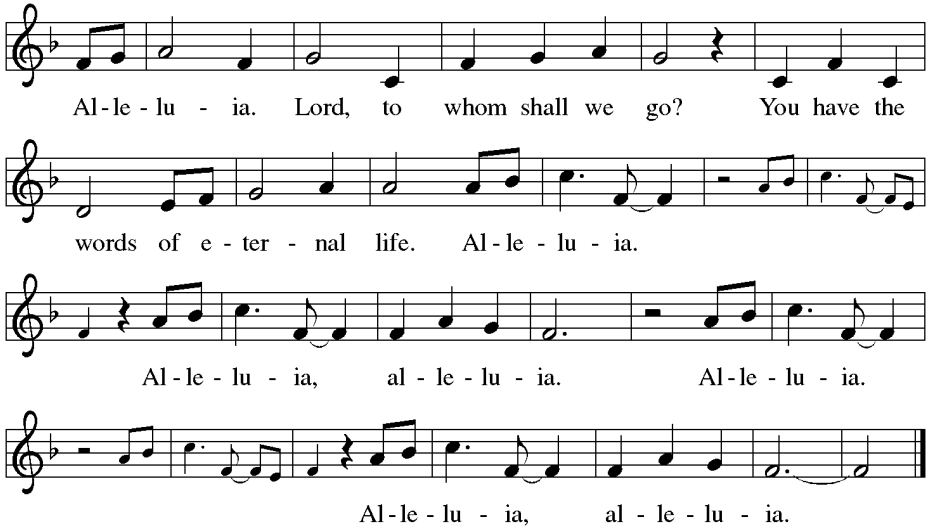
²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

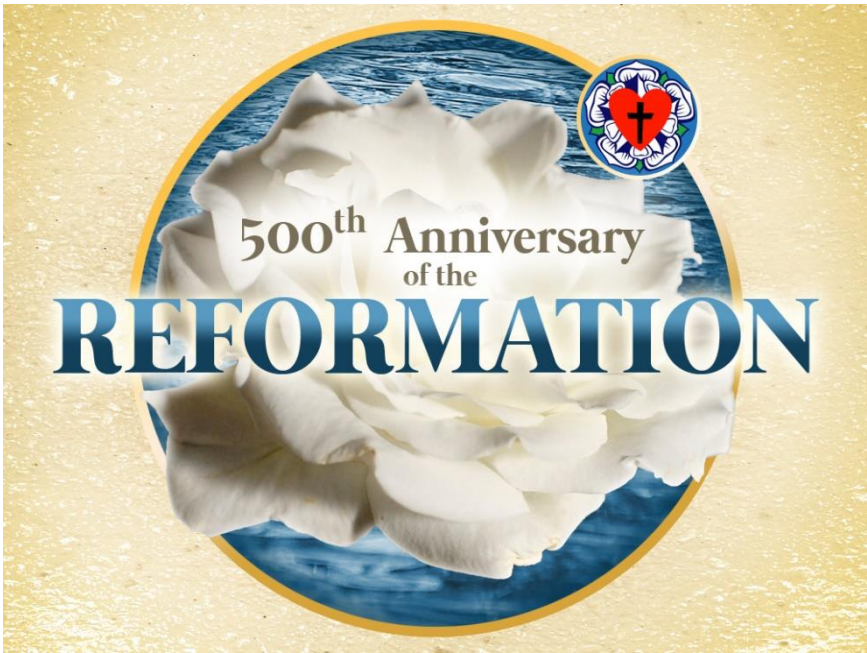
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.



"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

(German: "**Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott**") is one of the best known hymns by the reformer Martin Luther, a prolific hymnodist. Luther wrote the words and composed the melody sometime between 1527 and 1529. It has been translated into English at least seventy times and also into many other languages. The words are a paraphrase of Psalm 46.

HYMN OF THE DAY

(Congregation stands to sing the hymn)

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

MARTIN LUTHER (ca. 1529)

Translated by FREDERICK HENRY HEDGE (1853)

EIN FESTE BURG

MARTIN LUTHER (ca. 1529)

CONGREGATION SINGS STANZAS 1, 2 & 4 (Stanza 3: Choir only)



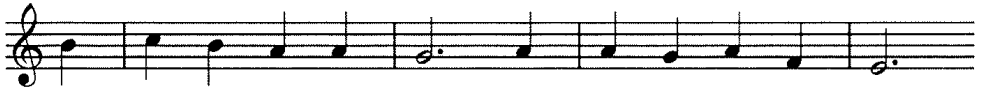
1. A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing;
2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing,
3. *And though this world with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un - do us,*
4. That word a - bove all earth - ly pow'rs, no thanks to them, a - bid - eth;



our help - er he a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choos - ing.
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to tri - umph through us.
the Spir - it and the gifts are ours, through him who with us sid - eth.



For still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe;
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is he;
The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we trem - ble not for him;
Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so;



his craft and pow'r are great, and armed with cru - el hate,
Lord Sa - ba - oth his name, from age to age the same,
his rage we can en - dure, for lo, his doom is sure;
the bod - y they may kill; God's truth a - bid - eth still;



on earth is not his e - qual.
and he must win the bat - tle.
one lit - tle word shall fell him.
his king - dom is for - ev - er.

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

When each of you was baptized, the members of the congregation—all of us here—made a commitment to you. We promised to support each of you, pray for each of you as you live the life God calls you to live, and provide, teach and share God’s word with you. As part of that promise we made to you, we are doing something very special for you today. We are giving each of you a Bible, the most treasured book in our lives.

Serena Ngasala
Destiny Hinamanu
Samantha Magyar

Members of the congregation, let us affirm our promise to each of these children.

We promise to care for you, love you and continue to share God’s word with you as you grow in faith. We promise to support you in the mission we share, always giving thanks and praise to God as together we carry God’s creative and redeeming word in the world.



CREED

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

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:

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.
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

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (Glaser, arr. Hopson)
Chancel Choir
Maureen Nauss, Guest Director

OFFERING RESPONSE

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me." The score ends with a double bar line.

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of life,

you give us these gifts of the earth,

these resources of our life and our labor.

Take them, offered in great thanksgiving,

and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.

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.

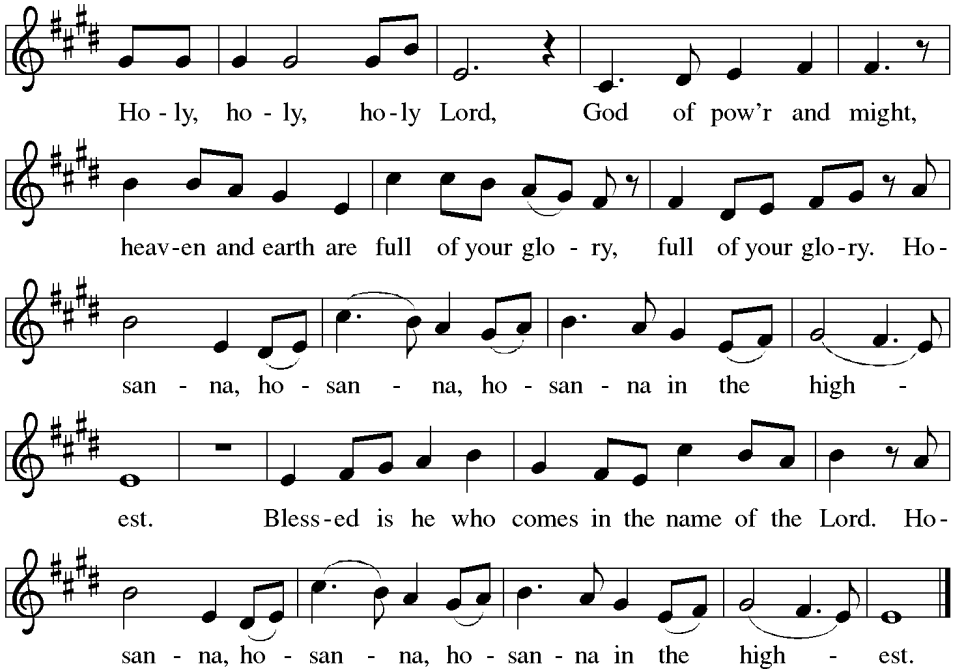
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We praise you, all-holy God, our maker, our lover, our keeper, for the universe beyond our knowing. For seas and forests and fields, for creatures seen and unseen. For animals both wild and tame, and for the places we humans call home. For cities and churches and schools.

We praise you for your covenant people, for Moses and Miriam and Aaron, and for centuries of faithful Christians For Mary Magdalene, Peter and Paul.

We praise you, O God, for Jesus Christ, who saves us from sin and from evil, who on the night before he died, 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.

And so we remember your Word, his life, his death, and his glorious resurrection, and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray, O God, for your Spirit, your breath, your fire, your wisdom. Bless this meal and all those who share it; inspire your people for service; and renew the world with your mercy, with your healing, your justice, and your peace.

We praise you, all-holy God, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, today, tomorrow, 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

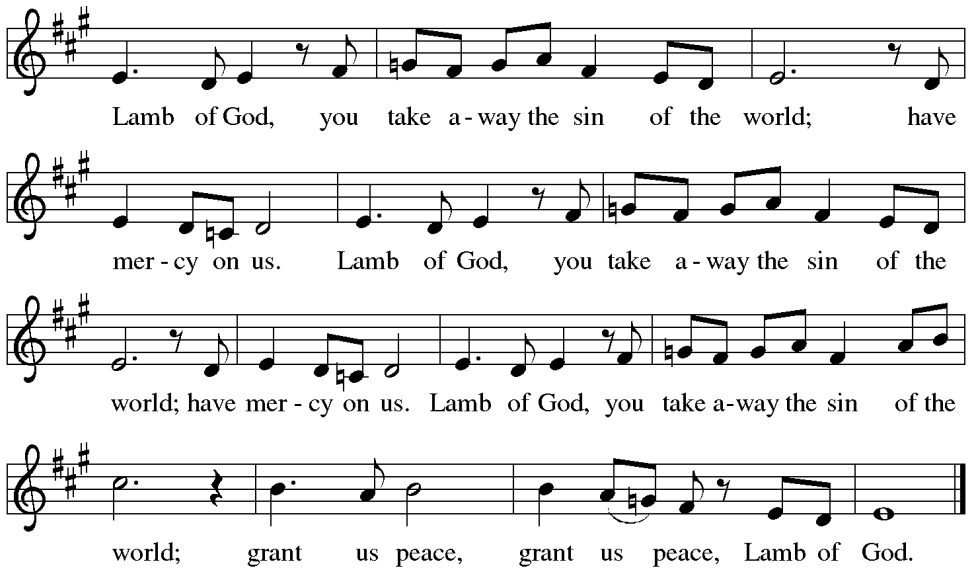
Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
and make us one with you.

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Here Is Bread

ELW #483

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

By grace we have been saved



1 By grace we have been saved through faith and
 2 For all have sinned and fall - en short. God's
 3 God gave to earth a per - fect love through
 4 We know the wage of sin is death; thank
 5 Set free, we now have peace with God. Sal -

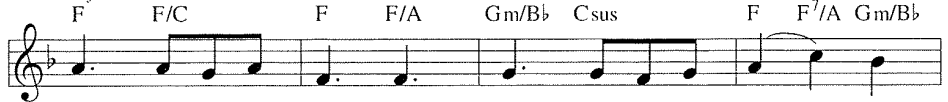


not by keep - ing law. God's saints be - lieved by
 plan, not one o - beyed. Christ has for all ful -
 Je - sus on the cross. While we were foes, Christ
 God, we shall re - vive. For just as Je - sus
 va - tion is se - cured. How beau - ti - ful the



what they heard and not by what they saw.
 filled the law. Be - lieve, con - fess, be saved.
 died for us. We gained by God's own loss.
 rose a - gain, we too are made a - live.
 feet of those who share this gos - pel word.

Refrain



Oh, how I love Je - sus! Oh, how I love Je - sus!



Oh, how I love Je - sus, be - cause he first loved me!

The assembly stands

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

Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Holy and compassionate God,
in bread and wine you give us gifts
that form us to be humble and courageous.
May your words come to life
in our serving and in our witness,
that we might speak a living voice
of healing and justice to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.
Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:
Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

ELW #729

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Sound the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“The Church of Christ, in Every Age”

arr. J. Bert Carlson

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Good Morning! We gather in the name of
Jesus! Please greet on another in peace.

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

October 22, 2017 Attendance: 109

Serving Faith	October 29	November 5
Acolyte	Juliana Lewis	Adelle Dingledine
Altar Care	Rich Weingartner & Melinda Schultz	Brenda Kopf & Cecelia Kramer
Communion Assistants	Juliana Lewis	Adelle Dingledine
	Alyssa Magyar	Doug Hirt
	Brian Ransom	Karen Whitmyer
Greeters	Rich Weingartner	Bill & Pam Williams
Lay Assistants	Alyssa Magyar	Doug Hirt
Readers	Brian Ransom	Karen Whitmyer
Ushers	Doug & Linda Hirt	TBD
Nursery	Alexis Hereza	O'Briens

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Faith Family & Friends

October 29, 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

December Faith Family News newsletter—

Please submit by Monday, November, 20

Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please lift up in prayer this week:

- ✠ Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne, and Dale Halvorson.
- ✠ Friends and family—
Harriet, Pat Belonga, Todd Barricklow, George Bach, Greg Beckwith, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Allyson, Heather, Erin, Al, Sai, Jeanne Hicks, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Robert Bordt, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Meredith, Jeanne and Leonard, Tammy Heilman, Susan Heft, John Joseph Lanzetta, Johnathon Manitta family, Loretta Milne, Bethany Robison, Jean Smith, Scott Seeley, “Little Zee” (3 yr. old daughter of a friend of Brenda Kopf’s), Virginia Tashner, Max Whitmyer and the White family.
- ✠ 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. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friends

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 Matthew Smith and the congregation of Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Lansing, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekly Offering	10/22/17	Year-to-date as of 09/30/2017	
Loose Cash	\$ 22.00	Income	\$204,025
Loose Checks	\$ 1275.00	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$221,382</u>
Youth			
Bottle Recycle	\$ 8.50		
Auction	\$ 3964.00		
Vision 2020	\$ 2900.00	Net Income	-\$17,357
Facility Rental	\$ 50.00		
Worship Committee	\$ 87.00		
Books	22.00		
Marilyn McDonough			
Memorial-Music	\$ 750.00		
Lois Sollenberger Mem.	\$ 100.00		
Music	\$ 197.00		
Quilters	\$ 40.00		
Flowers	\$ 100.00		
World Hunger	\$ 20.00		
General Fund	<u>\$ 3170.00</u>		
Subtotal	\$ 12705.50		
Simply Giving	\$ 2826.00		
Total	\$15,531.50		

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

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

Vase 1: the Schultz Family in celebration of Lauren's 15th Birthday.

Vase 2: Deb Borton-McDonough in celebration of Christine and John's birthdays

THIS WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Today

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship: 3rd Grade Bible Presentation

Following Worship: Quarterly Meeting

3:00 p.m. Reformation Celebration at Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Monday, October 30th

9:30 a.m. Ingham County Play Group

7:00 p.m. Green Team Meeting

Tuesday, October 31st

Noon: Study in Pastor Ellen's Office: All are Welcome

Wednesday, November 1

7:30 a.m. Men's Study

9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritas ACTION

5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise

5:45 p.m. Meal is Served: Provided by Pastor Ellen

6:30 p.m. Faith Bells

6:30 p.m. Trinity & Confirmation

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, November 2

7:00 p.m. Book Study at Kim O'Brien's Home

Friday, November 3

Saturday, November 4

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Sunday, November 12: Garage & Property Clean Up Day

Clean-Up Day

Please join us for the annual fall cleanup on Sunday, Nov. 12, immediately following worship.



Sunday, November 19 – Guest Preacher

Assistant to the Bishop, Rev. David Sprang, will be joining us for worship on Sunday, November 19. He will be preaching on that Sunday and sharing information about the work of the Synod.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship followed by Pie Feast

On Wednesday evening, **November 22, at 7:00 PM**, we will be holding a Thanksgiving Service. Join us as we spend time giving thanks for all that we have been given. And, bring a pie to share. Following the worship service, we will feast on pie!



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

CHRISTMAS EVE SUNDAY & CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

This year, Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday. Therefore, after much thought and conversation, we have decided to cancel the Sunday morning service and only hold our traditional Christmas Eve services, one at 4:00 PM and one at 10:00 PM. Please note that there will be **NO SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE on December 24**. If you have any questions, please speak to Pastor Ellen or one of the Worship Committee members.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

Wednesday evening, November 1, adults will be able to participate in a **new educational opportunity**. Beginning at 7:00 PM on 11/1, we will be offering the educational **NOOMA series by Rob Bell**. Every week participants will view one of Rob Bell's NOOMA series short films, each followed by discussion. These films explore our world from a perspective of Jesus. **NOOMA** is an invitation to search, question, and join the discussion. In these films, Bell talks about the way in which Jesus lived with the awareness that God is doing something, right here, right now, and anybody can be a part of it. He encouraged his listeners to search, to question, to wrestle with the implications of what he was saying and doing. He inspired, challenged, provoked, comforted, and invited people to be open to God's work in this world. Wherever he went, whatever he did, Jesus started discussions about what matters most, because for Jesus, God is always inviting us to open our eyes and join in. We invite you to come for dinner, view the short film and join in the discussion.

Every Wednesday! Meal Starts at 5:45 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church is the place to be!

We will be offering a meal for anyone in the congregation who wishes to come to church to eat (meals much like the Lenten suppers). The meal will be served from 5:45 – 7:00. We will be offering activities for all ages! Wednesday will be family night at Faith! The evening schedule will include:

5:30 – 6:00 Joyful Noise choir rehearsal
5:45 – 7:00 Meal served
6:30 – 7:30 Trinity, Confirmation, and *activities for younger children!*
6:30 – 7:30 Bell Choir rehearsal
7:00 – 8:00 Luther Movie Showing
7:30 – 8:00 Additional activities for kids
7:30 – 9:00 Chancel Choir

***Thank you to all the groups who signed up to provide the
Wednesday Night Meals!***

November 1st: Pastor Ellen

November 8th: Evangelism and Green Team

November 15th: Youth

November 22nd: Pie Fest/Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 29th: Membership Development

December 6th: OPEN

December 13th: OPEN

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Next Teen Meeting will be Sunday, November 12th. All 7th – 12th graders are invited for dinner and a study from 6-8 p.m. 4548 Seneca Drive (directly behind the church). Come for the whole time or stay as long as you can! Meetings take place every 2nd & 4th Sunday.

This week...

Wednesday, November 1st

6:30-7:30 p.m. Confirmation/Trinity and Activities for kids Pk-3rd Grade.

7:30-8pm: Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

November:

5th: Sunday School (PK-6th): First Communion

8th: Wednesday Night Live: Trinity & Confirmation 6:30-7:30; Pageant Rehearsal 7:30-8.

12th: Sunday School (PK-6th), Parish Ed Meeting, Teens Study (7-12 grade) at Katie Love's Home (6-8pm).

15th: Wednesday Night Live: Trinity & Confirmation 6:30-7:30; Pageant Rehearsal 7:30-8.

17th: Youth Fun Night: MSU Hockey Game

19th: Sunday School (PK-6th)

22th: NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE OR CLASSES/ Thanksgiving Eve Service 7 p.m. followed by Pie Fest.

26th: Sunday School (PK-6th) Teens Study (7-12 grade) at Katie Love's Home (6-8pm).

29th: Wednesday Night Live: Trinity & Confirmation 6:30-7:30; Pageant Rehearsal 7:30-8.

December:

3rd: Sunday School (PK-6th) **11:30-1pm Lunch and Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Pageant.**

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Starts this week!!



Tell your kids to grab their baseball hats and kazoos and meet you at Bethlehem Stadium for **Christmas Play by Play!**

There are lots of positions available on the **Christmas Play by Play** baseball team.

. . . . If your children are good at pitching, they may want to join the angels as they work on their pitch and pitches.

. . . . If a few of your kids prefer catching the ball, they can join the shepherds who are in the outfield taking care of their sheep.

. . . . If you have children who like to hit the ball, they might want to hang out with the wisemen in batting practice and then follow the star around the bases.

We will be holding rehearsals during Trinity (4-6) grade Wednesday Evenings from 7:30-8:00 p.m. We will be running the songs Sunday Mornings in November during the first 15 minutes of class time with PK-6th Grade.

The baseball team is about to learn that their new coach has arrived - Jesus! This is the savior they have been waiting for and your children will be there to greet God's gift to the team and the whole world. Reserve your seat at Bethlehem Stadium and join us as we celebrate Emmanuel . . . God is with us every single day!

November & December Sunday School Offering

Starting Sunday, November 5 - Sunday, December 10 the Sunday School offering PK-6th grade will go to ELCA World Hunger. *We are going to challenge ourselves and see how many animals we can buy to help families in need.* On Sunday, December 17th we will add up our money in Sunday School and decide which animals to buy.



-Every Sunday School family at Faith will receive a barnyard bank to place their offering in. Bring your offering every week or your total offering on December 10th.

-If you would like to add to our total please drop a check in the offering plate and put *Sunday School Offering on the memo line!!*



How big can our Barnyard Get???



Euchre Tournament Friday November 3rd @ 7p.m.

**Come and join Membership
Development for a fun night of Euchre.
If you do not know how to play that's
o.k.-we will teach you! Bring your own**

**beverage, we will provide a few snacks that won't get the cards
dirty! If childcare is needed we can provide that for a donation
for the Youth. Sign up in the Narthex on the Membership
Development clip board. Hope to see you there!**

Upcoming Caregiving Meeting

November 9th: Getting Through the Holidays (Grief Support Focus)
with Kris Abbey, Chaplin/Spiritual Coordinator for Hospice of
Lansing.

December 14th: Sharing and Caring



Capitol Conference Lutheran Churches

PRESENT

REFORMATION

500

A FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

FEATURING A

*Conference-wide mass choir leading
Hal Hopson's A Festival of Hymns*

FOOD
ART GALLERY
KID'S ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER
29

3:00PM AT
BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
549 EAST MOUNT HOPE AVENUE
LANSING

The event is free; donations will be accepted for
supper and an offering will be taken up for
Samaritas

You are invited to a movie screening of National Geographic's *From the Ashes* at Faith Lutheran Church on Sunday, November 5th, after the 10 am service. About one-third of Michigan's electricity is generated from coal-fired power plants. *From the Ashes* puts a human face on the issues tied to the "war on

coal." The movie covers topics such as the future of the energy sector, risks to people's health and livelihood, and the environment. Please join us in a close examination and dialogue of the complicated issues tied to coal production from multiple perspectives.



ELCA ADULT MISSION TRIP

JANUARY 20-28, 2018

WE WILL BE DOING SERVICE WORK IN FLORIDA, SPENDING THE WEEK ASSISTING IN CLEAN-UP, REPAIR AND REBUILDING

Several of our ELCA churches are working together to plan this Mission/Service Trip. We will be traveling to Florida by bus & van. There will be space for 30 participants. At this point in time, the plan is to leave on Saturday morning, January 20, get to Florida on Sunday evening, January 21, and begin doing service work on Monday morning. We will work through Friday, then begin our return home on Saturday, January 27.

The authorities in Florida are still working on assessing the destruction in various parts of the state, so we do not yet know where we will be assigned and where our help is most needed. We will have more information regarding this by mid-November. However, the hope is that the cost per person will be around \$1,000 or less.

If you want to participate in this Mission Trip, please speak to Pastor Ellen or add your name to this sign-up sheet in the Narthex.