

# Faith Lutheran Church

April 15, 2018



REPENTANCE  
*for the*  
FORGIVENESS  
OF SINS  
*will be*  
PREACHED  
IN HIS NAME  
*to all*  
NATIONS.

LUKE 24:47, NIV

Pastor Ellen Schoepf  
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Okemos, MI 48864



# 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](mailto: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

## **Phantom Pains**

After an amputation a majority of patients experience phantom pains. The arm is not there, yet he feels it cramping. The hand is gone, yet she feels it throbbing. The foot has been removed, yet he feels it twitching.

Today we meet the disciples, gathered together on the third day after the crucifixion, afraid they are experiencing nothing more than the phantom pains of grief. They had become one body, then on that gruesome day a part of their body was severed from the rest. On this day, Christ returns, but they think they know better. He is just a figment of their imaginations, a phantom pain of the way things used to be, a ghost.

We live in a world full of phantoms. City centers that once were thriving are lonely ghost towns. Forests and plains have been churned up and cut down and turned into housing developments. At our own Easter gatherings, members of the community who once were present are now missing.

In a phantom world we come to expect nothing but disembodied hope and fleeting memory. But God is not a phantom. We are witnesses to an Easter God who raised Jesus from the dead, who dressed Christ in flesh, and who is at work today. This Easter God is restoring places where creation has been cut off from creation, resurrecting our hollowed out, hazy, ghost town world and dressing the earth and all her creatures in flesh and bone, in life once again.

We are people who “look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come” (Nicene Creed). We have become accustomed to those phantom pains, but behold! This is no trick of the imagination. That which was severed from us has been restored. Alleluia!

## **Sunday, April 15, 2018**

3 Easter

ELW Holy Communion Setting Three

### **Introduction to the day**

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Lord's day. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures: the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

*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**

“The Gift of Love”

Faith Bells

arr. Hopson

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## GATHERING

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

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Just as God's work of creation never ends,  
so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day.  
Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism.  
We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life:  
for water to bathe in, water to drink,  
for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder,  
for water that gives life to our planet.

**We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.**

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place:  
for water from our tap, for rain and snow.

**We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place.**

We give you thanks for your salvation through water:  
for delivering Noah and his family through the floodwaters,  
for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom,  
for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought,  
for guiding your people across the Jordan into a new land,  
for quenching the Samaritan woman's thirst with living water.

**We give you thanks for your salvation through water.**

We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized,  
and for all who gather here;  
for godparents and baptismal sponsors,  
for children and grandchildren,  
for our brothers and sisters in Christ  
whom we have never seen but to whom we are bound.

**We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.**

We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit:  
for our entry into Jesus' death through these waters,  
for our new birth into a life of freedom and service,  
for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.

**We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.  
Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG

*The Day of Resurrection!*

*ELW #361*

## 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.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, 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.*

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## **WORD**

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

### **FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19**

*After healing a crippled man, Peter preaches to the people how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.*

A reading from Acts.

<sup>12</sup>[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?"<sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup>"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7

*God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.*

A reading from 1 John.

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## **GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48**

*In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”

<sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*With High Delight Let Us Unite*

*ELW #368*

## 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

Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need.

*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:*

We entrust all our prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them by the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of your Son, 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.*

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# MEAL

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

# OFFERING

"Love is Come Again"

arr. Erickson

Chancel Choir



## Praise and Thanksgiving

1 Praise and thanks-giv-ing, God, we would of-fer for all things  
 2 God, bless the la-bor we bring to serve you, that with our  
 3 Fa-ther, pro-vid-ing food for your chil-dren, by Wis-dom's  
 4 Then will your bless-ing reach ev-'ry peo-ple, free-ly con-

liv-ing, you have made good: har-vest of sown fields, fruits of the  
 neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow-ing or till-ing, we would work  
 guid-ing teach us to share one with an-oth-er, so that, re-  
 fess-ing your gra-cious hand. Where you are reign-ing, no one will

or-chard, hay from the mown fields, blos-som and wood.  
 with you, har-vest-ing, mill-ing for dai-ly bread.  
 joic-ing with us, all oth-ers may know your care.  
 hun-ger; your love sus-tain-ing show-ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.  
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version  
 Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.  
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

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

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

**Amen.**

# GREAT THANKSGIVING

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

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

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

with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



# THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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 life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

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.**



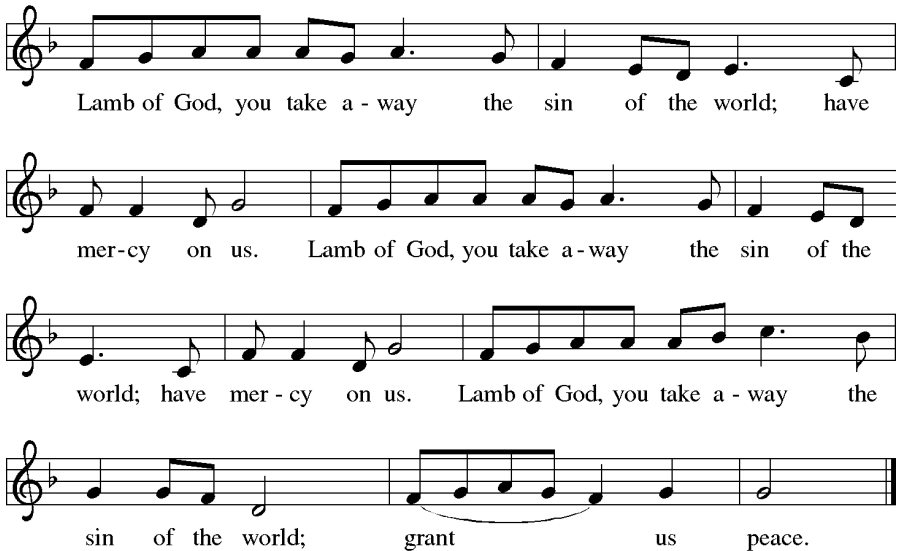
## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

## 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.

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”

Manz

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*As We Gather at Your Table*

***ELW #522***

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

## 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.**

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## SENDING

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*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

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!*

*ELW #373*

## 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

“Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands”

Held



LET ALL THE EARTH  
REJOICE!

Sisters & brothers in Christ, welcome to  
worship! May your time in the Lord be rich  
and blessed.

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

**Bi-Weekly Announcement packets are available in the narthex.**

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April 8, 2018 Attendance 95

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Serving Faith	April 15	April 22
Acolyte	Sean O'Brien	Owen Kadrofske
Altar Care	Pam Williams & Gretchen Bills	
Communion Assistants	Sean O'Brien	Owen Kadrofske
	Mike Eschelbach	
	Brian Ransom	
Greeters	Ken & Karen Whitmyer	Jack & Natalie Dingledine
Lay Assistants	Mike Eschelbach	Earth Day
Readers	Brian Ransom	Earth Day
Ushers	Doug & Linda Hirt	Jon & Elaine Harrison
Nursery	Heidi Bowers	Lori Webb