

# Faith Lutheran Church

May 20, 2018



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4515 Dobie Road  
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

## **Transitioning**

For some women the most painful and difficult point in the process of giving birth is near the end of active labor, just before it is time to push. It is the point at which many women think they cannot bear the labor any longer. This phase is commonly called the *transition*.

Today Jesus announces that he is going away, and the community of disciples knows that things will not be the same moving forward. Jesus will no longer be with the disciples, but he will send the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, to join them. The disciples cannot bear it. It's a time of transition.

Between the community of disciples in John's gospel and the swarming crowds at Pentecost in the reading from Acts, we see the fullness of this transition. In the gospel we see the disciples devastated and sorrowful, unsure if they want to continue on without Jesus. Then we jump to the astonishment of Pentecost, when the Spirit of God rushes in like a mighty wind, making them drunk with joy. On the day of Pentecost there was no doubt that a page had turned and a new beginning had come to those followers of Jesus. We see the leap that is made from fear to freedom, from pain and loss to birth and life.

What is transitioning in your life? In your community? What familiar things are passing away and what new thing is God about to blow into your midst?

Transition almost always comes with pain and risk. Our hope is that the moment we do not think we can bear it any longer is precisely the moment that new life is taking hold. Do not be afraid of that which you cannot bear. It is a sign of the new thing the Spirit is bringing to birth!

**Sunday, May 20, 2018**

Day of Pentecost

### **Introduction to the day**

On the fiftieth day of Easter we celebrate the Spirit, through whom and in whom the people of God are created and re-created. Pentecost is sometimes called the church's birthday, but might more appropriately be called its baptism day, since the gift of the Spirit is the fullness of baptism. Ezekiel's vision shows the Spirit resurrecting and re-creating not just individuals but a whole people. Romans makes it clear that God is in the process of re-creating the entire cosmos; yet the Spirit is also at work in the most intimate and personal way, praying in us "with sighs too deep for words" when we do not know how to pray.

*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**

**"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" (arr. Dobrinski)**  
**Faith Bells**

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# GATHERING

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

## GATHERING SONG

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

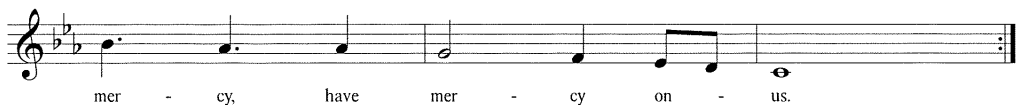
**ELW #631**

## GREETING

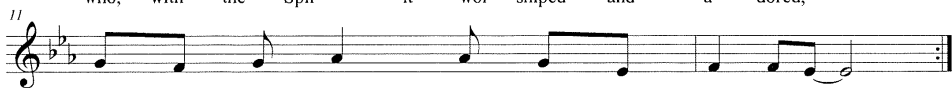
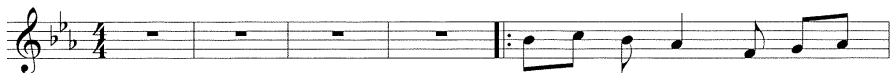
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## KYRIE



## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, 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.*

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## WORD

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

### **FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21**

*Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.*

A reading from Acts.

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

<sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>“In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ ”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: Romans 8:22-27**

*By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God’s future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.*

A reading from Romans.

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with

sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

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? Al - le - lu - ia,  
4 you have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
8 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. \_\_\_\_\_

### **GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

*When speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as “the Helper” and described the difference the Spirit would make in their lives and in the world.*

The holy gospel according to John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] <sup>26</sup>“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

<sup>16:4b</sup>“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts.



<sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup>“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

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

*The assembly is seated.*

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

## **SERMON**

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

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Spirit of Gentleness*

***ELW #396***

## **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**

Filled with the Holy Spirit, we join with the church in every place,  
praying for the world that God so loves.

*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:*

By the sure guidance of your Holy Spirit, O God, we lift up our  
prayers in trust and thanksgiving; through 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

"Spirit of God, Abide With Me"

(arr. Kern)

Chancel Choir

## OFFERING RESPONSE

### Let The Vineyards

Let the vineyards be fruit - ful Lord, and

fill to the brim our cup of bles - sing. Gath - er the har -

- vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the

bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u -

nite them in the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta -

- ble with your pres - ence, Lord, and give us a fore -

- taste of the feast to come.

## 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,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,

you pour out the fire of your Spirit,

uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

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

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first line of music with lyrics: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav - en and earth are". The second staff starts at measure 6 and contains the lyrics: "full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the". The third staff starts at measure 11 and contains the lyrics: "name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav - en and earth are

6 full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the

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

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, Breath of life and Fire of love, with a mighty wind you brought creation into being, and by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom. We praise you for the gift of your Son, who poured out your Spirit on his disciples of every race and nation.

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 death, resurrection, and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit, we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth. Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal: anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love, that, with thankful hearts, we may be witnesses to 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.**

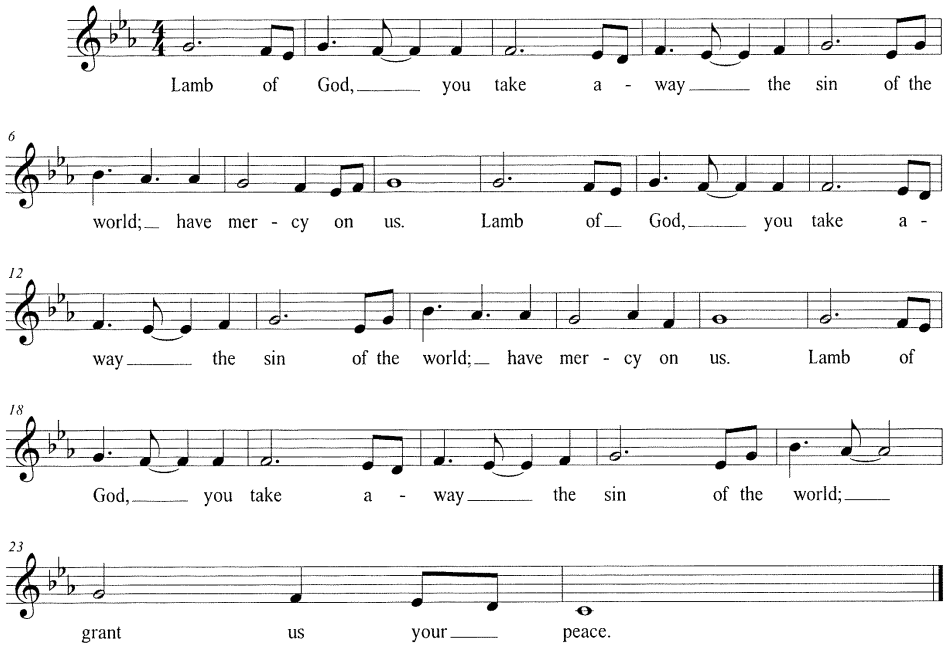
## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Now let us feast this festival 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  
6 world; \_ have mer - cy on us. Lamb of \_ God, \_\_\_\_\_ you take a -  
12 way \_\_\_\_\_ the sin of the world; \_ have mer - cy on us. Lamb of  
18 God, \_\_\_\_\_ you take a - way \_\_\_\_\_ the sin of the world; \_\_\_\_\_  
23 grant us your \_\_\_\_\_ peace.

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“Menuet” from L’Arlesienne

(Georges Bizet)

Flutes of Faith

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*Gracious Spirit*

***ELW #400***

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**

*God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind*

***ELW #400***

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

“God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind”

arr. Paul Manz





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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May 13, 2018 Attendance: 104

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Serving Faith	May 20	May 27
Acolyte	Juliana Lewis	open
Altar Care	Gretchen Bills & Becky Bills	
Communion Assistants	Juliana Lewis	open
	Walter Kopf	Alyssa Magyar
	Linda Hirt	Elaine Harrison
Greeters	Rich Weingartner	Mark & Molly DeHate
Lay Assistants	Walter Kopf	Alyssa Magyar
Readers	Linda Hirt	Elaine Harrison
Ushers	Kopf	Kopf
Nursery	Alexis Hereza	Marquardt

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**Altar Flower Dedications:**

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**Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>:** Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Ken & Karen Whitmyer in celebration of Brielle Bowers birthday.

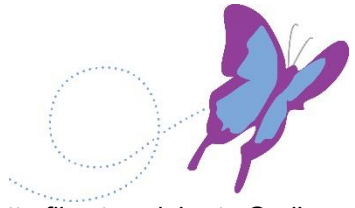
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**Butterflies For Sale!**

On Sunday, June 3, we will be releasing live butterflies outside by our Butterfly Garden. Butterflies are the symbol of new life. And, as we celebrate the Pentecost season and the beginning of summer

activities, we will be releasing painted lady butterflies to celebrate God's gift of creation. The Green Team is inviting you to order a butterfly for \$10.00. Following worship on June 3, you will be given your butterfly to release by our garden. This project is a Green Team fundraiser. A portion of the money earned from these butterfly sales will go to help purchase solar lighting for our sign. Place your butterfly order by using the form below and turn it into the church office. All orders must be received by Sunday, May 20, which happens to be Pentecost Sunday!



**Green Team Butterfly Order Form:  
Order Deadline: Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Quantity**

**Total Cost (\$10/each)**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church.

Please put "Butterflies" in the memo line.

Place this form in Katie Love's mailbox or the church office.