

Faith Lutheran Church

June 10, 2018



**“IF A HOUSE IS
D I V I D E D
AGAINST ITSELF,
THAT HOUSE
CANNOT STAND.”**

MARK 3:25

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

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

Home for the Heartbreak

The homecoming could not have been more heartbreaking. A father, near death, lay in a hospice bed that prophetically displaced the puffy cushioned pastel couch from the living room. A son, his own death in sight, stood, an alien, in the house where years before he played happily with no space to imagine the moment he now faced. It was their approaching deaths that drew the long-exiled son home. The fact that he was gay had created a distance far greater than the miles and years of separation. In such joyless space *hello* and *goodbye* twisted and tangled indistinguishably. The son's tears begged for reconciliation. "We are both dying, can we not make peace?" The father's spotlight glare confirmed rejection. "You are no son of mine."

Jesus' homecoming in today's gospel is surrounded by controversy and disruption on all sides. A pushing, shoving crowd peppered with an assortment of religious leaders insists that Jesus is out of his mind, evil, employed by the ruler of demons. His own mother and brothers choose their place outside, away. The hometown heartbreak confirms all the accumulated, bitter objections that ripened in the heat of fevered disapproval. Jesus' time spent in the company of outcasts, touching lepers, chasing demons, hanging close to the diseased, challenging the Pharisees' plots—all seems evidence that he is the skin and bones of an unclean spirit.

Rejected at home, Jesus does not turn family or himself away, but asks and answers one simple, provocative question: "Who are my mother and my brothers?" "Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother" (Mark 3:33, 35). Jesus leaves them—and of course us—with the unspoken, lasting question: "And what is the will of God?"

Sunday, June 10, 2018

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Grad Sunday

Introduction to the day

A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are sisters and brothers of the Lord. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

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

“Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling”

arr. Michael Burkhardt

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

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

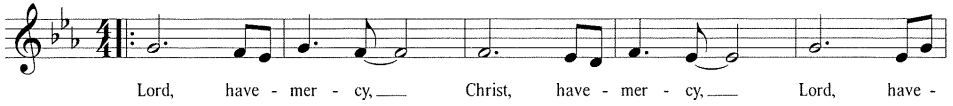
Rise, Shine, You People!

ELW #665

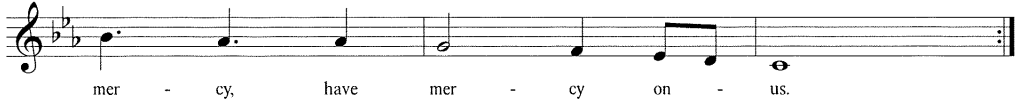
GREETING

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



Lord, have - mer - cy, Christ, have - mer - cy, Lord, have -



mer - cy, have mer - cy on - us.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo - ry to God, we give you
Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's
A - lone, O Christ, you on - ly



thanks and praise; of heav' - nly joy and earth - ly peace we sing.
on - ly Son, you bore for us the load of this world's sin. —
are the Lord, at God's right hand in ma - jes - ty most high:



We wor - ship you, to you our hearts we raise, —
O Lamb of God, your glo - rious vic - t'ry won, —
who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - migh - ty Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
re - ceive our pray'r; grant us your peace with - in. —
with all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy. —

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Genesis 3:8-15

Immediately after Adam and Eve eat the forbidden fruit, they hide from God. Neither takes responsibility for their sin, instead blaming each other, the snake, and even God. The curse on the snake was understood as a messianic prophecy by the early church, who associated Eve's "offspring" with Christ.

A reading from Genesis.

⁸[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.⁹But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:13--5:1

Life in the present is transitory and cannot compare with the eternal home God has prepared for us. So we do not despair no matter what life might bring because we know that as God raised Jesus from the dead, God promises to bring us into eternal life.

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

¹³Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

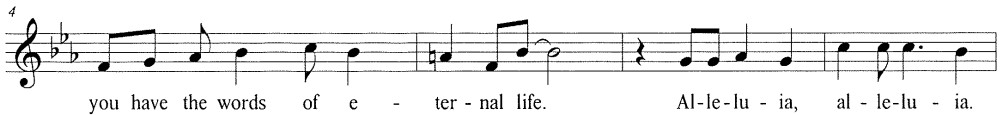
^{5:1}For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-35

In response to charges that he is possessed, Jesus wonders aloud how anyone who is demon-possessed can cast out demons. Those who do the will of God are possessed by the Holy Spirit, sisters and brothers of Christ.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus went home;] ²⁰and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” ²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

²⁸“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”—³⁰for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” ³³And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

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

Lead Me, Guide Me

ELW #768

HONORING OF GRADUATES

CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

"This Journey Is My Own"

(Sara Groves)

Deb Borton-McDonough, soloist

OFFERING RESPONSE

Let The Vineyards

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful Lord, and

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

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

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

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

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

30 - taste of the feast to come.

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.

Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,
you pour out the fire of your Spirit,

uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

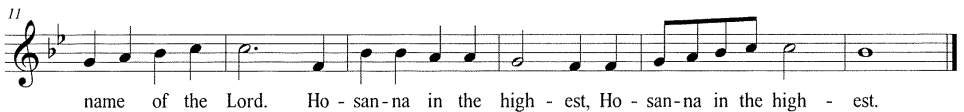
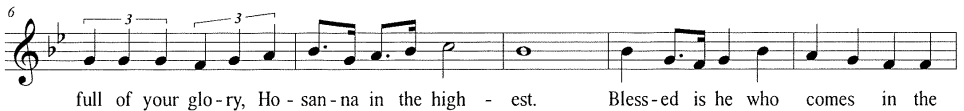
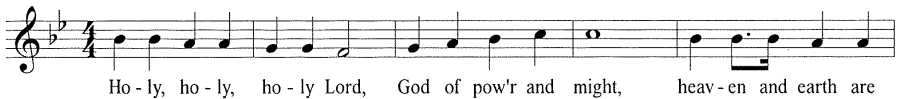
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of
the resurrection,

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





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.**

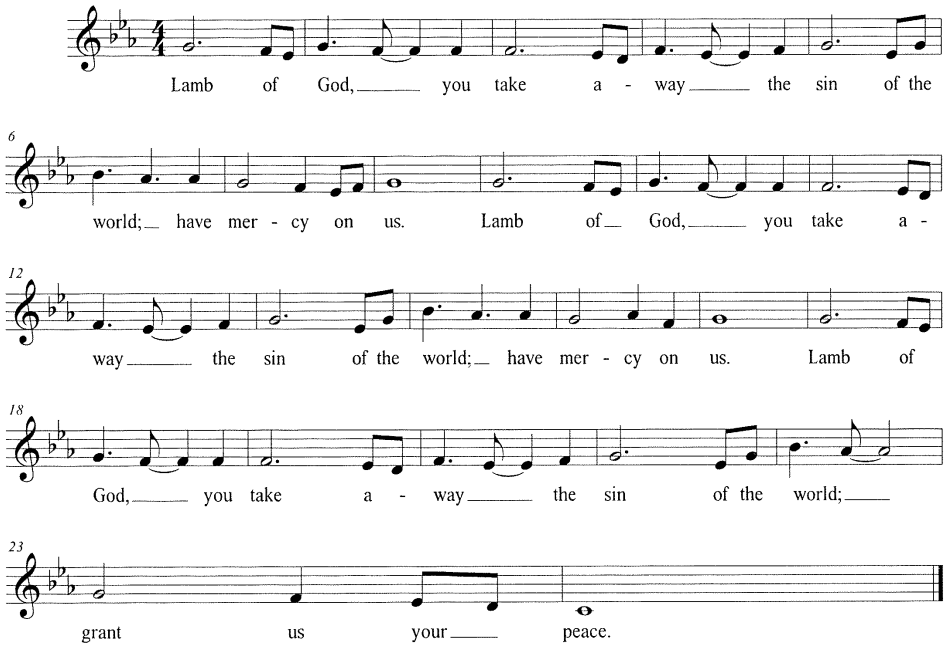
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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



Musical score for a Communion Song in G minor, 4/4 time. The score consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.

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 your peace.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Be Thou My Vision

ELW #793

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Build Us Up, Lord

ELW #670

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

Amen.

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.

SENDING

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

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

ELW #860

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“When the Roll is Called Up Yonder”

arr. Mark Hayes

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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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.

June 3, 2018 Attendance: 128

Serving Faith	June 10	June 17
Acolyte	Rachael Ngasala	open
Altar Care	Elaine Harrison & Diane Hill	
Communion Assistants	Rachael Ngasala	open
	Kim O'Brien	Deb Borton-McDonough
	Jon Harrison	Diane Wilke
Greeters	Jeff & Melinda Schultz	Mark & Molly DeHate
Lay Assistants	Kim O'Brien	Deb Borton-McDonough
Readers	Jon Harrison	Diane Wilke
Ushers	Coe	Heilman
Nursery	Williams	Heidi Bowers

Altar Flower Dedications:

Sunday, June 10th :

Vase 1: Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Korine & Matt Wawrzynski in celebration of Jasper's 8th birthday.

Vase 2: Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Bob & Phyllis Shorman in celebration of their 36th wedding anniversary.



HIGH SCHOOL

ALEXIS HEREZA: Alexis graduated from Williamston High School. She participated in volleyball, golf, diving, and tennis. In addition, she was in National Honor Society and was a volunteer at the Williamston Food Bank. Alexis and her family have attended Faith for three years. Alexis is going to Alma College to study sports medicine and will be playing on the tennis team.

JOSHUA NUSSDORFER: Joshua has been a member of Faith since his birth. He graduated from Okemos High School this past Sunday. While in high school, Josh was a three sport athlete participating in hockey, golf and tennis. Josh will be attending the University of Michigan in the fall to study chemical engineering.

COLLEGE

TARA WILLIAMS: Tara Graduated from Concordia University - Ann Arbor with a Bachelors of Arts in Family Life Education with a Minor in Youth Ministry. She is still in the process of finding a church to work at.