

Faith Lutheran Church

June 24, 2018



Jesus calming the storm

Pastor Ellen Schoepf
prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
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

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

Left with a Question

Jesus did not ask the water-battered, wave-ravaged disciples why they were not robust enough to weather the storm. There are, however, enough other questions about the storm-on-the-sea story, like: “What’s the deal with the other boats?” or “How could Jesus possibly sleep in such a gale?” or “Why mention that Jesus went ‘just as he was’?”

Four questions are asked out in the boat. The first one, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” is sensible. It is more than just a wee bit unreasonable to ride out all the storms and traumas of our nights and days in sinking ships—foreclosures and lay-offs, shootings, famine and floods, refugees on rafts, bloody battlefields, massacres in night clubs, abused children, neglected elders, hard deaths, easy injustices—without asking the sleeping Jesus, “Don’t you care?” Who has not asked that very question? It is older than Job’s complaints against God, who seemed too distant or too uncaring to be of any earthly good. It is the question that, despite rebukes for daring to ask it, will not go away. And it shouldn’t—should it? No easy answer flutters forth on swift and gentle wings.

As for the other questions, “Why are you afraid?” Seriously? Just look at the sea! Reason enough. And, “Still no faith?” To be fair, didn’t even Jesus, near death, have a scrimmage with doubt, crying “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Mark 15:34).

But it is the disciples’ demanding last question that lingers beyond the storm: “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?” (Mark 4:41). It is the reflection of a question Jesus was yet to ask: “Who do you say that I am?” (Mark 8:29). This question we too are left to answer.

Sunday, June 24, 2018
5th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction to the day

Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation! Now we are in the storm, the boat almost swamped; but Jesus is here now, and when we call him he will calm the storm. Even the wind and waves listen to him as they would to their creator. We also listen to him and are called to believe in the power of God's word in him, a power greater than all that we fear.

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, Truth Divine” (hymn 398) arr. Michael Burkhardt

GATHERING

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

GATHERING SONG

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

ELW #763

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.

O God of creation, eternal majesty, you preside over land and sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Job 38:1-11

At the end of the book of Job, after Job and his companions have argued about the cause of the great suffering Job endures, God finally speaks. These verses begin that speech, which is a grand vision of creation, describing God's ordering of the cosmos and inviting Job to marvel at its beauty.

A reading from Job.

¹The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

³Gird up your loins like a man,
I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?
Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone

⁷when the morning stars sang together
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb?—

⁹when I made the clouds its garment,
and thick darkness its swaddling band,

¹⁰and prescribed bounds for it,
and set bars and doors,

¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stopped?’”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Paul and his fellow workers experience great hardships and even rejection while carrying out their missionary work. Nevertheless, Paul continuously proclaims that God has not rejected us but is graciously working for our salvation.

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

¹As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!

³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

¹¹We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. ¹²There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. ¹³In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

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: Mark 4:35-41

Jesus' calming of the storm on the sea reveals his power over evil, since the sea represents evil and chaos. The boat on the sea is a symbol of the church and invites us to trust God amid life's turbulence.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁵When evening had come, [Jesus said to the disciples,] “Let us go across to the other side.” ³⁶And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” ³⁹He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” ⁴¹And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

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

When Jesus Went to Egypt

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2018

Hans Leo Hassler, 1601

1. When Je - sus went to E - gypt, Safe on his mo-ther's arm,
2. O God, we pray for chil - dren And fam - ilies com-ing here
3. O God, you're like a mo - ther Who won't for - sake her own.

His pa-rents stayed be - side him To keep him safe from harm.
Now fac-ing se - pa - ra - tion, And filled with grief and fear.
You're like a lov - ing fa - ther Who wel-comes his son home.

And when they crossed the bor - der, They were al - lowed to be
For chil - dren, loved and trea - sured, Are ripped from lov - ing kin.
Now give us, by your Spi - rit, The strength to chal - lenge wrong,

To - ge - ther—seek - ing ref - uge— A Ho - ly Fa - mi - ly.
This deed, by a - ny mea - sure, Is tor - ture. It's a sin!
To seek the best for chil - dren, And keep all fam - ilies strong.

Copyright © June 2018 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

Permission is given for free use of this hymn to churches seeking to support immigrant families.

COMMISSIONING OF STUDENTS & LEADERS

Youth and leaders attending the Gathering are invited to come forward.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Today we bless and send these young people and adults as they leave for the ELCA Youth Gathering and encounter the Holy Spirit in new and amazing ways, We know that...

All: **This changes everything.**

Leader: We thank the Holy Spirit for calling you to travel, worship, serve, learn, and play alongside 30,000 other participants and those you will meet along the way.

Gathering Participants: God's call changes everything.

Leader: In the Old Testament God told Joshua, "...the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." And in the New Testament, Jesus told his disciples, "...remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." We remind you, and ourselves, that God is speaking to us through these verses as well.

Gathering Participants: God's love changes everything.

Leader: The writer of Ephesians tells us, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." When you are challenged through this experience or when you doubt your strength and skills, remember that you are enough because of Christ.

Gathering Participants: God's grace changes everything.

Leader: We already look forward to welcoming you home. As you realize how God has used this experience to transform you, know that we, your faith community, are ready to hear the new hope you have for the world, our community and church. We hope that you will be open to sharing your stories with us and that we will be open to being changed by the stories you tell.

Gathering Participants: God's hope changes everything.

Leader: Let us pray. Gracious God, we thank you for calling these young people and the adult leaders who will accompany them to the ELCA Youth Gathering. As you have shown your love by sending your Son to live among us, we pray that your Spirit would help those we send also be an expression of your presence in the world. We know and we thank you that...

All: **Jesus changes everything. Amen.**

Youth and leaders may take their seats.

BLESSING OF TULA NGASALA

FAREWELL TO AUGUST COLANDREA

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

“Twelve Gates Into the City” Traditional Spiritual arr. Hopson
Treble Ensemble

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.

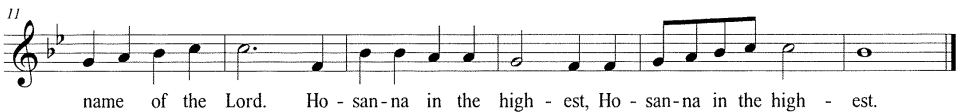
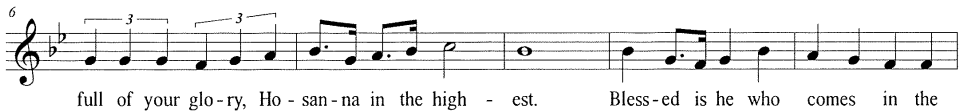
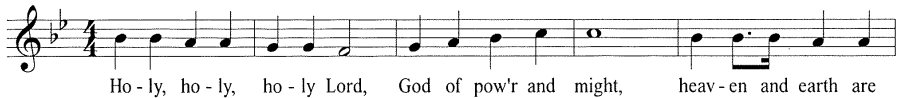
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.**

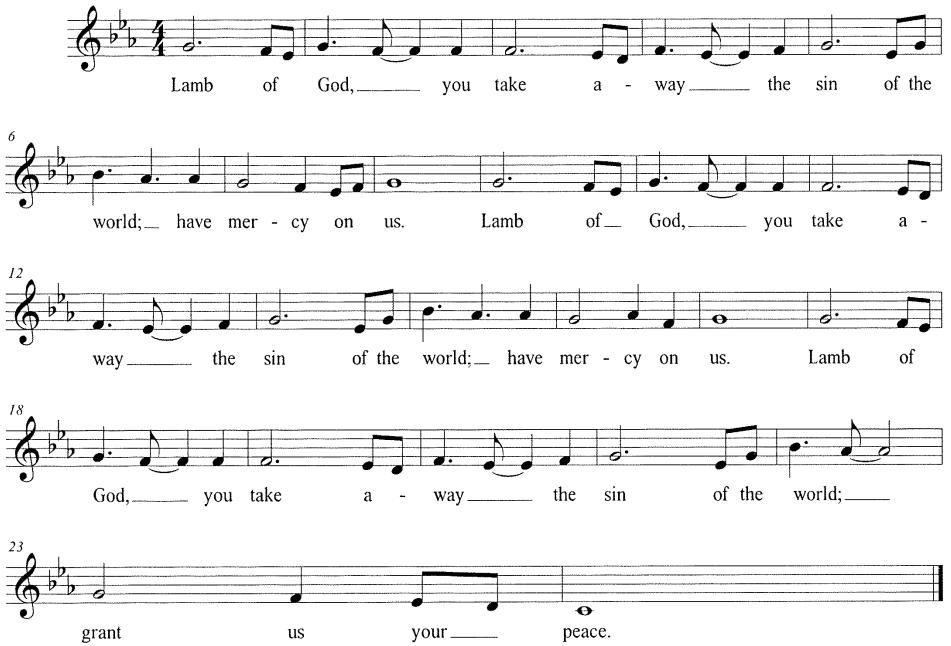
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



Musical score for a Communion Song, consisting of five staves of music in G minor (three flats) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ELW #773

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Day by Day

ELW #790

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

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

ELW #756

DISMISSAL

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

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“How Firm a Foundation” (hymn 796) arr. Wilbur Held

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.



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 17, 2018 Attendance: 102

Serving Faith	June 24	July 1
Acolyte	open	open
Altar Care	Elaine Harrison & Diane Hill Rich Weingartner & Nina Schrote	
Communion Assistants	open	open
	Korine Wawronski	Bob Shorman
	Warren Heilman	John McCracken
Greeters	Gayle & Lowell Barricklow	Marla Holle
Lay Assistants	Korine Wawronski	Bob Shorman
Readers	Warren Heilman	John McCracken
Ushers	Heilman	Mike Eschelbach
Nursery	Lori Webb	Alexis Hereza

Altar Flower Dedications:

Sunday, June 24th: Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Keith and Beth Belonga in celebration of their 33rd wedding anniversary.