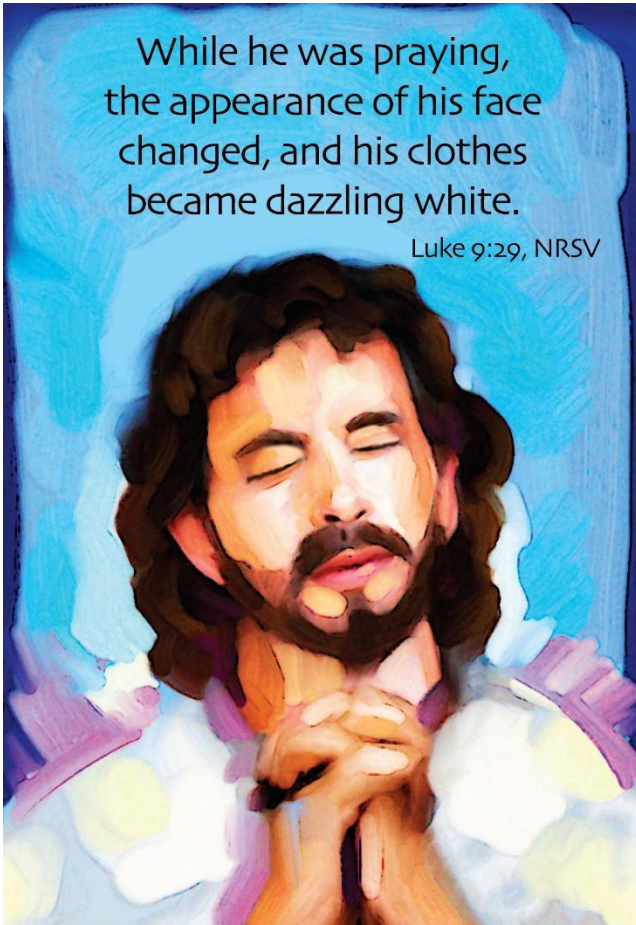


Faith Lutheran Church

March 3, 2019



Pastor Ellen Schoepf
prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
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.

Faith Lutheran live streams it’s services. No names of participants are broadcast.

Reveling in Joy

The story of Jesus' transfiguration in today's gospel stands at the threshold of Lent. Here we encounter the first shadows of Gethsemane in the drowsy disciples and catch the first echoes of the walk toward Golgotha in Jesus' footsteps ascending the mountain. Eight days before this climb, Jesus told his disciples of his resolve to face suffering, rejection, and death in Jerusalem before being raised on the third day. His words may twinge our hearts with pain for what is coming.

Yet, this moment on the mountaintop is filled not with sadness but with joy. In his obedience to the will of God, Jesus evokes the overwhelming pleasure of his Father. His appearance breaks forth with all the glory of God, shining and dazzling. God's chosen servants, Moses, the great lawgiver, and Elijah, the great prophet, appear. They, too, are filled with words of awe at what Jesus is about to do. The disciples who are present there are overcome with wonder and long to stay in this place with their Lord. The voice from the cloud erupts with pride as God revels in the joy Jesus has inspired: "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" (Luke 9:35).

As we prepare to begin Lent, today's worship offers a moment for those assembled to revel in this joy too. We are invited to walk to the mountaintop with the disciples at Jesus' side, to listen for the testimony regarding Christ in the law and the prophets, and to hear God's affirmation. Here we are invited to experience love and grace flowing freely from our transfigured Lord and to rest a while. Going forward from this time, we can take with us hope, strength, faith, and awe as we settle into the long journey of Lent.

Sunday, March 3, 2019

Transfiguration of Our Lord / Last Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor Darrell Neves, Presiding Minister

Introduction to the day

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus will be unable to avoid reflecting that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see the glory of the Lord in the word and in the supper and who are being “transformed into the same image” by the Spirit 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, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.

Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.

PRELUDE

“When Morning Guilds of the Skies”

arr. Raymond Haan

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who creates us and forms us,
who redeems us and calls us,
who unites us and sends us.

Amen.

Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty and loving God,
**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
We seek our own way.
We divide the body of Christ.
In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us.
Let the words of our mouths,
the thoughts of our hearts,
and everything that we do
be filled with faith, hope, and love.
Amen.**

Hear the voice of Jesus:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me
to proclaim release to the captives.”

In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ,

I proclaim to you

that your sins are forgiven and you are released.

The joy of the Lord is your strength,

and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

ELW #314

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



☩ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☩ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☩ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



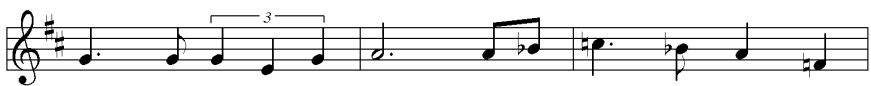
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☩ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

☒ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

☐
☐ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.

☒ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, 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: Exodus 34:29-35

Moses' face shone with the reflected glory of God after he received the ten commandments on Mount Sinai. The sight caused the Israelites to be afraid, so Moses wore a veil to mask the radiance of God's glory, taking it off when he spoke directly with God.

A reading from Exodus.

²⁹Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³²Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2

In his debates with the Corinthians, Paul contrasts the glory of Moses with the glory of Christ. The Israelites could not see Moses' face because of the veil. But in Christ we see the unveiled glory of God and are transformed into Christ's likeness.

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

¹²Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness,
¹³not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside.
¹⁴But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

^{4:1}Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

The conversation about Jesus' suffering and death is enclosed in a dazzling foreshadowing of the resurrection. God affirms Jesus' identity, the disciples are stunned speechless, and Jesus resumes his mission with a demonstration of his power over evil.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray.

²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

³⁶When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. [

³⁷On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. ⁴⁰I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." ⁴¹Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." ⁴²While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father.

^{43a}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

^{43b}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

^{43c}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

^{43d}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

^{43e}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

^{43f}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

^{43g}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

^{43h}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

⁴³ⁱAnd all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

^{43j}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

^{43k}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

^{43l}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

^{43m}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

⁴³ⁿAnd all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come to the Mountain



1 Je - sus took Pet - er, James, and John
2 "This is my Son!" said a voice from the cloud.
3 We will be changed like Je - sus our Lord,



up to the moun - tain to be a - lone.
"Lis - ten to him and do what he says!"
and live with him in heav - en a - bove.



While they were watch - ing Je - sus was changed;
Soon as it came that vis - ion was gone,
But while we live on this earth - ly home,



and they saw Mo - ses face to face.
and they saw Je - sus stand - ing a - lone.
our work as ser - vants nev - er is done.

Refrain



Come to the moun - tain to see the light.



Come to the moun - tain to hear God's word.



Go to the val - ley, it is your home.



Go to the val - ley to serve the Lord.

Text: Scott Tunseth

Music: MOUNTAIN AND VALLEY, Kathleen Donlan Tunseth

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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

United as one body in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world,
and all those 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:*

Receive our prayers and fill us with the radiance of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

“Days of Elijah”

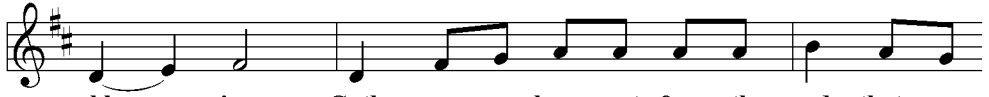
(arr. Schrader)

Chancel Choir

OFFERING RESPONSE



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a 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 with 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.

**God of all creation,
all you have made is good,
and your love endures forever.
You bring forth bread from the earth
and fruit from the vine.
Nourish us with these gifts,
that we might be for the world
signs of your gracious presence
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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;
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-er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY". It consists of five staves of music in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is written in a simple, melodic style with various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, as well as rests. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

This eucharistic prayer is based on the 1599 Epiphany hymn "Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern." Honored as the Queen of Chorales and translated as "O Morning Star, how fair and bright!" (ELW 308), it was written and composed by Philipp Nicolai.

Almighty Lord

we praise your shining light, your glowing grace.

From before the earth's foundation,

you loved us and promised us life forever.

Within the earth's deep sadness,

we laud your great and glorious might.

Despite our tears and sinning,

we sing of the gladness of your mercy.

We praise your Son,

our Morning Star.

Christ is

our diamond bright,

our treasure dear.

He is our living Savior who has ransomed us in love.
He keeps us yours and fails us never—
today, tomorrow, and every day.
On the night before his great salvation,
he 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.
With joy we tell our story:

Alleluia!
Alleluia!

We call for your Spirit on us and this meal.
Refresh our souls with this heavenly food,
the body and blood of your Son.
Nourish us as branches of your tree,
and enlighten us with your undying flame.
We sing out to the Father, we ring out to the Son,
we exult in the Spirit.
Transport us in our yearning,
and be for us the end and the beginning,
our purest pleasure, our victorious crown,
our never-ending love.
And so we pray and praise:

Amen, amen, amen, amen.
Amen, amen, amen, amen.

From Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks: A Collection of Litanies, Laments, and Thanksgivings at Font and Table by Gail Ramshaw, copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. This liturgical text is intended for corporate worship and may be reproduced for local use only, but not for sale, provided all copies carry this copyright notice: "Copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reproduced by permission."

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.**

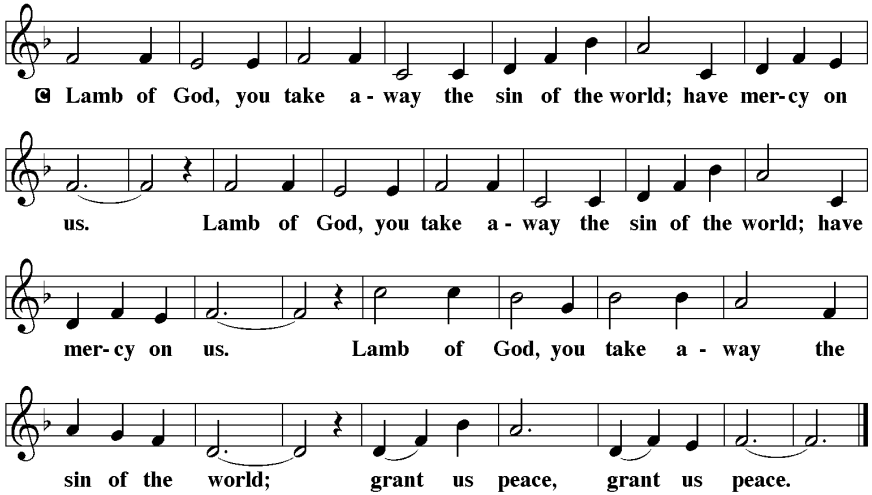
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Hunger no more. Thirst no more.
Come to the banquet of life.

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.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

O Jesus, I Have Promised

ELW #810

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!

ELW #315

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We thank you, O God,
that you have fed us at your banqueting table
with bread and wine beyond compare,
the very life of Christ for us.
Send your Spirit with us now,
that we may set the captive free,
use your gifts to build one another up,
and in everything reflect your glory
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The God of glory dwell in you richly,
name you beloved,
and shine brightly on your path;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

ELW #318

DISMISSAL

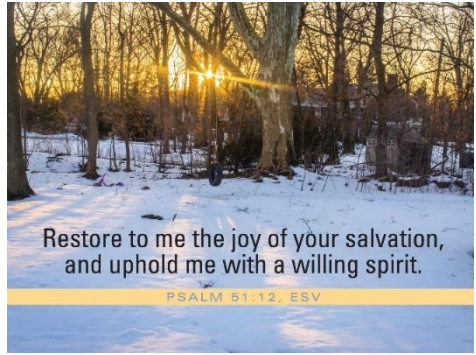
Go in peace. Christ is your light.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Trumpet Tune and March”

Jeremiah Clark

Siblings 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
High School Director		Katie Love
Trinity/Middle School Director		Maddie Wosinski
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

Bi-Weekly Announcement packets are available in the narthex.

February 24 Attendance: 89

Serving Faith	March 3	March 10
Acolyte	Rachael Ngasala	Serena Ngasala
Altar Care	Tammy Heilman & Melinda Schultz	
Communion Assistants	Rachael Ngasala	Serena Ngasala
	Elaine Harrison	Linda Hirt
	Kim O'Brien	Jim Crum
Greeters	Mike Eschelbach	Rich Weingartner
Readers	Elaine Harrison	Linda Hirt
Lay Assistant	Kim O'Brien	Jim Crum
Ushers	Doug & Linda Hirt	Bill & Pam Williams
Nursery	Heidi Bowers	Heidi Bowers
Coffee Hosts	Holste/Robinson	Gerards

Altar Flower Dedications:

Sunday, March 3

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Faith Lutheran Church.

Altar Flowers are provided by Al-Lins of Okemos

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday Services – Wednesday, March 6

12:00 Noon Service at Faith Lutheran followed by Soup Luncheon

7:00 PM Service at Haslett Community Church

This will be a combined service with the following churches participating: Okemos Presbyterian, Okemos Community, Faith Lutheran and Haslett Community Church. A joint choir will be singing at this service and the offering taken at this service will go to the Meridian Township Division for Human Services.

Weekly Wednesday Night Soup Suppers and Lenten Services

Beginning on Wednesday, March 13, we will again hold weekly Lenten services at Faith Lutheran. We will worship as we sing the music of Holden Evening Prayer and experience the poems and reflections of *Forty Days: A Journey Through the Desert of Lent*.

Wednesday Eve Schedule 3/13-4/10 No Dinner or Youth Activities on 4/3

5:30-6:00	Joyful Noise Rehearsal
5:45-7:00	Dinner is Served
6:15-7:00	Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:30-7:05	Pk/Trinity/Confirmation and Adult Classes
7:15-7:45	Lenten Services
7:45-8:15	Cantata Rehearsal
8:15-9:00	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Maundy Thursday Service – April 18

7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service at Faith Lutheran, April 18

Good Friday Services – April 19

12:00 Noon Service at Okemos Community Church

This will be a combined service with the following churches participating Okemos Presbyterian, Okemos Community, Faith Lutheran and Haslett Community Church. A joint choir will be singing at this service and the offering taken at this service will go to the local area food banks.

7:00 PM Service at Faith Lutheran Church

Members of St. Paul Lutheran Church will join us for this service as the combined choirs will sing *Once Upon a Tree*, a musical version of Luke's account of Jesus' passion. Join us for this deeply meaningful experience.

*Okemos Community Church: 4734 Okemos Rd, Okemos
Haslett Community Church: 1427 Haslett Rd, Haslett*