

October 27, 2019

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Pastor:..... Ellen Schoepf
Music Director:.....Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist:.....Bruce Williams
Church Secretary:..... Katie Love
High School Leaders:Kim O'Brien, Ryan & Addie Thompson
Pastor's email:.....prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Church email:.....faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
Website:.....www.faithlutheranokemos.org
Facebook Page:.....facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

Aids for hearing, children's activity bulletins, and large print bulletins are available from the ushers.



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.

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.

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

Ushers: Bill & Pam Williams
Greeters: Jack & Natalie Dingledine
Altar Care: Beth Belonga & Rich Weingartner
Acolyte: Paige Lewis
Reader: John McCracken
Lay Assistant: Bob Shorman
Nursery: Jennifer Coe
Coffee Hour Hosts: Paul & Laurie Hereza

We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.
Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.

Bi-Weekly Announcement packets are available in the Narthex.
Prayer requests and praises are listed in the announcement packets.

Introduction to the day

On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table.

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Requests

Prelude

Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier”

J.S. Bach

GATHERING

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

The Assembly Stands

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the strength of our ancestors,
the host of this meal,
the builder of the city that is to come.

Amen.

If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ.

Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our helper,

we confess the many ways

we have failed to live as your disciples.

We have not finished what we began.

We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers.

We have been captivated by our possessions.

Lift our burdens, gracious God.

Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin.

Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us

in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent.
Put your trust in these promises:
God will never leave you or forsake you.
You who were lost have been found.
For the sake of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Rejoice with the angels at this good news.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

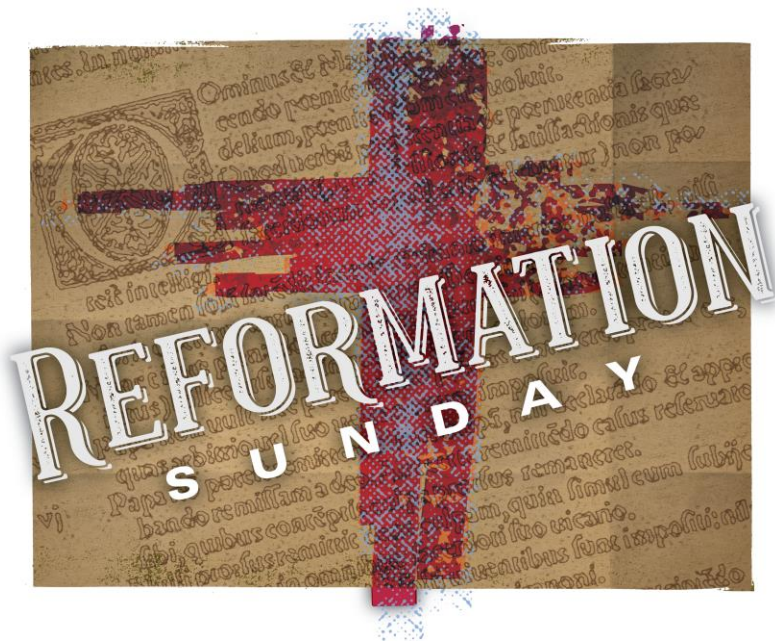
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

ELW #503

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

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, 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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Reader: John McCracken

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

A reading from Romans.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

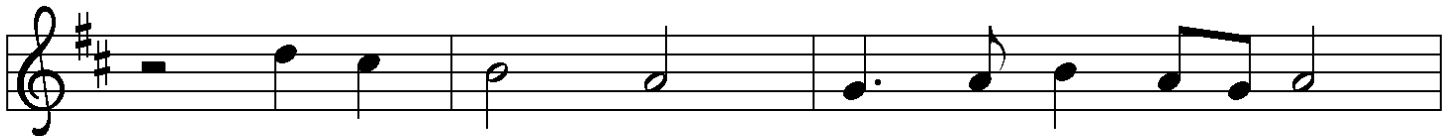
²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord.

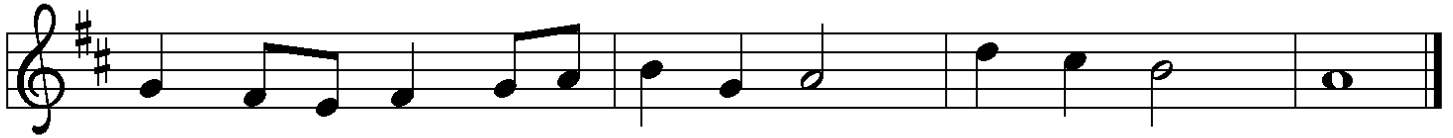
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

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

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

ELW #517

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

When each of you was baptized, the members of the congregation—all of us here—made a commitment to you. We promised to support each of you, pray for each of you as you live the life God calls you to live, and provide, teach and share God’s word with you. As part of that promise we made to you, we are doing something very special for you today. We are giving each of you a Bible, the most treasured book in our lives.

Makayla Marquardt

Isaak Nyquist

Abigail Steinke

Maddie Webb



Members of the congregation, let us affirm our promise to each of these children.

We promise to care for you, love you and continue to share God’s word with you as you grow in faith. We promise to support you in the mission we share, always giving thanks and praise to God as together we carry God’s creative and redeeming word in the world.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Knowing the one in whom we trust, and with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all 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:

Trusting and delighting in you, we commend all our lives into your loving hands. We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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

OFFERING

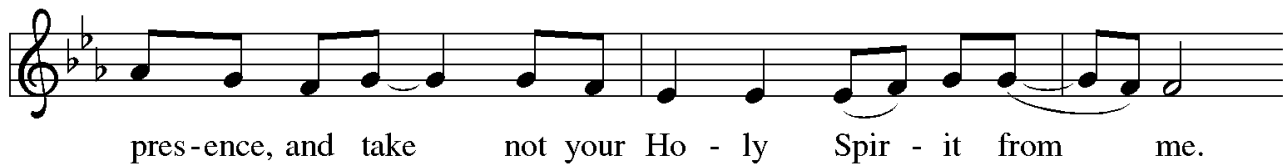
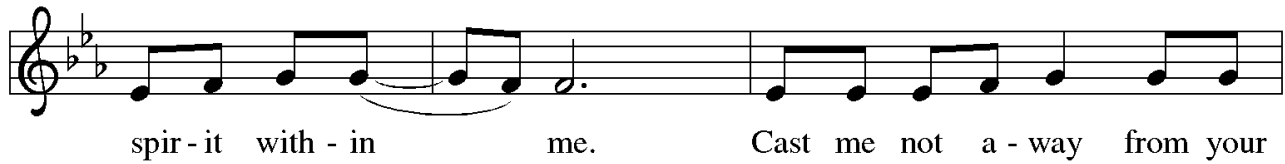
"Find Us Faithful"

(arr. Schrader)

Chancel Choir

OFFERING RESPONSE

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our provider,

**we bring nothing into this world
and we can take nothing out of it.**

**Accept the gifts you have first given us,
which we bring to your table,
and with them the offering of our lives.**

**Nourish us now with the life that really is life,
revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

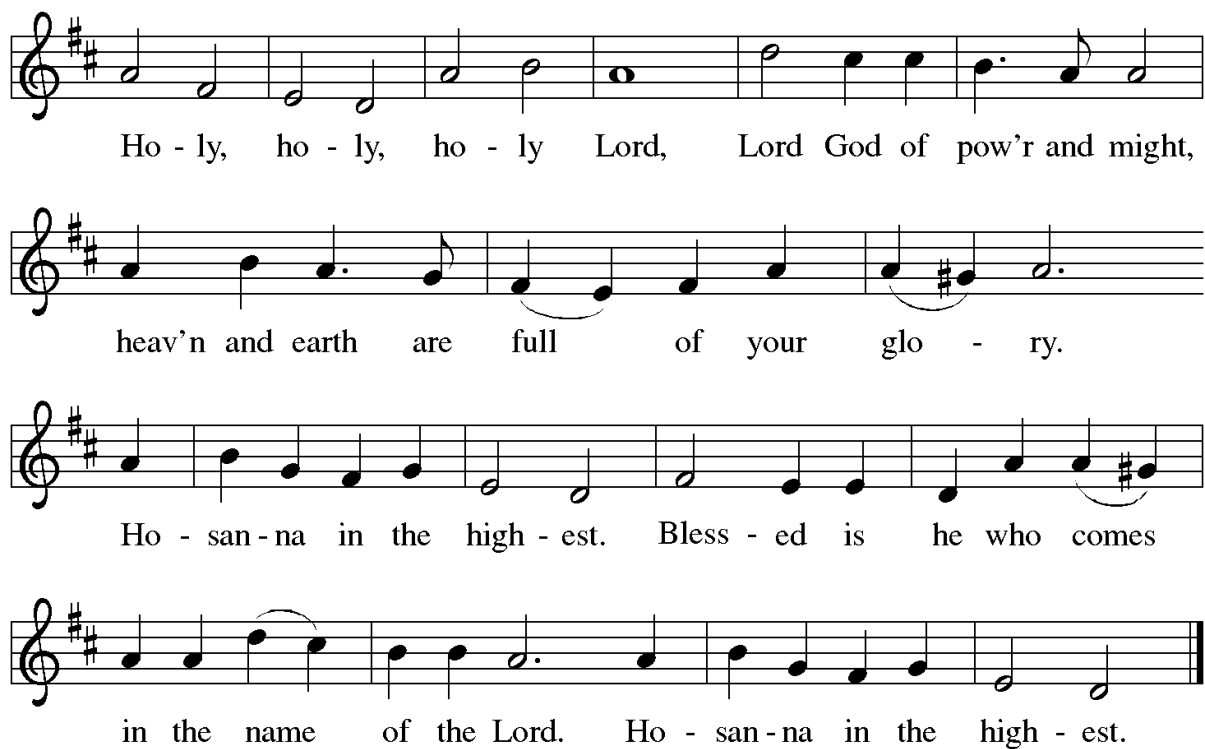
We lift them to the Lord.

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:



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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

A Variable Prayer Form. Pastor Ellen will read line A, the congregation will read line B, and the Choir will read line C.

A We praise you, all-holy God,

B our maker, our lover, our keeper,

C *our Covenant Lord, our Redeemer, the Strength of Truth,*

A for the universe beyond our knowing,

B for seas and forests and fields,

C *for the waters of Wittenberg and for flowers in this place,*

A for creatures seen and unseen,

B for animals both wild and tame,

C *for our ancestors and godparents from around the globe,*

A and for the places we humans call home,

B for cities and churches and schools,

C for seminaries and missions and fellowship halls.

A We praise you for your covenant people,

B for Moses and Miriam and Aaron,

C for Jeremiah and the psalmists,

A and for centuries of faithful Christians,

B for Mary Magdalene, Peter and Paul,

C for Luther, Melancthon, and Muhlenberg,

for Katie Luther and Cranach, Bach and Nicolai,

Kierkegaard and Bonhoeffer,

for all servants of the Reformation.

A We praise you, O God, for Jesus Christ,

B who saves us from sin and from evil,

C embodying forgiveness, granting us grace, setting us free,

A who on the night before he died,

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.

And so we remember your Word,

B his life, his death, and his glorious resurrection,

C his presence in this meal around the world,

A and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

A We pray, O God, for your Spirit,

B your breath, your fire, your wisdom,

C your law, your grace, your freedom.

A Bless this meal and all those who share it;

B inspire your people for service;

C continue the reformation of your churches;

A and renew the world with your mercy,

B with your healing, your justice, and your peace,

C with the joy of life in your household.

A We praise you, all-holy God,

B the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit,

C mighty Fortress, victorious Champion, powerful Shield,

A today, tomorrow, and forever.

Amen!

THE LORDS 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



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

Break Now the Bread of Life

ELW #515

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Word of God, Come Down on Earth

ELW #510

The assembly stands.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of blessing,
at this table we have seen you face to face,
and in the gift of Christ's body and blood,
our hearts have been refreshed.

Send us now to shine with your goodness
and bear witness to the one we have received:
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you,
with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Almighty God ✝ bless you with grace, mercy, and peace,
now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

O Word of God Incarnate

ELW #514

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“A Mighty Fortress”

arr. Wilbur Held

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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October 20, 2019 Attendance: 121

Serving Faith November 3

Ushers: Bowers/Whitmyer

Greeters: Gail & Lowell Barricklow

Altar Care: Brenda Kopf & Rich Weingartner

Acolyte: Maude Lewis

Reader: Warren Heilman

Lay Assistant: Harold Sollenberger

Nursery: Heidi Bowers

Coffee Hour Hosts: open

Altar Flower Dedications

Sunday, October 27th:

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Jeff, Melinda and Erik Schultz in celebration of Lauren's birthday.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



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