



December 1, 2019

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Twenty Third 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: Jim & Peggy Crum

Greeter: Lois Neves

Altar Care: Karen Whitmyer, Heidi Bowers & Brielle Bowers

Acolyte: Kaden Steinke

Reader: John Harrison

Lay Assistant: Tara Williams

Nursery: Brenda Kopf

Coffee Hour Hosts: Karl & Brigitta Bruning

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

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Requests

Prelude

“Wake, Awake for Night is Flying”

arr. Paul Manz

GATHERING

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 parent who rouses us from slumber,
the shepherd who gathers us on the holy mountain,
the deliverer who sets us free.

Amen.

Let us come before the living God in confession.

As we wait and watch for the promised day of salvation,

we open our hearts to you, O God.

Search us and know us.

Reveal all that we keep inside.

To you, O God, we confess our sins,

known and unknown.

Forgive us, renew us,

and lead us in your ways of justice and peace.

Make us reflections of the radiant love

of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Beloved children of the Most High,

you are gathered before the righteous judge

who has mercy on all.

Splash exuberantly in the waters of baptism,
where sin is washed away in the river of life.
Dwell peacefully in the loving arms
of the one who nurtures all creation.
Go forth boldly in the assurance that your sins are forgiven
in the name of the one who is coming and is already here,
✝ Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

ELW #436

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.



First Sunday in Advent

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.
You call all nations to walk in your light
and to seek your ways of justice and peace;
for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near.
Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath.

**Rouse us from sleep,
that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes
and welcome him into our hearts and homes,
for he is our light and our salvation.
Blessed be God forever.
Amen.**

KYRIE

Kyrie



1, 3	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
2	Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.
1, 3	<i>Lord, have mer - cy.</i>	<i>Lord, have mer - cy.</i>
2	<i>Christ, have mer - cy.</i>	<i>Christ, have mer - cy.</i>



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.
<i>Lord, have mer - cy.</i>	<i>Lord, have mer - cy.</i>
<i>Christ, have mer - cy.</i>	<i>Christ, have mer - cy.</i>

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

Reader: John Harrison

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshipping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

A reading from Isaiah.

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

A reading from Romans.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Emmanuel

Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,
his name is called Em - man - u - el;
God with us, re - vealed in us;
his name is called Em - man - u - el.

Chords: C, C/E, F, G, G⁷, C, C/B_b, A, A/C[#], Dm, G⁷, G/B, C, C/E, F, G, G⁷, C, C/B_b, A, A/C[#], Dm, G⁷, F/C, C

Text and music: Bob McGee
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GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

In Rwanda, ELCA World Hunger partners with the Lutheran Church of Rwanda to support women and children through welfare programs and a youth welding and tailoring training center. Here are some pictures of the youth welding center.



SERMON

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song

HYMN OF THE DAY

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

ELW #242

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

With confidence in God's compassion and generosity, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

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:

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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

"Where Is the Savior?"

(Purifoy)

Chancel Choir



OFFERING RESPONSE

Give Thanks



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Text: Henry Smith

Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, 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, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty. When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy. At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

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 life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace. Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of 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

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

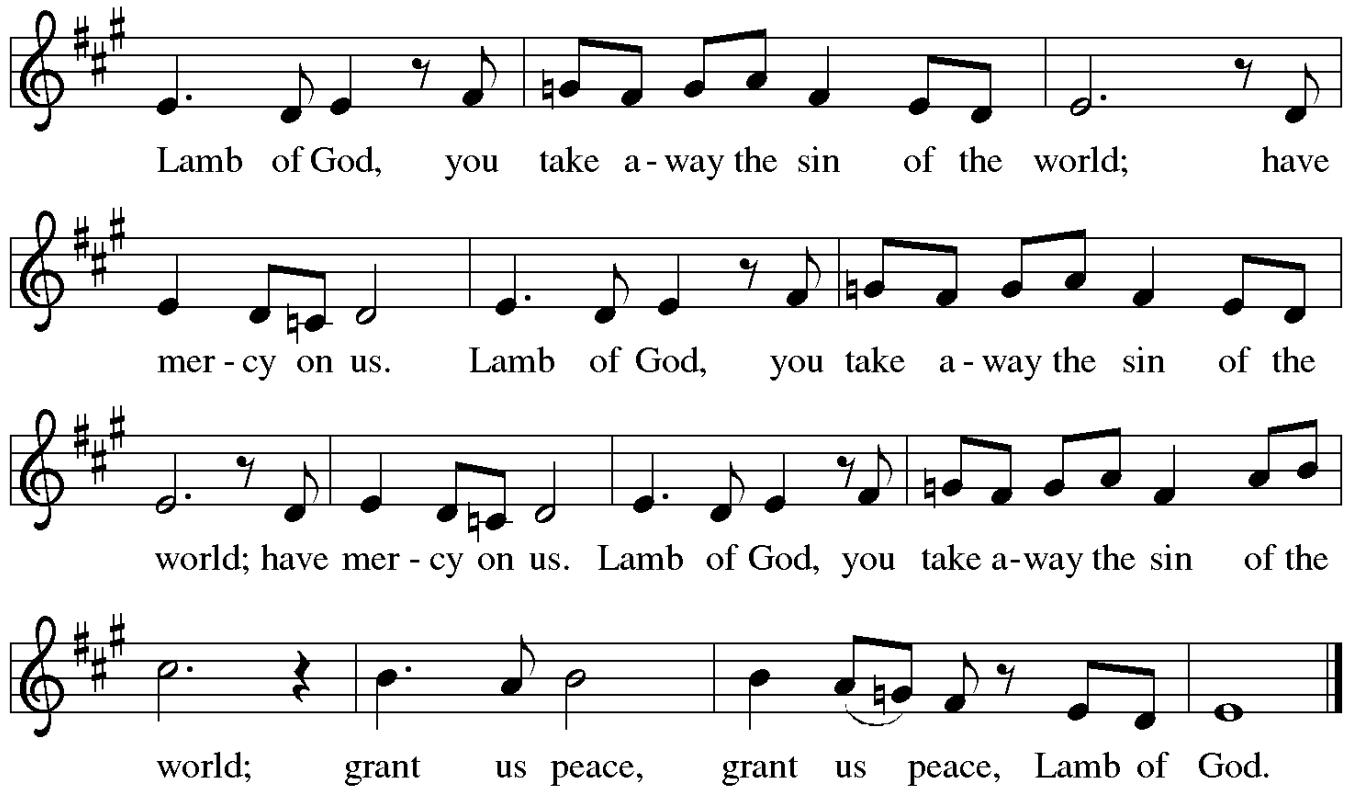
Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

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, Lamb of God.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW #257

VS. 1-4

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

ELW #490

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 for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

May God, who gathers us in love,
lead you in pathways of righteousness and justice.
May God, who knows us more deeply than we know ourselves,
lead you in pathways of forgiveness and freedom.
May God, who fills us with good things,
lead you in pathways of equity and abundance.
The blessing of the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
be upon you and remain with you forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Soon and Very Soon

ELW #439

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Soon and Very Soon”

arr. Jack Schrader

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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November 24, 2019 Attendance: 115

Serving Faith December 8

Ushers: Jim & Peggy Crum

Greeters: Mark & Molly DeHate

Altar Care: Karen Whitmyer, Heidi Bowers & Brielle Bowers

Acolyte: Maude Lewis

Reader: Lois Neves

Lay Assistant: High School Youth

Nursery: Melinda & Lauren Schultz

Coffee Hour Hosts: Open

Altar Flower Dedications

Sunday, December 1st

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by...

Vase 1: Walter, Brenda, Katy, Amy, Austin, Ciara and Grayson in celebration of Becca's birthday.

Vase 2: Harry Nawrock in memory of Rose Marie Nawrock.



**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