



February 23, 2020

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Transfiguration of our Lord

- 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 our services. No names of participants are broadcast.

*Ushers: Doug & Linda Hirt
Greeters: Doug & Linda Hirt
Altar Care: Peggy Crum & Marla Holle
Acolyte: Kaden Steinke
Reader: Gus Lusia
Lay Assistant: Ken Schoepf
Nursery: Rachel Ngasala
Coffee Hour Hosts: Ngasala Family
Sunday School Teacher: Megan Nyquist*

*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

Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Requests

Prelude

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

arr. Michael Burkhardt

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 eternal voice from heaven,
the anointed and beloved one,
the Spirit moving over the waters.

Amen.

As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession,
trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God who searches us and knows us,
you have shown us what is good,
but we have looked to other lights to find our way.
We have not been just in our dealings with others.
We have chosen revenge over mercy.
We have promoted ourselves
instead of walking humbly with you.
With what shall we come before you?
Forgive us our sin,
and show us your salvation
in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

Beloved of God,
you have not received the spirit of the world,
but the Spirit that is from God,
poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.
Receive the promise of baptism:
You are God's child; ✝ your sins are forgiven.
Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

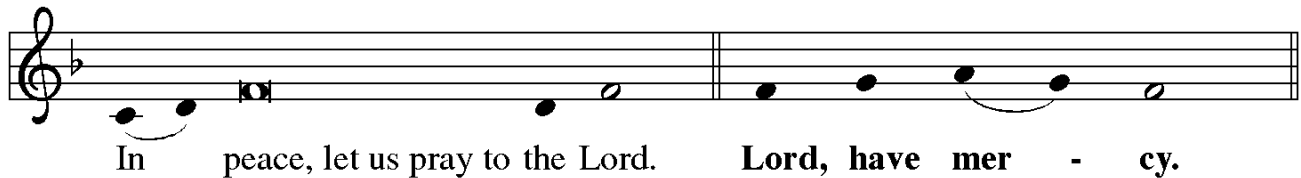
Arise, Your Light Has Come!

ELW #314

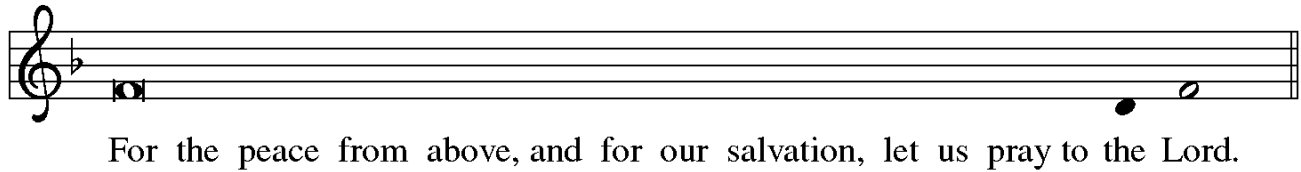
GREETING

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.

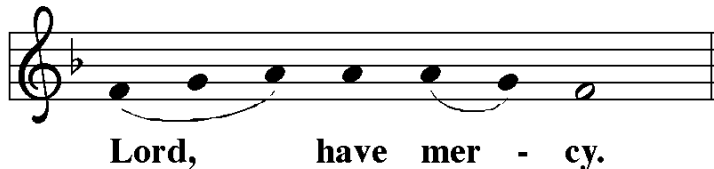
KYRIE



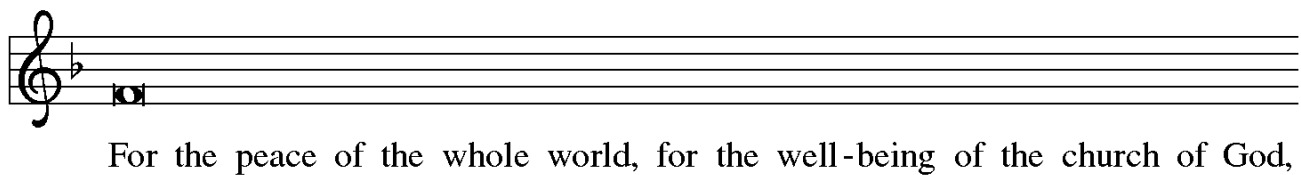
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



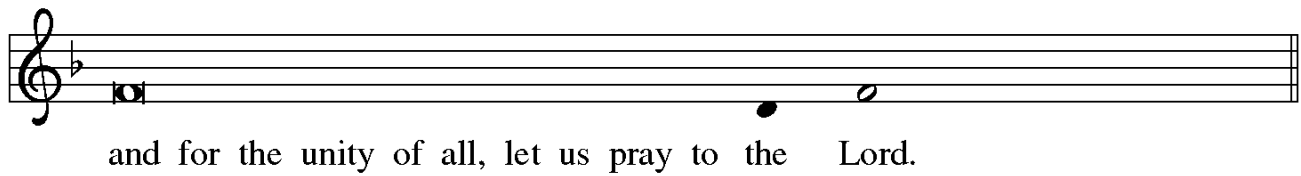
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



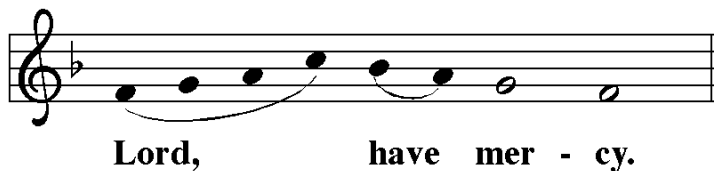
Lord, have mer - cy.



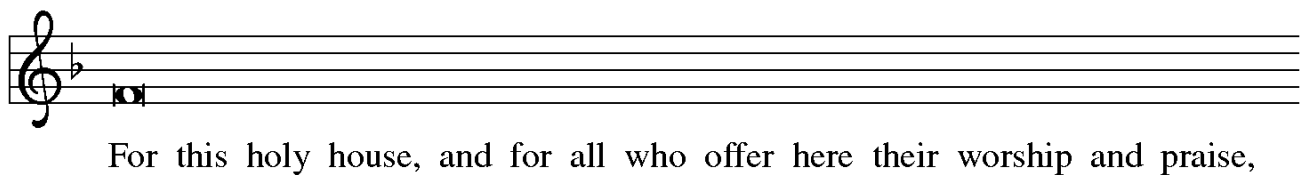
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



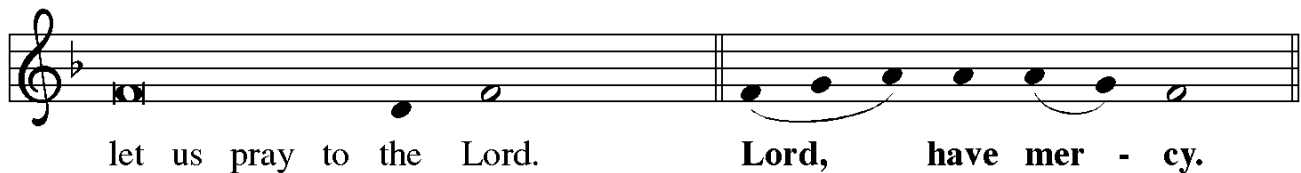
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

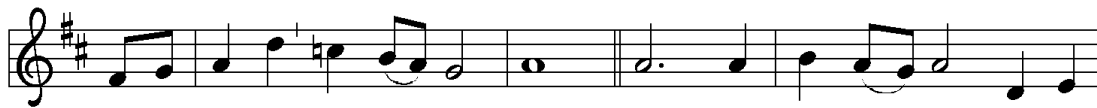


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



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

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, 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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 24:12-18

Reader: Gus Lusic

At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The “glory of the LORD” settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.

A reading from Exodus.

¹²The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.

¹⁸Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 2 Peter 1:16-21

At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.

A reading from 2 Peter.

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

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

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!

ELW #315

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

The presiding minister begins.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Susan Ambs, Kathy Mace and Randy & Jamie Royalty, united with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome into the life and ministry of Faith Lutheran Church.

ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS

In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

The presiding minister addresses the new members.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

Those being welcomed respond.

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in Christian living?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

WELCOME

Those being welcomed face the assembly. The pastor addresses the assembly.

Let us welcome our new members to this community of faith.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to the entire world.

The congregation gives acclamation and thanks.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting that God hears us, 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:

Confident that you are able to accomplish more than we even dare to ask, we bring these prayers before you, believing in your saving grace revealed in 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

OFFERING

10,000 Reasons

(Myrin and Redman, arr. Larson)

Chancel Choir

OFFERING RESPONSE

592 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH LM

Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709

Genevan Psalter, 1551

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise *Him, all crea-tures

here be-low; Praise *Him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host;

Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of wonder,

you formed us in our mother's womb,

and from mother earth you bring forth this bread and wine.

We place them on your table,

together with our lives and all that you have made.

Open the heavens to us and pour out your Spirit.

We wait for your mercy;

we long for your peace;

we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ,

our banquet of life. **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;

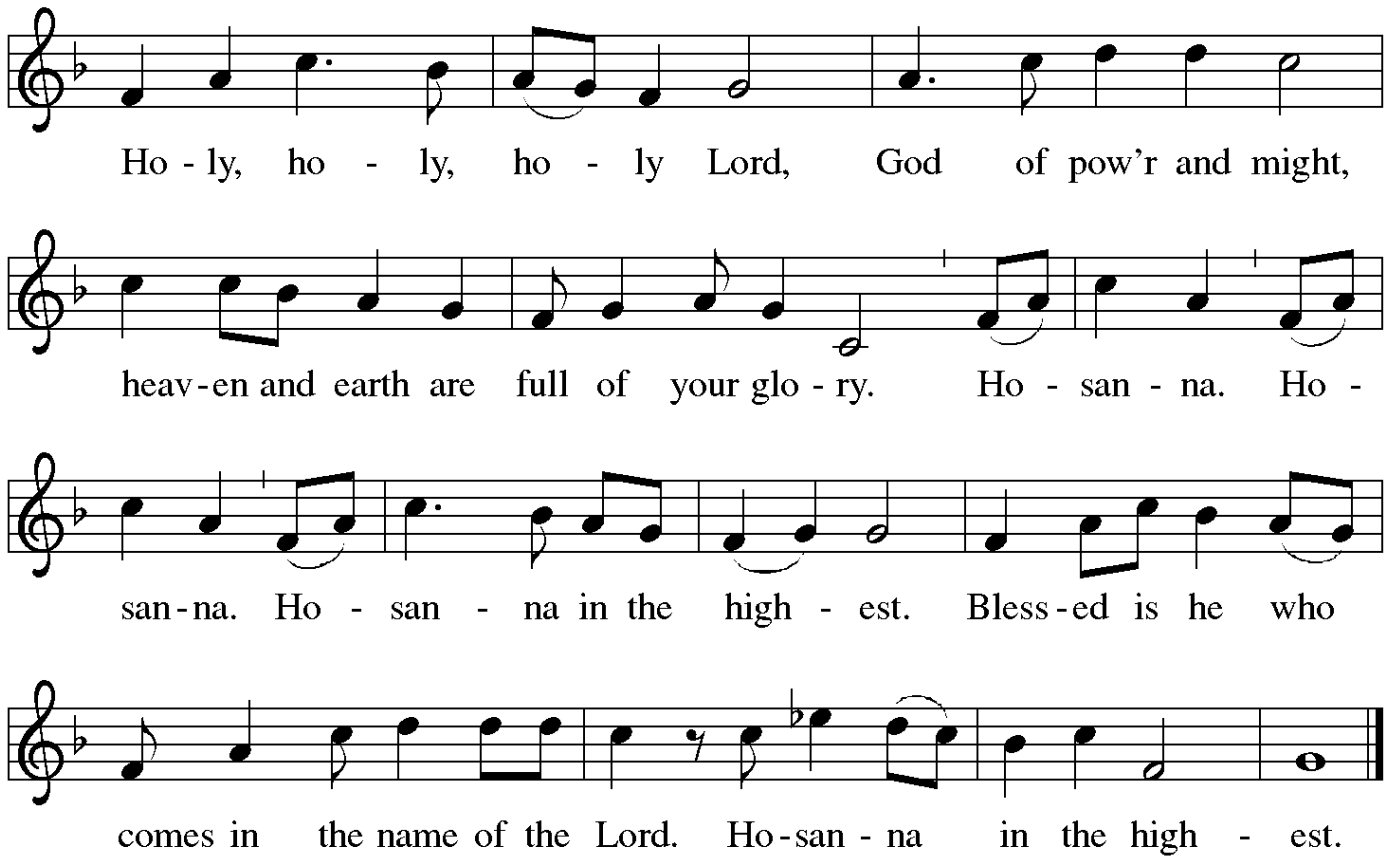
who, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love,

that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light.

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. 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 in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.
 By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you
 called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our
 darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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 preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance 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

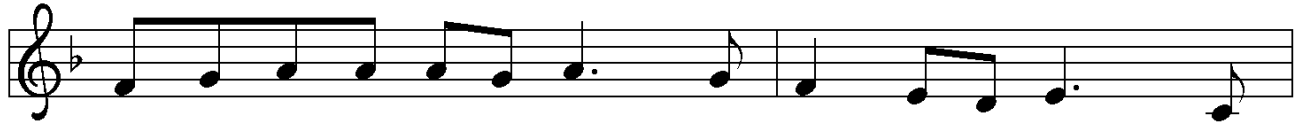
Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

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

Amen.

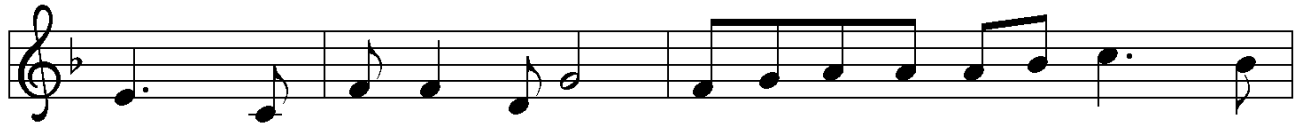
COMMUNION SONG



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.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Beautiful Savior

ELW #837

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Christ, Be Our Light

ELW #715

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.

Faithful God,

you have kept your promise to us in this meal,
nourishing us with the gift of salvation.

Now send your servants forth in peace,
that we may testify to your goodness
and share the hope that is ours
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

May Christ, the wisdom and power of God,
and the source of our life together,
keep you united in mind and purpose.

And the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Shine, Jesus, Shine

ELW #671

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Let your light shine.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Voluntary No. 4, Spiritoso

Samuel Wesley

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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February 16, 2020 Attendance: 68

Serving Faith March 1

Ushers: Milne/Schoepf

Greeters: Ken & Karen Whitmyer

Altar Care: Peggy Crum & Marla Holle

Acolyte: open

Reader: Linda Hirt

Lay Assistant: Mike Eschelbach

Nursery: Jennifer Coe

Coffee Hour Hosts: open

Sunday School Teacher: Sheila Urban-Smith

Altar Flower Dedications

Sunday, February 23rd:

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Walter, Brenda, Becca, Amy, Katy and Austin in celebration of Ciara's 7th 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