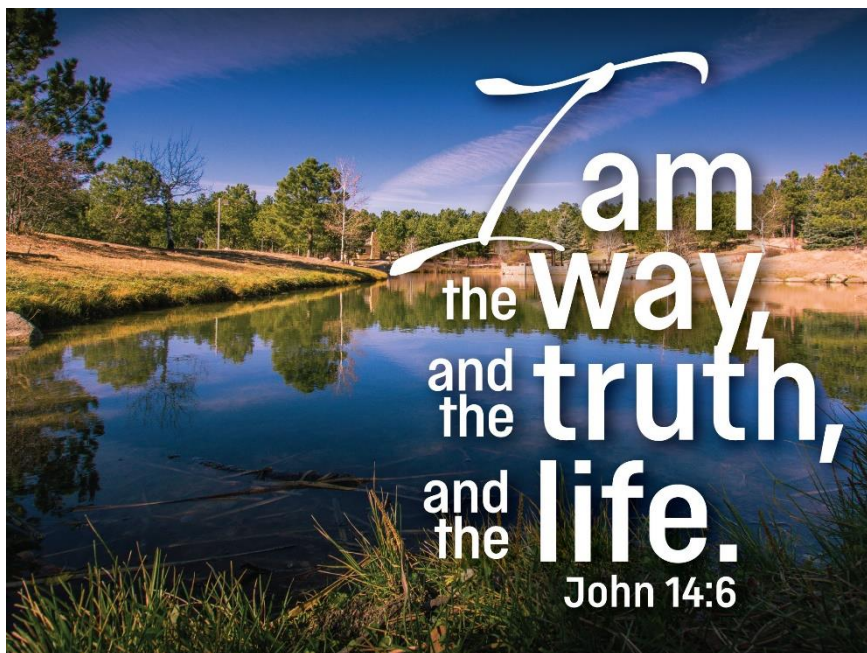


Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church

May 14, 2017



Pastor Ellen Schoepf
prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620
www.faithlutheranokemos.org



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

<http://faithlutheranokemos.org/sermons/>

Special music

<http://faithlutheranokemos.org/category/special-music/>

Walk This Way

Jesus says he is “the way,” but what does he mean? Does he mean a path to a location, or is he referring to the way he lives? Of course, the answer is probably both.

This passage from John’s gospel is often read at funerals. In that circumstance, we envision that Jesus goes to prepare a place for us in a geographical location we call heaven. Believing in Jesus is the way to get there.

But in John’s gospel, the good news is that *God* has made a way to *us*. Jesus continues to be with us. We don’t have to wait to be with him until after we die. The resurrected Jesus is with us, giving us abundant life *now* and into eternity!

In baptism we are joined to Jesus’ death and resurrection, so that, as Martin Luther says in the Small Catechism, “the old person in us with all sins and evil desires is to be drowned and die through daily sorrow for sin and through repentance, and . . . daily a new person is to come forth and rise up to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.” Luther continues by reminding us of the apostle Paul’s words in Romans 6: “We have been buried with Christ by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might *walk in newness of life*” (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 1165, emphasis added).

The Word became flesh (John 1:1). Jesus is God in the flesh. Jesus is at one with the Father. To know Jesus and be at one with Jesus is to be at one with God. And when we are at one with Jesus, we walk like him, in his way.

Sunday, May 14, 2017
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Introduction to the day

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As First Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

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

Flutes of Faith

“Primavera”

(Vivaldi)

The pre-service music signals the beginning of the worship service. Silence during the pre-service music enables worshippers to prepare for worship through quiet meditation.

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Hallelujah! Jesus Lives

ELW #380

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

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.

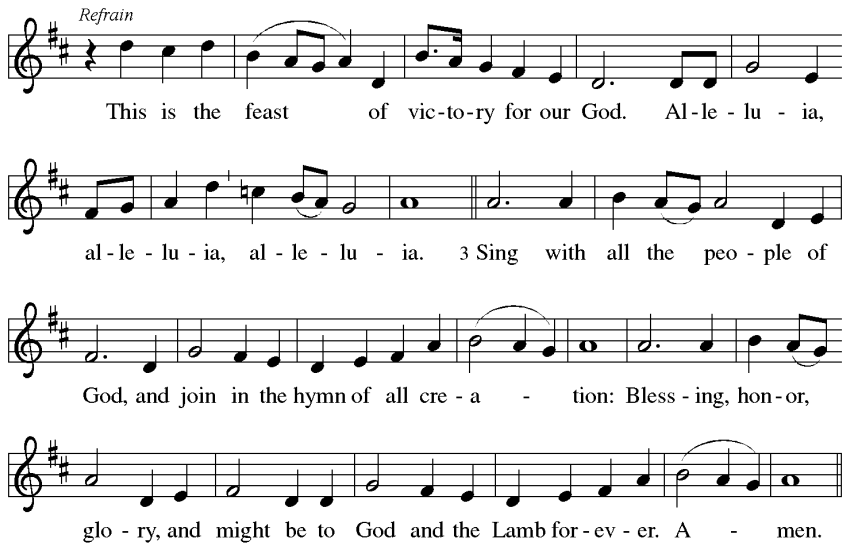
Refrain

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.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he 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: Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

A reading from Acts.

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

A reading from 1 Peter.

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁶For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸and

“A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

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: John 14:1-14

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me

because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN SING

SERMON

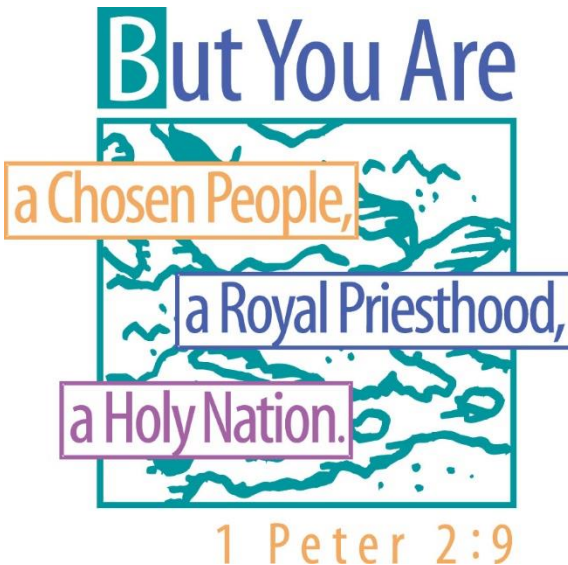
The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

ELW #597

The assembly is seated



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

Rejoicing in the risen life of Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Prayers of intercession are prayed.

To each petition, the assembly responds:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

*The presiding minister concludes the
prayers, and the assembly responds:*

Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place,
we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, 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

"Above All"

arr. Fettke

Emily Brown, soloist

OFFERING RESPONSE

We Are an Offering

The musical score is written in treble clef with a 7/8 time signature. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. we are an offering." There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) in the first, third, and sixth staves.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing. we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERING PRAYERS

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through 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,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

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

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.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy". It consists of four staves of music in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes. The lyrics are: "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." The score ends with a double bar line.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

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

Now let us feast this Easter day
on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

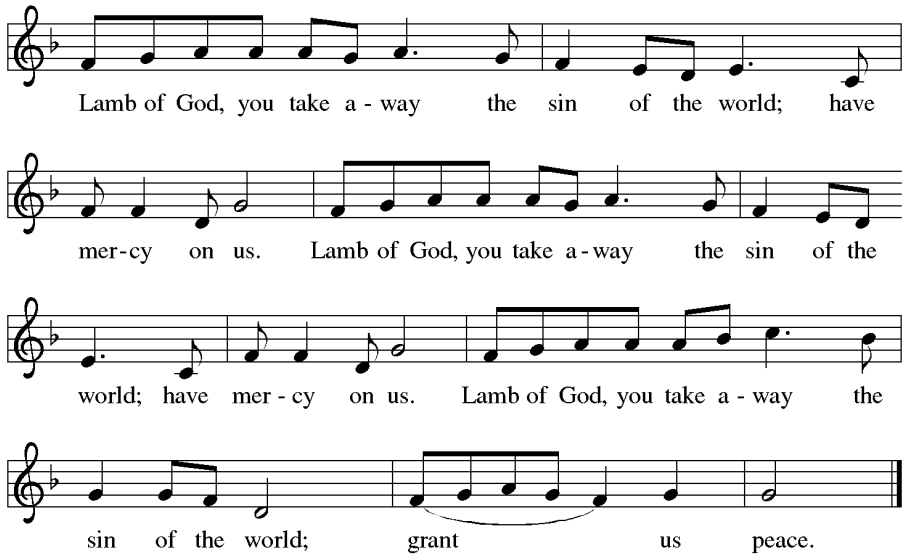
The assembly is seated

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond

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

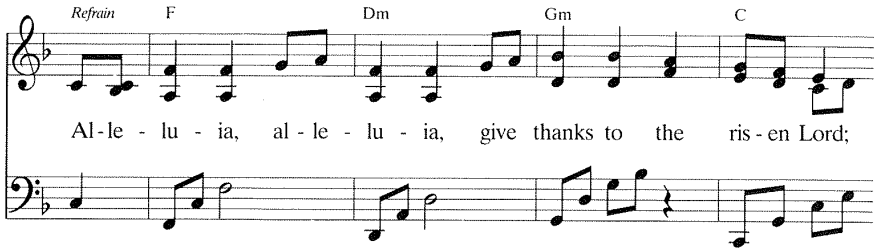
You Are the Way

ELW #758

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks

Refrain F Dm Gm C




Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give thanks to the ris - en Lord;

F Dm Gm C F



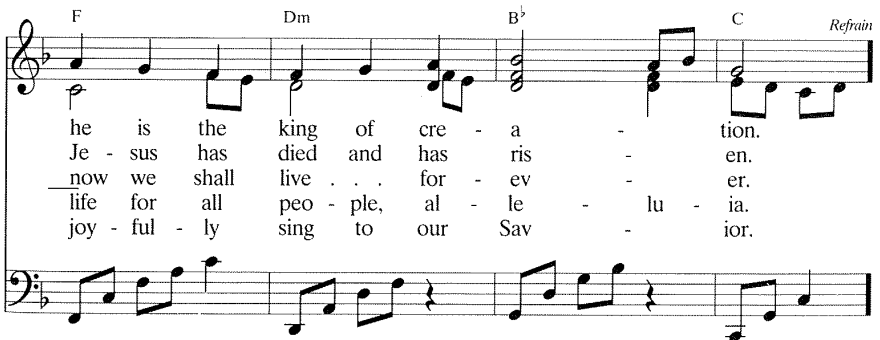
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give praise to his name.

F Dm B^b C



1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth;
2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ;
4 God has pro - claimed the just re - ward:
5 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

F Dm B^b C *Refrain*



he is the king of cre - a - tion.
Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
now we shall live . . . for - ev - er.
life for all peo - ple, al - le - lu - ia.
joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

Text: Donald Fishel, b. 1950 Music: Donald Fishel, b 1950 arr. Betty Pulingham, b.1928

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text and music printed under ccli 720217

The assembly stands

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

May God who has brought us from death to life
fill you with great joy.
Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

ELW #645

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

James Kimball

A Warm Welcome

Pastor	Ellen Schoepf	prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Secretary	Katie Love	klove@faithlutheranokemos.org
Director of Christian Education		Melinda Schultz
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

May 7, 2017 Attendance: 172

Serving Faith	May 14	May 21
Acolyte		Owen Kadrofske
Altar Care	Gretchen Bills & Becky Bills	
Communion Assistants		Owen Kadrofske
	Rich Weingartner	open
	Karen Whitmyer	Dane Webb
Greeters	Harold Sollenberger	Mike Eschelbach
Lay Assistants	Rich Weingartner	Open
Readers	Karen Whitmyer	Dane Webb
Ushers	Walter & Brenda Kopf	Tom & Nina Schrote
Nursery	Jennifer Coe	Heidi Bowers



Many openings remain for altar flower dedications this year. If you would like to sign up please write your name on the flower chart across from the coat rack.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Faith Family & Friends

May 14, 2017

Log onto Faith's website www.faithlutheranokemos.org 24/7 for updates

DEADLINES

Sunday worship folder announcements—Tuesday of each week
Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

June Faith Family News newsletter—
Please submit by Monday May 15

Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please lift up in prayer this week:

- † Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne, Harry Nawrock, Ken Whitmyer, August Colandrea and family.
- † Friends and family—
Harriet, Pat Belonga, Todd Barricklow, Greg Beckwith, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Allyson, Heather, Al, Lilly, Sai, Jeanne Hicks, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Jeanne and Leonard, Tom Brown, Susan Heft, Pat Hillberg & Family, Dennis Cobler, John Joseph Lanzetta, Bethany Robison, and the White family. Please keep Rich Weingartners mother, Sally Weingartner and his sister Lani Yearicks in your prayers.
- † Our mission partner congregation—Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- † Those in military service—Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks, Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.
- † Samaritas children who seek adoption— Giovanni, Jessica, LeeAnn and Valerie. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friend.

NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Pastor Emily Olsen and the congregation of Christ the King Lutheran Church of Gowen, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekly Offering **05/07/17** Year-to-date as of 03/31/2017

Loose Cash	\$ 285.00	Income	\$66,758.61
Pastor Discretionary Fund	\$ 100.00	Expenses	<u>\$74,284.29</u>
World Hunger	\$ 35.00	Net Income	-7525.68
Loaves & Fishes	\$ 10.00		
Capital Repairs	\$ 10.00		
General Fund	\$ 6530.00		
Subtotal	<u>\$ 6970.00</u>		
Simply Giving	\$ 2101.00		
Total	\$ 9071.00		

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by the Schultz's family in honor of Heidi Bowers and Nina Schrote for their incredible commitment and support as the parish education chairs.

THIS WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
3:00 p.m. Worship at the Willows

Monday, May 15th
 June/July Newsletter Information DUE!
7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 16th
Worship folder announcements deadline
Noon: Study in Pastor Ellen's office
6:30 p.m. Shalom Church Bible Study at Old Chicago

Wednesday, May 17th
7:30 a.m. Men's Study
9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritas ACTION
11:30 a.m. 60 +/- IN CHOIR ROOM
5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise
6:30 p.m. Faith Bells
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 18th
7:00 p.m. RIC Meeting

Friday, May 19th
Saturday, May 20th

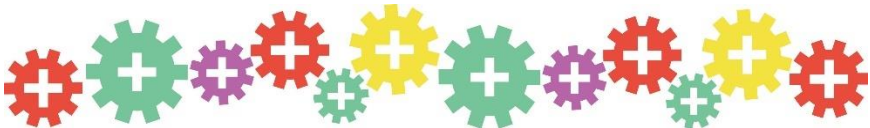
Vacation Bible School

We are so EXCITED!!



Vacation Bible School will be held on June 19th – 23rd from 9:00-12:00. Ages 3yrs - 5th grade completed. Pre-registration is greatly appreciated. You can sign up by filling out the registration form on the VBS table in the narthex or by visiting <https://vbspro.events/p/692364>

We are looking for volunteers to help out with the various stations and with the groups. Please sign up through the link above or by emailing Melinda Schultz at mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net.



The **VBS Donation Robot** is ready to meet you in the narthex starting today! Please take a circle (or a couple) home with you today! Your donations are greatly appreciated as we prepare for VBS!



Sunday School Pancake Breakfast for Preschool – 3rd grade



Just a reminder that the Membership Development Committee will be hosting a pancake breakfast for Sunday School students in preschool-3rd grade on **Sunday, May 21st** during the regular class time. So, let your kiddos sleep in a little longer! We've got breakfast covered! We hope all families have a fun, safe summer!

Diversity Sunday - June 18

Save the date and join us on June 18 as we celebrate Diversity Sunday. On this day we will receive official recognition as an RIC (Reconciling in Christ)

We will celebrate this recognition and the diversity that we are. We will have a special worship service focusing on being welcoming and incorporating diversity. Come to worship wearing something that celebrates who you are! Could be something related to your job, your hobbies, your cultural or ethnic heritage, etc. More details will be coming soon!



Friday, June 16, 2017 is Faith Family Fun night at the Lugnuts game!

Seniors eat FREE on June 16th, and after the game stay and enjoy a beautiful fireworks display!



Sign up on the Membership Development board in the narthex.

Deadline is Sunday, May 21st. Please see Michelle Ransom or call the church office with any questions.



On Thursday evening, June 15, from 6:00- 9:00 PM, Action of Greater Lansing will be hosting a viewing of the documentary 13th at Faith. They will be hosting a discussion following the video.

Everyone is invited to attend this event.

WAYS TO HELP

What are those Laundry Baskets for?? ARROW TREE FOOD PANTRY

Thank you so much for being so generous over the past few months! Arrow Tree apartments are very thankful for your donations. Residents there are very appreciative. Suggested items needed: SOUP, MAC & CHEESE, CEREAL, OATMEAL, PASTAS, PEANUT BUTTER, HEALTHY SNACK BARS, TUNA, CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ETC.



FOOD DONATIONS Needed

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT Group Meeting

Join us at 11:30am for a light lunch and discussion. All are Welcome!

Thursday, June 8th: Jason Gauna with The Care Team will present a Virtual Dementia Tour. This “tour” walks you through the different senses that we experience everyday but in the shoes of a person with Alzheimer’s.

**Sixty Plus or Minus: Wednesday, May 17, 2017,
11:30 a.m.**

**Brown Bag Lunch and Program
George Ellena, Sightless Chair Caning
Craftsman
and Inspirational Speaker
“Fingers that See”**



How much inspiration and motivation can you get from a **chair**?? Perhaps not a great deal, until you meet the master craftsman who overcame the limitation of blindness to create its beautiful cane seat! Join us on May 17 to meet George Ellena, a friend of our member Dale Halvorson. George will share with us how he overcame his physical limitations to build a business and a productive, rewarding life by caning chairs.

Meet with us in Faith’s **CHOIR ROOM** for a brown bag lunch, followed by an inspirational presentation by George Ellena. Please sign up on the “Faith @ Work” Board in the narthex so we know how many friends to expect!

**Because of VBS the next 60 +/- gathering will be on Wednesday, June 28th **

FROM THE GREEN TEAM

Just a reminder: The Boxes in the Foyer of both West Church Doors can be used to recycle department store shopping bags, vegetable bags, dry cleaning bags, mailing bags, as well as grocery store bags. Essentially any plastic bag that is clean and dry can be placed in the big cardboard boxes for recycling. If you have questions, please call Cecelia Kramer [517-349-3297](tel:517-349-3297)



Happy Mother's Day from Parish Education



2017 COLLEGE GRADUATES

I need information for the June/July newsletter for all of the 2017 **COLLEGE** graduates. Please email me or Katie as soon as possible, so that your graduate can be recognized for their achievements.

mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net or

klove@faithlutheranokemos.org



Vacation Bible School will be held on June 19th – 23rd from 9:00-12:15 . VBS Sunday will be on June 25th. We are looking for volunteers to help out with the various stations and with the groups. This year's theme is "**Maker Fun Factory**"! The following dates are for making decorations:
Saturday, June 3rd from 1:00-3:00. Please let

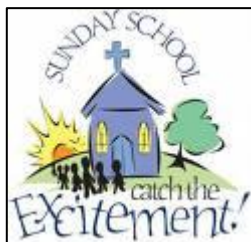
Melinda or Katie know if you are able to assist with these events in any way.



Thrivent Action Teams are needed again!!!

Please apply to help your youth group in a one-time fundraiser, service activity or educational event that can be completed within 90 days. Here are some suggestions for your Thrivent Action Teams: **Faith Vacation Bible School**. Use this link to get started:

<https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-action-teams/> Please see Melinda to get specific details or if you have any questions.



*****NEEDED - Sunday School Teachers**

for 2016-2017 – Thank you to all of the volunteers who have stepped forward to donate their time. We truly appreciate your support. There are still several positions available, so please consider helping. The curriculum is VERY easy and the children

are great. If we have multiple teachers per grade, it allows for some flexibility on how often you have to teach. We also need a substitute list. Pre-School – Kim O'Brien, Brenda Kopf, need 1 more.

1-3 Grades – Lori Webb, need 2 more

4-6 Grades (Trinity) – need 4 (offered both Sunday and Wednesday night, where a meal is included).

7-8 Grades (Confirmation) – Ellen Schoepf, Brendan Guenther, need 1 more (offered both Sunday and Wednesday night, where a meal is included).

Youth (9-12 Grades) – Katie Love, need one more.

Important Dates in May

14th Mother's Day Bouquets distributed

14th Children sing during service.

21st Last Sunday School, Pancake Breakfast or Panera Trip, dependent on age.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Bring the World to Your Home and Heart

The Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE), founded in 1947, offers high school students from around the world the opportunity to live and study in the United States. Would you consider opening your home to a student? It is a great way for families to learn about another culture, share their lives and culture, and make forever connections. For more information contact Pam Williams at 517-927-7703.

