

# Welcome to Faith Lutheran

October 15, 2017



The  
Parable  
of the  
WEDDING  
BANQUET

Pastor Ellen Schoepf  
**[prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto: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](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org)  
North/West Lower Michigan Synod ≈ [www.mittensynod.org](http://www.mittensynod.org)  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ≈ [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

### Facebook

[facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos](https://facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos)

You also can find the audio available on Faith's website under worship  
Sermons

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

## **Accepts with Pleasure**

You can tell by your carefully scripted name on the front, the engraved return address, the thick textured envelope—a wedding invitation has arrived at your door! You open it, pulling out a stack of inserts and enclosures as featherlight tissue paper drifts to the floor. Instantly you can tell—this is one of *those* weddings: fancy, upscale, and so very fun! Our culture has eliminated so many elaborate occasions and lavish events that the rare opportunity to dress up and be elegant for an evening is a delight. Delicious food, wonderful music, the celebration of love! You can hardly wait—but what will you wear?

The Son of God invites you to his wedding banquet today. At the altar of our Lord, you receive the richest food and the choicest of wines—the very body and blood of Jesus, given for you for the forgiveness of your sins and as a promise of everlasting life. Around the table are all your sisters and brothers in Christ—the ones standing next to you and the ones across time and space. At this wedding feast, not even death prevents guests from attending. And as marvelous as this meal is, what you eat here is only the appetizer course, keeping you fed until the full banquet begins in the new heaven and the new earth that are to come.

You, beloved child, are invited to this table today, and in eternity, as far more than just a guest. Baptism clothes us in the garment of salvation and gives us a new identity as God's precious chosen ones. Wear these clothes with joy and confidence. Come, a place at the banquet table is waiting for you.

**Sunday, October 15, 2017**

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Bread for the World Sunday

**Introduction to the day**

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life 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 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**

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

arr. Wagner

Faith Bells

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## GATHERING

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

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the ✠ holy Trinity,  
the one who fashions us,  
the one who heals us,  
the one who reforms us again and again.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Source of all life,  
**we confess that we have not allowed  
your grace to set us free.  
We fear that we are not good enough.  
We hear your word of love freely given to us,  
yet we expect others to earn it.  
We turn the church inward,  
rather than moving it outward.  
Forgive us. Stir us.  
Reform us to be a church powered by love,  
willing to speak for what is right,  
act for what is just,  
and seek the healing of your whole creation.  
Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us  
and to empower our lives in the world.

Our sins are forgiven,  
✠ God's love is unconditional,  
and we are raised up as God's people  
who will always be made new,  
in the name of Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

### GATHERING SONG

*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*

**ELW #873**

# 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-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. 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. Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and



*Refrain*  
hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his. This is the feast of



vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. 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, hon-or,



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

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

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## WORD

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*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:1-9**

*After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing everyone up—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.*

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

<sup>2</sup>For you have made the city a heap,  
the fortified city a ruin;  
the palace of aliens is a city no more,  
it will never be rebuilt.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;  
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

<sup>4</sup>For you have been a refuge to the poor,  
a refuge to the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

<sup>5</sup>the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,  
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;  
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples



a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained  
clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the  
earth,

for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might  
save us.

This is the LORD for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## **SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9**

*Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.*

A reading from Philippians.

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

<sup>2</sup>I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

## Step by step

O God, you are my God, and I will ev - er praise  
you. O God, you are my God, and  
I will ev - er praise you. I will seek you in the morn -  
- ing, and I will learn to walk in your ways, and  
step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol - low you all of my  
days. O days, and I will fol - low you all of my  
days, and I will fol - low you all of my days, and  
step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol - low you all of my days.

Chords: D(no3), G, G<sup>2</sup>, G, D/F#, D, C/E, C/D, G, D(no3), G, G<sup>2</sup>, D/F#, D, C/E, C/D, G, G<sup>2</sup>, G, Em, C/E, Em, Dsus, D, Am/E, Am/C, Am, G, G<sup>2</sup>, G, D/F#, D, C/D, Am/D, D<sup>7</sup>sus, G, D(no3), G, G<sup>2</sup>, G, Em, Dsus, D, Am<sup>7</sup>, F, C, D<sup>7</sup>sus, G<sup>2</sup>/D, D, C/D, G.

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14**

*Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup>“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup>Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>5</sup>But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup>while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup>Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>10</sup>Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup>“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, <sup>12</sup>and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON**

*The assembly is seated.*

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Let Us Go Now to the Banquet*

**ELW #523**

### 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

Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we 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 the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.  
**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.*

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# MEAL

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*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## OFFERING

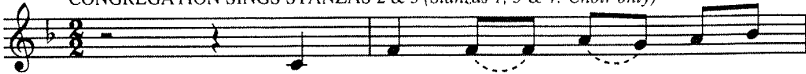
Chancel Choir

# LORD OF THE DANCE

Words: SYDNEY CARTER (1963)

Music: 19th cent. Shaker tune;  
adapted by SYDNEY CARTER (1963)

CONGREGATION SINGS STANZAS 2 & 5 (*Stanzas 1, 3 & 4: Choir only*)



1. I danced in the morn - ing when the  
2. I danced for the scribe and the  
3. I danced on the sab - bath and I  
4. I danced on a Fri - day when the  
5. They cut me down and I



world was be - gun, and I danced in the moon and the  
Phar - i - see, but they would not dance and they  
cured the lame, the ho - ly peo - ple  
sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the  
leapt up high, I am the life that will

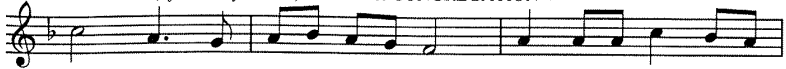


stars and the sun, and I came down from heav - en and I  
would not fol - low me; I danced for the fish - er - men, for  
said it was a shame; they whipped and they stripped and they  
dev - il on your back; they bur - ied my bod - y and they  
nev - er, nev - er die; I'll live in you if you'll



danced on the earth. At Beth - le - hem I had my birth.  
James and John; they came to me and the dance went on.  
hung me high; they left me there on a cross to die.  
thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on.  
live in me I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

REFRAIN (after every Stanza): CHOIR & CONGREGATION



Dance, then, wher - ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the



Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher - ev - er you may be,



and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

## OFFERING RESPONSE

### Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

The musical score is written on six staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in a simple, accessible style with quarter and eighth notes, often grouped with slurs. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your  
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.  
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me  
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,  
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

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## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of life,

you give us these gifts of the earth,

these resources of our life and our labor.

Take them, offered in great thanksgiving,

and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.

**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.

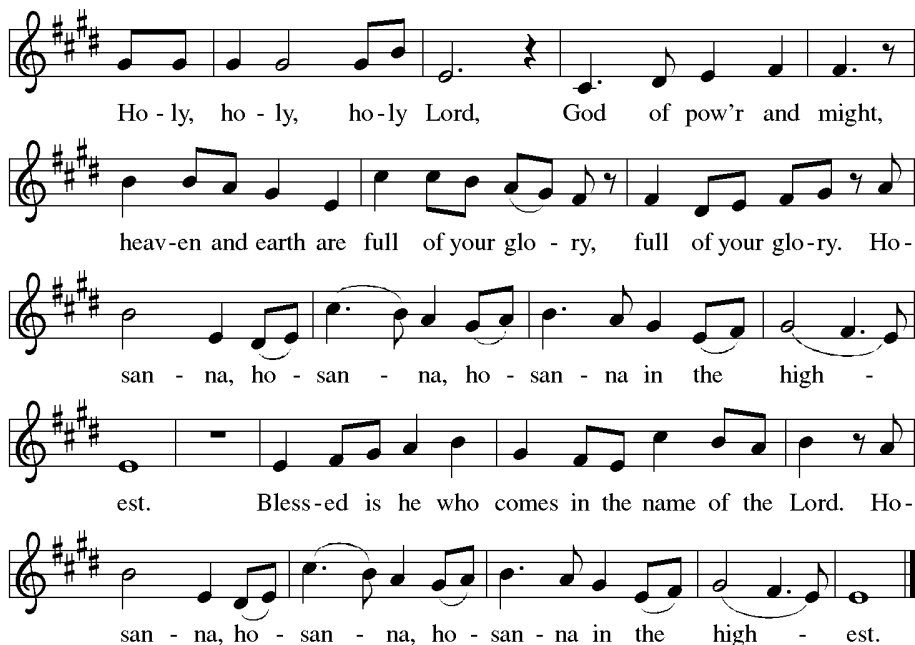
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## 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'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**

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.

**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.**

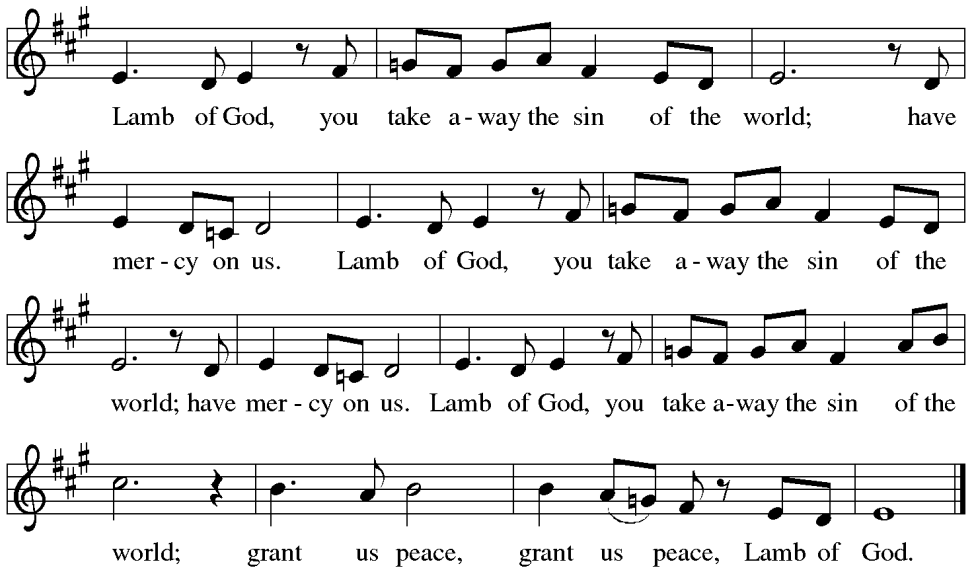
## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,  
and make us one with you.

## **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

*We Come to the Hungry Feast*

***ELW #479***

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

***ELW #461***

*The assembly stands*

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

**Amen**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy and compassionate God,  
in bread and wine you give us gifts  
that form us to be humble and courageous.  
May your words come to life  
in our serving and in our witness,  
that we might speak a living voice  
of healing and justice to all the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.  
**Amen.**

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## SENDING

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

### BLESSING

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;  
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;  
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:  
Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

*ELW #547*

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Sound the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

“Sent Forth by God's Blessing”

arranged Wayne L Wold

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

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Good Morning! We gather in the name of  
 Jesus! Please greet on another in peace.

Pastor	Ellen Schoepf	<a href="mailto:prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org">prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org</a>
Secretary	Katie Love	<a href="mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org">klove@faithlutheranokemos.org</a>
Director of Christian Education		Katie Love
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

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October 8, 2017 Attendance: 89

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Serving Faith	October 15	October 22
Acolyte	Griffin Ransom	Juliana Lewis
Altar Care	Rich Weingartner & Melinda Schultz	
Communion Assistants	Griffin Ransom	Juliana Lewis
	Katie Love	Alyssa Magyar
	Linda Hirt	Heidi Nussdorfer
Greeters	Brendan Guenther	Jack & Natalie Dingedine
Lay Assistants	Katie Love	Alyssa Magyar
Readers	Linda Hirt	Heidi Nussdorfer
Ushers	Doug & Linda Hirt	Doug & Linda Hirt
Nursery	Lori Webb	Jennifer and Maia Guenther

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Faith Family & Friends

October 15, 2017

Log onto Faith's website [www.faithlutheranokemos.org](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org) 24/7 for updates

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### DEADLINES

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Sunday worship folder announcements—Tuesday of each week  
Submit to Katie at [klove@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org)

*November Faith Family News newsletter—*

**Please submit by Monday, October 23**

Submit to Katie at [klove@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org)

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### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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Please lift up in prayer this week:

- ✠ Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne, and Harry Nawrock
- ✠ Friends and family—  
Harriet, Pat Belonga, Todd Barricklow, George Bach, Greg Beckwith, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Allyson, Heather, Erin, Al, Sai, Jeanne Hicks, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Robert Bordt, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Meredith, Jeanne and Leonard, Tammy Heilman, Susan Heft, John Joseph Lanzetta, Johnathon Manitta family, Loretta Milne, Bethany Robison, Jean Smith, Scott Seeley, “Little Zee” (3 yr. old daughter of a friend of Brenda Kopf’s), Virginia Tashner, Max Whitmyer and the White family.
- ✠ Our mission partner congregation—Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- ✠ Those in military service—Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks,  
Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.
- ✠ Samaritan children who seek adoption. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friends

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### NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

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As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Pastor Jean Smith and the congregation of St. John Lutheran Church of Lake City, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

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**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

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<b>Weekly Offering</b>	<b>10/8/17</b>	<b>Year-to-date as of 08/31/2017</b>	
Loose Cash	\$ 14.00	Income	\$183,883
Sunday School	\$ 3.95	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$199,882</u>
Bell Choir	\$ 78.00		
Facility Rental	\$ 50.00	<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-\$15,999</b>
Youth			
Fund	\$ 50.00		
Bottle Recycle	\$ 7.90		
National Gather.	\$ 150.00		
Flowers	\$ 25.00		
Tanzania Water Project	\$ 50.00		
Books for Studies	\$ 58.00		
World Hunger	\$ 100.00		
General Fund	<u>\$ 3430.00</u>		
Subtotal	\$ 4016.85		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4016.85</b>		

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**ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS**

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Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Carl & Kathy Richardson and Emily & Justin Brown in celebration of Harry Nawrock's birthday.

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**THIS WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS**

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Today

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. Worship: Bread for the World Sunday & Tanzania Water Offering
- 11:30 a.m. Parish Ed Meeting
- 11:30 a.m. First Communion Meeting in Library
- 6:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes

Bread for the World Bread is an organization that provides a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decisions makers to end hunger at home and abroad. Moved by God's grace in Jesus Christ, Bread volunteers advocate for a world without hunger. Working with churches across the country, Bread's goal is to help end hunger by 2030. It believes that everyone must play a part in ending hunger, especially our federal government. Bread works to change the policies and conditions that allow hunger to persist. Bread seeks long-term solutions to hunger and advocates on legislation that addresses the root causes of hunger. Today, we will again sign letters that will be sent to congressional leaders asking them to work to end hunger at home and abroad.

Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

9:30 a.m. Ingham County Play Group

Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

Noon: Study in Pastor Ellen's Office: All are Welcome

6:30 p.m. Outlaw Christian Book Study at Coral Gables

Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>

7:30 a.m. Men's Study

9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritas ACTION

5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise

5:45 p.m. Meal is Served: Provided by Worship Committee

6:30 p.m. Faith Bells

6:30 p.m. Trinity & Confirmation

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>

7:00 p.m. Book Study at Kim O'Brien's Home

Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION



## First Communion Classes

This year we will be offering two opportunities for children to participate in 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Classes. First Communion classes begin TODAY and continue next Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. For these children, their first communion will be during worship on Sunday, November 5.

The second opportunity will be in January with a series of four consecutive classes on Wednesday evenings, beginning January 10 at 6:30 PM. First communion in worship will then be on Sunday, February 4. If your child is in 1<sup>st</sup> grade or older and has not participated in classes, we are inviting you and your child to come to one of these offerings. The classes are designed in such a way that parents participate in the training with their child.

Please let Pastor Ellen know if you wish to have your child participate in one of these class offerings.



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### **ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE DRIVE**

On Sunday, October 22, we will again receive your annual Pledge Cards and Time & Talent Sheets during a special offering within the worship service. All that we have is gift. And, we are all called to share the gifts we have been given. We encourage you to prayerfully consider what you will give to the mission and ministry of this congregation over the next year. Your gift is important as we continue to participate in God's reconciling work in this community and the world.

### **QUARTERLY MEETING**

The next Quarterly Meeting will be on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **FALL GARAGE & GROUNDS CLEAN UP DAY**

#### **Clean-Up Day**

Please join us for the annual fall cleanup on Sunday, Nov. 12, immediately following worship.



**WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!**

**Wednesday Night Live!**

**Every Wednesday! Meal Starts at 5:45 p.m.**

**Faith Lutheran Church is the place to be!**

We will be offering a meal for anyone in the congregation who wishes to come to church to eat (meals much like the Lenten suppers). The meal will be served from 5:45 – 7:00. We will be offering activities for all ages! Wednesday will be family night at Faith! The evening schedule will include:

- 5:30 – 6:00 Joyful Noise choir rehearsal
- 5:45 – 7:00 Meal served
- 6:30 – 7:30 Trinity, Confirmation, and *activities for younger children!*
- 6:30 – 7:30 Bell Choir rehearsal
- 7:00 – 8:00 Book study for adults (*Falling Upward with Harold Sollenberger*)
- 6:30 – 8:00 Movies of interest for adults and older youth
- 7:30 – 8:00 Additional activities for kids
- 7:30 – 9:00 Chancel Choir

***Thank you to all the groups who signed up to provide the  
Wednesday Night Meals!***

October 18<sup>th</sup>: Worship Committee

October 25<sup>th</sup>: Confirmation

November 1<sup>st</sup>: Pastor Ellen

November 8<sup>th</sup>: Evangelism and Green Team

November 15<sup>th</sup>: Youth/Quilters

November 22<sup>nd</sup>: Pie Fest/Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 29<sup>th</sup>: Membership Development

December 6<sup>th</sup>: OPEN

December 13<sup>th</sup>: OPEN

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

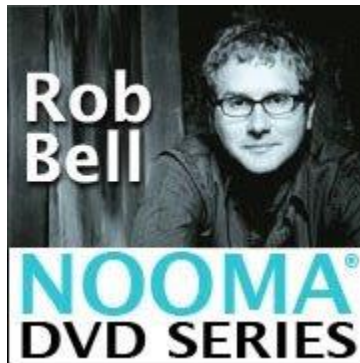
Wednesday evening, October 18, is the last session of the *Falling Upward* adult book study. As this study comes to completion, we will be offering some additional options for adult education.

-On Wednesday evening, October 25, (*the Wednesday before Reformation Day*) all adults are invited to join us for a screening of the full-length MGM production of **Luther** starring Joseph Fiennes. In this epic feature film, Fiennes stars as Luther, the man whose defiant actions changed the world. The film is described by Movieguide as “engrossing, compelling and powerful.” It traces Luther’s extraordinary and exhilarating quest for the people’s liberation. At a time in history, regional princes and the powerful Church wielded a fast, firm and merciless grip on 16<sup>th</sup> century Germany. But, when Martin Luther issues a shocking challenge to their authority, the people declare him their new leader – and hero. Even when threatened with violent death, Luther refuses to back down, sparking a bloody revolution that shakes the entire continent to its core. education series for adults. Join us for dinner followed by the screening of this film.

-Then, beginning on **Wednesday evening, November 1**, adults will be able to participate in a **new educational opportunity**. Beginning at 7:00 PM we will be offering the educational **NOOMA series by Rob Bell**. Every week participants will view one of Rob Bell’s NOOMA series short films, each followed by discussion. These films explore our world from a perspective of Jesus. **NOOMA** is an invitation to search, question, and join the discussion. Each film is followed by a time of discussion. In these films, Bell

Cont.

talks about the way in which Jesus lived with the awareness that God is doing something, right here, right now, and anybody can be a part of it. He encouraged his listeners to search, to question, to wrestle with the implications of what he was saying and doing. He inspired, challenged, provoked, comforted, and invited people to be open to God's work in this world. Wherever he went, whatever he did, Jesus started discussions about what matters most, because for Jesus, God is always inviting us to open our eyes and join in. We invite you to come for dinner, view the short film and join in the discussion.



**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A HUGE Thank You to Melinda Schultz for all her hard work on the Faith Goes to Houston Auction!! Your hours of dedication and work are so appreciated!!!!**

**With Love,**

**The Youth & Leaders Heading to Houston!!**



**All 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited for dinner and a study from 6-8 p.m. 4548 Seneca Drive (directly behind the church). Come for the whole time or stay as long as you can! Meetings take place every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Our next meeting is Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

This week...

**Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**

6:30-7:30: Trinity and Confirmation

6:30-7:30: Activities for younger children.

7:30-8:00 p.m. Additional Activities for Kids

**Looking Ahead October:**

15<sup>th</sup>: Sunday School (Pk-6<sup>th</sup>)

18<sup>th</sup>: Wednesday Night Live

22<sup>nd</sup>: Sunday School (PK-6<sup>th</sup>), Teens Study (7-12 grade) at Katie Love's Home (6-8pm).

25<sup>th</sup>: T & C Halloween Fun Night

27<sup>th</sup>: Youth Group Activity (Haunted House 6-8 p.m.) More information will be provided at Teen Night.

29<sup>th</sup>: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Presentation

Confirmation Review Class 9am-12pm



**Trinity & Confirmation  
CLASSES**

## Upcoming Caregiving Meeting

November 9<sup>th</sup>: Getting Through the Holidays (Grief Support Focus) with Kris Abbey, Chaplin/Spiritual Coordinator for Hospice of Lansing.

December 14<sup>th</sup>: Sharing and Caring

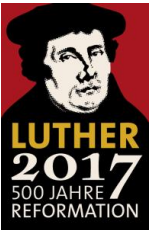
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## ***Oktoberfest Luncheon !***

***Program: A Visit to Luther's Germany  
Presented by John McPhail***

***Wednesday, October 25, 2017, 11:30 a.m.  
(Note that this is the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday***

John and Sue McPhail toured Germany, "Lutherland," this summer during the 500<sup>th</sup>



Anniversary Year of the Reformation. John will be sharing pictures and experiences from this history-rich trip.

**60 Plus  
or Minus**

Bratwurst and beverages will be provided, you sign up to bring the salads and desserts (German or American!).

Please sign up on the clipboard on the Faith @ Work display board in the narthex so we know how many brats to prepare and what dish you plan to share with us.

***Join us and Invite a friend!***



*Capitol Conference Lutheran Churches*

PRESENT

**REFORMATION**

**500**

**A FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS**

FEATURING A

*Conference-wide mass choir leading  
Hal Hopson's A Festival of Hymns*

FOOD  
ART GALLERY  
KID'S ACTIVITIES

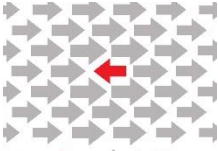
OCTOBER

**29**

3:00PM AT  
BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH  
549 EAST MOUNT HOPE AVENUE  
LANSING

The event is free; donations will be accepted for  
supper and an offering will be taken up for  
Samaritas

**Please sign up (in the narthex) for  
the FREE Lunch by TODAY!!**



*outlaw*christian  
Finding Authentic Faith by Breaking the "Rules"  
JACQUELINE A. BUSSIE

## Outlaw Christian: Finding Authentic Faith by Breaking the "Rules"

### Five Week Book Study Group Opportunity

Here are two terrific opportunities to read and discuss a book by Jacqueline A. Bussie, former professor at Capital University and now, Director of the **Forum on Faith and Life** and professor of religion at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. The book is entitled ***Outlaw Christian: Finding Authentic Faith by Breaking the "Rules."***

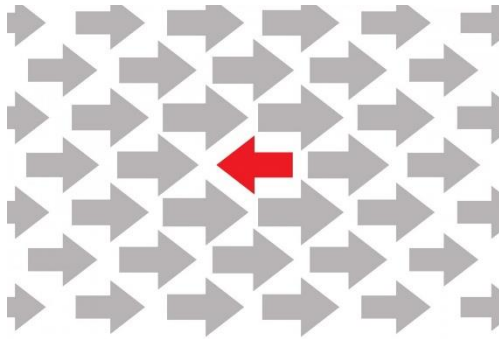
- **One book study will take place at Kim O'Brien's home on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM.** This group will meet on: 10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, & 11/16. Plan to come and maybe bring along a friend. Kim says you are also welcome to bring your kids and they can play in the basement during the conversation.

In her book, *Outlaw Christian*, Bussie talks about the unwritten "rules" of modern Christianity. She goes into depth about her experience and these so called "rules" modern Christianity seems to place upon people. She says that a faith governed by these rules is stifling, unsustainable, and dishonest. In her life experience, she was unable to overlook the suffering she saw around her – suffering in her friends, her neighbors and in her own life. She discovered that the only way she could keep her faith in the God she loved was to start breaking the rules, rules like *"Never get mad or argue with God."* She calls this rule a "life-sucking narrative of the lie you should consider breaking without shame or secrecy, especially if you are the kind of person who has already broken it a thousand tiny times within the recesses of your mind. Because hope is anger's mother, if you start breaking this law, I promise you will encounter hope along the road and she will never leave your side. Also, airing your authentic tears, concerns, and emotions in the sunlight rather than hiding them or apologizing for their existence will restore your humanity." (p.38)



Bussie draws from Scripture and her real-life experience and her book is a rallying cry to believers who care too much to not only let suffering go unquestioned but also care too much to let doubts go unanswered. Bussie calls for an authentic form of faith that laments, loves, laughs, longs, and lives, but never lies.

There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex for both book group opportunities. Please consider being a part of this educational opportunity. And, look for future information regarding Jacqueline Bussie's speaking engagement right here at Faith Lutheran Church on Saturday, February 17, 2018. She will be the featured speaker as we kick off the **Annual Holle Speaker Series**.



*outlaw*christian

Finding Authentic Faith by Breaking the "Rules"

JACQUELINE A. BUSSIE

You are invited to a movie screening of National Geographic's *From the Ashes* at Faith Lutheran Church on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, after the 10 am service. About one-third of Michigan's electricity is generated from coal-fired power plants. *From the Ashes* puts a human face on the issues tied to the "war on

coal." The movie covers topics such as the future of the energy sector, risks to people's health and livelihood, and the environment. Please join us in a close examination and dialogue of the complicated issues tied to coal production from multiple perspectives.

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# **ELCA ADULT MISSION TRIP**

**JANUARY 20-28, 2018**

**WE WILL BE DOING SERVICE WORK IN FLORIDA, SPENDING THE WEEK ASSISTING IN CLEAN-UP, REPAIR AND REBUILDING**

**Several of our ELCA churches are working together to plan this Mission/Service Trip. We will be traveling to Florida by bus & van. There will be space for 30 participants. At this point in time, the plan is to leave on Saturday morning, January 20, get to Florida on Sunday evening, January 21, and begin doing service work on Monday morning. We will work through Friday, then begin our return home on Saturday, January 27.**

**The authorities in Florida are still working on assessing the destruction in various parts of the state, so we do not yet know where we will be assigned and where our help is most needed. We will have more information regarding this by mid-November. However, the hope is that the cost per person will be around \$1,000 or less.**

**If you want to participate in this Mission Trip, please speak to Pastor Ellen or add your name to this sign-up sheet in the Narthex.**