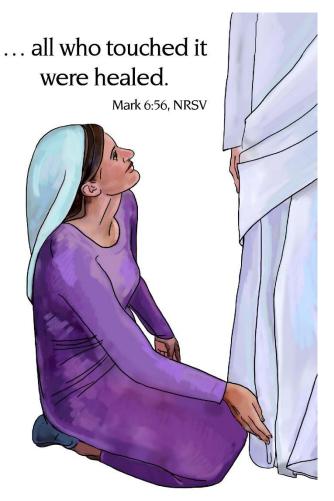
Faith Lutheran Church

July 22, 2018



Pastor Ellen Schoepf prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org 4515 Dobie Road Okemos, MI 48864 (517)349-0620



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 \approx www.faithlutheranokemos.org North/West Lower Michigan Synod \approx www.mittensynod.org Evangelical Lutheran Church in America \approx www.elca.org

<u>Facebook</u> facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

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

The Shores of Wilderness

Work colleagues wandered into one another's offices, often at the most overwhelmed and exasperated intersections of their days, to exhale fragments of frayed and patched agendas and deadlines. "What are we doing that matters?"

Today's gospel describes a busy, even frantic scene. Great crowds. All that they had done. Rushed. Taught. Healed. No leisure even to eat. Hurried. The sick. Sheep without a shepherd. Marketplaces. Great crowds.

Then, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest awhile" (Mark 6:31). Jesus leads the way—away—to a deserted place, to the shores of wilderness where we can be close to ourselves, where we can receive rest.

Come away to rest with Jesus in a deserted place where what we do and who we are meet. Come away to rest with Jesus in the deserted place where giving and receiving bask in love for one another. Come away to rest with Jesus in the deserted place where the still small voice and the voice crying in the wilderness grace our silence.

Come away to rest with Jesus in the deserted place where visions beyond and dreams within awaken one another. Come away to rest with Jesus in the deserted place where the tree withers to bear new fruit.

Come away to rest with Jesus in the deserted place where yesterday's hour and tomorrow's hour are blessed in now's moment. Come away to rest with Jesus in the deserted place where extravagant abundance gladdens scarcity.

Come away to rest with Jesus in the deserted place where knowing lies down quietly as believing rises. Come away to rest with Jesus in the deserted place where shepherd and sheep come together. Come away to rest with Jesus in the deserted place where it matters.

And they did. They "went away in the boat to a deserted place" (Mark 6:32).

Sunday, July 22, 2018

9th Sunday after Pentecost New Member Sunday

Introduction to the day

Mark's gospel makes clear how great was the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.

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

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

arr. Dale Wood

GATHERING

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

GATHERING SONG

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

ELW #461

GREETING

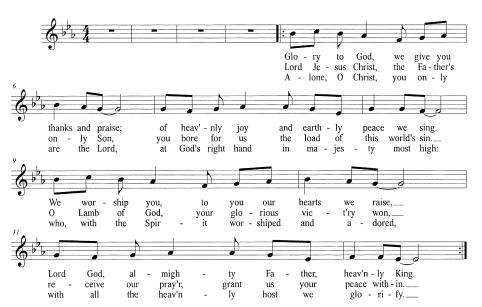
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE





CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Jeremiah prophesied before the exile in 587 BCE. In this passage, he uses the metaphor of a shepherd to describe the bad kings who have scattered the "flock" of Israel. God promises to gather the flock and to raise up a new king from David's line to save Israel and Judah.

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:11-22

The author of this letter is reminding his audience that originally they were not part of God's chosen people. Through Jesus' death, however, they are included in God's household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.

A reading from Ephesians.

¹¹Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision"—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— ¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. 15He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

When Jesus sent his disciples out to teach and heal, they ministered among large numbers of people. Their work was motivated by Christ's desire to be among those in need.

The holy gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

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

Shepherd Me, O God

ELW #780

The assembly is seated

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

The presiding minister begins. Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Chuck & Kathy Spanburg, united with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome into the life and ministry of Faith Lutheran Church.

APOSTLES' CREED

 $The\ presiding\ minister\ continues.$

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

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

Filled with the Holy Spirit, we join with the church in every place, praying for the world that God so loves.

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:

By the sure guidance of your Holy Spirit, O God, we lift up our prayers in trust and thanksgiving; through 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

"Love Was When"

(Wyrtzen, arr. Mayfield)

Tenor/Bass Choir

OFFERING RESPONSE

Let The Vineyards



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Merciful God,
you open wide your hand
and satisfy the need of every living thing.
You have set this feast before us.
Open our hands to receive it.
Open our hearts to embrace it.
Open our lives to live it.
We pray this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,

you pour out the fire of your Spirit,

uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

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









THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, Breath of life and Fire of love, with a mighty wind you brought creation into being, and by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom. We praise you for the gift of your Son, who poured out your Spirit on his disciples of every race and nation.

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 death, resurrection, and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit, we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth. Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal: anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love, that, with thankful hearts, we may be witnesses to 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**



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.

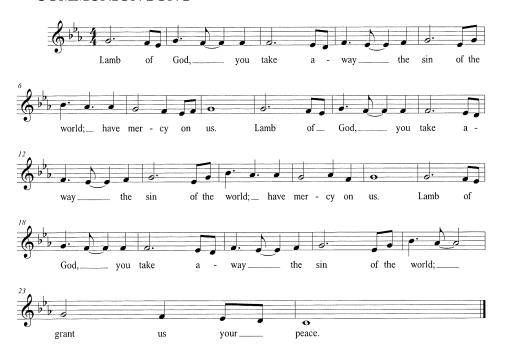
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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



CONGREGATIONAL SONG

My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

ELW #782

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Here Is Bread

ELW #483

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray
Jesus Christ, host of this meal,
you have given us not only this bread and cup,
but your very self, that we may feast on your great love.
Filled again by these signs of your grace,
may we hunger for your reign of justice,
may we thirst for your way of peace,
for you are Lord forevermore.

Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

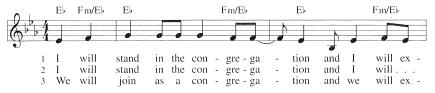
May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Stand in the congregation

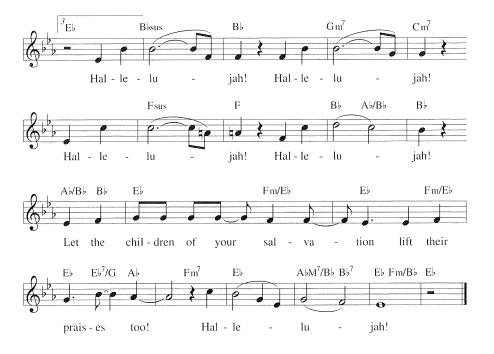












DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Holy Manna"

arr. Wilbur Held

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Sisters & brothers in Christ, welcome to worship! May your time in the Lord be rich and blessed.

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

Bi-Weekly Announcement packets are available in the narthex.

July 15, 2018 Attendance: 84		
Serving Faith	July 22	July 29
Acolyte	Austin Jones	Thomas Yearicks
Altar Care	Rich Weingarter & Nina Schrote	
Communion Assistants	Austin Jones	Thomas Yearicks
	Ken Schoepf	Diane Wilke
	Dane Webb	Rich Weingartner
Greeters	Mike Eschelbach	Jeff & Melinda Schultz
Readers	Ken Schoepf	Diane Wilke
Lay Assistant	Dane Webb	Rich Weingartner
Ushers	Heilmans	Heilmans
Nursery	Marquardts	Williams

Altar Flower Dedications:

Sunday, July 22nd

Vase 1 & 2: Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Harold Sollenberger and Carol Towl in celebration of their wedding today. Vase 3: Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and with love from Ann Adelle in celebration of the marriage of Harold and Carol.







Carol Towl and Harold Sollenberger invite the Faith Family to a simple ceremony where we plan to exchange our marriage vows today at 5:00 p.m. here at the church. Both of our families have been raised here during over 40 years of worshiping at Faith. Please join us to celebrate and to renew acquaintances while sharing cake and punch. No gifts please.





