

Faith Lutheran Church

July 29, 2018

The Feeding of the 5,000

The graphic features a stylized illustration of a fish on the left and a loaf of bread on the right. The fish is rendered in shades of blue and teal with dark brown outlines, swimming towards the right. The loaf of bread is golden-brown with dark brown outlines, resting on a dark brown plate. The text 'The Feeding of the 5,000' is integrated with the illustrations, with 'The Feeding' and 'of the' in a smaller font and '5,000' in a very large, bold font.

Pastor Ellen Schoepf
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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

Hungry for Rescue

The miracle of multiplication began with a question. Jesus asked, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” (John 6:5). Then, like fragments of the improbable barley crusts and pieces of fish, the questions multiplied until the crowd was fed. In the moment, baskets full of leftover questions didn’t matter much. Maybe skeptics’ curiosities dozed off on full bellies.

Here’s a question: Did Jesus get in the boat or not?

Five thousand crowded the hillside. The gospel story doesn’t say they were hungry or that they expected to eat. Whatever Jesus had been doing for the sick—his signs—drew the crowd. As for a meal, all John tells us, and only in passing, is that the Jewish Passover, the sacred meal that recalled and celebrated the miraculous rescue from a life of slavery in Egypt, was near. That mattered; oppression occupied more than their memories. Rome occupied Palestine with a fist of misery. Jesus awakened hope. Burdened people paid attention. They were so aroused that, full of bread and fish, and awestruck by all that was leftover, the crowd grew riotous, frantic to crown Jesus as their king.

Hours later, the disciples, muscling against fierce winds on a black night sea, suddenly became terrified. Was it the storm or was it the sight of Jesus walking on waves that spooked them? When Jesus said, “It is I; do not be afraid,” the disciples wanted him in their boat (John 6:20-21).

Here’s the question again. Did Jesus get in the boat or not? The episode ends with an undetailed report. The boat reached land. Period.

The crowds and the disciples are hungry for rescue. We will make you our king! We will take you in our boat!

Coming near, Jesus said “It is I; do not be afraid.” But did he get in their boat?

Sunday, July 29, 2018

10th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction to the day

Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish.

What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

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

“This is My Father’s World”

(arr. Sheppard)

Lani Yearicks, trombone solo

GATHERING

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

GATHERING SONG

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW #479

GREETING

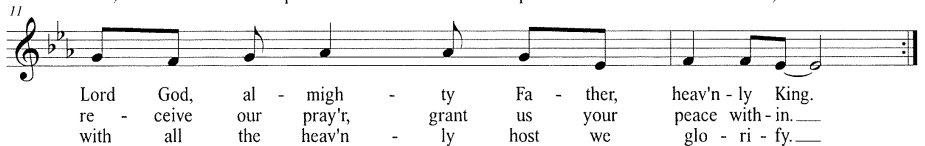
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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: 2 Kings 4:42-44

Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Here the prophet gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough and even more to satisfy the need.

A reading from 2 Kings.

⁴²A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to [Elisha,] the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." ⁴³But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" ⁴⁴He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:14-21

We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.

A reading from Ephesians.

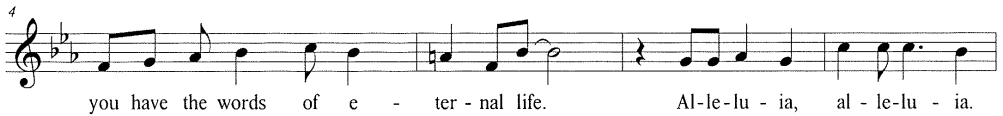
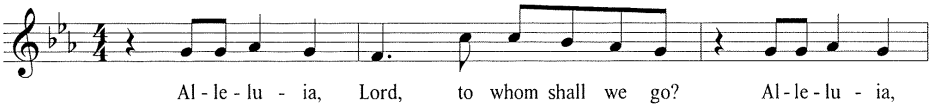
¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: John 6:1-21

In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰But he said to them, "It is I;

do not be afraid.” ²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

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

Hymn tune written for William Gabriel Cutting on the day of his baptism 7/29/2018

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

Words: Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1981
Fred Kaan, 1965

Music: Ellen Schoepf, 1956



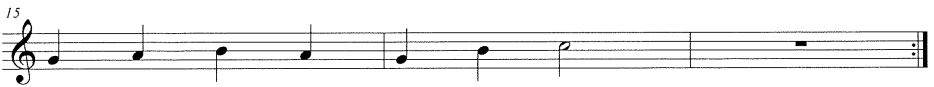
1. Child of bless - ing, child of prom - ise, bap - tized with the Spir - it's sign;
2. Child of love, our love's ex - pres - sion, love's cre - a - tion, loved in - deed!
3. Child of joy, our dear - est trea - sure, God's you are, from God you came.
4. Child of God your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to know whose child you are.



with this wa - ter God has sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
Fresh from God, re - fresh our spir - its, in - to joy and laugh - ter lead.
Back to God we hum - bly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.
Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, trust and love God more than all.



There is wa - ter in the ri - ver Bring - ing life to tree and plant. Let cre - a - tion praise its giv - er:



There is wa - ter in the font.

Presentation

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love and obedience to the will of God.

I present William Gabriel Cutting for baptism.

To parents:

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have William baptized into Christ?

I do.

As you bring him to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed
and the Ten Commandments,
place in his hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture him in faith and prayer,
so that he may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help William grow in the Christian faith and life?

I do.

To sponsors:

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture William in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

I do.

To the assembly:

People of God, do you promise to support William and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

We do.

Profession of Faith

To parents and sponsors:

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

To parents, sponsors and the assembly:

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

Baptism

William Gabriel Cutting

I baptize you in the name
of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain William with the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen

William Gabriel Cutting, child of God,
you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit
and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen

Welcome

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share; join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Those gathered at the font may return to their seats.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in our loving and almighty God who abundantly provides the bread of life to all who hunger, 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,
receive our prayer.

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

Almighty and loving God, we look to you in hope and trust, knowing that you will do far more than we can ask or imagine, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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

"In Christ Alone"

(Getty and Townsend)

Chris Lewis, vocal solo

OFFERING RESPONSE

Let The Vineyards

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful Lord, and

5 fill to the brim our cup of bles - sing. Gath - er the har -

10 - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the

15 bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u -

21 nite them in the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta -

26 - ble with your pres - ence, Lord, and give us a fore -

30 - taste of the feast to come.

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.

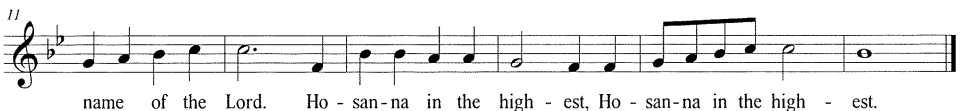
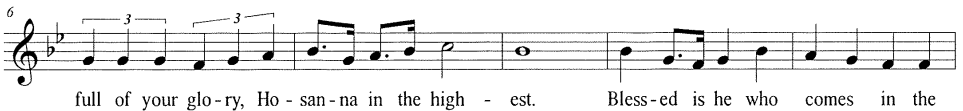
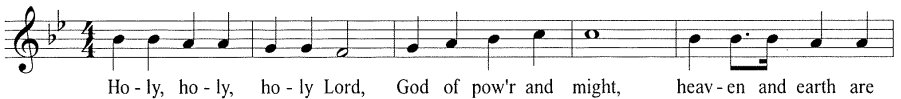
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of
the resurrection,

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.**

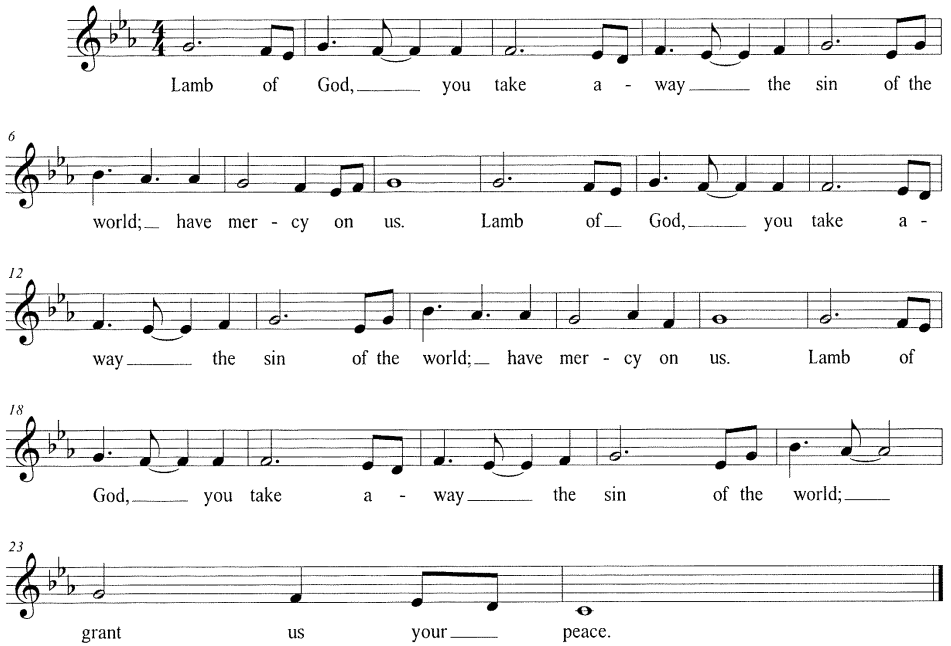
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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



Lamb of God, _____ you take a - way _____ the sin of the
6 world; _ have mer - cy on us. Lamb of _ God, _____ you take a -
12 way _____ the sin of the world; _ have mer - cy on us. Lamb of
18 God, _____ you take a - way _____ the sin of the world; _____
23 grant us your _____ peace.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“Gift of Finest Wheat”

arr. Jeffrey Honore

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

As the Grains of Wheat

ELW #465

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

How Great Thou Art

ELW #856

DISMISSAL

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

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Fugue in C Major”

Dietrich Buxtehude

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	prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
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.

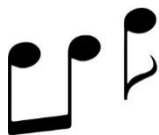
July 22, 2018 Attendance: 85

Serving Faith	July 29	August 5
Acolyte	Thomas Yearicks	open
Altar Care	Rich Weingarter & Nina Schrote	
	Michelle Ransom & Pam Williams	
Communion Assistants	Thomas Yearicks	open
	Diane Wilke	Diane Wilke
	Rich Weingartner	Tara Williams
Greeters	Jeff & Melinda Schultz	Rich Weingartner
Readers	Diane Wilke	Diane Wilke
Lay Assistant	Rich Weingartner	Tara Williams
Ushers	Heilmans	Schultzs
Nursery	Williams	Jennifer Coe

Altar Flower Dedications:

Sunday, July 29th

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Ann Mayer in celebration of Rob & Allison Mayer's 5th wedding anniversary.



Thank you to Lani Yearicks, Rich Weingartner's sister for blessing us with her music this morning.

summer
of sol



**COMMUNITY PICNIC
&
CONCERT**

FEATURING:

SUMMER OF SOL

**PULLED PORK SANDWICHES AND
HOMEMADE KETTLE CHIPS
CATERED BY
THE WATERSHED BAR & GRILL**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 25
4:00 – 7:00 PM**

CONSUMERS ENERGY

Consumers Energy will be present, encouraging people to have free energy audits done in their homes.

**Faith
Lutheran
Church**

4515 Dobie Rd.,
Okemos

*Enjoy free food and
live music on front
lawn of church*

August 25
4:00 – 7:00 PM

Corn Hole Contest,
games and prizes

Information on Free
Energy Audits

**FAITH LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

4515 Dobie Rd.
Okemos, MI

517-349-0620
www.faithlutheranokemos.org

Volunteers are needed to make this event a success!
Please see the sign-up table in the narthex after worship
or contact Brenda Kopf at bjktchr@sbcglobal.net
See you there!