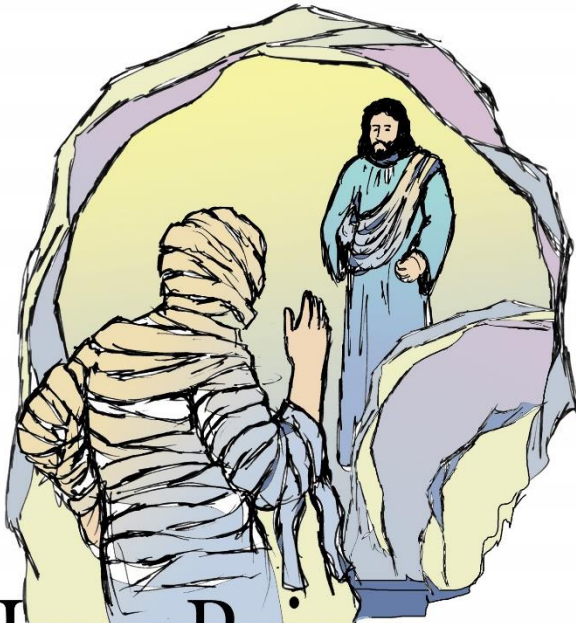


Faith Lutheran Church

November 4, 2018



Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

Pastor Ellen Schoepf
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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
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

Resurrection and Life

Tears are plenteous. Children from one ocean to another cry out for bread and clean water, for health and warmth. Young people cry out with powerful concern for the future. One generation to another weeps over loved ones lost, over loneliness, over reconciliation gone awry.

Jesus wept too. Standing outside the tomb of his friend Lazarus, he wept (John 11:35). Jesus' tears might seem oddly placed. Lazarus's sisters, Martha and Mary, had called for Jesus as their brother fought illness. The sisters expected Jesus to come, and come quickly—after all, Lazarus was one Jesus “loved” (John 11:3). But Jesus waited. Jesus stayed back, telling his disciples Lazarus had simply “fallen asleep.” Only at the appropriate time would he go to wake up Lazarus.

When Jesus does arrive it is four long days after Lazarus has died. Mary and Martha are still overcome with grief. Still in no hurry to make his way to the grave, Jesus stops to hear Martha give words to her pain: “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died” (John 11:21). He stops to hear Mary cry the same words. Then—and only then—does he make his way to Lazarus's tomb.

Why does Jesus cry, after waiting all that time to go to the grave? Why does he cry, when he must have known, like Martha and Mary, that he could have done something about it?

He cries because all causes of human pain—separation, death, suffering—are surely to be wept over. Even in the midst of the presence of God, sorrow is real. It hurts. But against all pain, God's promises have final victory for us, for all who experience pain and death. “I am,” Jesus says, “the resurrection and the life” (John 11:25). Today, on All Saints Sunday, we celebrate the astounding promise of resurrection. Jesus lives, and we live because of him.

Sunday, November 4, 2018

All Saints Sunday

Introduction to the day

Of all three years of the lectionary cycle, this year's All Saints readings have the most tears. Isaiah and Revelation look forward to the day when God will wipe away all tears; in John's gospel, Jesus weeps along with Mary and all the gathered mourners before he demonstrates his power over death. On All Saints Day we celebrate the victory won for all the faithful dead, but we grieve for our beloved dead as well, knowing that God honors our tears. We bring our grief to the table and find there a foretaste of Isaiah's feast to come.

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, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.

Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.

PRELUDE

“Behold a Host”

arr. Dale Wood

GATHERING

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

For All the Saints

ELW #422


vs. 1,2,6,7

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

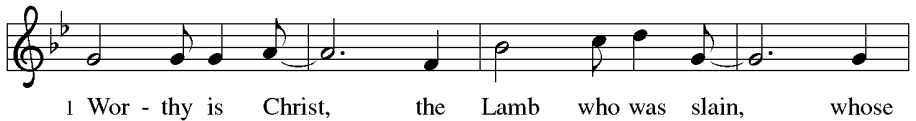
Refrain



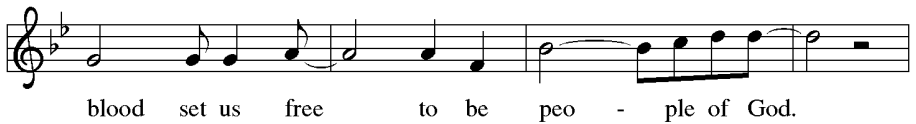
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



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



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

Refrain



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.



3 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.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:6-9

Isaiah sees a vision of the end of days, when the Lord will gather all God's people on God's holy mountain and will prepare for them a rich feast. At this banquet the Lord will wipe the tears from all eyes. And there will be no more sorrow, for God will destroy death itself.

A reading from Isaiah.

⁶On 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.

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

⁸he 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.

⁹It 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: Revelation 21:1-6a

Here is a vision of the new heaven and new earth in which God resides fully with God's people so that mourning, despair, and pain have been eradicated. These renewing words from the God who spans all of time are trustworthy and true.

A reading from Revelation.

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ^{6a}Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: John 11:32-44

Through the raising of Lazarus, Jesus offers the world a vision of the life to come, when death and weeping will be no more.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE SERMON

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Give Thanks for Saints

ELW #428

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.**

*Today in our prayers we remember and give thanks for the
following people who have died over the past year.*

Max Ambts

Patricia Belonga

Dona Brown

Mariah Cooley

David Engel

Marcia Hanneman

Homer Marsh and

Jedida Zumafor



All Saints' Day

Prayers of Intercession

With the people of God gathered here and throughout the world, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people 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:*

Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

“Twelve Gates into the City”

(arr. Shackley)

Chancel Choir

OFFERING RESPONSE

Let The Vineyards

Let the vineyards 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.

Creator God,

you made everything, and you provide for every need.

The bread we break and the wine we pour come from you.

As we eat and drink with thanksgiving,

fill us with your love;

let that love flow through us to others;

and join us to the saints before us

in a holy and boundless communion;

through Jesus 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.

By the witness of your saints

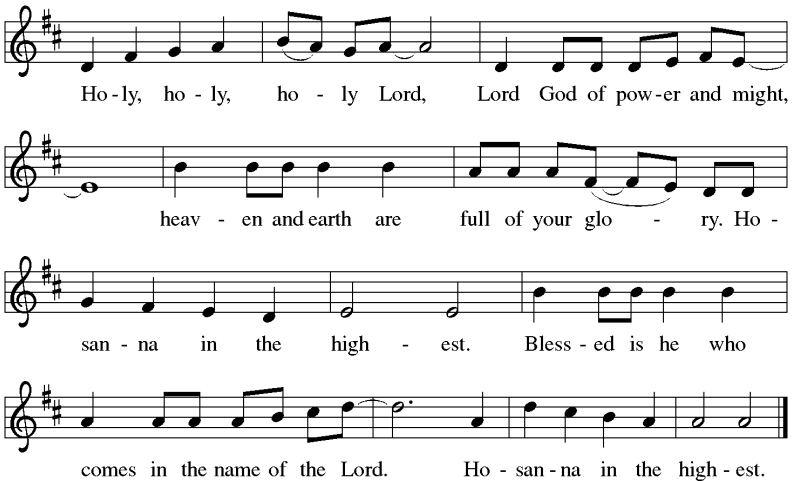
you show us the hope of our calling,

and strengthen us to run the race set before us,

that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory.

And so, with Max, Patricia, Dona, Mariah, David, Marsha, Homer,
Jedida all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of
heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

With all the saints of Africa and Asia, India and the islands, Europe and the Americas, we praise you, O God, for you create the worlds.

With all the baptized, the old and the young, the weak and the strong, the famous and the forgotten, we bless you, O God, for you provide us with water and food.

With all the faithful in cities and on farms, in mansions and huts, past and present, we worship you, O God, for you shelter the generations.

With all your holy people, those who ministered in the church, those who served the poor, and all who walked the way of the cross, we glorify you, O God, for in Jesus you journeyed with us on earth.

With Paul and the evangelists, we remember the meal of your Son:

In the night in which he was betrayed . . . Do this for the remembrance of me.

With Peter and all the martyrs, we honor Christ's death, saying Amen. **Amen!**

With Mary Magdalene and all the apostles, we proclaim his resurrection, shouting Amen. **Amen!**

With John and all the theologians and mystics, we look for his returning, pleading Amen. **Amen!**

With the Virgin Mary and all who sang of your greatness, we pray for the power of the Spirit.

Visit this gathering, this bread and this cup, with the presence of the body and blood of Christ.

Form us into a communion of service, and infuse your earth with the wholeness we seek.

With the church universal, and all who have gone before us, lead us to a future we cannot yet see, and at the end draw all humanity to yourself.

Now with all of the family you saved by your love, we shout blessing **blessing**, glory **glory**, wisdom **wisdom**, thanksgiving **thanksgiving**, honor **honor**, power **power**, might **might**, be to our God forever and ever. Amen. **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

Hunger no more. Thirst no more.
Come to the banquet of life.

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.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“At the River”

arr. George Baker

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

In Heaven Above

ELW #630

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Sovereign God,

in this meal you give us a foretaste
of the great feast to come.

Keep us faithful to you,
that we, with all your saints,
may at length celebrate
the marriage feast of the Lamb,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The love of God surround you; the grace of ✝ Christ release you;
and the Holy Spirit be your guide and strength, now and
forevermore.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

For All Your Saints, O Lord

ELW #427

DISMISSAL

Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Canzona in F”

Domenico Zipoli



Siblings 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
High School Director		Katie Love
Trinity/Middle School Director		Maddie Wosinski
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

Bi-Weekly Announcement packets are available in the narthex.

October 28, 2018 Attendance: 115

Serving Faith	November 4	November 11
Acolyte	Isaac Webb	Austin Jones
Altar Care	Brenda Kopf & Cecelia Kramer	
		Brenda Kopf & Gail Barricklow
Communion Assistants	Isaac Webb	Austin Jones
	Linda Hirt	Brenda Kopf
	Harold Sollenberger	Bob Shorman
Greeters	Rich Weingartner	Bill & Pam Williams
Readers	Linda Hirt	Brenda Kopf
Lay Assistant	Harold Sollenberger	Bob Shorman
Ushers	Bowers/Whitmyer	Bowers/Whitmyer
Nursery	Marquardt's	Williams

Altar Flower Dedications:

Sunday, November 4th: Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by
 Vase 1: Gus and Mara Lulis in memory of Ariana Mae Lulis.
 Vase 2: Bob & Mary Ann Scheuerman in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Franklin Scheuerman.