

# Faith Lutheran Church

March 31, 2019

## FOURTH SUNDAY



## IN LENT

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Okemos, MI 48864  
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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](mailto: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.

Faith Lutheran live streams it’s services. No names of participants are broadcast.

## Still Far Off

“While he was still far off . . .” (Luke 15:20). In one brief phrase a wrenching, shifting, and twisting story involving a wild cast of characters hangs in uneasy suspense.

“While he was still far off . . .” In those few words from a noble parable, we catch—or lose—our own uneasy breath because we know, at times more painfully than anything else, what it is to be “still far off.” We know the angst of uncertainty, the misery of guilt, the loneliness of distance, and the injury of shame. Wherever “far off” is—that distant country where shadows of disgrace and shards of reputation languish; where hope withers—it is not home.

Jesus doesn’t toss this parable carelessly to the wind. He carefully states each confounding sentence, unfolds every calibrated detail for a grumbling group offended by “this fellow” who welcomes sinners. With grace that stings, Jesus means the parable for the church, for us. Jesus messes with the tidy assumptions of each of us who turn our face from the “other,” from those “still far off.” When the church opens doors to some and closes them to others, when it sets the table for the likes of these and denies it to the likes of those, when it embraces the well-behaved but abandons the wrongdoers, it forgets that all of us—*all of us*—are “still far off,” longing for home.

The parable concludes, stunning, as any drama ever written, the dancers and singers, the hired hands, a household and neighborhood, a brother and father. The older brother is far off, left trying to figure it out. Chances are he never will, and neither will we. Grace is not to be figured out; it is to be received. It comes down a dirty road, where it opens healing arms to embrace us.

**Sunday, March 31, 2019**

Fourth Sunday in Lent

**Introduction to the day**

The psalm sets the tone this day: “Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!” Happy are those who have “become the righteousness of God” in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has “rolled away . . . the disgrace” of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus’ sake. Rejoice!

*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**

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

arr. Dale Wood

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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, ✚ one God,  
who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us,  
anoint us,  
and make us new.  
**Amen.**

In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin,  
and receive God's promise of mercy.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God at the margins,  
**We have wandered far from your home;  
again and again, we lose our way.  
We turn inward, afraid of the world around us.  
We forget that you have saved your people before  
and promise to do so again.  
Do not remember the deeds of our past,  
but turn our faces toward the future,  
where your forgiveness is sure,  
your welcome is clear,  
and your love overflows.  
Amen.**

Like a hen who gathers her chicks,  
God embraces you in tender care.  
Like manna in the desert,  
God feeds you with surprising mercy.  
Like a loving parent,  
God runs to meet you again this day,  
forgiving your sins for the sake of ✚ Christ,  
leading you from death into life.  
**Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

*ELW #338*

## 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



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
2 Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.  
1, 3 Lord, . . . . have mer - cy. Lord, . . . . have mer - cy.  
2 Christ, . . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . . have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy. Lord, . . . . have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . . have mer - cy.

Music: Dinah Reindorf, b. c. 1927  
Music © 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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: Joshua 5:9-12**

*By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.*

A reading from Joshua.

<sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

*One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.*

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

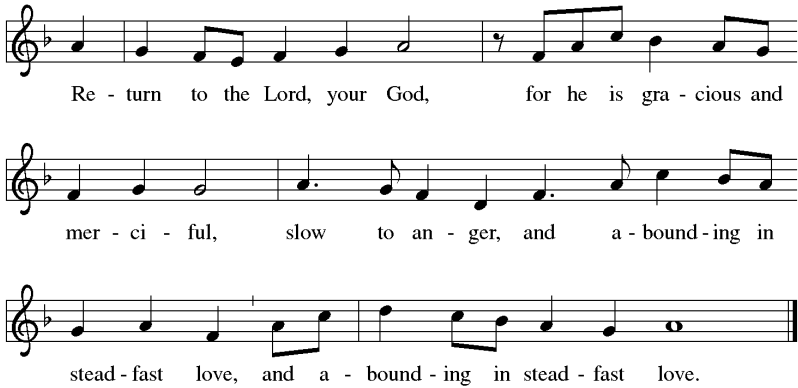
<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

*Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believed it was his obedience that earned his place in the father's home.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>“There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no



longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”<sup>19</sup> <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Our Father, We Have Wandered*

*The assembly is seated*

**ELW #606**

# HOLY BAPTISM

Name Here

*Parents: Justin Gary Brown & Emily Katherine Brown*

*Sponsors: Laura Gerstl Beukema and Daniel & Kelsey Boggs*

## 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.

*(sponsors say this)*

We present Henry Thomas Brown for baptism.

*To parents:*

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Henry 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 Henry grow in the Christian faith and life?

**I do.**

*To sponsors:*

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Henry 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 Henry 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

Henry Thomas Brown,  
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 Henry 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**

Henry Thomas Brown, 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**

Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and for all of 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:*

Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.      **And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated.*

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## **MEAL**

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

## **OFFERING**

“Didn’t My Lord Deliver Daniel”

(arr. Patterson)

Chancel Choir

# OFFERING RESPONSE

## Create in Me a Clean Heart

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B-flat4, and C5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a quarter note D5, followed by quarter notes C5, B-flat4, and A4. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment.

take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un-to me the

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B-flat4, and C5. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment.

joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The fourth system concludes the piece. The treble staff features a quarter note D5, followed by quarter notes C5, B-flat4, and A4. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment, ending with a double bar line.

Text: Psalm 51:10-12

Music: FRANCKE, J.A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739, arr. Harold W. Gilbert

Arr. © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Generous God,**

**you feed us with the harvest of the land,  
and you provide for our every need.**

**Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor,  
and transform them into a feast that welcomes all,  
in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest.**

**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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you. You led your people Israel through the desert and provided them water from the rock. We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world. Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

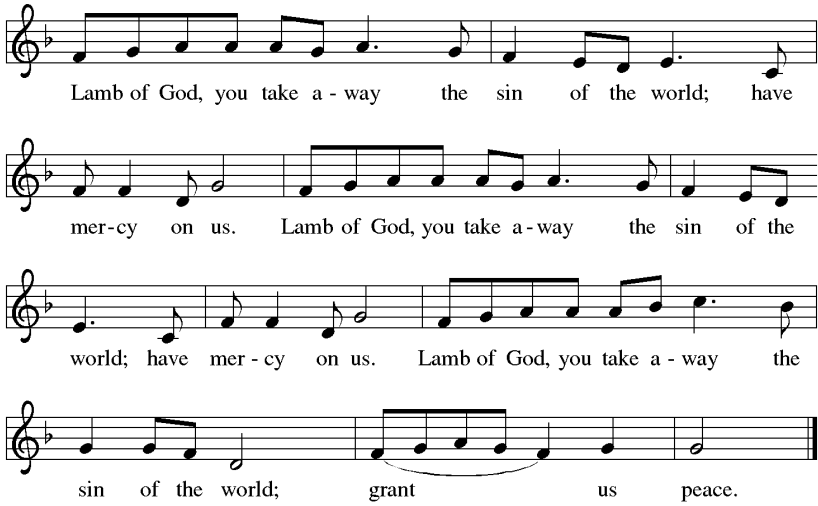
## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Christ has prepared the feast.  
Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

## **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.

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

***ELW #608***

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*Just As I Am, without One Plea*

***ELW #592***

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

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Tender and merciful one,  
at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing,  
turning our emptiness into joy.

Filled with your abundant grace,  
send us now to be ministers of reconciliation,  
mending broken hearts, working for justice,  
and striving for peace among all people,  
in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

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## SENDING

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

### BLESSING

God, who fills the creation with abundance,  
Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness,  
Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us,  
✠ bless you and bring you to life everlasting.  
**Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

***ELW #666***

### DISMISSAL

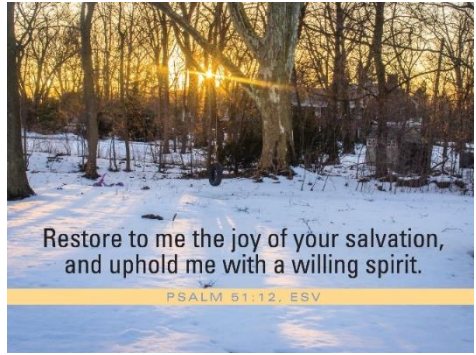
Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

“Voluntary In D minor”

John Stanley

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



Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with a willing spirit.

PSALM 51:12, ESV

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.**

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March 24 Attendance: 119

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Serving Faith	March 31	April 7
Acolyte	open	open
Altar Care	Tammy Heilman & Melinda Schultz Gail Barricklow & Linda Gerard	
Communion Assistants	open	open
	John McCracken	Gus Lulis
	Walter Kopf	Korine Warwrzynski
Greeters	Mark & Molly DeHate	Marla Holle
Readers	John McCracken	Gus Lulis
Lay Assistant	Walter Kopf	Korine Warwrzynski
Ushers	Doug & Linda Hirt	Walter & Brenda Kopf
Nursery	Marquards	Williams
Coffee Hosts	Bob & Phyllis Shorman	Gordon & Judy Tuthill

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**Altar Flower Dedications:**

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**Sunday, March 31**

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Marla Holle's family in celebration of her upcoming birthday.

*Altar Flowers are provided by Al-Lins of Okemos*

## LENTEN/EASTER SCHEDULE

### Weekly Wednesday Night Soup Suppers and Lenten Services

We will hold weekly Lenten services at Faith Lutheran. We will worship as we sing the music of Holden Evening Prayer and experience the poems and reflections of *Forty Days: A Journey Through the Desert of Lent*.

### Wednesday Eve Schedule 3/13-4/10 No Dinner/Classes on 4/3

5:30-6:00	Joyful Noise Rehearsal
5:45-7:00	Dinner is Served
6:15-7:00	Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:30-7:05	Pk/Trinity/Confirmation and Adult Classes
7:15-7:45	Lenten Service
7:45-8:15	Cantata Rehearsal
8:15-9:00	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Palm Sunday - Sunday, April 14

10:00 AM Service at Faith Lutheran Church

*This service marks the beginning of Holy Week. Be present to discover your own rootedness in the drama which is Christ's passion, a drama that has no audience. As we begin this holiest of weeks, this is a drama in which we are participants. Come and allow the Passion story to embrace you, name you, shape your very being and become your story!*

### Maundy Thursday Service – April 18

7:00 PM Service at Faith Lutheran

*Jesus is making his journey to the cross. That journey includes time with the disciples at that upper room meal where Jesus gives us a new commandment and greets us with his very life and blood. Be present in the quiet as the altar is stripped and we follow Jesus' journey to Gethsemane.*

### Good Friday Services – April 19

12:00 Noon Service at Okemos Community Church

*This will be a combined service with the following churches participating: Okemos Presbyterian, Okemos Community, Faith Lutheran and Haslett Community Church. A joint choir will be singing at this service and the offering taken at this service will go to the local area food banks.*

*Okemos Community Church: 4734 Okemos Rd, Okemos*

7:00 PM Service at Faith Lutheran Church

*Members of St. Paul Lutheran Church will join us for this service as the combined choirs sing *Once Upon a Tree*, a musical version of Luke's account of Jesus' passion. Join us for this deeply meaningful experience.*

### Easter Service - Sunday, April 21

10:00 AM Easter Worship

*Come, rejoice with us in worship as we celebrate Christ's resurrection. Our alleluias will again be proclaimed as we share the joy of the Risen Christ.*