

# Faith Lutheran Church

May 26, 2019



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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.

## Just Listen

“Peace I leave with you” (John 14:27). If there were no other reason to love Jesus, if there were no other reason to want to be near him, if there were no other reason to think him divine, this would be enough.

Jesus is going away, and his friends and followers are afraid. They feel lost, adrift. They don’t know what they will do without him. They want to keep him near so they can hear his voice and feel the touch of his hand. But soon these opportunities will be lost to them.

Jesus speaks to their troubled hearts and to ours: *Peace*. So listen. Let all other voices be silenced. Turn from everything that distracts you from the voice of Jesus. Listen to one word: *Peace*.

Peace to the troubled places in your heart. Peace to the sadness and sorrow you carry. Peace to the anxieties you have about your life and future. Peace to the guilt or shame or regrets you bear.

Listen to the voice of the one who has gone all the way down into death and brought back nothing but life and grace, love and joy. Listen, for he tells you that the God of all creation—the one who formed you—wants this one thing for you: *Peace*.

You are not condemned. You are not rejected. You are not abandoned. The things you fear can and will hurt you, but they will never snatch you from the love that holds you in eternal hands. Not now. Not ever.

Jesus goes away, but he comes back to us. His Spirit abides in us, with us, among us. Always. He is as real as the person sitting next to you, as physically present as the bread and wine of the holy meal, and as warm as the hearts and hands of those soon to greet you with the word your heart craves: *Peace*.

**Sunday, May 26, 2019**  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

**Introduction to the day**

Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. The risen Lord Jesus provides visions of peace that passes human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

*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**

“Come Down, O Love Divine” (Hymn 804)      arr. Michael Burkhardt

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## GATHERING

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

*The assembly stands*

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, O Living One,  
for you have created all, and you water the earth abundantly.  
Oceans and aquifers praise you. Rivers and streams bless you.

All life is sustained by you, our Source.  
We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead,  
who frees us from sin and raises us up to new life.  
Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life,  
bright as crystal, flowing through the city of God.  
Here, death is washed away forever.  
Here, we are grafted into the tree of life,  
with leaves for the healing of the world.  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on this assembly,  
into this community, and throughout all creation.  
Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions.  
Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### GATHERING SONG

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

***ELW #705***

## 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



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



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.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



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



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



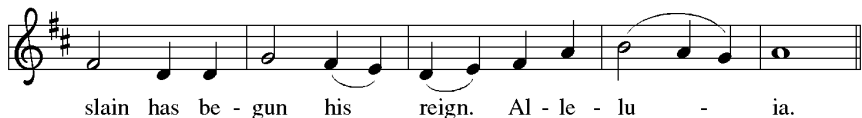
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 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, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, 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: Acts 16:9-15**

*A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.*

A reading from Acts.

<sup>9</sup>During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” <sup>10</sup>When he had seen the vision, he immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

<sup>11</sup>We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup>and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. <sup>13</sup>On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup>A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup>When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## **SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10, 22--22:5**

*John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplant sun and moon.*

A reading from Revelation.

<sup>10</sup>And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

<sup>22</sup>I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup>And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup>The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup>Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup>People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup>But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

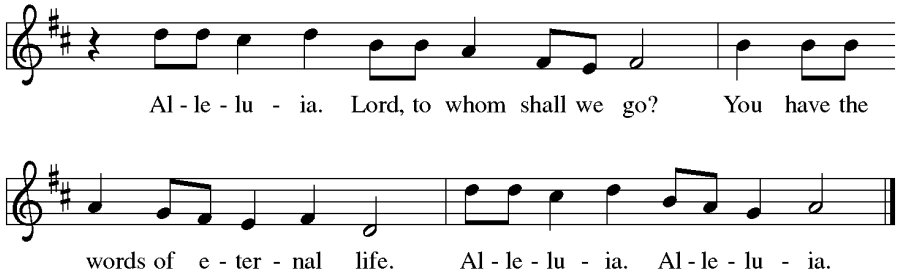
<sup>22:1</sup>Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup>through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup>they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

### **GOSPEL: John 14:23-29**

*As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>23</sup>Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. <sup>24</sup>Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

<sup>25</sup>“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup>You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup>And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

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

*The Risen Christ*

*ELW #390*

### CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting God’s promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation.

*Prayers of intercession are offered.  
To each petition, the assembly responds:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

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

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen 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.*

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## MEAL

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

## OFFERING

“Nostalgia”

Clarinetist, Michael Fox

Rafael Grimal

## Praise and Thanksgiving

1 Praise and thanks-giv-ing, God, we would of-fer for all things  
 2 God, bless the la-lor we bring to serve you, that with our  
 3 Fa-ther, pro-vid-ing food for your chil-dren, by Wis-dom's  
 4 Then will your bless-ing reach ev-'ry peo-ple, free-ly con-

liv-ing, you have made good: har-vest of sown fields, fruits of the  
 neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow-ing or till-ing, we would work  
 guid-ing teach us to share one with an-oth-er, so that, re-  
 fess-ing your gra-cious hand. Where you are reign-ing, no one will

or-chard, hay from the mown fields, blos-som and wood.  
 with you, har-vest-ing, mill-ing for dai-ly bread.  
 joic-ing with us, all oth-ers may know your care.  
 hun-ger; your love sus-tain-ing show-ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.  
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version  
 Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.  
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

*The assembly stands*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Risen One,

as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore,  
 meet us now in this meal.

Nourish us to follow you,  
 using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary,  
 and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

# GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

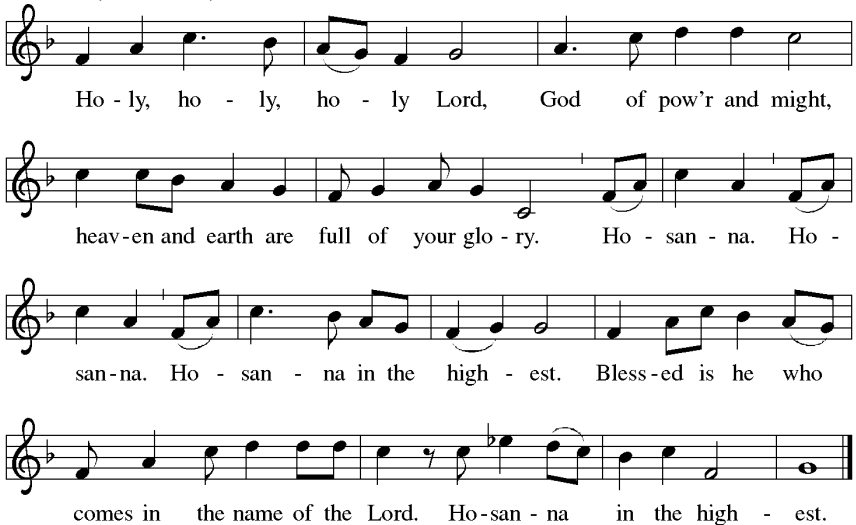
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

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,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.  
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



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, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness 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**

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead,  
gives everyone a place at the welcome table.  
Alleluia! Come to the feast.  
*The assembly is seated*

## **COMMUNION**

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
*and each person may respond*

Amen.



# LAMB OF GOD

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.

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“Six Studies in English Folk Songs” Nos. 1-4, Ralph Vaughn-Williams  
Clarinetist, Michael Fox

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

**ELW #815**

*The assembly stands*

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

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Living God,

you have greeted us in our brokenness

and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us.

Risen to new life with you,

send us now to bear your healing love

into the wounded world,

in the name of our risen Savior and Lord. **Amen**

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## SENDING

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

### BLESSING

The blessing of the living God,  
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
surround and sustain you,  
keep you from harm,  
and fill you with courage.  
**Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

*Before You, Lord, We Bow*

***ELW #893***

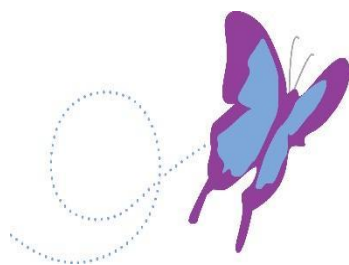
### DISMISSAL

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.  
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

### POSTLUDE

“The Risen Christ”

arr. J. Wayne Kerr



Today is the deadline to order your butterflies for the June 16<sup>th</sup> release in our butterfly garden. Please put your order form in the church office or Katie Love's church mailbox. The order form is available in the back of this bulletin or on the counter in the Narthex.



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.**

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May 19 Attendance: 107

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Serving Faith	May 26	June 2
Acolyte	open	Austin Jones
Altar Care	Diane Hill & Elaine Harrison	
		Diane Hill and Tammy Heilman
Communion Assistants	open	Austin Jones
	Elaine Harrison	Elaine Harrison
	Bob Shorman	Bob Shorman
Greeters	Marla Holle	Bob Scholle
Readers	Elaine Harrison	Warren Heilman
Lay Assistant	Bob Shorman	Dane Webb
Ushers	Walter & Brenda Kopf	Jon & Elaine Harrison
Nursery	Williams Family	Jennifer Coe
Coffee Hosts	Walter & Brenda Kopf	open

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**Altar Flower Dedications:**

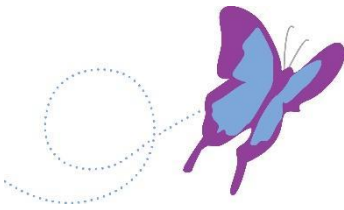
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**Sunday, May 26**

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by...

Vase 1: Karen & Ken Whitmyer in celebration of Brielle Bower's 16<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Vase 2: Ken & Ellen Schoepf to the glory of God.



## **Butterflies For Sale!**

**On Sunday, June 16**, we will be releasing live butterflies outside by our Butterfly Garden. Butterflies are the symbol of new life. And, as we

celebrate the Pentecost season and the beginning of summer activities, we will be releasing painted lady butterflies to celebrate God’s gift of creation. The Green Team is inviting you to order a butterfly for \$12.00.

Following worship on June 16, you will be given your butterfly to release by our garden. This project is a Green Team fundraiser. A portion of the money earned from these butterfly sales will go to help with the purchase of new windows in our Parish House. Place your butterfly order by using the form below and turn it into the church office. ***All orders must be received by Sunday, May 26!***

### **Green Team Butterfly Order Form** **Order Deadline: Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Quantity**

**Total Cost (\$12/each)**

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church.

Please put “Butterflies” in the memo line.

Place this form in Katie Love’s mailbox or the church office.