

November 24, 2019

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620

Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost

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

Pastor:..... Ellen Schoepf
Music Director:.....Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist:.....Bruce Williams
Church Secretary:..... Katie Love
High School Leaders:Kim O’Brien, Ryan & Addie Thompson
Pastor’s email:.....prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Church email:.....faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
Website:.....www.faithlutheranokemos.org
Facebook Page:.....facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

Aids for hearing, children’s activity bulletins, and large print bulletins are available from the ushers.



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.

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.

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

*Ushers: Bowers/Whitmyer
Greeter: Mike Eschelbach
Altar Care: Brenda Kopf & Cecelia Kramer
Acolyte: Maude Lewis
Reader: Natalie Dingledine
Lay Assistant: Dane Webb
Nursery: O'Briens
Coffee Hour Hosts: Warren & Tammy Heilman*

*We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.
Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.*

Bi-Weekly Announcement packets are available in the Narthex.
Prayer requests and praises are listed in the announcement packets.

Introduction to the day

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears so utterly contradictory that the king should be crucified with the criminal. This victory appears for all the world as ignominious defeat. Yet through the gate of death our Lord opens the door to paradise.

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Requests

Prelude

“Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

arr. Michael Burkhardt

GATHERING

The Assembly Stands

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
healer of our every ill,
source of unending mercy.

Amen.

Embraced in enduring grace and good hope,
let us turn again to God,
confessing the truth about ourselves.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

we come before you, beloved but broken.

**We have not always treated others
as we would want them to treat us.**

We have not always called out injustice and abuse.

We have not always been kind to ourselves.

**We have not always taken care of the world
we share with other living creatures.**

Remind us of who we are,

beloved children bathed in your love.

**Renew us by your Spirit to live as your holy people,
bringing healing to the brokenness around us.**

Amen.

At every moment
you are held in existence by the love of God,
renewed by the Spirit within and among you,
and made alive again in Christ.

Receive this assurance in Jesus' name:

you are ✝️ forgiven and freed
to live for the healing of the world.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

ELW #865

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

Assisting minister



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

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



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

Refrain



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



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



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

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, 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.

WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Reader: Natalie Dingedine

Today's reading builds on the common ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, the Lord will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

A reading from Jeremiah.

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

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will

be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Colossians 1:11-20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

A reading from Colossians.

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

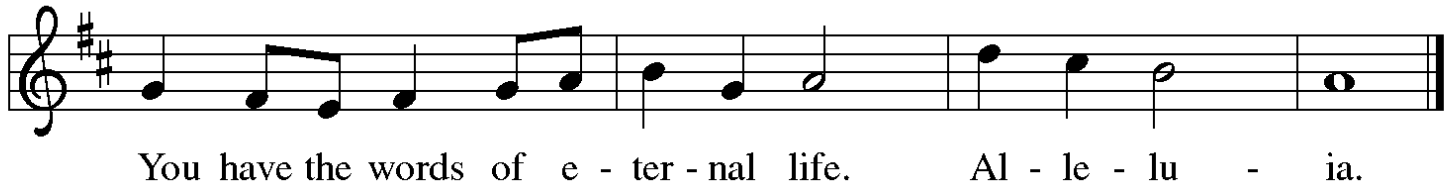
¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

³⁴[[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"

³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine,

³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

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

O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us

ELW #431

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

United with the saints of every time and place, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's 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:

Rejoicing in hope, we lift our prayers to you, most gracious Lord, trusting that you have received them in your care.

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

OFFERING

"Hosanna to the King"

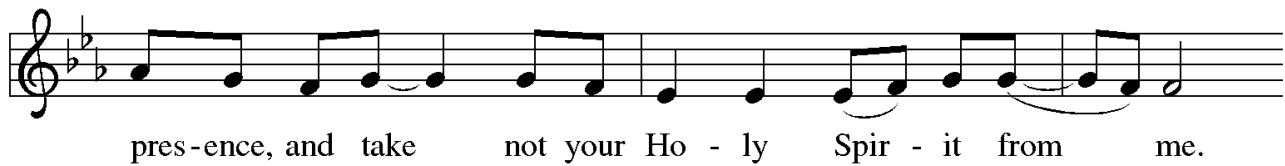
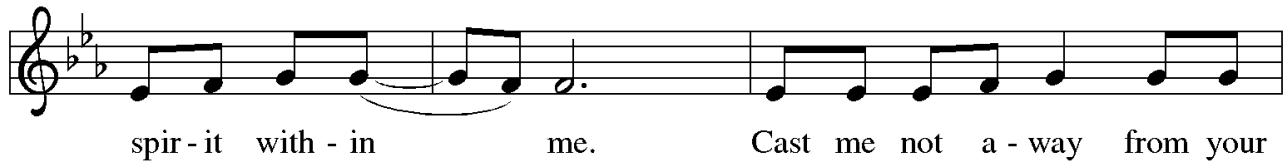
(Courtney)

Chancel Choir

Ryan Thompson, solo; Addie Thompson, drums; Rich Weingartner, tambourine

OFFERING RESPONSE

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our creator,
you give us all we are, all we have,
all we bring, and all we need.

Draw us together around your table with all your saints
on earth and in your eternal home.

Let us eat and drink your promise of new life,
that we might be your promise to the world,
spoken in Jesus' name.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

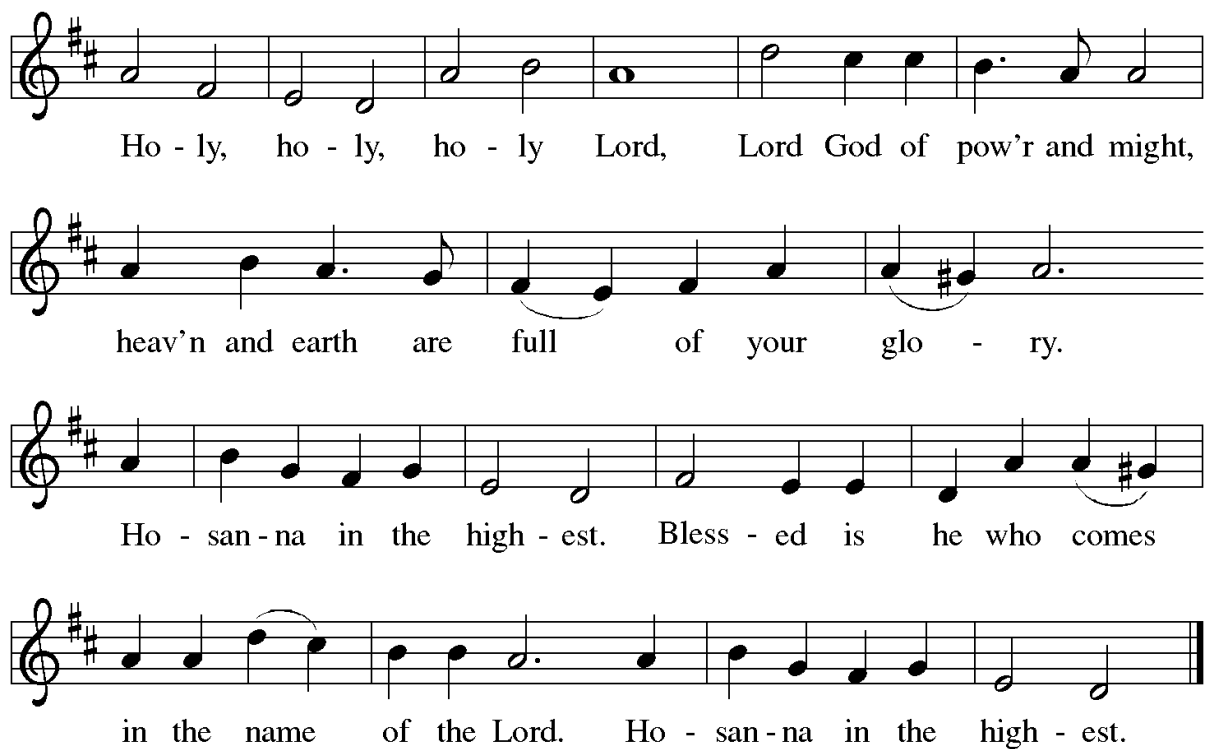
We lift them to the Lord.

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;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n 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

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: surrounded by evil and bordered by death we appeal to you, our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge. We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace and promised an end to injustice and harm.

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, the sacrifice of his life and death and the victory of his resurrection, we await with all the saints his loving redemption of our suffering world.

Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son: teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in Christ.

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

Amen

THE LORDS 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 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.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Eb
Bb/D Eb
Ab/C Bb⁷/D Eb
Bb/D Eb
Ab/C Bb
Eb
Bb

1 There is a Re - deem - er, Je - sus, God's own Son,
 2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, name a - bove all names,
 3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see his face;

Eb
Bb/D Eb
Ab
Eb/G
Fm⁷
Bb⁷ sus
Eb
Ab/Bb

pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah, Ho - ly One.
 pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah, hope for sin - ners slain.
 there I'll serve my king for - ev - er, in that ho - ly place.

Refrain

Ebsus² Eb
Gm⁷ Ab
Eb/G
Fm
Ab/Bb Bb⁷
Eb
Bb⁷ sus Bb⁷

Thank you, O my Fa - ther, for giv - ing us your Son and

Eb
Bb/D Eb
Ab/C Eb/Bb Ab
Fm⁷
Bb⁷ sus Bb⁷
Eb

send - ing your Spir - it till the work on earth is done.

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CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Beautiful Savior

ELW #838

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.

We thank you, God our host,
for inviting us here to taste the future
when you will feed all the hungry at your table.
Keep this hope alive in us and in our communities,
so that we might bring hope to a suffering world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Signed and sealed by the Holy Spirit,
you are Christ's message of love for this troubled world,
written by the same Sender.

May our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father,
who loved us and through grace gave us
eternal comfort and good hope,

✝ comfort your hearts and strengthen them
in every good work and word.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Jesus Shall Reign

ELW #434

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Set your hope on Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Jesus Shall Reign”

arr. Benjamin Culli, Raymond Haan

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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November 17, 2019 Attendance: 96

Serving Faith December 1

Ushers: Jim & Peggy Crum

Greeter: Lois Neves

Altar Care: Karen Whitmyer, Heidi Bowers & Brielle Bowers

Acolyte: Paige Lewis

Reader: John Harrison

Lay Assistant: Tara Williams

Nursery: Brenda Kopf

Coffee Hour Hosts: Karl & Brigitta Bruning

Altar Flower Dedications

Sunday, November 24th

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

Vase 1: Gatis & Mara Lusia in memory of Ariana Mae Lusia, their granddaughter.

Vase 2: Becca, Katy, Austin, Ciara and Grayson in celebration of Walter & Brenda

Kopf's 36th wedding anniversary.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



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