



**February 2, 2020**

## **FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

### **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

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](mailto:prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org)  
Church email:.....[faith@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:faith@faithlutheranokemos.org)  
Website:.....[www.faithlutheranokemos.org](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org)  
Facebook Page:.....[facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos](https://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: Jeff & Melinda Schultz  
Greeter: Bill & Pam Williams  
Altar Care: Peggy Crum & Marla Holle  
Acolyte: Serena Ngasala  
Reader: John McCracken  
Lay Assistant: Dane Webb  
Nursery: Melinda & Lauren Schultz  
Coffee Hour Hosts: O'Brien family  
Sunday School Teacher: Elizabeth Edberg*

*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**

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

## Welcome and Announcements

### Prayer Requests

#### Prelude

“Canzonet No. 1”

Raymond Haan

### 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,  
the eternal voice from heaven,  
the anointed and beloved one,  
the Spirit moving over the waters.

**Amen.**

As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession,  
trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God who searches us and knows us,  
**you have shown us what is good,**  
**but we have looked to other lights to find our way.**  
**We have not been just in our dealings with others.**  
**We have chosen revenge over mercy.**  
**We have promoted ourselves**  
**instead of walking humbly with you.**  
**With what shall we come before you?**  
Forgive us our sin,  
and show us your salvation  
in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior.  
**Amen.**

Beloved of God,  
you have not received the spirit of the world,  
but the Spirit that is from God,  
poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.  
Receive the promise of baptism:  
You are God's child; ✝ your sins are forgiven.  
Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven.  
**Amen.**

## **GATHERING SONG**

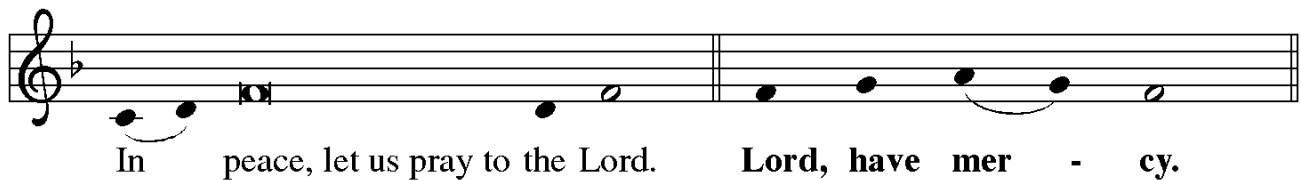
*Rejoice in God's Saints*

*ELW #418*

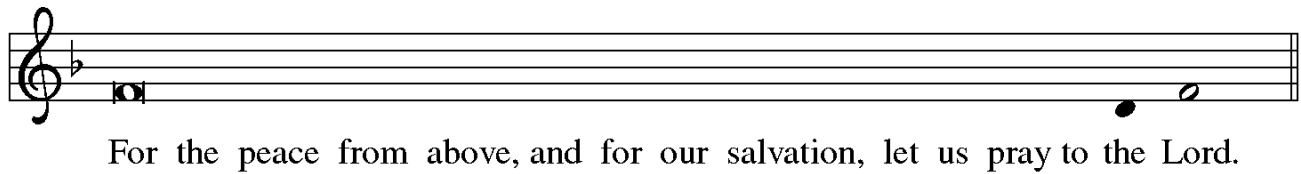
## **GREETING**

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.**

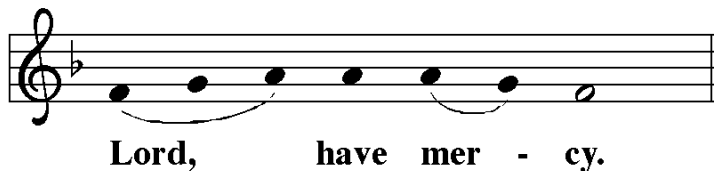
# KYRIE



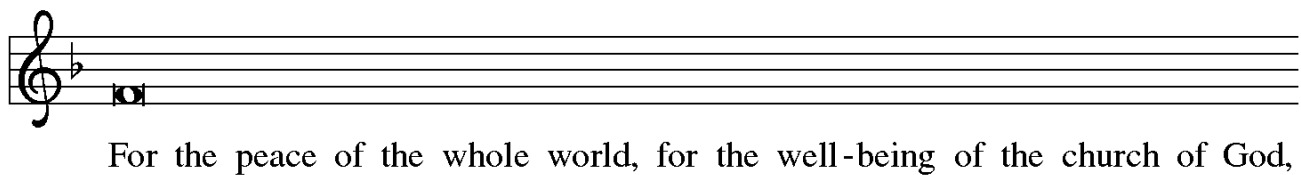
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



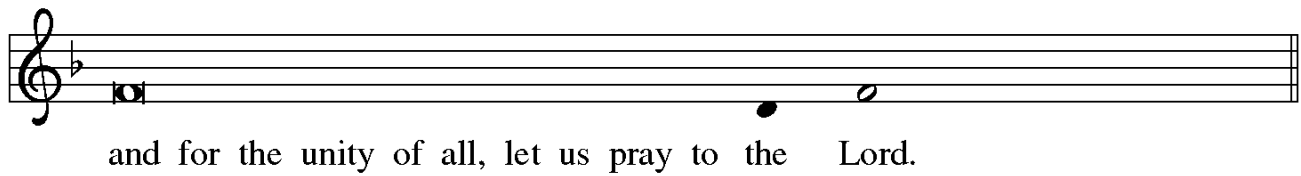
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



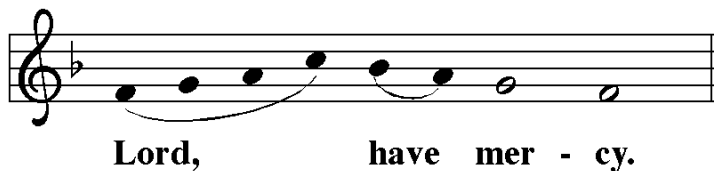
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



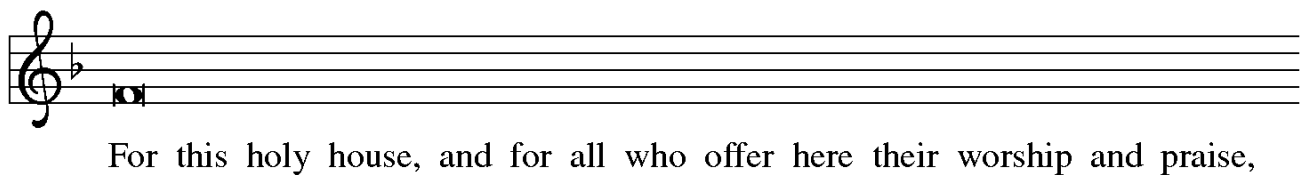
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



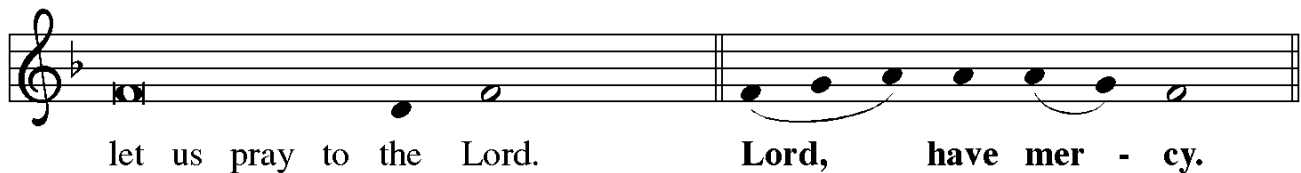
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



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.

*Refrain*



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

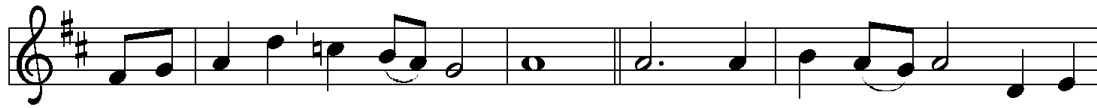


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



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.

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Micah 6:1-8****Reader: John McCracken**

*With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has “wearied” Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God’s service.*

A reading from Micah.

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>“O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup>“With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,



with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

*According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.*

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

<sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's

foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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: Matthew 5:1-12**

*Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.*

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

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

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**

***Blest are They***

***ELW #728***

Vs. 1 choir only  
Vs. 2-5 congregation & choir

## INSTALLATION OF LEADERS IN THE CONGREGATION

*The assembly is seated. The presiding minister addresses the assembly and invites those serving on Council & as committee chairs to come forward.*

The following people have been *elected* by the congregation to positions of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these *sisters and brothers* will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

*The offices and names of those who are to be installed are read by a representative of the congregation. The presiding minister addresses those being installed.*

*A reading from First Corinthians:*

There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (*1 Corinthians 12:4-7*)

*The presiding minister continues.*

You have been *elected* to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation. You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are called to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God. You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

*The presiding minister addresses those being installed.*

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been *elected*?

All Officers / Council Members: **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

*The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your *elected* leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

**Congregation: We will, and we ask God to help us.**

*Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.*

I now declare you installed as *officers / council members* of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ. **Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting that God hears us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those 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:*

Confident that you are able to accomplish more than we even dare to ask, we bring these prayers before you, believing in your saving grace revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

## **MEAL**

## **OFFERING**

Offertory (based on Micah 6: 5-8)

(Beck)

Chancel Choir

OFFERING RESPONSE

# 592 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH LM

Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709

Genevan Psalter, 1551

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise \*Him, all creatures

here below; Praise \*Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of wonder,  
you formed us in our mother's womb,  
and from mother earth you bring forth this bread and wine.  
We place them on your table,  
together with our lives and all that you have made.  
Open the heavens to us and pour out your Spirit.  
We wait for your mercy;  
we long for your peace;  
we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ,  
our banquet of life.  
**Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

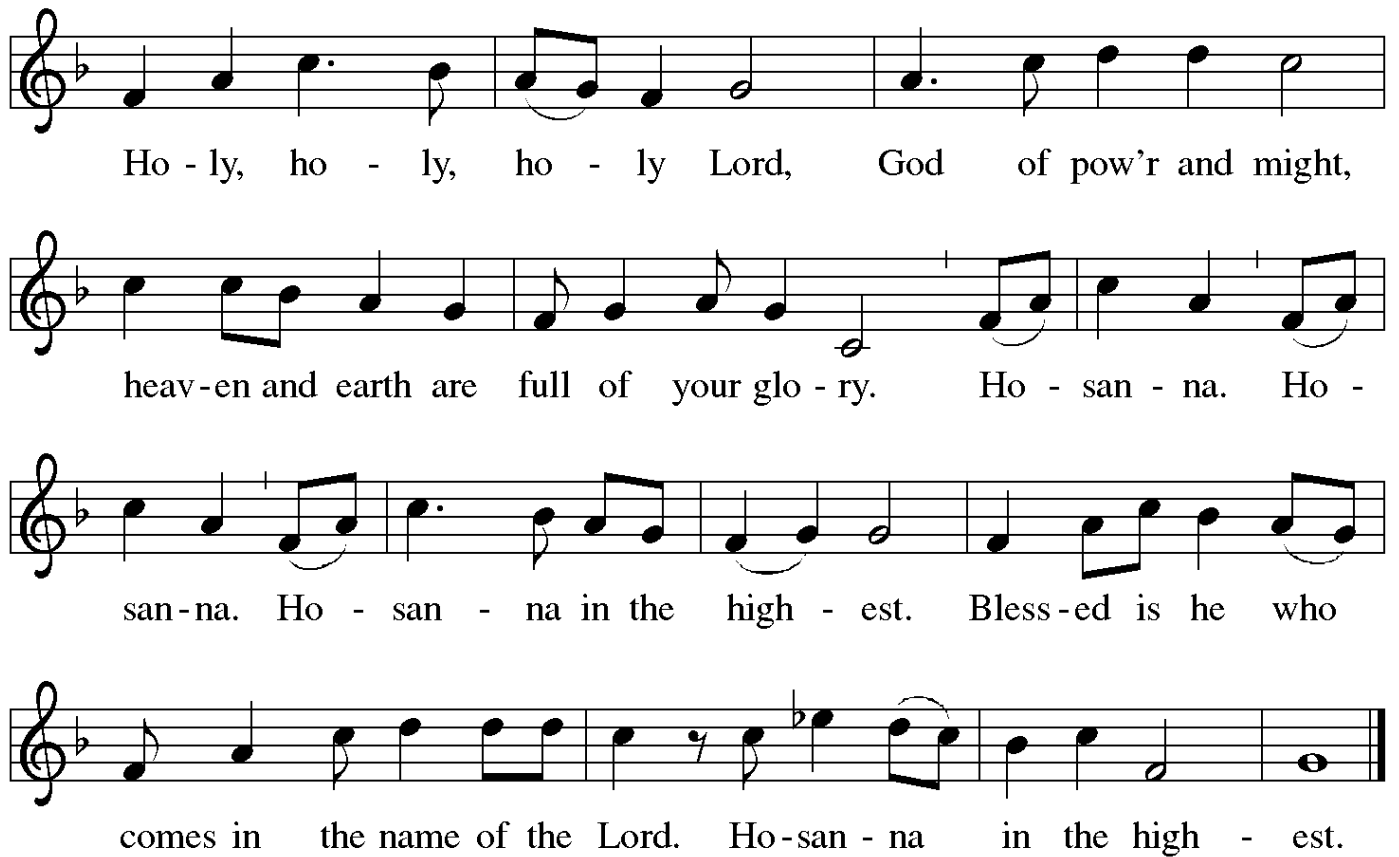
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**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, 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

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.  
 By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you  
 called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our  
 darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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 preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

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

**Amen**

### **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**

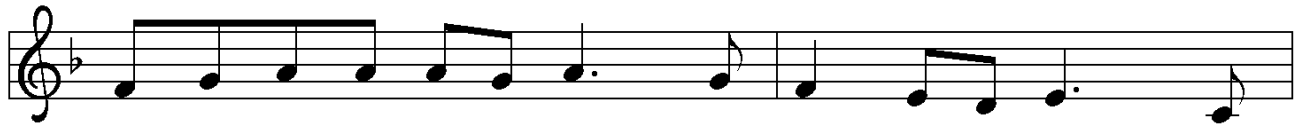
Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

### **COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

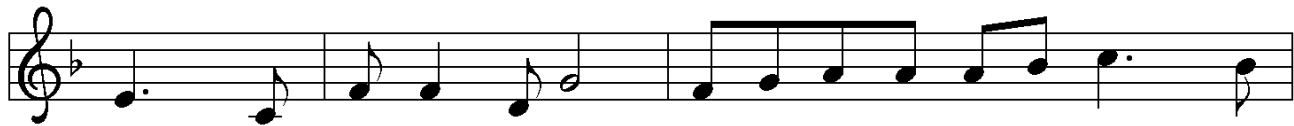
## COMMUNION SONG



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.

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*Let Justice Flow like Streams*

**ELW #717**

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*O God of Mercy, God of Light*

**ELW #714**

*The assembly stands.*

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

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Faithful God,  
you have kept your promise to us in this meal,  
nourishing us with the gift of salvation.  
Now send your servants forth in peace,  
that we may testify to your goodness  
and share the hope that is ours  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

May Christ, the wisdom and power of God,  
and the source of our life together,  
keep you united in mind and purpose.  
And the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be with you always.  
**Amen.**

### **SENDING SONG**

***We Are Called***

***ELW #720***

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Let your light shine.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

***“Sortie in F Major”***

**Cesar Franck**



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January 26, 2020 Morning Attendance: 98  
6:00 p.m. Attendance: 22

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***Serving Faith February 9***

*Ushers: Kadrofske Family*

*Greeters: Mike Eschelbach*

*Altar Care: Peggy Crum & Marla Holle*

*Acolyte: Rachael Ngasala*

*Reader: Jack Dingedine*

*Lay Assistant: Walter Kopf*

*Nursery: Marquardts*

*Coffee Hour Hosts: open*

*Sunday School Teacher: Sheila Urban-Smith*

***Altar Flower Dedications***

***Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>:***

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Walter, Brenda, Becca, Katy, Ciara and Amy in celebration of Austin's 12<sup>th</sup> birthday.*

# Faith Lutheran Church

## Church Council

President.....	Ryan Thompson
Vice President.....	Tula Ngasala
Secretary.....	Molly DeHate
Treasurer.....	Gwynne Kadrofske
Financial Secretary.....	Jon Harrison
Member at Large.....	Judy Tuthill
Member at Large.....	Beth Belonga
Past President.....	Paul Hereza

## Standing Committee Chairs

Christian Education Committee.....	Judy Tuthill
Stewardship Committee.....	Paul Hereza
Mutual Ministry.....	Linda Hirt
Membership Development.....	Emily Brown & Mike Eschelbach
Worship Committee.....	Diane Hill
Caring Committee.....	Lois Neves & Pam Williams
Evangelism & Outreach.....	Ellen Lewis & Brenda Kopf
Human Resources Committee.....	Lori Haven
Technology Committee.....	Chris Lewis
Property Committee.....	Bob Nelson & Rick Baderstadt

## Special Committee Chairs

RIC.....	Rich Weingartner
Green Team.....	Jack & Natalie Dingledine
Parish House Refugee Project.....	Laurie Hereza



**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](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