

**September 6, 2020  
ONLINE WORSHIP**

# **FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

## **14<sup>th</sup> 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: ..... 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)

## **Introduction to the day**

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

## PRELUDE

“Canzonet III”

Raymond Haan

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Faithful God,

**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we are captive to sin  
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace  
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another  
before examining ourselves.**

**We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.**

**We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.**

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,  
and turn us again to life in you**

**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,  
and through his death and resurrection,  
Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness  
to do God’s work in the world.

**Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG

## Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as  
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers  
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time  
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll  
5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as

Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to  
on the road; we are here to help each oth - er  
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,  
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row  
Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my ser - vant, too.  
walk the mile and bear the load.  
speak the peace you long to hear.  
till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
let you be my ser - vant, too.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953  
Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928  
Text and music © 1977 Scripture In Song, c/o Integrity's Hosanna Music (ASCAP),  
c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

*God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.*

A reading from Ezekiel.

<sup>7</sup>So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me.

<sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

<sup>10</sup>Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" <sup>11</sup>Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked

turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways;  
for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **NEW TESTAMENT READING: Romans 13:8-14**

*The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.*

A reading from Romans.

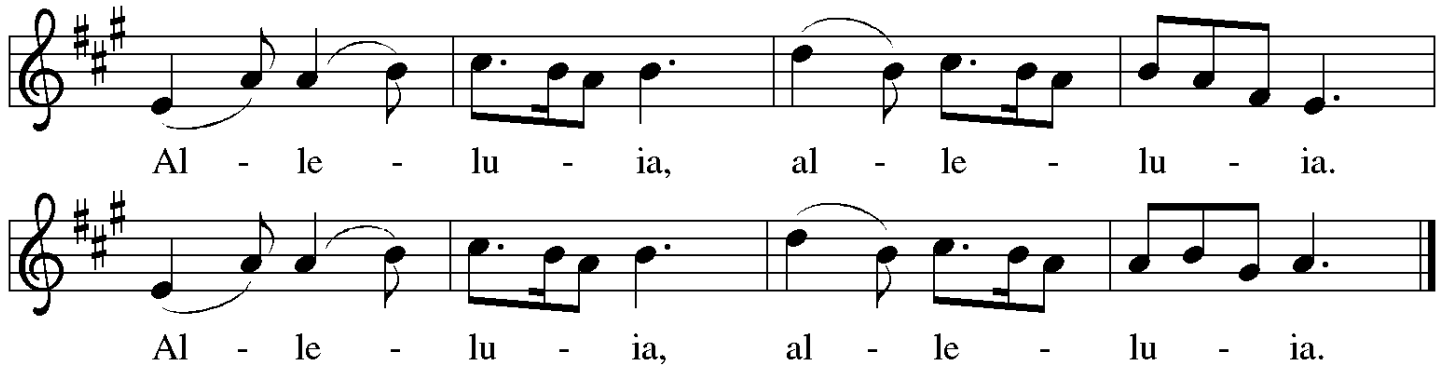
<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia*



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

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

*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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## GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

*Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.*

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

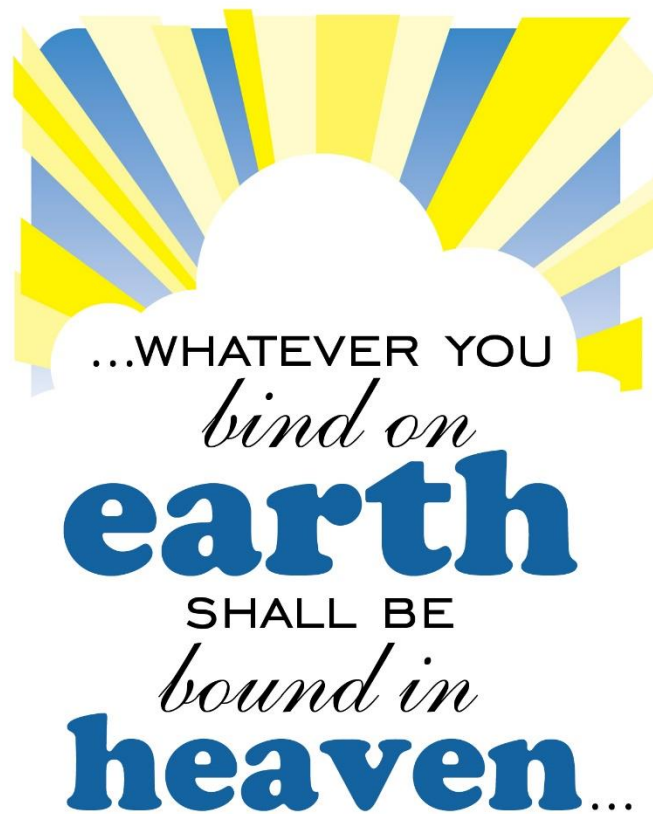
[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup>But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be

bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**



MATTHEW 18:18, ESV

748

Bind Us Together

*Refrain*  
F Dm Gm

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that

C<sup>7</sup> F F

can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,

Dm Gm C F

bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.

F C<sup>7</sup> F F C<sup>7</sup> F

1 There . . is on - ly one God. There . . is on - ly one King.  
2 You are the fam-'ly of God. You are the prom-ise di - vine.

F C<sup>7</sup> F F C<sup>7</sup> F B<sup>b</sup>/C *Refrain*

There . . is on - ly one Bod-y; that . . is why we can sing;  
You are God's cho-sen de - sire, you are the glo-rious new wine.



## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we 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:*

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

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

## **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. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. 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

### Holy, Holy, Holy Lord



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: LAND OF REST, American folk tune  
Text: "Sanctus," tr. English Language Liturgical Consultation

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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. **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**

"Majesty"

(Hayford, arr. Wagner)

Addie Thompson and Deb Borton-McDonough, handbells

***Communion*** – *Communion is shared among us in people's homes*

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 give you thanks, gracious God,  
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,  
the body and blood of Christ.

Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,  
into your beloved vineyard  
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,  
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ  
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

Mothering God,

Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

**Amen.**

# SENDING SONG

## O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of  
2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to  
3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our  
4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our

life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -  
feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -  
chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you  
mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -

parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.  
head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.  
turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.  
way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt.  
Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

arr. Michael Burkhardt

### Offerings

#### 8/23

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Loose Cash       | \$ 79.00          |
| Loose Checks     | \$ 20.00          |
| Caring Committee | \$ 100.00         |
| General Fund     | <u>\$ 1345.00</u> |
| Subtotal         | \$ 1544.00        |
| Simply Giving    |                   |
| General          | \$ 2820.00        |
| Building         | <u>\$ 75.00</u>   |
|                  | <b>\$ 4439.00</b> |

#### 8/30

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Loose Cash         | \$ 43.00          |
| General Fund       | \$ 2430.00        |
| Breakfast Bags     | \$ 75.00          |
| Disaster Relief    | \$ 100.00         |
| Relief Health Kits | \$ 25.00          |
| Subtotal           | \$ 2673.00        |
| Simply Giving      |                   |
| General            | <u>\$ 535.00</u>  |
|                    | <b>\$3,208.00</b> |

If you have the ability to support the church's work during this time please do so as you normally would. You can mail your check to Faith Lutheran, 4515 Dobie Road, Okemos MI 48864 or consider signing up for "Simply Giving", our online offering tool. Contact [jon.harrison@comcast.net](mailto:jon.harrison@comcast.net) for more information on how to sign up.

Our commitments to the greater Okemos community and beyond and more important than ever and we will need your help to meet this challenge.