



"Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do."  
Mark 1:38, NRSV

**February 7, 2021  
 ONLINE WORSHIP**

# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

## 5<sup>th</sup> 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: ..... 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

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (*diakonia*). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

## PRELUDE

"We Come to the Hungry Feast"

*Extracted from worship 2/16/2020*

arr. David Cherwien

## **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, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**you search us and know us.**

**You are acquainted with all our ways.**

**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—  
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**

**We turn inward, failing to follow  
your outward way of love.**

**We distrust those who are not like us.**

**We exploit the earth and its resources  
and fail to consider generations to come.**

**Forgive us, gracious God,  
for all we have done and left undone.**

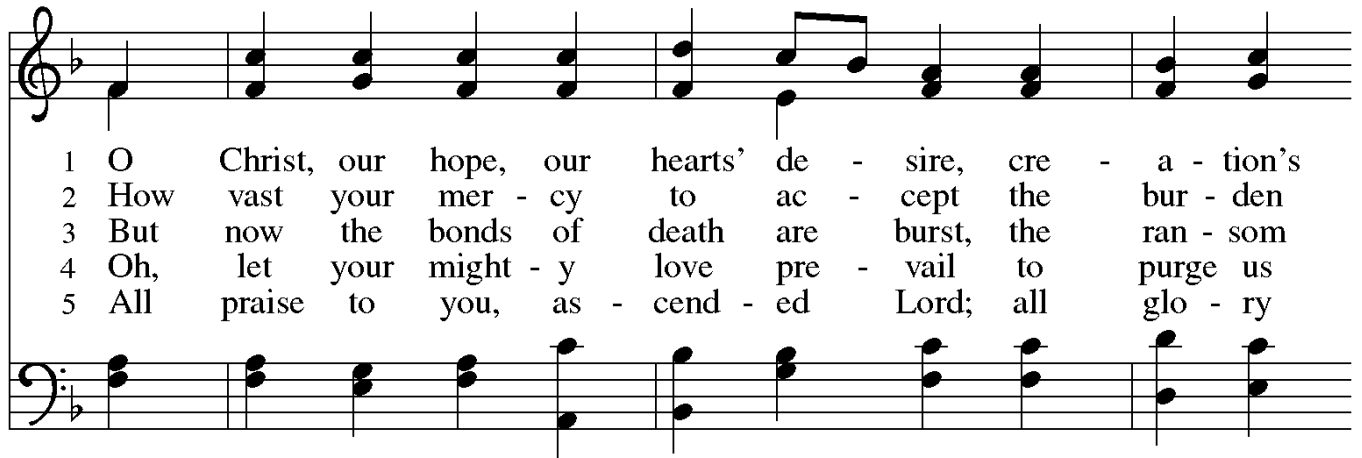
**Even before the words are on our tongues,  
you know them;  
receive them in your divine mercy.**

**Amen.**

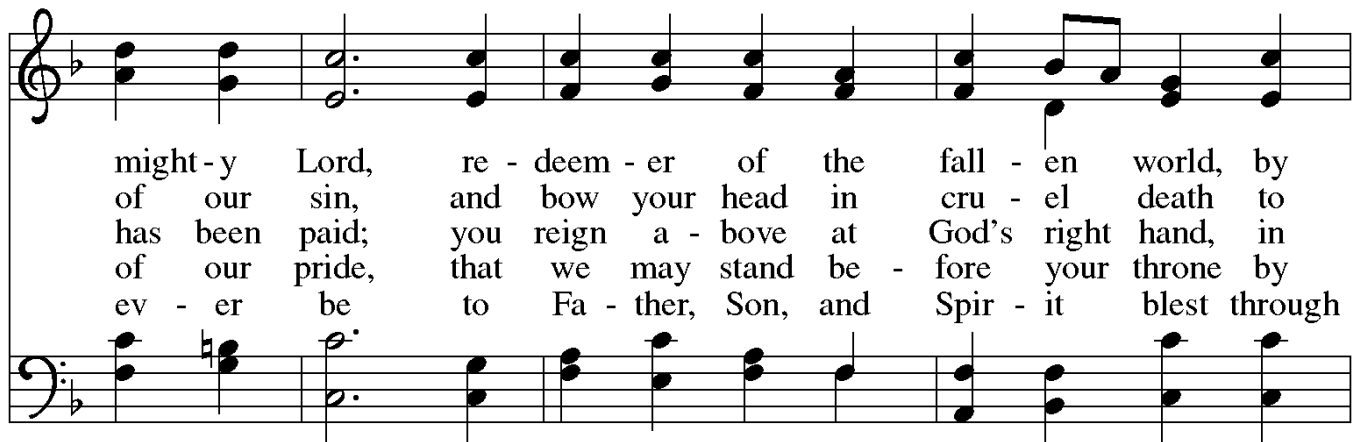
How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of ✝ Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

**Amen.**

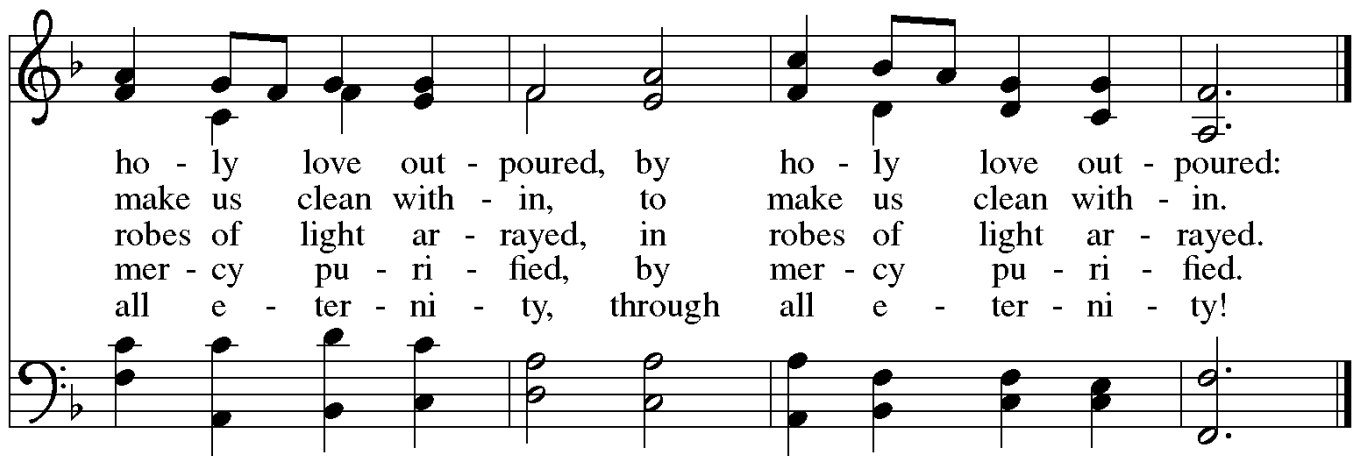
## O Christ, Our Hope



1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's  
 2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den  
 3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som  
 4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us  
 5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry



might - y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by  
 of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to  
 has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in  
 of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by  
 ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through



ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:  
 make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.  
 robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.  
 mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.  
 all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, adapt.

Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

## **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.

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 40:21-31**

*The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.*

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>21</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
Has it not been told you from the beginning?  
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

<sup>22</sup>It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,  
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;  
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,  
and spreads them like a tent to live in;

<sup>23</sup>who brings princes to naught,  
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

<sup>24</sup>Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,  
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,  
when he blows upon them, and they wither,  
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

<sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me,  
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

<sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,  
calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength,

mighty in power,

not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob,

and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,

and my right is disregarded by my God”?

<sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint,

and strengthens the powerless.

<sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary,

and the young will fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,

they shall walk and not faint.

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

## NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

*God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.*

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

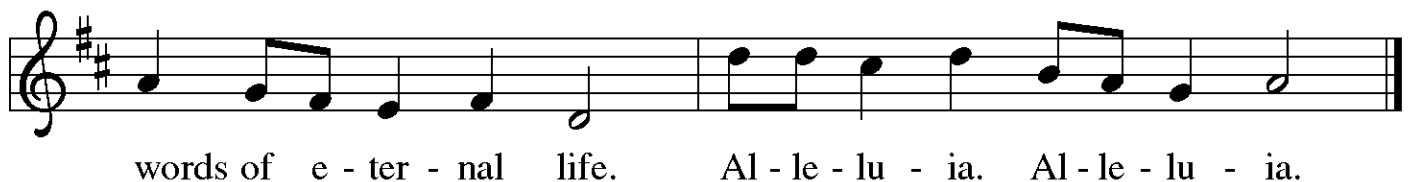
<sup>16</sup>If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel!

<sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. <sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup>To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. <sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



## **GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39**

*Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

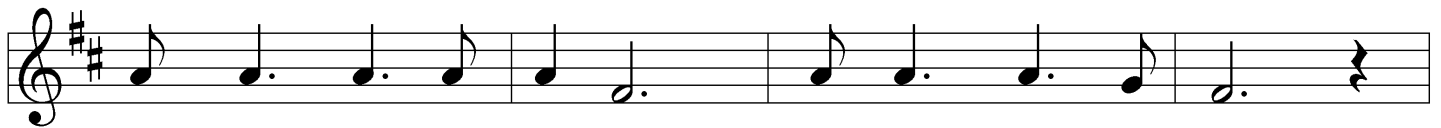
<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **SERMON**

# What Have We to Offer?



1 What have we to of - fer?      What have we to share?  
 2 What have we to of - fer?      What have we to bring?  
 3 What have we to of - fer?      What have we to give?



Coins from the cof - fer,      hearts filled with care.  
 Love, ripe with laugh - ter;      hope that we can sing;  
 Eyes that are wide o - pen;      lies that we won't live;



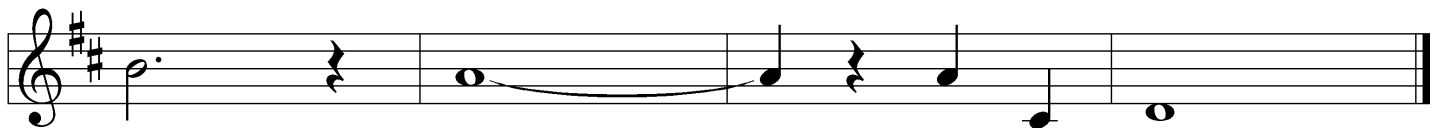
God will not fal - ter;      so let us dare  
 dreams of what we're af - ter;      prom - is - es of when.  
 truth that must be spo - ken;      jus - tice some - how.



lay it at the al - tar      there.  
 Lay it at the al - tar      then.  
 Lay it at the al - tar      now.



4 What have we to of - fer?      What have we to



give?      Lives      we will live.

Text: Ray Makeever

Music: LET US ENTER IN: OFFERTORY, Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress



## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

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

let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

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

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.  
**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,  
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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

## **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**

*extracted from worship 2/16/2020*

“Communion Meditation”

(Besig)

Chancel Choir

***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.

Christ Jesus,

at this table we have feasted on your very life  
and are strengthened for our journey.

Send us forth from this banquet  
nourished in body and in spirit  
to proclaim your good news  
and serve others in your name.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

God the creator strengthen you;

Jesus the beloved fill you;

and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✝ keep you in peace.

## Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen



1 Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en,  
 2 Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low  
 3 Rise, re - mem - ber well the fu - ture  
 4 Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion;



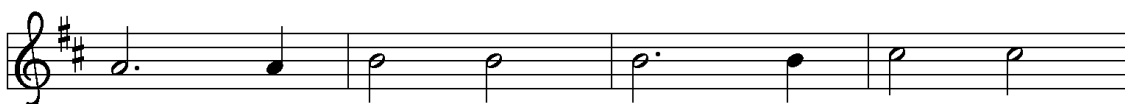
from this meal of love and grace;  
 af - ter Christ, though wound - ed, whole;  
 God has called us to re - ceive;  
 cour - age be our dai - ly breath;



may we through such love en - vi - sion  
 bro - ken, shared, our lives are hal - lowed  
 pres - ent by God's lov - ing nur - ture,  
 mer - cy be our des - ti - na - tion



whose we are, and whose, our praise.  
 to re - lease and to con - sole.  
 Spir - it - ed then let us live.  
 from this day and un - to death.



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



God, the won - der of our days.  
 Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.  
 Spir - it, grace by whom we live.  
 Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953  
 Music: SURGE ECCLESIA, Timothy J. Strand, b. 1958  
 Text © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
 Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

## POSTLUDE

“Voluntary in A”

*Extracted from worship 2/16/2020*

William Selby

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### 1/24/2021

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| General Fund         | \$ 2005.00        |
| Whitmyer Memorial    | \$ 50.00          |
| Parish House Project | <u>\$ 50.00</u>   |
| Subtotal             | \$2,155.00        |
| Simply Giving        |                   |
| General              | <u>\$1,190.00</u> |
| Total                | <b>\$3,345.00</b> |

### 1/31/2021

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| General Fund         | \$1,810.00        |
| Envelopes            | \$ 5.00           |
| Parish House Project | \$ 100.00         |
| World Hunger         | <u>\$ 50.00</u>   |
| Subtotal             | \$1,965.00        |
| Simply Giving        |                   |
| General              | <u>\$ 620.00</u>  |
| Total                | <b>\$2,585.00</b> |

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### Year to Date

### January-December 2020

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Income            | \$262,470        |
| Expenses          | <u>\$274,979</u> |
| Net Income (Loss) | (\$12,509)       |

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.

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Everyone is invited to join our coffee hour fellowship time, via zoom, immediately following the online worship service. Please use the zoom link below to join.

Topic: FLC coffee hour

Time: Following Sunday Morning online worship

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/4982126146>

Meeting ID: 498 212 6146

There is no password needed.

