



**"WHOEVER DOES
God's will
 IS MY BROTHER
 AND SISTER
 AND MOTHER."
*Mark 3:35, NIV***

**June 6, 2021
 Outdoor Worship Service**

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Second 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
 Youth & Education DirectorPam Williams
 Pastor's email:.....prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
 Church email:.....faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
 Website:.....www.faithlutheranokemos.org
 Facebook Page:.....facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

Introduction to the day

A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

PRELUDE

“Amazing Grace”

arr. Dale Wood

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.**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who upholds us through adversity, who consoles us in our sorrows and challenges throughout time, whose mercy and grace endure forever. **Amen.**

A reading from Isaiah 54:10

For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed,
but my steadfast love shall not depart from you,
and my covenant of peace shall not be removed,
says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

A prayer of lament

We lament before you, O God, Comforter in our distress,
the losses that Faith Lutheran has suffered.
We have missed our weekly assembled worship,
our sharing of bread and cup,
our communal song,
our greetings of peace;
the full observances of Holy Week,
the Three Days, Easter, Pentecost, and Trinity;
baptisms, confirmations, weddings, and funerals;
gatherings for education;
coffee hours;
the mutual consolation of the faithful enacted each Sunday,

and we mourn members, friends, and family who have died during this pandemic,

Martha Ford, Pastor Darrell Neves, and Ken Whitmyer.

O God, we lament our losses, for they are many.

Restore us, gracious God.

Restore us, gracious God.

We lament before you, O God, Sustainer of the universe,
the tragedies that our world has experienced.

We lament the millions sickened;

the countless dead;

thousands unemployed;

medical systems depleted;

economic security threatened;

government assistance inadequate;

political discord escalated;

despondency rampant;

racial injustice intensified;

communal engagements canceled. . .

O God, we lament the world's tragedies, for they are incalculable.

Heal us, compassionate God.

Heal us, compassionate God.

Praise for Re-Gathering

Today, O God of the everlasting arms,

we rejoice at this re-gathering of our congregation:

we praise you for this time of worship in word and sacrament;

for the presence of infants, children, youth, adults, and the aged together;

for song and live music;

for Bible study;
for service with one another for the wider community;
for the mutual consolation of the faithful enacted on Sundays and
weekdays . . .

O God, we rejoice at this re-gathering for baptismal life together.
Empower our church, faithful God.

Empower our church, faithful God.

And we pray, O God of safe harbor, for the emergence of a wholesome
world:

with health restored;
mourners consoled;
vaccines available;
hospitals restocked;
employment reinstated;
poverty averted;
sustenance shared;
science respected;
travel resumed;
fear replaced with confidence;
sorrow turned to joy . . .

O God, we pray for the emergence of a wholesome world.
Renew the whole world, merciful God.

Renew the whole world, merciful God.

Give us your peace, eternal God.

Give us your peace, eternal God.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: GENESIS 3:8-15

Immediately after Adam and Eve eat the forbidden fruit, they hide from God. Neither takes responsibility for their sin, instead blaming each other, the snake, and even God. The curse on the snake was understood as a messianic prophecy by the early church, who associated Eve's "offspring" with Christ.

A reading from Genesis.

⁸[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 4:13-5:1

Life in the present is transitory and cannot compare with the eternal home God has prepared for us. So we do not despair no matter what life might bring because we know that as God raised Jesus from the dead, God promises to bring us into eternal life.

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

¹³Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—“I believed, and so I spoke”—we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

^{5:1}For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-35

In response to charges that he is possessed, Jesus wonders aloud how anyone who is demon-possessed can cast out demons. Those who do the will of God are possessed by the Holy Spirit, siblings of Christ.

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

[Jesus went home;] ²⁰and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” ²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

²⁸“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” —³⁰for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” ³³And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

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

SERMON

HONORING AND PRAYERS FOR GRADUATES

Brielle Bowers

Brielle will be graduating from Haslett High School and will be attending Lansing Community College in the Fall.

Dane Webb

Dane Webb is graduating from Williamston High School. Dane will be attending Michigan State University's James Madison College in the Fall where he plans to declare his major in social relations and policy.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

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:

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

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, 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

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heav'n 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

Communion – Communion is shared among us.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✝ be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Fanfare on *St. Anne*”

arr. Brenda Portman

Ushers: Walter and Brenda Kopf

Lay Assistant: Mike Eschelbach

Year to Date **January - April 2021**

Income \$ 88,244
Expenses \$ 96,106
Net Income (Loss) \$ (7,862)

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 for more information on how to sign up.

5/23/21		5/30/21
General Fund	\$ 1,200.00	N/A
Pantry Fund	\$ 50.00	
Parish House	<u>\$ 1,547.32</u>	
Subtotal	\$ 2,797.32	
Simply Giving		
General	\$ 3,795.00	
Building	<u>\$ 25.00</u>	
Total	\$ 6,617.32	

2021 High School Graduates



Brielle Bowers

Brielle will be graduating from Haslett High School and will be attending Lansing Community College in the fall. During high school, she was involved in three of the school's musicals and was a member of the Select Women's Ensemble (choir). She also played softball and traveled to Spain, France, and Italy with the Spanish Club. As a member of the National Honor Society, she was a mentor for elementary school students in Haslett. Brielle has been a member of Faith Lutheran Church since she was born. As a member of the Youth Group, she traveled to West Virginia on a Mission Trip and she attended the National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. Brielle is excited to see what the future holds for her!



Dane Webb

Dane Webb is graduating from Williamston High School, Class of 2021. Dane is kind, genuine, intelligent and authentic. He is the best friend someone could ever have, and believes in the good in all people. He has attended Faith since he was born, has served as a Lay Assistant and taken part in the youth programming over the years. Dane has been involved in many activities during his time at WCS. He was an avid soccer player until he began to swim and it stole his heart. He swam as part of the WHS Swim Team all four years of high school. He has participated in Model UN, and is a member of NHS. One of Dane's favorite parts of WHS is being a member of the band. He has been in marching, symphony, and jazz band, serving as a section leader as well. Dane is an excellent student, taking on all varieties of advanced placement coursework, particularly enjoying the class time in which he engages in debates with his peers and teachers. Dane will be attending Michigan State University's James Madison College in the fall, where he plans to declare his major in social relations and policy.

SPARROW COVID VACCINE CLINIC



Where:

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Rd.

Okemos, MI

When: Friday, June 18, 3:00 – 6:00 PM

Friday, July 9, 3:00 – 6:00 PM

Vaccine choices:

Pfizer Vaccine (2 shots needed)

Johnson & Johnson Vaccine (1 shot only)

All people, ages 12 and up, are welcome to come and receive this FREE vaccine at **anytime** between 3:00 & 6:00 PM on these dates.

If you would like to sign up to come at a specific time, during this clinic, please use this link:

<https://bit.ly/3phIB8A>