

October 23, 2022

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Twentieth 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
Audio/Video Techs:Justin Brown & Zach Hereza
Pastor's email:.....prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Church email:.....faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
Website:.....www.faithlutheranokemos.org
Facebook Page:.....facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

Introduction to the day

Genuine repentance and pretentious piety stand in stark contrast in the gospel and all around us. All creation stands in need of God's forgiveness. Keep the faith. God's people shall be accounted righteous for Jesus' sake. Our God is merciful to sinners. For this we worship and glorify God forever.

PRELUDE

“Softly and Tenderly”

arr. Dale Wood

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days. **Amen.**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and forgiveness,
we confess that sin still has a hold on us.
We have harmed your good creation.
We have failed to do justice,
love kindness,
and walk humbly with you.
Turn us in a new direction.
Show us the path that leads to life.
Be our refuge and strength on the journey,
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
Amen.

Beloved of God:

your sins are forgiven ✝ and you are made whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ,
who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God’s abiding love
through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847–1909

Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

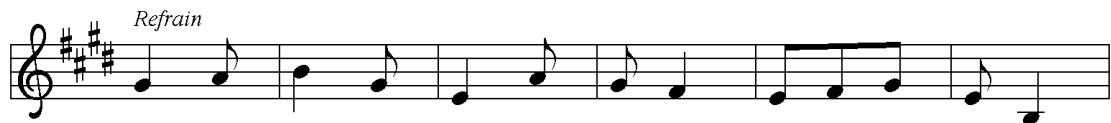
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GREETING

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

Now the Feast and Celebration



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, our righteous judge, daily your mercy surprises us with everlasting forgiveness. Strengthen our hope in you, and grant that all the peoples of the earth may find their glory in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

In a time of drought, the people pray for mercy, repenting of their sins and the sins of their ancestors. They appeal to God to remember the covenant, to show forth God's power, and to heal their land by sending life-giving rain.

A reading from Jeremiah.

⁷Although our iniquities testify against us,
act, O LORD, for your name's sake;
our apostasies indeed are many,
and we have sinned against you.

⁸O hope of Israel,
its savior in time of trouble,
why should you be like a stranger in the land,
like a traveler turning aside for the night?

⁹Why should you be like someone confused,
like a mighty warrior who cannot give help?
Yet you, O LORD, are in the midst of us,
and we are called by your name;
do not forsake us!

¹⁰Thus says the LORD concerning this people:
Truly they have loved to wander,
they have not restrained their feet;
therefore the LORD does not accept them,

now he will remember their iniquity
and punish their sins.

¹⁹Have you completely rejected Judah?

Does your heart loathe Zion?

Why have you struck us down

so that there is no healing for us?

We look for peace, but find no good;

for a time of healing, but there is terror instead.

²⁰We acknowledge our wickedness, O LORD,

the iniquity of our ancestors,

for we have sinned against you.

²¹Do not spurn us, for your name's sake;

do not dishonor your glorious throne;

remember and do not break your covenant with us.

²²Can any idols of the nations bring rain?

Or can the heavens give showers?

Is it not you, O LORD our God?

We set our hope on you,

for it is you who do all this.

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

PSALM: Psalm 84-1-7

Psalm is read responsively

¹How dear to me is your dwelling,

O LORD of hosts!

²**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;**

my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

³Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young,

by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king and my God.

⁴**Happy are they who dwell in your house!**

They will always be praising you.

⁵Happy are the people whose strength is in you,
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

⁶**Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs,**

for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

⁷They will climb from height to height,
and the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

The conclusion of this letter to a young minister offers a final perspective on life from one who faced death. Though others let him down, Paul was sure of his faith in the Lord, who stood by him and lent him strength.

A reading from 2 Timothy.

⁶As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

¹⁶At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! ¹⁷But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth.

¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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


CHILDREN'S SERMON & NOISY OFFERING

The Pantry Ministry & the Parish House Ministry are an important and vital part of our community. Today we will be taking an offering for the Pantry Ministry.


GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Luke 18:9-14

The coming reign of God will involve unexpected reversals of fortune with judgment rooted in mercy. Jesus tells a parable in which the one who humbles himself is exalted and the one who exalts his own righteousness is humbled.

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

⁹[Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:¹⁰“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ ¹³But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

A Pharisee Was Praying

D A7 D G A7 D

1. A Phar - i - see was pray - ing; he proud - ly stood a - lone:
 2. Far off in that same tem - ple, a tax col - lec - tor stood.
 3. O God of love, for - give us when we look all a - round
 4. May we, your church, be hum - ble in serv - ing you each day,

F#7 G A D E7 A

"God, thank you that I'm bet - ter than oth - ers I have known."
 He knew he was a sin - ner; he knew that God is good.
 and think that, by our ac - tions, we stand on sol - id ground:
 for pride will nev - er help us to walk your king - dom - way.

D G D Bm B Em

He saw the faults of oth - ers, yet in that ho - ly place,
 "Have mer - cy, God, up - on me!" the tax col - lec - tor cried.
 we pray, "See how we serve you! We work and vol - un - teer!
 May we know your for - give - ness, our need for mer - cy, too,

A D G Em7 A7 D

he missed the joy and won - der of God's a - maz - ing grace.
 He left that place of wor - ship for - giv - en, jus - ti - fied.
 Aren't we the ones whose giv - ing builds up your king - dom here?"
 that, loved and lov - ing oth - ers, our life may be in you.

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

In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of 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:

With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

OFFERING

“From the Apple in the Garden”

(Roy Hopp)

Chancel Choir

Please stand if you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

Amen.

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-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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven. You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.

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 life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast. By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body 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

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

Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION SONG



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“Aurelia”

arr. Gerhard Krapf

Please stand if you are able.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love. **Amen**

SENDING SONG

Praise to You, O God of Mercy



1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



thanks be to you for - ev - er!
thanks be to you for - ev - er!
thanks be to you for -



Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

♠ Coda



ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Text and music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace, with Christ beside you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Cornet Voluntary”

George Berg

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Altar Care: Tammy Heilman
Lay Assistant: Kim O’Brien
Nursery: Brenda Kopf
Coffee Hour: Rich Weingartner

Reader: John McCracken
Ushers: Jon & Elaine Harrison
Greeter: Lois Neves
Acolyte: Jasper Wawrzynski

9/25/2022

Loose Cash	\$ 23.00
General Fund	\$ 3,870.00
Rosie’s Heart Walk	\$ 726.00
Roof Fund	\$ 135.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 701.00
Parish House	<u>\$ 227.05</u>
Subtotal	\$ 5,682.05
Vanco	
General	<u>\$ 1,282.00</u>
Total	\$ 6,964.05

10/2/2022

Loose Cash	\$ 21.00
General Fund	\$ 4,465.00
Quilting	\$ 86.00
Rosie’s Heart Walk	\$ 20.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 350.00
Parish House	\$ 50.00
Youth	<u>\$ 195.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 5,187.00
Vanco	
General	\$ 335.00
Pantry	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
Total	\$ 5,572.00

10/09/2022

Loose Cash	\$ 726.00
General Fund	\$ 1,635.00
Quilting Fund	\$ 50.00
Pantry Fund	<u>\$ 170.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 1,873.00
Vanco	
General Operating	\$ 4,207.00
Building	<u>\$ 25.00</u>
Total	\$6,105.00

10/16/2022

Loose Cash	\$ 10.00
Loose Checks	\$ 50.00
General Fund	\$ 1,030.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 50.00
Parish House	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 1,190.00
Vanco	
General Operating	\$ 435.50
Pantry Fund	\$ 25.25
Parish House	<u>\$ 25.25</u>
Total	\$1,676.00

Year to Date**January 1- September 30, 2020**

Income	\$207,320.00
Expenses	<u>\$215,821.00</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (8,501.00)

A Note About Today's Coffee Hour

As part of our call as an RIC congregation to be welcoming and supportive of all people, including those with disabilities, the baked goods at today's coffee hour come from "Baked Goods By Dominic" (search for it on Facebook). Dominic is an 18-year old with Autism, ADHD, Anxiety Disorder, and Epilepsy. He bakes products under the Michigan Cottage Food Business law. This business allows him to gain skills not only in baking but also in running a business. He is assisted by his mom, Cathy Blatnik, who is the treasurer of the Mid-Michigan Autism Association.

(<https://www.midmichiganautism.com/>)

Upcoming Events:

Monday, October 24	7:00 P.M.	Green Team Meeting
Sunday, October 30	11:00 A.M.	Quarterly Meeting
Sunday, October 30	11:30 A.M.	Soup/Bread Luncheon/Activity Time
Wednesday, November 2	6:00 P.M.	Middle School Youth Activity Night
November 4-6 th		Middle School Charge Retreat
Sunday, November 6	11:00 A.M.	Fall Property Clean Up
Tuesday, November 8	all day	Voting Precinct at Faith
Sunday, November 13	10:00 A.M.	Pledge Sunday Festivities
Monday, November 21	7:00 P.M.	Church Council Meeting
Saturday, November 26		Decorating Church for Christmas
Wednesday, December 7	6:00 P.M.	Middle School Youth Activity Night
Sunday, December 11	10:00 A.M.	Christmas Pageant
Monday, December 19	7:00 P.M.	Church Council Meeting
Saturday, December 24	Time TBD	Christmas Eve Services
Sunday, December 25		No In-Person Worship

Recurring Events

Children's Sunday School	Each Sunday at 9:00 A.M.
Adult Sunday School	Each Sunday at 9:00 A.M. (No meeting on 10/23)
Worship	Each Sunday at 10:00 A.M.
Noon Bible Study	Each Tuesday at Noon
LWR ACTION and Quilters	Each Wednesday 9:30-11:30 A.M.
Confirmation Class	Each Wednesday at 6:00 P.M.
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Each Wednesday at 7:30 P.M.
Bell Choir Rehearsal	Each Wednesday at 6:30 P.M. (check with Deb for dates bells are not meeting)



Intergenerational Halloween Activity/Luncheon

When: Sunday, Oct 30, 2022, following the Quarterly Meeting

Where: In the Fellowship Hall at Faith

What: Potluck Soup/Bread Lunch, pumpkin carving (bring your own pumpkins), pumpkin painting (provided), Halloween cooking decorating, craft projects and games.

To Bring: Please bring your own pumpkins if you want to carve them and Soup or Bread to share.

This is for ALL ages and COSTUMES are welcome!!

A signup sheet will be available in the Narthex so that we know approximately how many people to expect!

Hope to see you there.



Join us on Sunday, November 13, for Stewardship Sunday festivities!

Stewardship Sunday is the day we turn in our Pledge Cards. We drop them in the offering plate during morning worship. As we mark this day, we will also:

1. Hear a five-minute sermon in worship
2. Be gifted with a delightful presentation following worship, given by Rich & Linda Triemer
3. Enjoy a potluck dinner following this presentation, in which you will have time to view the **Ministry Fair Displays** that will be set up in the Fellowship Hall

Plan to be present and join us for this special day!

