

March 12, 2023

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Third Sunday in Lent

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
Sound Technicians.....Justin Brown, Zachary Hereza & Raymond Herek
Pastor's email:.....prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
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Website:.....www.faithlutheranokemos.org
Facebook Page:.....facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

Introduction to the day

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

PRELUDE

“Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”

arr. Wilbur Held

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another
our need for repentance and God’s mercy.

Holy God,

we confess to you our faults and failings.

Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;

we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;

we spoil rather than steward your creation;

we cause hurt though you call us to heal;

we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen.

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy,

✝ forgives you in Christ’s name,

and revives you in the Spirit’s power.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty



- 1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
- 2 "Come to me, all trav-'lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
- 3 "Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh - ment in this place.
- 4 "Come to me, re - pen - tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain



Je - sus, ev - er - flow - ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © 1992, 1996 Sisters of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, MN

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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.**

Kyrie



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
2 Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.
1, 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Music: Dinah Reindorf, b. c. 1927
Music © 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 17:1-7

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—“Is the LORD among us or not?”—received a very positive answer.

A reading from Exodus.

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

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

PSALM: Psalm 95

¹Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

²**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

³For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴**In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶**Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

⁷For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and
the sheep of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

⁸**"Harden not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

⁹There your ancestors tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

¹⁰**Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,
'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'**

¹¹Indeed I swore in my anger,
'They shall never come to my rest.'"

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Romans 5:1-11

Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.

A reading from Romans.

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life.

¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

67

I love you, Lord

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: "I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to wor - ship you; O my soul, re - joice. Take joy, my King, in what you hear; may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear." The guitar chords are: F², Gm/F, F, Bb, F/A, Gm⁷, F/A, C⁷_{sus}, C, Bb/D, C/E, F², Gm/F, F, F⁷, Bb, F/A, F_{sus}/G, C⁷, Bb²/F, F².

GOSPEL READING: John 4:5-42

Due to the length of today's reading, today's gospel is presented as reader's theater.

The gospel according to John. **Glory to you O Lord.**

Narrator: ⁵ So [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her,

Jesus: “Give me a drink.”

Narrator: (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him,

Woman: “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?”

Narrator: (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)

Jesus: “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”

Woman: “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?”

Jesus: “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”

Woman: “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

Jesus: “Go, call your husband, and come back.”

Woman: “I have no husband.”

Jesus: “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’;¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!”

Woman: “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.”

Jesus: “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

Woman: “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”

Jesus: “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

Narrator: Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” ²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,

Woman: “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”

Narrator: ³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him. ³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him,

Disciples: “Rabbi, eat something.”

Jesus: “I have food to eat that you do not know about.”

Disciples (to one another): “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?”

Jesus: “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, “Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, “One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

Narrator: Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman,

Samaritans (*Congregation*): “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

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

SERMON

KIM O’BRIEN

HYMN OF THE DAY

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

The assembly is seated.

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

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*Prayers of intercession are prayed. To each petition, the assembly responds: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.***

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

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

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

OFFERING

“Living Water”

(Sarah Moore, arr. Mary McDonald)

Chancel Choir

Please stand if you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

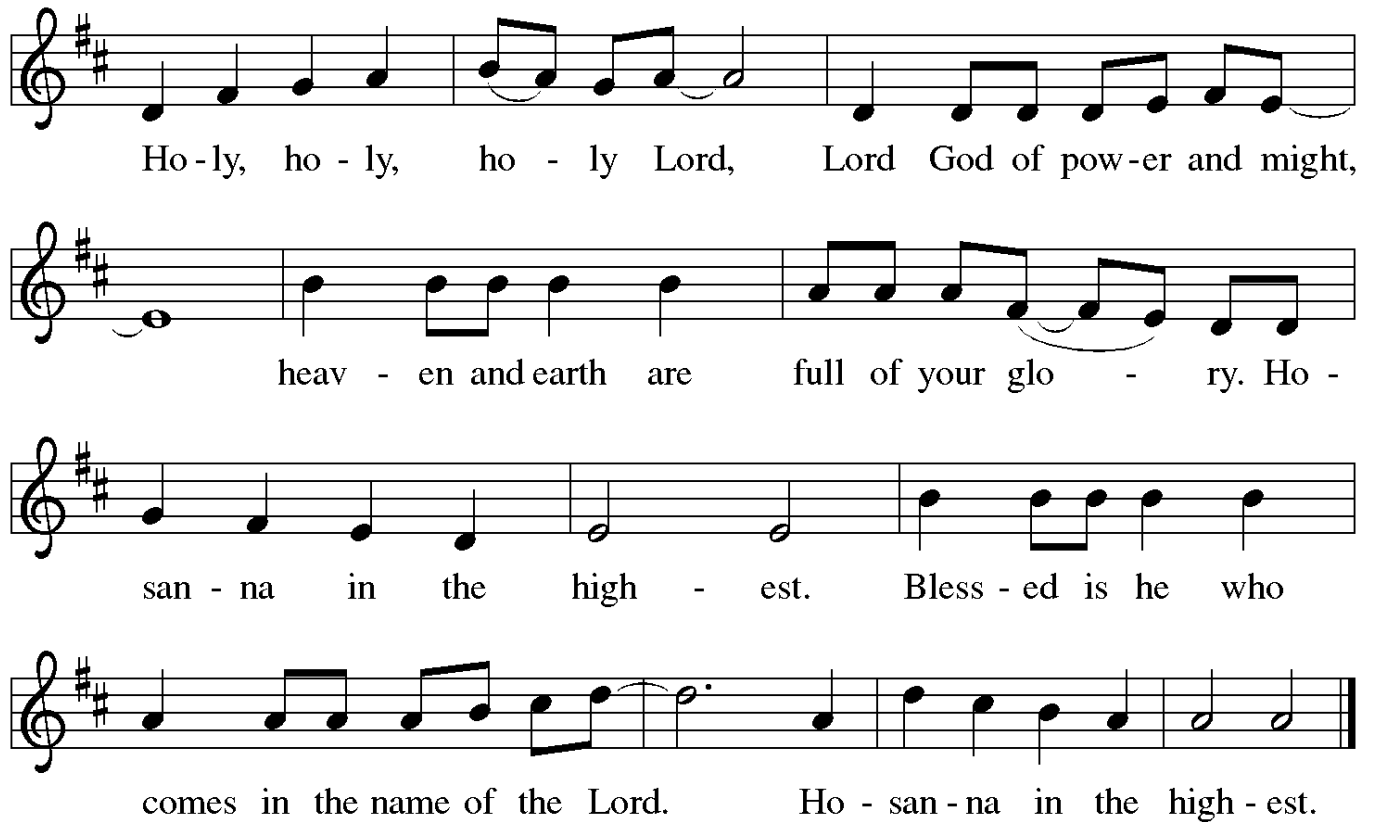
PREFACE

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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,
heav - en 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.

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.

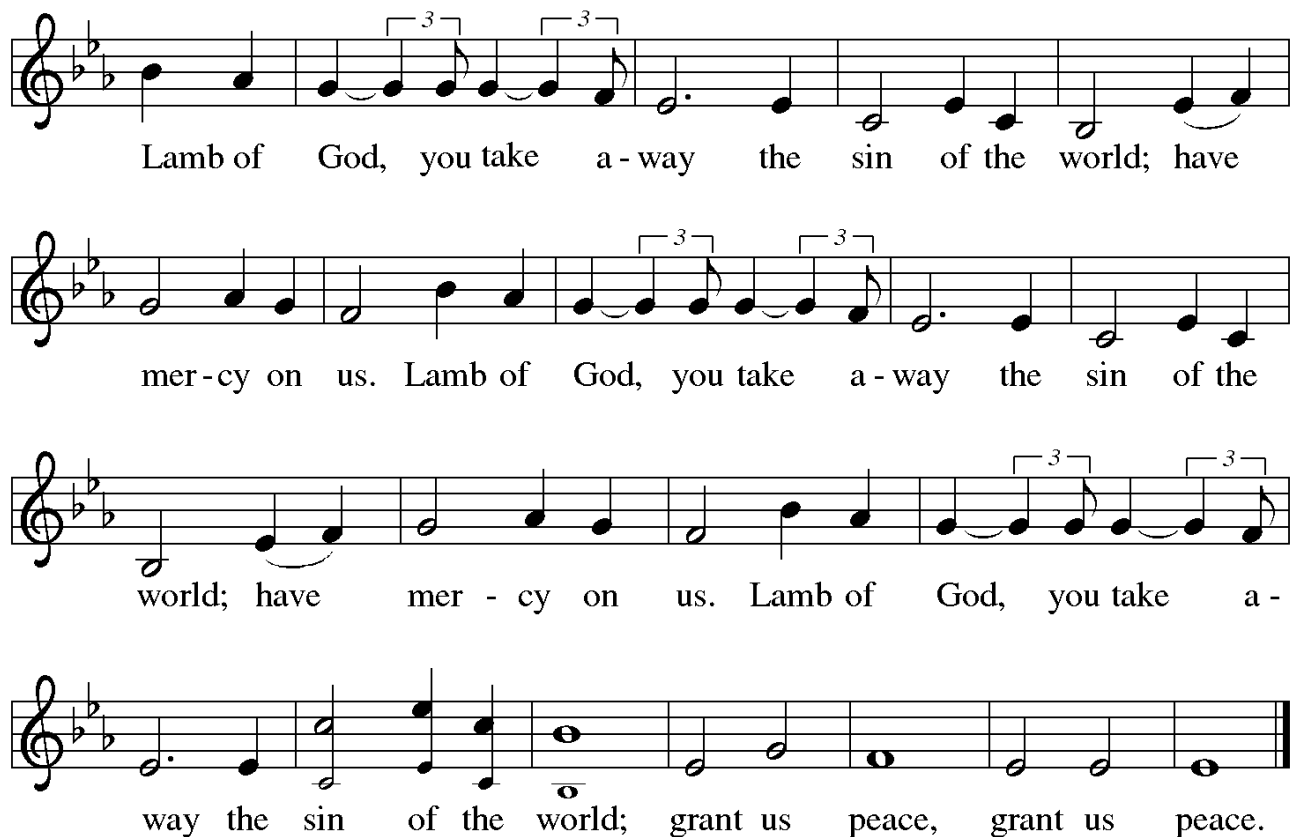
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

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, grant us peace.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

arr. Flor Peeters

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. Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God, the giver of love, ✝ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Christ, the Life of All the Living



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Book I, Toccata No. 3”

Girolamo Frescobaldi

Offerings

2/26

Loose Cash	\$ 32.00
General Fund	\$ 6,945.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 323.00
Parish House	\$ 100.00
Youth	\$ <u>615.80</u>
Subtotal	\$ 8,015.80
Vanco	
General Operating	\$ <u>950.90</u>
Total	\$ 8,966.70

3/5

N/A

January 1-31, 2023

Income \$26,633

Expenses \$25,392

Net Income \$ 1,241

Altar Care: Kathy Mace
Lay Assistant: Kim O'Brien
Nursery:
Coffee Hour: Lydia Boyan

Reader: Heidi Nussdorfer
Ushers: Walter & Brenda Kopf
Greeter: Chris & Jean Lewis
Acolyte: Open



The Green team is excited to announce that **NEW Green Team T-shirts** are now available for purchase.

We are offering 2 options.

The cost for a short sleeve shirt is \$20.00.

The cost of a long sleeve shirt is \$25.00.

The deadline to order shirts is Sunday, March 19th.

Sizes available: Youth: YS, YM, YL, YXL. Adult Sizes: XS, S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL

Please put your check or cash in the offering plate with a note of "green team t-shirts"
A shirt sign up sheet will be available in the Narthex for your name and size selection.

The profit from these shirts will go towards the creation of the new rain garden project on the grounds of Faith Lutheran.

Please contact [Natalie Dingledine](#) or [Randy Royalty](#) with any questions.



Sunday March 19

Wellness Information and Potluck following worship.

Please plan to join the Caring Committee, HarmonyCares Hospice and others for an informational workshop that will provide you with the knowledge to make informed decisions about end of life needs and what to expect. In addition, learn about your rights and the services covered through your insurance to help with medical needs such as home health and therapy, medical care and medical equipment. On-site blood pressure readings and wellness massage information available as well.

Steve Wing will be available Sunday March 19 during the Wellness Potluck to help you if you have issues with low back, shoulder, neck, or hand discomfort. Steve is a retired massage therapist and can use a technique called "positional release" to help decrease your discomfort. He will have his table set up in the Narthex after church. He feels it may take about 8-10 minutes per person to have you feeling better! There will be no charge. If you would like to donate to the Little Food Panty at Faith that would be appreciated.

The potluck theme will be Brunch. Please plan to share your favorite brunch casserole or other brunch item. Beverages and fruit will be provided by the Caring Committee.

Please sign up if you plan to attend either on the sign up sheet on the Caring Committee bulletin board or go to the SignUp Genius link :

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094CA4A62FA3F49-wellness>



Membership Development will be hosting a **Euchre tournament** on Saturday, March 25th at 7:00. A sign up sheet will be set up in the narthex for the next few Sundays. You can also email Tammy Heilman at heilmant@hotmail.com to sign up.



On Sunday, April 2, Bishop Craig Satterlee will be joining us for Palm Sunday Worship. Following worship, he will speak to the congregation regarding what will happen after Pastor Ellen leaves. He will describe the Call Process. We encourage you to attend.

Let's Celebrate Easter
Saturday, April 8th 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Easter Egg Hunt (at 10:30)
Games, Crafts, Snacks & Fun!
All are welcome!!

Location: Faith Lutheran Church, 4515 Dobie Rd. Okemos
Contact: pwilliams@faithlutheranokemos.org or call us at 517-349-0620.



8:45 A.M. on Easter Sunday Easter Continental Breakfast

Membership Development invites everyone to an Easter morning continental breakfast at Faith. A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex at church.

A promotional flyer from Culver's. At the top left is the Culver's logo with the tagline "Welcome to delicious.". The main text reads: "Visit Culver's of Okemos North from 5-9 pm MONDAY, APRIL 17TH, 2023 and we will donate a percentage of sales to: FAITH LUTHERAN MINI PANTRIES". Below this is a small photo of a sign for the pantry. The text continues: "Enjoy a delicious meal, benefit a great cause and feel good all over." and provides the address: "Visit Culver's of Okemos North 6140 Times Square Dr. Okemos, MI 48864". It also includes the note: "Online Ordering, Drive-Thru or Dine-In (No tips or cash received)". At the bottom, there is a photo of a Culver's burger with cheese, lettuce, tomato, and onion, a cup of Concrete Mixer drink, and some chicken nuggets. The Faith Lutheran Church logo is also present.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
W H A R T O N
C E N T E R

There will also be a signup sheet for **Wharton Tickets to Jesus Christ Superstar** (thank you Rich Weingartner). The date for this show is Sunday, June 18th (Fyi- this is Father's Day) at 1:00 pm. Rich was able to get a group rate for tickets so the price is \$82 per ticket. A \$1 handling fee per order will also be charged. Orders and payments must be made by May 5th. What a great opportunity for Faith friends to see this rock opera that has wowed audiences for over 50 years!



2023 EASTER FLOWER DEDICATION

Order deadline: March 26th

If you're interested in purchasing flowers, please designate \$17 for the flower fund along with your dedication by March 26th.

Please use this dedication form, or one found in the Narthex, if you would like a dedication included in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

Name person(s) dedicating:

In memory of:

In honor of:

In celebration of:

Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church (memo: Easter flowers)

Place this dedication form in Katie Love's mailbox or office.