



August 6, 2023

10:00 AM

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Tenth 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 Bruce Thorsen
Music Director Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist Kathy Richardson
Administrative Assistant Connie Denbrock
Youth & Education Director Pam Williams
Sound Technicians Zachary Hereza & Raymond Herek
Church email faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
Website www.faithlutheranokemos.org
Facebook Page facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos
WIFI: Faith Lutheran; Password: LutheranFaith

Introduction to the Day

In today's first reading God invites all who are hungry or thirsty to receive food and drink without cost. Jesus feeds the hungry multitude and reveals the abundance of God. At the eucharistic table we remember all who are hungry or poor in our world today. As we share the bread of life, we are sent forth to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.

PRELUDE

"Brethren, We Have Met to Worship"

arr. Anna Laura Page

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

Amen.

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

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have hurt our community.

We have squandered your blessings.

We have hoarded your bounty.

In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have failed to be honest.

We have lacked the courage to speak.

We have spoken falsely.

In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.

God offers boundless grace when we fail.

Claim the gift of God's mercy:

you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – ALL WHO HUNGER, GATHER GLADLY – (ELW 461)



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

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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


Refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be




peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain




hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of




vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and




join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

God invites Israel to a great feast at which both food and drink are free. God also promises to make an everlasting covenant with all peoples, with promises that previously had been limited to Israel. As David was a witness to the nations, these nations shall now acknowledge the ways in which God has glorified Israel.

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

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

PSALM: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹**LORD, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁴The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

¹⁵**The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, and you give them their food in due season.**

¹⁶You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷**You are righteous in all your ways and loving in all your works.**

¹⁸You are near to all who call upon you, to all who call upon you faithfully.

¹⁹**You fulfill the desire of those who fear you; you hear their cry and save them.**

²⁰You watch over all those who love you, but all the wicked you shall destroy.

²¹**My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD; let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5

A reading from Romans.

This begins a new section in Paul's letter in which he will deal with the place of Israel in God's saving plan. He opens by highlighting how Israel's heritage and legacy include being God's children, having God's covenants, being given God's law, participating in worship of God, and receiving divine promises.

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.

¹³Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist], he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

VBS Presentation - "God's New Creation"

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

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

...

God, in your mercy, **Receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

PEACE

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

OFFERING

"Beautiful Savior"

arr. Anna Laura Page

Emily Brown, soloist

Please stand if you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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.

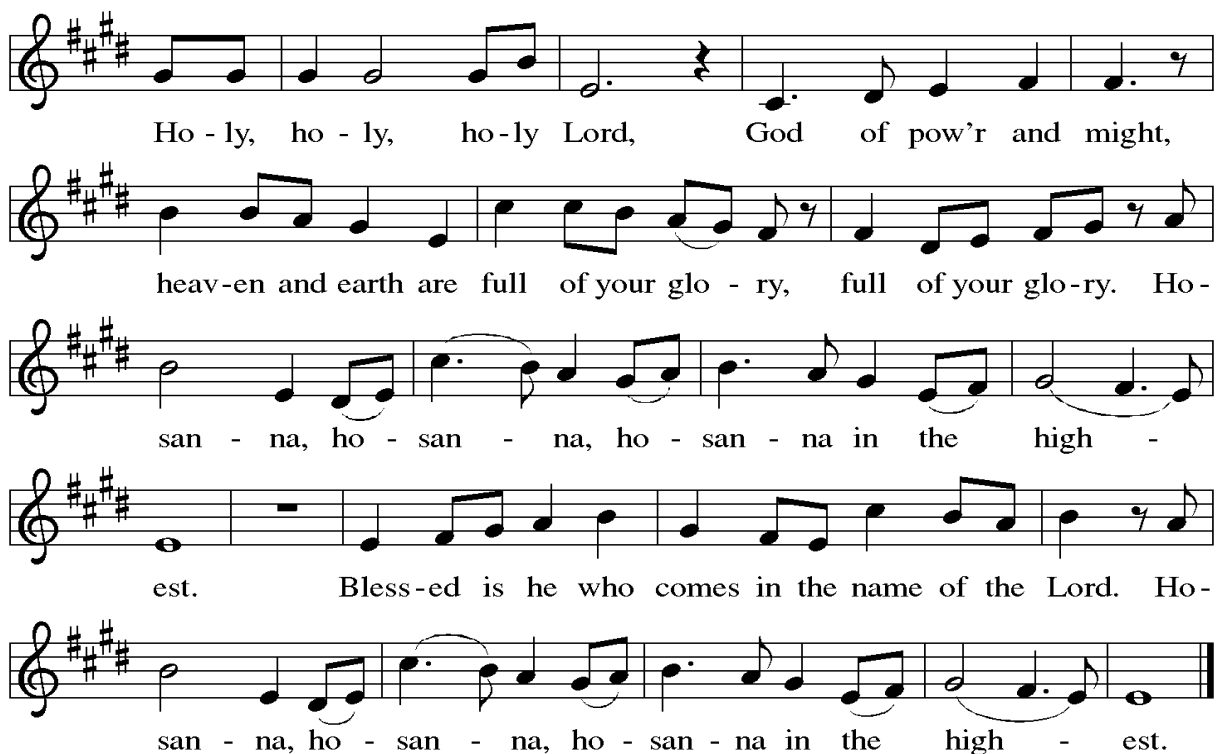
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,

...

be all honor and glory, 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 kin[g]dom 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 kin[g]dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION SONG



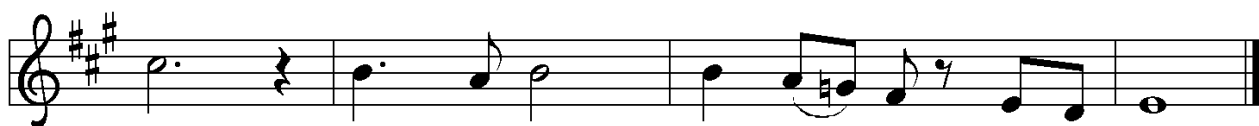
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



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, Lamb of God.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“How Great Thou Art”

arr. Pam Gervais

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.

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed
✠ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG – PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING (ELW 689)



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share and receive the Good News. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Postlude”

arr. Wayne Wold

Reader: Bob Nelson
 Lay Assistant: Rich Weingartner
 Ushers: Elaine & Jon Harrison
 Acolyte: Open

Greeter(s): Rich Weingartner
 Altar Care: Heidi Bowers
 Nursery: Open, but not staffed
 Coffee Hour: Lydia Boyan

April - June 2023

Income	\$ 64,076
Expenses	<u>\$ 73,267</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (9,191)

Weekly Offering Reports

	<u>July 23</u>
Loose Cash	\$ 20.21
General Fund	\$ 2,230.00
Other / Scout Bridge	\$ 30.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 5,101.00
Parish House	<u>\$ 882.78</u>
Subtotal	\$ 8,263.99
Vanco	
General Operating	\$ 2,085.50
Building	\$ 25.00
Subtotal	<u>\$ 2,135.75</u>
TOTAL	\$ 10,399.74

	<u>July 30</u>
Loose Cash	\$ 6.00
General Fund	\$ 1,190.00
Other / Scout Bridge	\$ 100.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 221.25
Parish House	<u>\$ 25.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 1,542.25
Vanco	
General Operating	\$ 451.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 100.50
Parish House	\$ 50.00
Subtotal	<u>\$ 602.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,144.25

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Vacation Bible School Presentation/Sharing:**
Sunday, August 6th, we will be sharing Vacation Bible School for the whole congregation. We hope to have many of the VBS kids come and share the songs and skits and what was learned during the week. We hope to see you all there.
- **The Annual Community Picnic** will be held Aug. 12, 2023, 4:00pm-6:30pm. **Food & Games!**
Sign-up sheets are available in the Narthex outside the sanctuary doors. Please contact Brenda Kopf or Cecelia Kramer with questions.
- **The Caring Committee is asking for your help!** We are collecting Breakfast Foods for the Back-to-School Breakfast Bags starting August 1. We have received a list of 12 families in need from Meridian Township. Please see the Sign-up Genius link (below) for the list of foods needed this year. The shopping cart will be in the Narthex beginning August 1.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094CA4A62FA3F49-back>
Collect food: August 1-31
Food delivery: Sunday, September 10
- **Faith Lutheran Church Calendar of Events:** All scheduled Sunday Services, church events, meetings, and facility use events are now posted on the FLC Website under About Us / Calendar. OR, you can click “Calendar” from the top right corner of the Home Page.

Here is the direct link: [Faith Lutheran Church Calendar of Events](#). Links to the Sunday Services (recorded and Live), Tuesday Bible Studies (via Zoom), etc., are available within the individual calendar events.
- **Lutheran World Relief** continues to give aid to refugees and persons displaced by natural and human disasters. **We are collecting items for School kits (during August)** and Personal Care kits (during September). Please see the Friday E-NEWS for the list of items requested. **There is a Display Board and Collection Bin in the Narthex.**
Thank you - from the Stewardship Group - Women of Faith
- **Micro Pantry:** The next NOISY Offering will be August 13. Pantry Items Needed This Week: Kleenex, Tomato Paste, Cans of Chicken

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