



**August 20, 2023**

**10:00 AM**

# **FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

Eleventh 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 ..... Debra Borton-McDonough  
Administrative Assistant ..... Connie Denbrock  
Youth & Education Director ..... Pam Williams  
Sound Technicians ..... Zachary Hereza & Raymond Herek  
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)  
WIFI: Faith Lutheran; Password: LutheranFaith

## Introduction to the Day

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

### PRELUDE

"There is a Balm in Gilead"

arr. Lloyd Larsen

### 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 – *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* (ELW 886)



- 1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
- 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
- 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
- 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!  
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.  
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.  
the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,  
O fallen human race!  
Look and be saved through faith alone,  
be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love  
be now and ever giv'n  
by saints below and saints above,  
the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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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.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8**

A reading from Isaiah.

*The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.*

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>6</sup>And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup>these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

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

## **PSALM: Psalm 67**

<sup>1</sup>May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us.

<sup>2</sup>**Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.**

<sup>3</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>4</sup>**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

<sup>5</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>6</sup>**The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our own God, has blessed us.**

<sup>7</sup>May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32**

A reading from Romans.

*God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.*

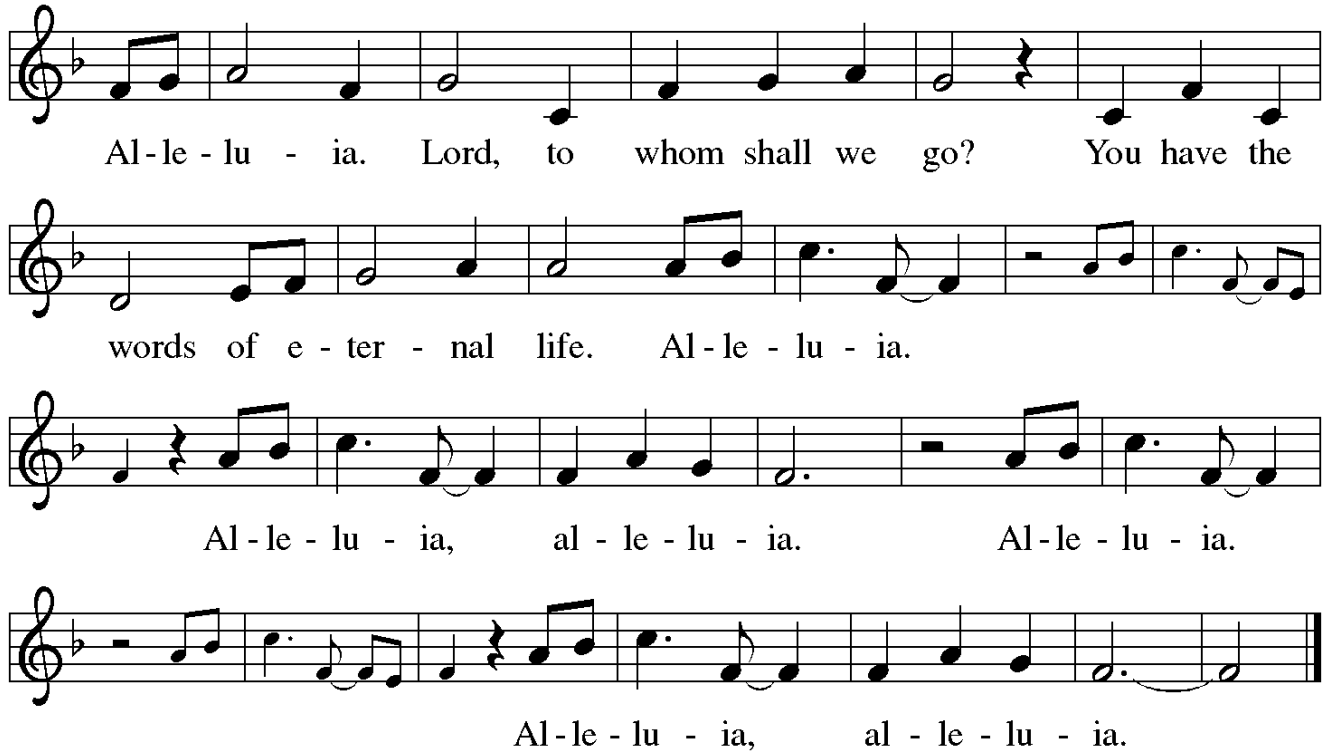
<sup>1</sup>I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2a</sup>God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

<sup>29</sup>For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup>For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

# CHILDREN'S SERMON

## 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 15:21-28

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.*

<sup>21</sup>Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” <sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” <sup>24</sup>He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” <sup>26</sup>He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>27</sup>She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

## **SERMON**



## HYMN OF THE DAY – LORD, WHOSE LOVE IN HUMBLE SERVICE (ELW 712)



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,  
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;  
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light  
4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed:  
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,  
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;  
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,  
hope and health, good-will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.  
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.  
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.  
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

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

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## 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

"The Quiet Heart"

arr. John Ness Beck

*Chris Lewis, 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.

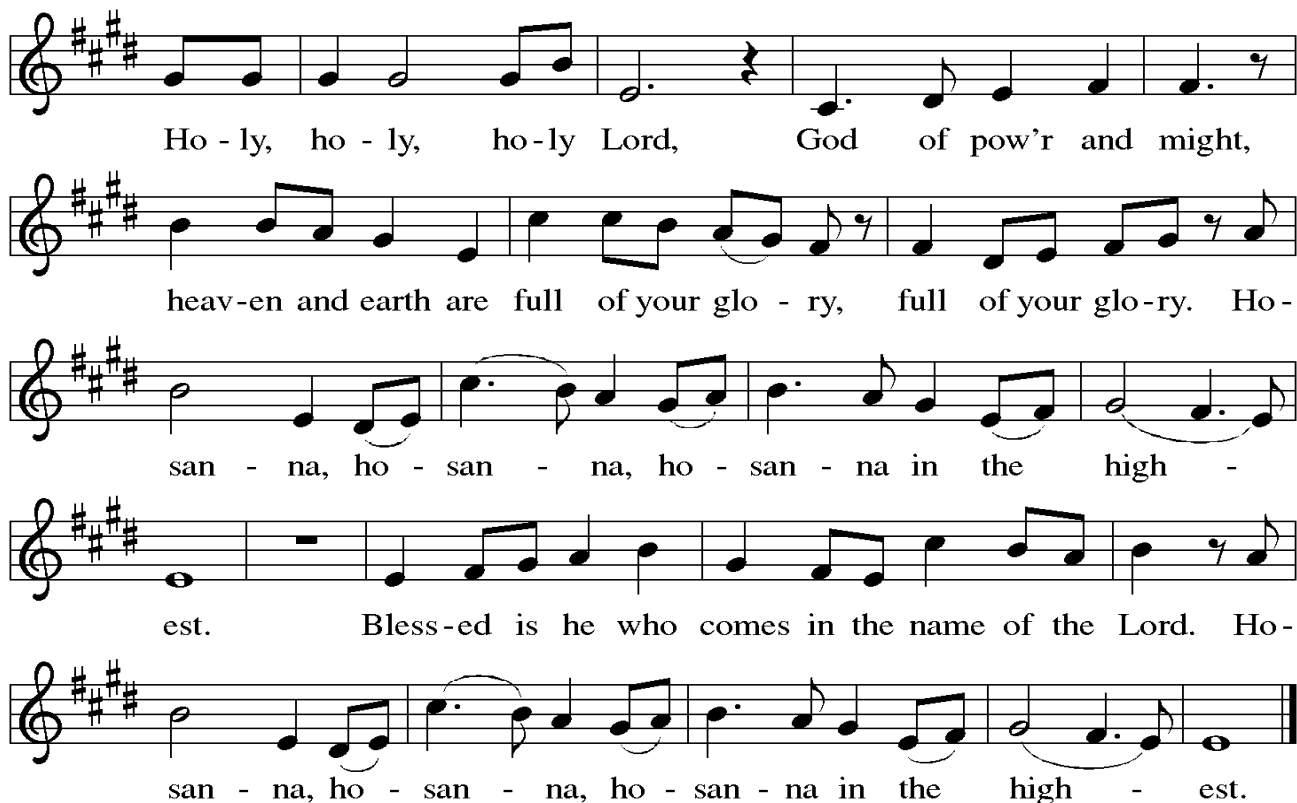
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## 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

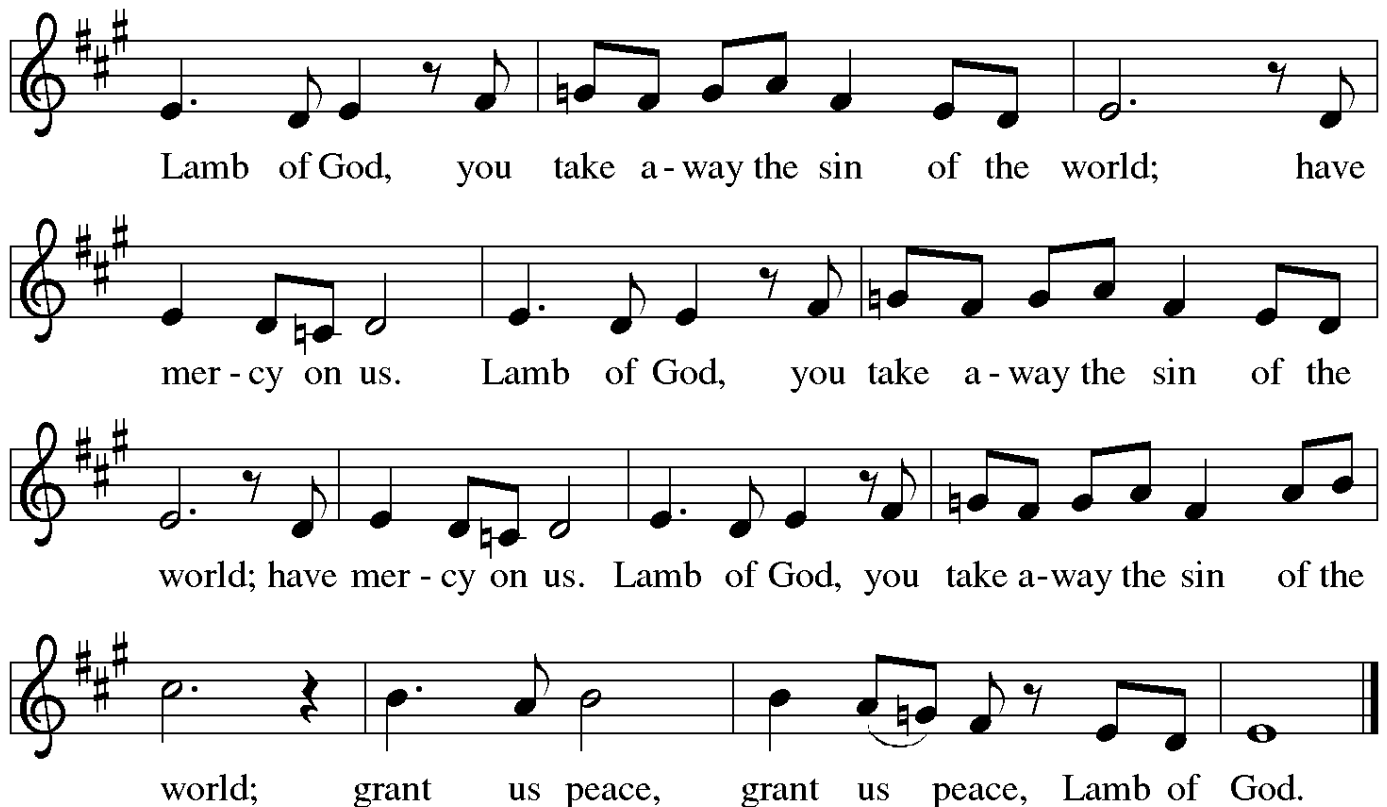
All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

## 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**

“Here I Am, Lord”

Dan Schutte, arr. John Carter

*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 – RISE, SHINE, YOU PEOPLE! (ELW 665)



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered  
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;  
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,  
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to  
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and  
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the  
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.  
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.  
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.  
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.  
Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, 1934–2003  
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## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

arr. Phillip Keveren

Reader: Harold Sollenberger  
 Lay Assistant: Brenda Kopf  
 Ushers: Eschelbach / Fraser  
 Acolyte: Open

Greeter(s): Lois Neves  
 Altar Care: Cecelia Kramer  
 Nursery: Open, but not staffed  
 Coffee Hour: Addie Thompson  
 Matt Schnizlein

April - June 2023

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

**Weekly Offering Reports**

August 6

Loose Cash	\$ .25
General Fund	\$ <u>3,760.00</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	\$ 3,760.25
Vanco	
General Operating	\$ 4,825.00
Building	\$ 125.00
Caring Committee	\$ 50.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 50.00
Parish House	\$ <u>50.00</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	\$ 5,100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 8,860.25</b>

August 13

Loose Cash	\$ 10.00
General Fund	\$ 1,425.00
Living Waters/Stony Lake	\$ 265.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 313.00
Parish House	\$ 75.00
Youth	\$ <u>16.40</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	\$ 2,104.40
Vanco	
General Operating	\$ <u>550.00</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	\$ 550.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,654.40</b>

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **WORSHIP MEETING (today, the 20<sup>th</sup>) after Service, in the Library**
- **RALLY DAY is Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am!! Potluck will follow the 10:00am Service.**
- **Micro Pantry – The next NOISY Offering is August 27<sup>th</sup> -- Matching Grant Opportunity – contributions will be matched by an anonymous Donor!**  
Pantry Items Needed This Week:
  - Plastic (Meijer/Kroger) Grocery Bags
  - Kleenex tissue (any variety)
  - Pop Tarts
- **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, from Meridian Township, a list of 12 families in need. 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
- **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***
- **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.**
- **LOST AND FOUND:** On the shelf above the coat rack in the Narthex.



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