

November 26, 2023 10:00 AM

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Christ the King

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	Bruce Williams	
Administrative Assistant	Connie Denbrock	
Youth & Education Director	Pam Williams	
Sound Technicians	Cody Boyan & Raymond Herek	
Church email	faith@faithlutheranokemos.org	
Website	. www.faithlutheranokemos.org	
Facebook Page face	book.com/faithlutheranokemos	
WIFI: Faith Lutheran: Password: LutheranFaith		

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

PRELUDE

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

arr. Wilbur Held

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \oplus one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,

we confess that we are not awake for you.

We are not faithful in using your gifts.

We forget the least of our siblings.

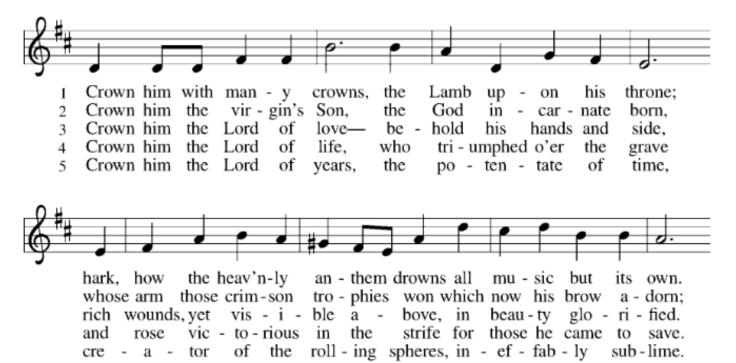
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.

We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.

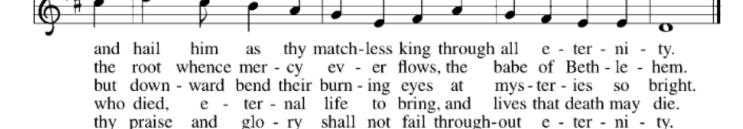
Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through 中 Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN – Crown Him with Many Crowns (ELW 855)







Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

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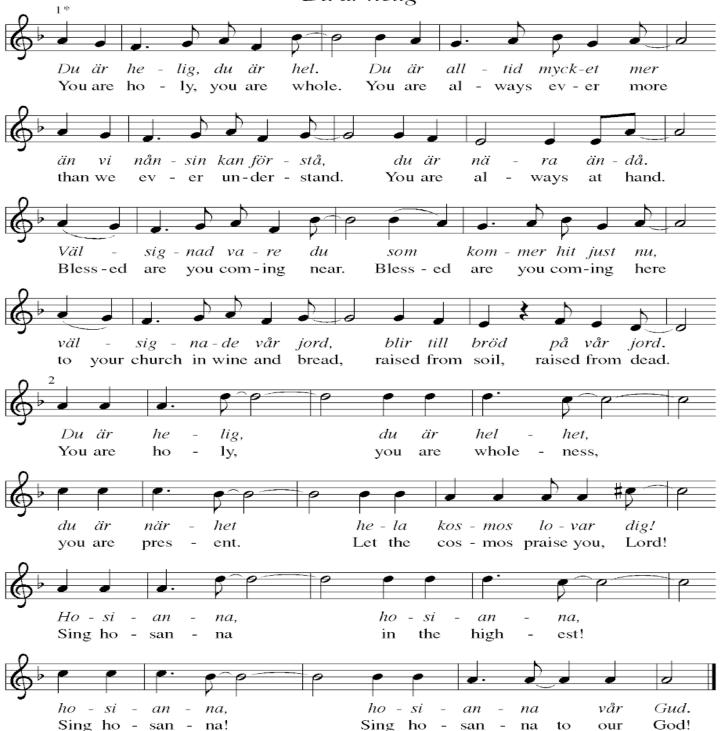
GREETING

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

You Are Holy

Du är helig



^{*} May be sung in canon.

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945 Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling Text and music © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, admin. Augsburg Fortress in North America, South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

A reading from Ezekiel.

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the LORD will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The LORD will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

¹¹Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GoD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 95:1-7a

- ¹Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
- ²Let 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.
- ⁴In 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.
- ⁶Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.
- ^{7a}For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

A reading from Ephesians.

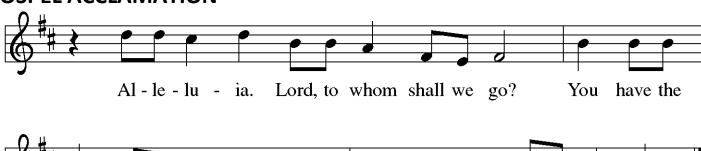
In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

The holy gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

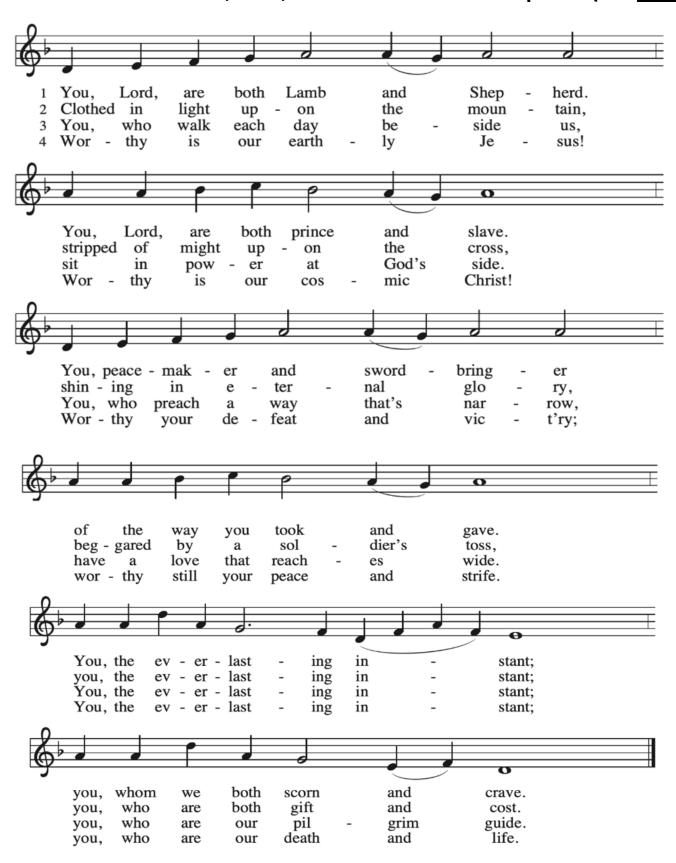
Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' 37Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? 39And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.' 41Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' 45Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY - You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd (ACS 954)



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993 Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent. Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

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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

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

...

God, in your mercy, Receive our prayer.

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen**.

PEACE

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

OFFERING

"Sing of the Lord's Goodness" Earnest Sands / John Carter Chancel Choir; Kathy Richardson and Bruce Williams, accompanists

Please stand if you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

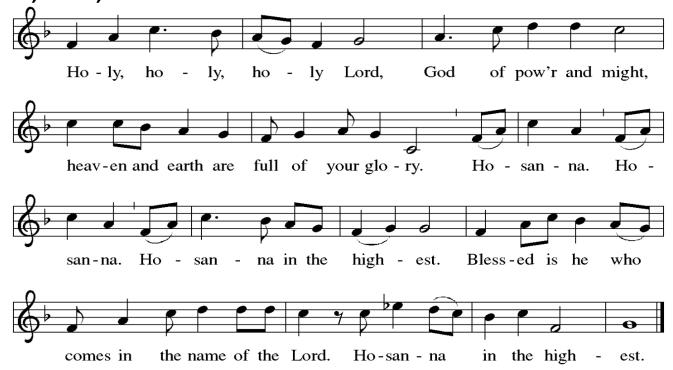
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, 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

There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

COMMUNION

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



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

"St. Columba"

arr. Harold Friedell

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

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

Amen.

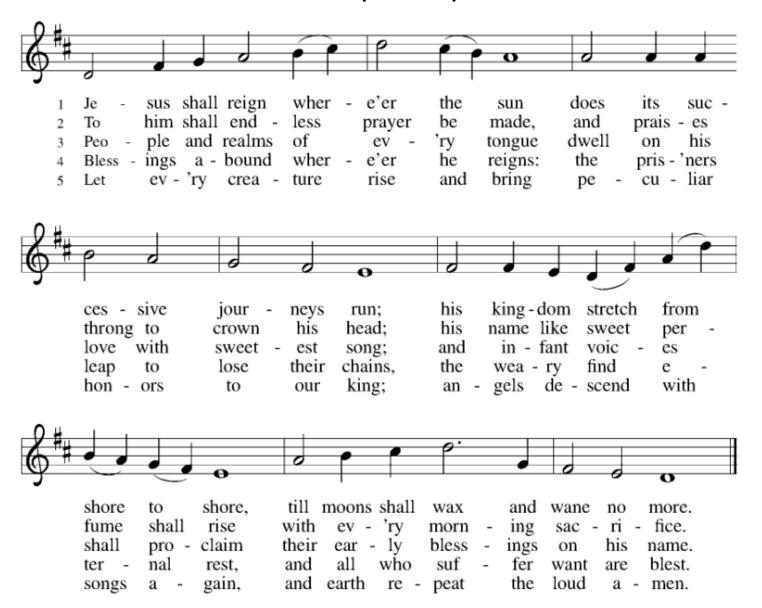
BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign,

∃ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG - JESUS SHALL REIGN (ELW 434)



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

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DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Duke Street"

"Jesus Shall Reign"

arr. Benjamin M. Culli

arr. Raymond Haan

Reader: John McCracken
Lay Assistant: Paul Hereza
Ushers: Holte / Robinson

Greeter(s): Mike Eschelbach
Altar Care: Elaine Harrison
Nursery: Open, but not staffed

Acolyte/Crucifer: Abigail Steinke Coffee Hour: Lydia Boyan

 January - October 2023

 Income
 \$ 254,784

 Expenses
 \$ 277,303

 Net Income (Loss)
 \$ (22,519)

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORTS

November 12		November 19	
Loose Cash	\$ 51.00	Loose Cash	\$ 68.00
General Fund	\$ 2,060.00	General Fund	\$3,090.00
Building Rental	\$ 50.00	Building Rental	\$ 350.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 1,393.00	Quilter's Fund	\$ 20.00
Parish House	\$ <u>25.00</u>	Kinawa Christmas Gifts	\$ 100.00
Subtotal	\$ 3,579.00	Pantry Fund	\$ 420.00
<u>Vanco</u>		Parish House	\$ 895.30
General Operating	\$ <u>220.00</u>	Youth: Sunday School	\$ 5.20
Subtotal	\$ 220.00	CHARGE Trip	\$ <u>410.00</u>
		Subtotal	\$ 5,358.50
TOTAL	\$3,799.00	<u>Vanco</u>	
		General Operating	\$ 1,980.50
		Building	\$ 25.00
		Caring Committee	\$ 10.10
		Youth	\$ 25.25
		Pantry Fund	\$ 10.10
		Parish House	\$ <u>50.00</u>
		Subtotal	\$ 2,050.95
		TOTAL	\$7,409.45

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POINSETTIA ORDERS are due <u>Sunday</u>, <u>November 26</u>th Forms and envelopes are in the Narthex.

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Sunday, Nov. 26:

Worship Service @ 10:00 am - Christ the King Sunday

You can view the Worship Service on our Facebook page (click the link below) https://www.facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos/videos/

Monday, Nov. 27:

Boy Scouts Meeting @ 7:00 pm – Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, Nov. 28:

Bible Study @ 12:00 pm – Zoom Call

Wednesday, Nov. 29:

- Quilters Meet @ 9:30 am
- Faith Bells Rehearsal @ 6:30 pm
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal @ 7:30 pm

Saturday, Dec. 2:

- 9:00 am 12:00 pm Christmas Tree & Lights (Volunteers needed)
- 2:00 pm 4:00 pm Private Event / Sanctuary
- 7:00 pm Murder for Two @ Williamston Theatre

Sunday, Dec. 3:

- 10:00 am Worship Service ADVENT1
- 11:00 am Christmas Tree Decorating (Volunteers needed)
- 11:30 am 2:30 pm Confirmation Class + Activity Fellowship Hall and Brookdale Meridian
- 2:30 pm National ELCA Youth Gathering ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING -- Fellowship Hall

We need one Sunday School Teacher on **December 3rd** for the <u>K - 2nd</u> grade group. We also need a few teachers for the remainder of December and some in January. Please use the link below to sign up. Thanks for your help!

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094EA4AA23A2FAC07-iwantto

National ELCA Youth Gathering Organizational Meeting



On <u>December 3, at 2:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall</u>, there will be a meeting for all youth and their parents who are interested in going to the National ELCA Youth Gathering.

Details:

- All those in 8th to 12th grade are eligible to attend.
- It will be held July 16 20, 2024, in New Orleans, LA.
- The Registration cost is \$450.00 (\$150.00 due at registration). This price does not include the lodging or meals. We will need to do some fundraising.
- The hotel rooms are \$175.00 per person there can be 3 in a room.
- They recommend \$70.00 a day for meals.

We will need to work out the transportation and the synod is working on group possibilities.

Please let me know if you are planning to join. Also, if you are interested and cannot attend, please let me know and I can keep you in the loop.

Pastor Bruce

Mark your calendars!!

The Christmas Pageant - put on by the Youth - will be on December 17th, during Worship Service. Following the Service, there will be coffee hour and cake!



FLC Wednesday, December 20, 11:45 am - 1:00 pm

December Hosts are Karen Fraser & Debra Borton-McDonough

This is an opportunity for fellowship and food. If you would like to host a month, please let Bob Nelson or Tammy Heilman know. Hosting would involve providing sandwiches, drinks, set up, and clean up. For anyone attending, please feel free to bring a salad or dessert. You can also bring your own lunch if you wish. We hope you can join us. Come and go as you need to during lunch.

MICRO PANTRY – NOVEMBER Challenge

A wonderful opportunity has presented itself to our Micro-Pantry. A generous, anonymous, donor has offered to match any donations up to \$1000 <u>during November</u> to the Micro Pantry Fund. If you would like to meet this challenge to help keep our Micro Pantries Food Budget funded, please make your check to Faith Lutheran with "Micro Pantry Challenge" on the Memo line.

SINGING SINNERS SUNDAY

You are invited to join the Singing Sinners! We rehearse at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, then head to Buddie's after rehearsal for fellowship and laughter! We sing during worship on the following Sunday. The Sunday warm-up time is 9:15 – 9:45. Join us once ... or every month! Questions? See Deb Borton-McDonough.

DECEMBER: Rehearse on December 6 @ 7:30 pm
Warm-up on December 10 @ 9:15 am
Sing during worship on December 10

 <u>FLC Calendar of Events</u>: All scheduled Sunday Services, church events, meetings, and facility use events are now posted on the FLC Website under <u>About Us</u> / <u>Calendar</u>. OR, you can click "Calendar" from the top right corner of the Home Page.

Here is the direct link: <u>Faith Lutheran Church Calendar of Events</u>. Links to the Sunday Services (Recorded and Live), Tuesday Bible Studies (via Zoom), etc., are available within the individual calendar events.

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