



## **EASTER 3**

**April 14, 2024**

**10:00 AM**

## **FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

### **FLC Staff**

Pastor ..... Bruce Thorsen  
Music Director ..... Deb 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](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

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

## PRELUDE

"And the Lord with the Sound of the Trumpet"

Andrew Fletcher

**"<sup>12</sup>This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you." John 15:12-14 NRSV**

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

## GATHERING SONG – Alleluia! Jesus is Risen! (ELW 377)



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!  
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter  
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;  
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:  
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;  
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:  
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,  
Cher - u - bim sing; O grave, be o - pen!  
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

### *Refrain*



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

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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-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, 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




hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*




2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



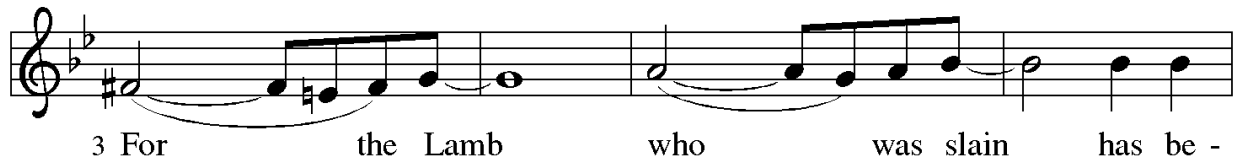
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



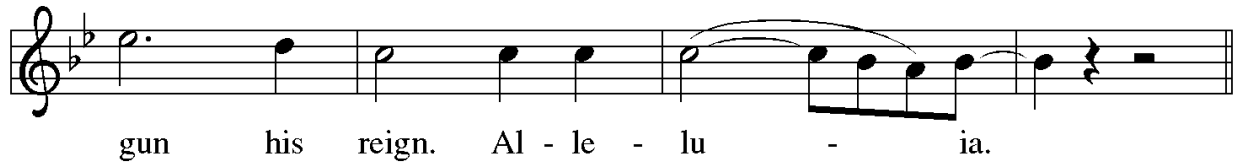
Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

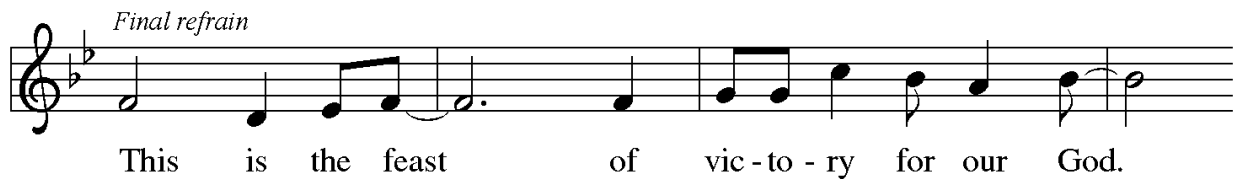


3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

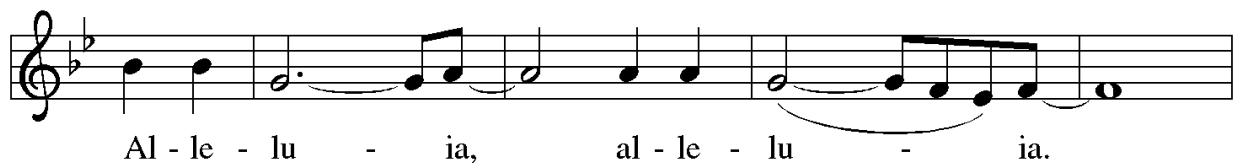


gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

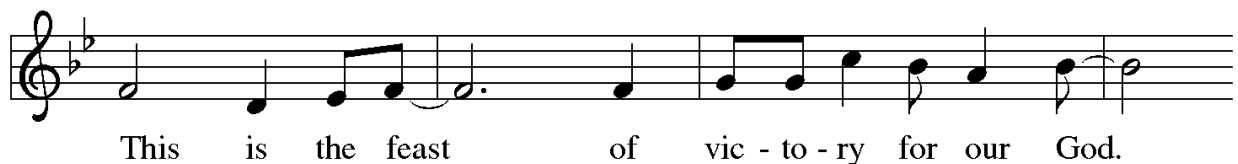
*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19**

*After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.*

<sup>12</sup>[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?"<sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup>"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

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

## **PSALM 4 (Read Responsively)**

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**<sup>2</sup>"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"**

<sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; the LORD will hear me when I call.

**<sup>4</sup>Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices and put your trust in the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?" Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

**<sup>8</sup>In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

## Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7

*God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.*

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON – Noisy Offering for Micro Pantry

### 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.

## **GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48**

*In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.”

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **SERMON**



# HYMN OF THE DAY – Here is Bread (W&P 58)

C G/B Am E<sup>7</sup> F/A C/G G

1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us,  
 2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us,  
 3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us,

F/A Am G/B C G/B Am E<sup>7</sup>

he is with us. Break the bread, taste the wine,  
 he is with us. Know his grace, find his peace,  
 he is with us. We'll pro - claim till he comes

F/A C/G G | C Fm/C || 2,3 C Gm<sup>7</sup> Bb/C

Christ is with us here.  
 feast on Je - sus here.  
 Je - sus cru - ci - fied.

## Refrain

Fm<sup>7</sup> F<sup>6</sup> Em<sup>7</sup> Am<sup>7</sup> Dm<sup>7</sup> Gm<sup>7</sup>

In this bread there is heal - ing, in this cup is

Bb/C C Bb/D C/E Fm<sup>7</sup> F#dim<sup>7</sup>

life for - ev - er. In this mo - ment,

Em<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup>aug Dm<sup>7</sup> G<sup>7</sup> C

by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

Text and music: Graham Kendrick  
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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

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen, and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

"Gaelic Alleluia"

arr. Craig Courtney

**Chancel Choir; Kathy Richardson, Piano**

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

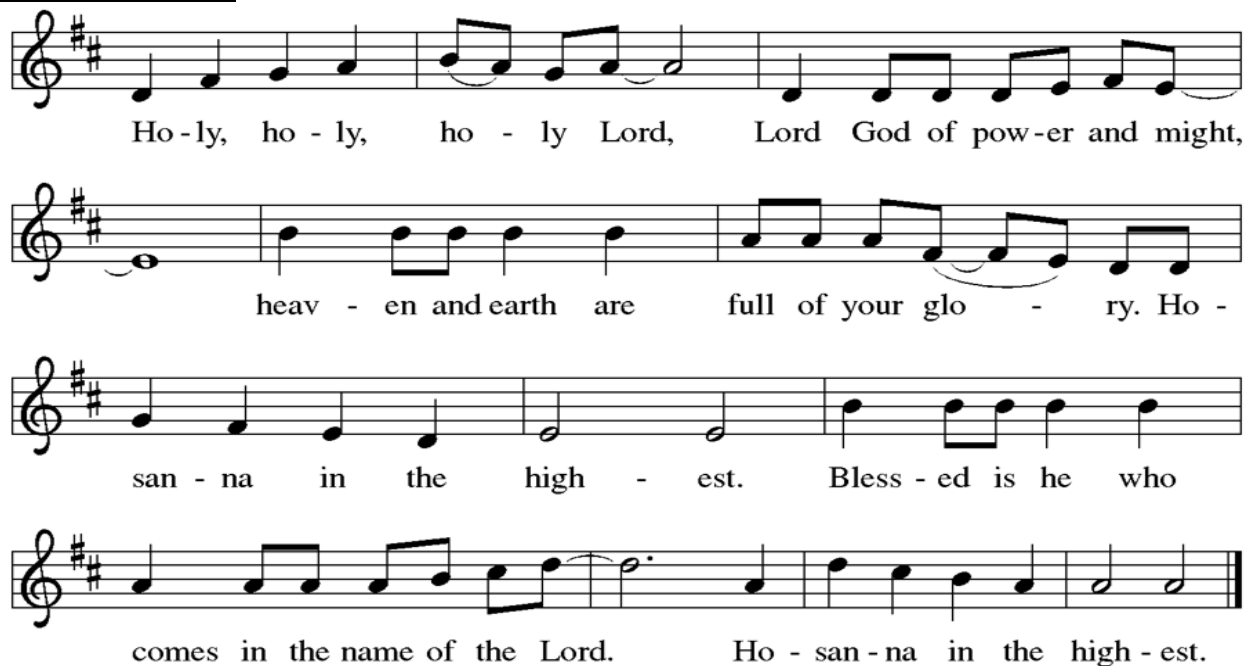
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, 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

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

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-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. 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

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

## 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

“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”

arr. James Biery

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

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✠ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

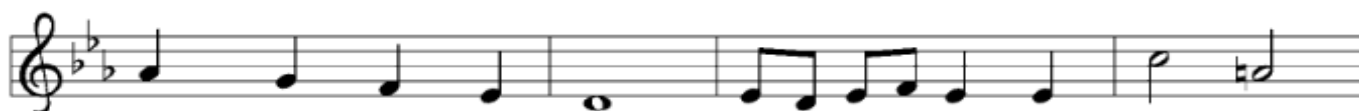
### **SENDING SONG – Thine is the Glory (ELW 376)**



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he  
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan



where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

## POSTLUDE

“Thine Be the Glory”

arr. Lani Smith

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## FAITH VOLUNTEERS

Reader: Lois Neves  
Greeter(s): Rich Weingartner  
Lay Assistant: Ryan Thompson  
Coffee Hour: Dingedine's

Altar Care: Elaine Harrison  
Ushers: Jon & Elaine Harrison  
Acolyte: Calvin Kadrofske

## WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT

### March 31, 2024

Loose Cash	\$ 178.00
General Fund	\$ 4,175.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 40.00
Parish House	\$ 100.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 4,493.00</b>
<u>Vanco</u>	
General Operating	\$ 220.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 50.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 270.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,763.00</b>

### April 7, 2024

Loose Cash	\$ 40.00
General Fund	\$ 1,940.00
Building Rental	\$ 175.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 50.00
Parish House	\$ 50.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 2,255.00</b>
<u>Vanco</u>	
General Operating	\$ 5,184.00
Building	\$ 125.00
Caring	\$ 50.00
Parish House	\$ 50.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 50.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 5,459.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 7,714.00</b>

## FLC SCHEDULE

### Sunday, April 14:

- 9:00 am – Sunday School
- 10:00 am – Worship Service: **EASTER 3**
- 11:30 am – Confirmation

### Monday, April 15:

- Girl Scouts Meeting @ 6:15 pm – Old Fellowship Hall
- Boy Scouts Meeting @ 7:00 pm – Fellowship Hall
- FLC Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm – Library

### Tuesday, April 16:

- Bible Study @ 12:00 pm – Zoom Call

### Wednesday, April 17:

- Quilters Meet @ 9:30 am
- Lunch Bunch @ 11:45 am
- Faith Bells Rehearsal @ 6:30 pm – 7:15 pm
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal @ 7:30 pm – 8:45 pm

### Saturday, April 20:

- Private Event - Fellowship Hall/Kitchen (8:30am – 4:30pm)

### Sunday, April 21:

- 9:00 am – Sunday School
- 10:00 am – Worship Service: **EASTER 4 / Green Team & Earth Sunday**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Bruce will be on vacation starting after Confirmation today, Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. He will return to the office on Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. If there is a Pastoral emergency, you can contact the church office or Randy Royalty, the Council President. They will contact the Pastor on call.

CALLING ALL GRADUATES!! Please inform Connie if we have any high school graduates or college graduates to celebrate in June. You can send some information about them ... what their plans are for the future, etc., to [connie@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:connie@faithlutheranokemos.org). Thanks in advance!