

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



SIXTH SUNDAY IN EASTER MAY 25, 2025 10:00 AM

PastorRev. Megan Floyd
Administrative Assistant.....Kalea Sanford
Music Director Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist Bruce Williams
Sound Technicians Cody Boyan & Raymond Herek
Church email faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
Website www.faithlutheranokemos.org
Facebook Page facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

WIFI: Faith Lutheran; Password: LutheranFaith

WELCOME STATEMENT

We, at Faith Lutheran Church, welcome you as God’s beloved child, “for in Christ Jesus... [we] are all children of God through faith.” (Galatians 3:26). No matter your age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, marital status, neurodivergent status, faith background, political leanings, or mental, intellectual or physical ability – you are welcomed here just as you are. In this church, we commit to pursue gender and racial equity in all that we do, and to support one another as chosen family, being parents and siblings for each other regardless of who we have as biological family (Mark 3:31-35). For we are all one in Christ Jesus and rely on the unconditional nature of God’s love and grace to be our help and guide as we strive to serve our world.

For safety reasons, please do not allow your children to wander unsupervised past the coat racks or downstairs during the church service. Our nursery is open but not staffed. You are welcome to use it, but please do not leave your children unattended.

PRELUDE

In Dir ist Freude”

arr. Joseph Bogнар/Kristina Langlois

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

Pastor: In the name of † the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

All: **Amen.**

Pastor: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the
baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Pastor: Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

All: **make us one as you are one.**

Pastor: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our
own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

All: **make us one as you are one.**

Pastor: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open
the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in
captivity; waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

All: **make us one as you are one.**

Pastor: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is
shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

All: **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (ELW 834)



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

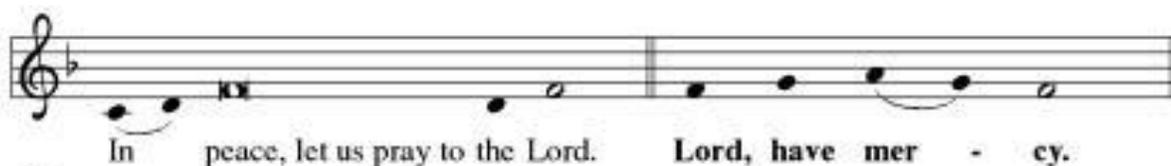
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GREETING

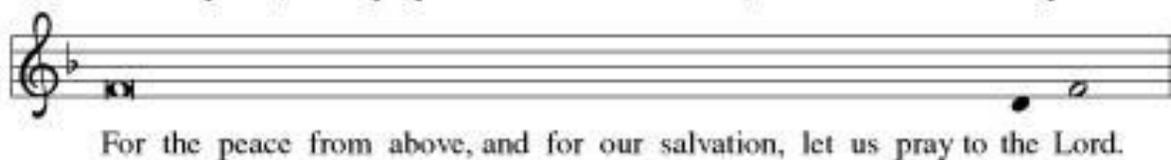
Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

KYRIE



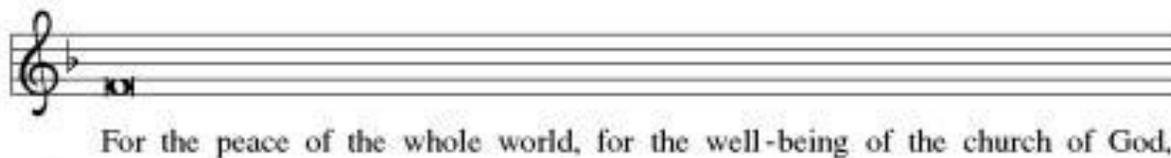
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



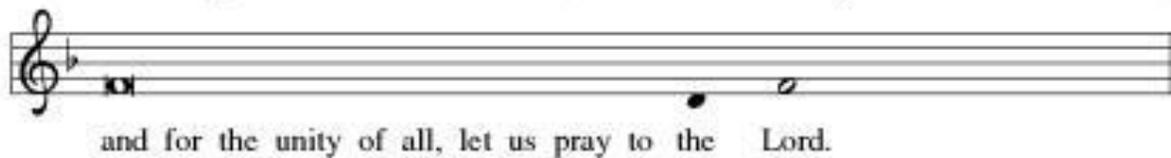
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



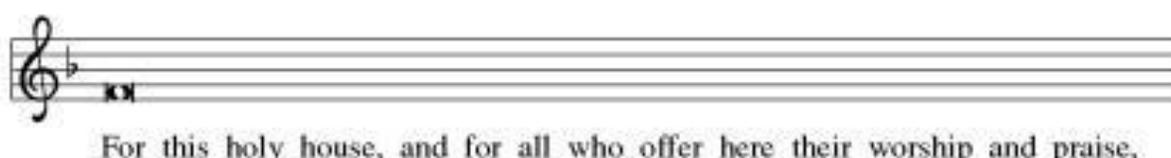
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



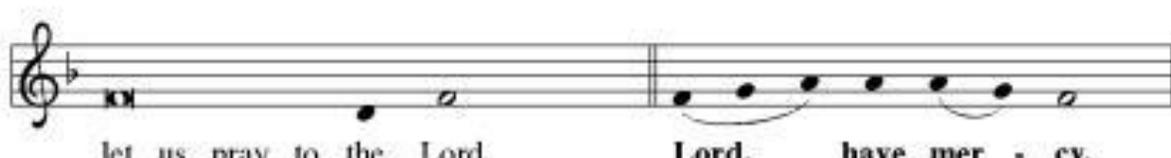
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



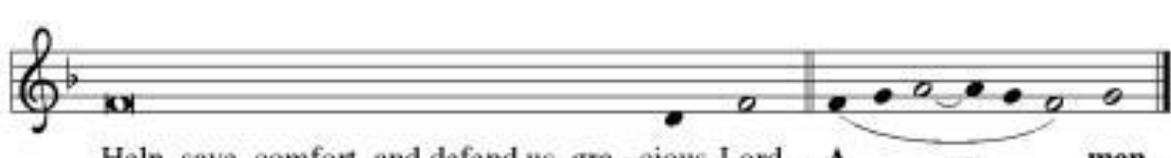
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

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.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

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

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 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



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 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, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Asst: Let us pray. Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and 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.

All: **Amen.**

The assembly may be seated.

FIRST READING Acts 16:9-15

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 67

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God’s face shine upon us.

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

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

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

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

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

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

SECOND READING Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

¹⁰ And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON (Noisy Offering for Parish House)



Please stand as you are able.

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.

GOSPEL John 14:23-29

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to John.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²³ Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly may be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Megan Floyd

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY – Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded (ACS 933)



1 Day of de - light and beau-ty un - bound-ed, tell the news, the gos - pel
2 Day of de - light and beau-ty un - bound-ed, tell the news, the gos - pel



spread! Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ
spread! Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ



ris - en from the dead! Sing of the sun from dark - ness ap -
ris - en from the dead! Sing now of mourn - ing turned in - to



pear - ing; sing of the seed from bar - ren earth green - ing;
danc - ing; sing now the mys - t'ry, hope of our glo - ry;



sing of cre - a - tion, al - le - lu - ia! Sing of the
sing with thanks - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia! Sing now of



stream from Je - sus' side flow - ing; sing of the saints in
fast - ing turned in - to feast - ing; sing the Lord's fa - vor



wa - ter made ho - ly; sing of sal - va - tion, al - le - lu - ia!
last - ing for - ev - er; sing, all things liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

APOSTLES CREED

Pastor: Joining the saints from every time and place, let us confess our faith.

All: **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

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying (ELW 752)



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Asst: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

... Hear us O God,

All: **your mercy is great.**

Pastor: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

All: **Amen.**

Repeat "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying."

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

The assembly may be seated.

OFFERING

"My Lord, What a Morning"

arr. Mark Hayes

Deb Borton, soloist

OFFERING RESPONSE - Christ is Arisen, Alleluia (ELW 364 vs. 4)

4 “Go spread the news: he’s not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus’ redeeming labors are done.
Even the battle with sin is won.”

Refrain

Refrain



Tu - mwi - mbi - e so - te kwa fu - ra - ha.
Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.



Ye - su a - me - to - ka ka - bu - ri - ni.
Death’s fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.



Ka - shi - nda ki - fo, ha - le - lu - ya;
Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



ha - le - lu - ya, Ye - su yu ha - i.
Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Please stand as you are able.

LITURGICAL HAND WASHING

Pastor and assisting ministers sanitize and wash their hands.

“I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O Lord, singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous deeds.” – Psalm 26:6-7

OFFERING PRAYER

Asst: Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.

All: **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
All: **And also with you.**
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
All: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

Pastor: 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, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor: 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; 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. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, Our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

All: **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

Pastor: The table is now ready. So come, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a while.

It is Christ who invites us to meet him here. So come, the feast of grace is spread.

All are invited to come to the table to receive what the Lord offers. If, however, you would prefer not to receive communion, you may come to the table for a blessing.

Gluten free wafers are available upon request when you come to receive communion at the altar rail.

Our trays have wine (darker liquid) in the outer part of the tray, and grape juice (lighter liquid) in the center. Please choose whichever you prefer.

If you have any further questions, please ask an usher.

The assembly may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD



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.

COMMUNION INSTRUMENTAL

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

arr. Victor Labenske

Please stand as you are able.

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

All: **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Asst: Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.

All: **Amen.**

BLESSING

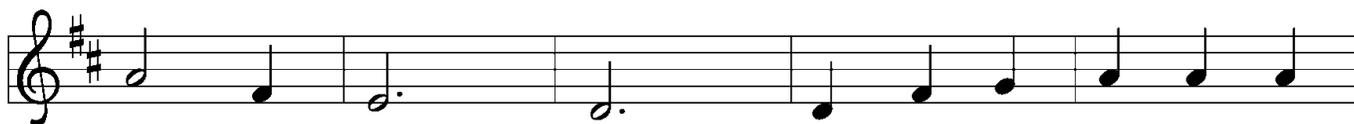
Pastor: May the triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.

All: **Amen.**

SENDING SONG – I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light (ELW 815)



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

DISMISSAL

Asst: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Asst: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

“Sonata No. 3, Op. 56, Allegro”

Alexandre Guilmant

FLC SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 25

- Worship Service @ 10:00 am: **6th Sunday of Easter**

Monday, May 26

- Office Closed for Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 27

- Bible Study @12pm – Hybrid
- Girl Scouts @5:30pm

Wednesday, May 28

- Quilters Meet @ 9:30 am

Saturday, May 31

- Private Rental @2pm in Sanctuary

Sunday, June 1

- Worship Service @10:00am: **7th Sunday of Easter**

FAITH VOLUNTEERS

May 25

Greeter(s): Lois Neves
Usher(s): Brenda Kopf/Randy Royalty
Sunday School: No Sunday School
Coffee Hour: Backman Family
Counters: John McCracken/Kathy Mace
Noisy Offering: Matt Schnizlein
Acolyte:
Reader: John McCracken
Lay Assistant: Kim O'Brien
Altar Care: Elaine Harrison

June 1

Greeter(s): John/Ramona Backman
Usher(s): Gwynne/Mark Kadrofske
Sunday School: No Sunday School
Coffee Hour: Nelson Family
Counters: Jack Dingedine/Kathy Mace
Noisy Offering: No Noisy Offering
Acolyte: Charlie Herek
Reader: Lois Neves
Lay Assistant: Bob Nelson
Altar Care: Elaine Harrison

Faith Lutheran Church Prayer List

We invite you to hold these people in your prayers each day this week.

We pray for all longing for sustainable housing, secure employment, access to medical care, and overall health and wellness, especially **Janet, Anne**, Rich, Lana, Kate, Marla, Chuck, Molly.

We pray for all those in military service, especially those connected to our community: Jon, Landon, Hannah, Joe, Reuben, Lane, and Aiden.

We pray for the larger church, especially our synod prayer partner, Christ the King Lutheran Church in Gladwin and their pastor, Rev. Emily Olsen-Brandt.

****New additions to our prayers are listed in bold; names will remain on the printed list for six weeks. Please contact the church office or Pastor Megan to add or reinstate names to the prayer list.***

Prayer Partners Letter

We are participating in this activity and would love you to add your signature. The letter is located on the table under the bulletin board entitled "Prayer Partners."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RIC Team Plans for Meridian Pride

Meridian Township is holding its annual pride event on **Saturday, May 31**, from 5 to 10 p.m.

FLAG CEREMONY

Scouting America has a Flag Retirement Ceremony every year at summer camp. If you have an old, tattered American flag, please leave the flag in the scout room in the basement. **Please have them in by June 1st.** Questions? Contact Mark Kadrofske.

SECOND ANNUAL END OF SCHOOL YEAR PICNIC!

The second annual FLC End of School Year Picnic **will be held on Friday, June 6, from 6-9 pm** at Faith. We'll have a bar-b-que and a bonfire (for S'mores) along with backyard games, including pickleball, badminton, cornhole, horseshoes and soccer For more information, text or email Mark Kadrofske at 517-703-6837, markkadrofske@gmail.com.

MUSIC IN THE PARK

The Membership Development Committee invites you to join us at **Lake Lansing's Music in the Park on Friday, June 13th**. Our very own Cody Boyan will perform with School of Rock at 6:00, and the band The Oxymorons (nostalgic, folk, and classic rock) will take the stage at 7:00. **We will meet in the northeast corner of the lawn**. Bring your blankets, chairs, dinner, munchies, etc., and enjoy a night of music.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be held from **Monday, July 14th, to Thursday, July 17th**. **The program is open to pre-K through grade 5 youths and will be run in the evenings from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm**. Each evening will begin with a meal to be followed by a program. Parents and their children will be welcome to participate in program sessions.