

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AUGUST 24, 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

“Bunessan”

arr. Dale Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity,
✠, one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Merciful God,

**All: you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.**

All: Amen.

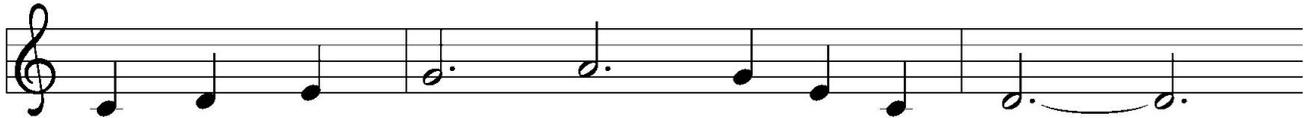
Pastor: You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✠ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

All: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – Morning has Broken (ELW 556)



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

GREETING

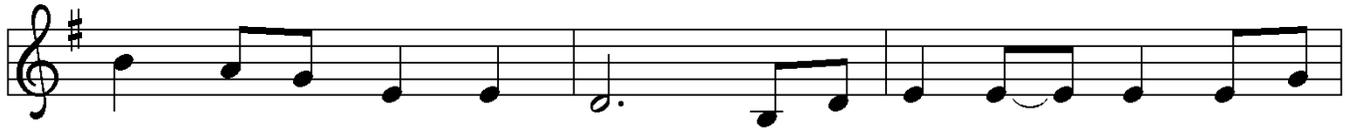
Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE – Canticle of the Turning (ELW 723 v. 3)



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



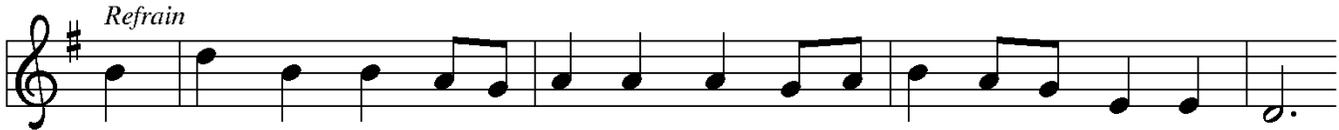
You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Asst: Let us pray. O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as your children, we carry so much hurt, trauma and isolation that we feel as though we will never be whole again. Give us the courage to welcome those who are burdened and suffer because of human will. Teach us to journey alongside one another, so that our community will heal our pain and put the wholeness of spirit at the forefront of all we do, through the love and compassion of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: **Amen.**

The assembly may be seated.

FIRST READING Isaiah 58:9b-14

God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you,
 the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
 and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,

then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.

¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

¹³ If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the Sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs;

¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 103:1-8

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

² **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**

³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;

⁴ **who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

**⁶ O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷ You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.

**⁸ LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

SECOND READING Hebrews 12:18-29

Using images of Moses, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.

¹⁸ You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰ (For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.” ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”) ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.” ²⁷ This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

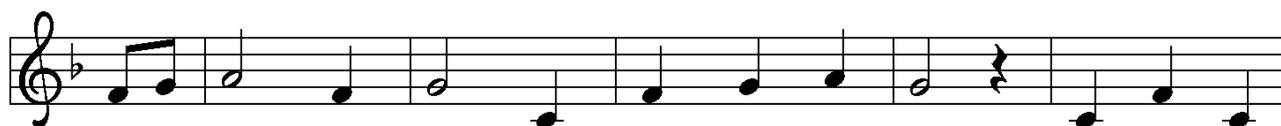
All: **Thanks be to God.**

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



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

GOSPEL Luke 13:10-17

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding “sabbath work” to include setting people free from bondage.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

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

¹⁰ Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.” ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly may be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Megan Floyd

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY – Healer of Our Every Ill (ELW 612)

Refrain



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



- 1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
- 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
- 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your



peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

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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

Christ Our Peace (ACS 1037)



Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;



Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod - y in you.

Asst: Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near. *A brief silence.*

...God of grace,

All: **Receive our prayer.**

Pastor: Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

All: **Amen.**

Repeat "Christ Our Peace"

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

The assembly may be seated.

OFFERING

"Kum Ba Ya" (Come By Here)

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

"Treble Maker Singers"

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 RESPONSE – Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven (ELW 864 vs. 3)



- 1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
- 2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
- 3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
- 4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Asst: Creator God,
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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, 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 (Sing in Spanish, then English) (ELW 473)



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zón te_a - do - ra.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.



Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: San - to_e-res Se - ñor.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor: 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.

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 kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice!

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.

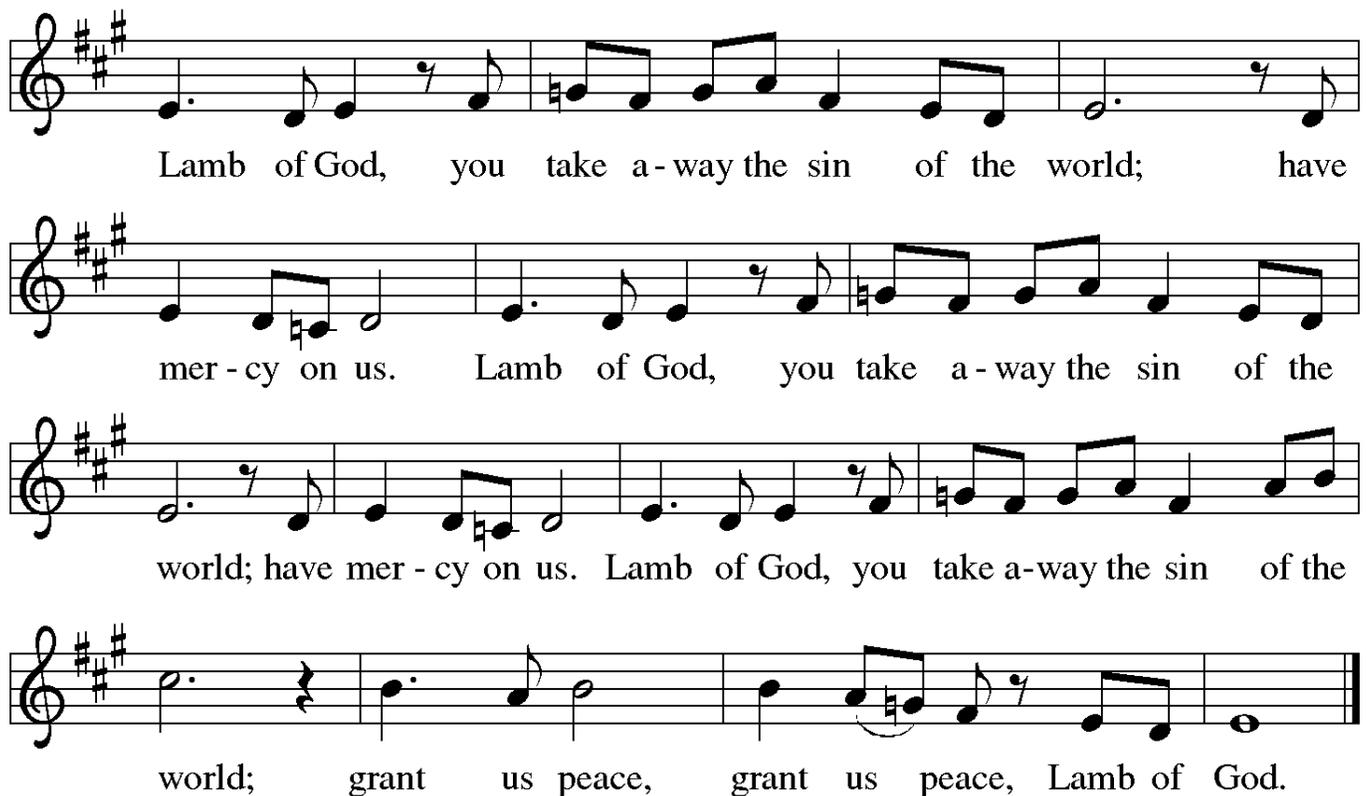
Our trays have wine (darker liquid) in the outer part of the tray, and grape juice (lighter liquid) in the center. Please choose whichever you prefer.

If it would be easier for you to have communion brought to you, please let an usher know and we will be happy to serve you at your seat.

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION SONG – Look Who Gathers At Christ’s Table (ACS 977)



1 Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries
2 Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low -
3 Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand
4 Bring your joy and bring your sad - ness, and pre - pare to



that they bring. Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing;
ers ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled
dif - f'rent ways, but they share one thing in com - mon:
be sur - prised by the host whose hands are wound - ed,



some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in -
with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de -
they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has in -
who will o - pen wide your eyes when he bless - es bread and



vit - ed, bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ in - sists they
ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight; Paul re - lates his
vit - ed north and south and east and west to con - verge a -
breaks it— truth and man - na from a - bove!— and then pass - es



all are wel - come. There is room for ev - 'ry - one.
fruit - less ef - forts to ob - lit - er - ate the light.
round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.
wine that wa - kens in your heart the taste of love.

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: Mothering God,
 you gathered us to your table
 and we drank deeply of your grace.
 Send us out by your Spirit
 to love our neighbors as ourselves
 and proclaim your love in Jesus' name

All: **Amen.**

BLESSING

Pastor: The love of God abound in you;
 the grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ, fill your hearts;
 and the life of the Spirit
 ✠ bless you and give you peace.

All: **Amen.**

SENDING SONG – Ten Thousand Reasons (ACS 1097)

Refrain



Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;



wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,



O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.



1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing;
2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your
3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the



. . . it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may
name . . is . . . great, and your heart is kind. For all . . your
end . . draws near, and my time has come; . . . still, my



pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be
good-ness, I will keep . . on . . sing-ing— ten thou-sand
soul will sing your praise un - end-ing— ten thou-sand



Refrain

sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.
rea - sons for my heart to find.
years and then for - ev - er - more!

DISMISSAL

Asst: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Sortie in Fa Majeur”

César Franck

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, August 24

Worship Service @ 10:00 am: **11th Sunday after Pentecost**

Tuesday, August 26

Bible Study @12pm in Library – Hybrid

Wednesday, August 27

Quilters @9:30am

Thursday, August 28

A time of prayer @11:45am in the Sanctuary (or wherever you are)

Sunday, August 31

Worship Service @10:00am: **12th Sunday after Pentecost**

FAITH VOLUNTEERS

August 24

Greeter(s): Ken & Ellen Milne
Usher(s): Jon & Elaine Harrison
Coffee Hour: Addie Thompson
Counters: Shawn Paige
Noisy Offering: Matt Schnizlein
Acolyte: Reagan Sanford
Reader: Kara Floyd
Lay Assistant: Harold Sollenberger
Altar Care: Jamie Royalty

August 31

Greeter(s): Mike Eschelbach
Usher(s): Ellen, Todd, Edison Robinson
Coffee Hour: Janet Boyer/Ramona Backman
Counters: Kathy Mace
Noisy Offering:
Acolyte:
Reader: Kalea Sanford
Lay Assistant: Brenda Kopf
Altar Care: Elaine Harrison

FLC 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 **Marla, Marj**, Denise, Kate, Marla, and Chuck.

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

We pray for the larger church, especially our synod prayer partner, Peace Lutheran Church in Holland and their pastors, and our companion synods in Papua New Guinea and Honduras.

****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

MICROPANTRY FUNDRAISER UPDATE

The fundraiser event we had on August 6 for the micro pantries was a success. People had a great time playing games, making crafts, decorating cookies, kicking off our Pampered Chef Fundraiser, and of course eating lots of great food! The Pampered Chef fundraiser continues through the end of the month. Pampered Chef will donate 30% of all orders placed at <https://www.pamperedchef.com/go/richmicropantry0825> through the end of the month. Let Rich Weingartner know if you have any questions.

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

Inspired by the Pray Without Ceasing movement in the ELCA, **beginning in August on Thursdays at 11:45am** we will be Praying Together, either in the Sanctuary or wherever you are. Please feel free to join us in person if you are able!

RALLY SUNDAY

Rally Sunday is just around the corner, and you don't want to miss it! Please make plans to join Membership Development in the downstairs Fellowship Hall for coffee hour following the service on **September 7th**. Also, mark your calendars for **Sunday, October 5th**. We will be heading to Hawk Hollow to play 18 holes on their mini hawk putt putt course. Fun for all ages. Sign-up sheet will be coming soon!

GOLF OUTING

Michigan Refugee Hope annual golf outing will be held **Wednesday, September 10th** at Wheatfield Valley Golf Club in Williamston. Check in at 9am! Flyers can be found in the Narthex, and if you have any questions please reach out to Paul Hereza, Randy Royalty or Jack Dingledine.

FAITH FORMATION

We are trying something new, and you (and your friends) are invited! Faith Formation classes and High School Youth Group are going to look a little different this fall. **Please see the flyer in the narthex for more information!**

High School:

We are collaborating with University Lutheran to form a community High School Youth Group that will meet in the evenings on the first Sunday of the month at ULC, and on the third Sunday of the month at Faith. We'll share a meal and build community through various activities.

Pre-K through Middle School (Confirmation):

We will meet on the third Wednesday evening each month for a community meal, followed by a VBS-style rotation for our younger students and confirmation programming for our middle schoolers. *We will not have Sunday School classes on Sunday mornings before worship.

What's not changing is our commitment to walking with you and your children on their faith journey, no matter where they are on that path (even if they aren't really on the path at all). All are welcome, including friends!

FLU/COVID CLINIC

1st Annual Flu/Covid clinic will be held **Sunday, October 5th** in the Fellowship Hall following service. Please mark your calendars and see flyer for more information.

CHARGE

Charge retreat, Nov. 14-16, at Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City! Registration is open now, and we plan to combine our group with University Lutheran. Registration is due by Oct. 1st