

# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



## BAPTISM OF OUR LORD JANUARY 11, 2026 10:00 AM

Pastor  
Administrative Assistant  
Music Director  
Organist/Pianist  
Sound Technicians  
Church Office Email  
Website  
Facebook Page

Rev. Megan Floyd  
Kalea Sanford  
Debra Borton-McDonough  
Bruce Williams  
Cody Boyan & Raymond Herek  
[faith@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:faith@faithlutheranokemos.org)  
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[facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos](https://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.

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*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.*

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## **PRELUDE**

“Shall We Gather at the River”

arr. Gordon Young

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**All: Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Pastor: Mighty God, lover of justice,

**All: you call us to life in community,  
but we have served our own interests  
at the expense of our neighbors.  
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.  
We say the right words,  
but our hearts are far from you.  
Turn us to seek your face.  
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,  
that we may do justice, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**All: Amen.**

Pastor: The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in ✝ Jesus' name.  
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.

**All: Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN: Shall We Gather at the River (ELW 423)



- 1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?  
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.  
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

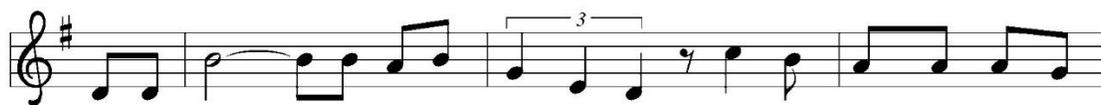
## GREETING

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: We are Marching in the Light (ELW 866)

*Sing: We are dancing...*



*Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -*  
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



*nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',*  
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



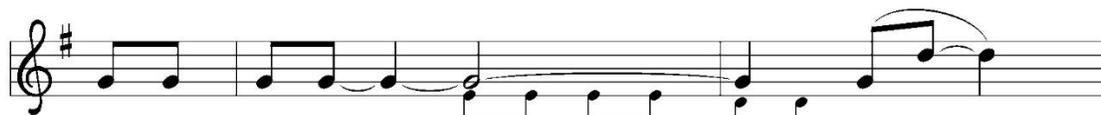
*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
we are march - ing in the light of God.



*Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO*  
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
we are march - ing in the light of God.



*Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO*  
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
we are march - ing in the light of God.

*Additional stanzas ad lib.:*

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Asst: Let us pray. O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, 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: Isaiah 42: 1-9

*God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.*

<sup>1</sup> Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup> He will not cry out or lift up his voice  
or make it heard in the street;

<sup>3</sup> a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

<sup>4</sup> He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth,  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

<sup>5</sup> Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup> I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,  
<sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
<sup>8</sup> I am the LORD; that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.  
<sup>9</sup> See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 29**

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.  
<sup>2</sup> **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**  
<sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.  
<sup>4</sup> **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**  
<sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;  
<sup>6</sup> **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**  
<sup>7</sup> The voice of the LORD  
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

**<sup>8</sup> The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup> The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, “Glory!”

**<sup>10</sup> The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

<sup>11</sup> O LORD, give strength to your people;  
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

## **SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43**

*Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God’s inclusive forgiveness in Jesus’ name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter’s preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON (Noisy offering for Holden Village )



*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.

The image shows two lines of musical notation on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first line contains the lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the" and the second line contains "words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia." The music consists of simple eighth and quarter notes.

### GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17

*Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

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

<sup>13</sup> Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

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: Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized (ELW 304)**



1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spir - it on you  
2 God called you, "My be - lov - ed Son"; you are God's ser - vant  
3 Straight-way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed the  
4 Bap - tize us with your Spir - it, Lord; your cross on us be



came, as peace - ful as a dove, and yet as  
true, sent to pro - claim the reign of heav'n, God's  
call to serve with free and will - ing heart, to  
signed, that like - wise in God's ser - vice we may



ur - gent as a flame, as ur - gent as a flame.  
ho - ly will to do, God's ho - ly will to do.  
give your life for all, to give your life for all.  
per - fect free - dom find, may per - fect free - dom find.

## 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

**Dona nobis pacem (ELW 753)** *Sung in unison.*

1 *Canon*



Do - na no - bis pa - cem, pa - cem. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

2



Do - na no - bis pa - cem. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

3



Do - na no - bis pa - cem. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Asst: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home. *A brief silence.*

...Merciful God,  
All: **Receive our prayer.**

Pastor: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

All: **Amen.**

*Repeat "Dona nobis pacem," sung as a round.*

## **PEACE**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

*The assembly may be seated.*

## **OFFERING**

"Make Me a Servant"

Benjamin Harlan

## **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*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## OFFERING RESPONSE: As with Gladness Men of Old (ELW 302 vs.1)



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;  
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,  
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,  
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;  
5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;  
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.  
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.  
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Asst: God of majesty,  
no eye has seen, no ear has heard  
what you have prepared for those who love you,  
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.  
Use what we have gathered  
to feed us with the reign of God come near,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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, al-mighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

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

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: 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: Praying now in whatever language or translation is the language of your heart, we pray as children of God:

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: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table; taste and see.

*The assembly may be seated.*

*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 still 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. Drop your empty cup in one of the baskets on the stands.*

*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.*

# 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 SONG: Spirit of Gentleness (ELW 396)

*Refrain*



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;  
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;  
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;  
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:  
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,  
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,  
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”  
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.  
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.  
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

*Refrain*

*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: Radiant God,  
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In the sacrament of his body and blood  
you have drawn us to your heart.  
Send us from this table with delight,  
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

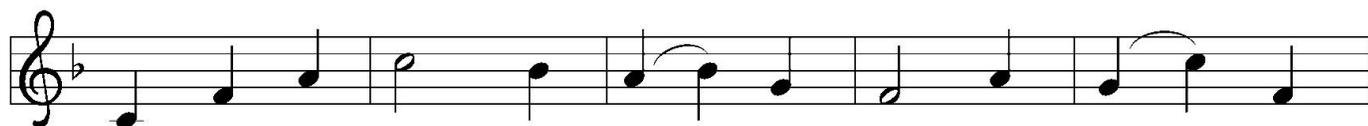
All: **Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

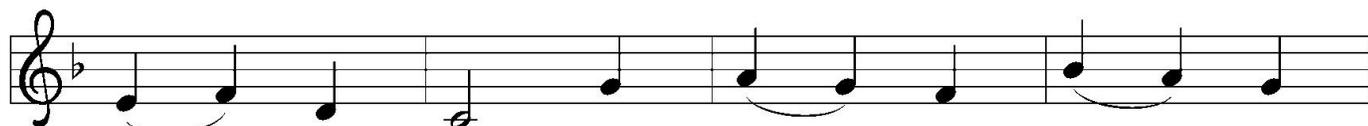
Pastor: May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise  
✠ bless you now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG: The Spirit Sends us Forth to Serve (ELW 551)



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in  
 2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the  
 3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter  
 4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings  
 bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to  
 joy like seed and, all our days, to  
 to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.  
 share a dream and help the blind to see.  
 cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.  
 pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

### DISMISSAL

Asst: Glory to God in the highest!

**All: And peace to God's people on earth!**

Asst: Go in joy and embody God's redeeming grace.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly may be seated.*

### POSTLUDE

"Praise God, All Christians"

arr. Paul Manz

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# CHURCH CALENDAR

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## Sunday, January 11

Worship Service @10am: **Baptism of Our Lord**

## Monday, January 12

Scouts @7pm in Sunday School/Room

Council Meeting @7pm in Library

## Tuesday, January 13

Worship Committee Meeting @11am in Library

Bible Study @12pm – Hybrid

## Wednesday, January 14

Quilters@9:30am

Girl Scouts @5:30pm in Sunday School/Youth Room

Faith Formation Community Meal @5:45pm in Fellowship Hall

Faith Formation Classes (Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade) @6:15pm

Faith Bell Choir @6:30pm

Chancel Choir@7:30pm

## Saturday, January 17

CAMTA @10am in Sanctuary

## Sunday, January 18

Worship Service @10am: **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany**

Marla Holle Visitation @1pm in Sanctuary

Service @2pm in Sanctuary

Fellowship following service in Narthex

Faith Formation High School Youth Group @5pm in Fellowship Hall

## FAITH VOLUNTEERS

### January 11

Greeter(s): Paula Pulter  
Usher(s): John McCracken  
Coffee Hour: Randy & Jamie Royalty  
Counters: John McCracken, Kathy Mace  
Noisy Offering: Matt Schnizlein  
Acolyte: Charlie Herek  
Reader: Andy Boyan  
Lay Assistant: Harold Sollenberger  
Altar Care: Tammy Heilman

### January 18

Greeter(s): John & Phylis Schleicher  
Usher(s): Doug & Linda Hirt  
Coffee Hour:  
Counters:  
Noisy Offering: N/A  
Acolyte: Kara Floyd  
Reader: John Schleicher  
Lay Assistant: Bill Floyd  
Altar Care: Rich Weingartner



*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 **Barb**, Sue, Troy, Krista, Eric, Beth, Logan, Garrett, Melinda, Rick, Kathy, Grace, and Marj.

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

We pray for the larger church, especially our synod prayer partner First Lutheran Church in Muskegon, their pastor, Rev. William Uetrict 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**

### **Things in the office at Faith are changing...**

Our amazing Treasurer, Gwynne Kadrofske, is stepping down from the bookkeeping responsibilities of her position (she will remain as Treasurer, overseeing the big picture of our financials). She has been volunteering her skills to us for many years, and we couldn't be more grateful for her and all she's done. However, that means some things will be changing. The bookkeeping responsibilities and our current administrative assistant responsibilities will be rolled into one position: office manager. As this is a new position, we will be accepting applications and interviewing for the position. Kalea's role with us will sunset when this new position begins, and the current office hours of 9-12 pm will extend to 9-2pm. The new job description is available and will be posted soon!

### **Annual Contribution Reports**

Annual contribution reports have been placed in your mailboxes at the church. Please notify Kalea Sanford in the Church Office if you want them to be mailed to you.

### **January Noisy Offerings will be for Holden Village.**

Beginning in 2026, we are using our noisy offerings to highlight and support some of our many ministry partners, both locally and beyond. Holden Village is a remote wilderness community, rooted in the Lutheran tradition, that welcomes all people into the North Cascade Mountains. It is a place of radical welcome and belonging. Extreme weather in December caused mudslides that washed out the roads and threatened the camp. All 53 year-round volunteers and paid staff had to be evacuated. Because of ongoing slide and avalanche risks, repairs cannot begin until at least May and the camp will remain closed. Our funds will primarily support the displaced staff as they pivot into something new.

### **Marla Holle Visitation and Service**

We will host her funeral on **Sunday, January 18th**. Visitation will be from 1-2pm, with the service immediately following at 2pm. We will enjoy coffee and treats following the service in the Narthex, and all are invited to stay.

## **Shared Pregnancy Giving Tree**

Please help us support Shared Pregnancy, a local non-profit assisting new mothers and families, with collecting items of need. **We will be collecting items and money until January 20th.** Two options for giving:

#1. Choose a tag from the tree located in the narthex, purchase the gift, and place it under the tree (unwrapped). Please return tags.

#2. Your Monetary contribution will be pooled and used to purchase a larger gift from their “wish list”. (Contribute using Vanco via Caring Committee or cash/ check in envelope marked with Caring Committee).

## **1946: The mistranslation that shifted culture**

Join us at University Lutheran on **Sunday, January 25th** at 4 PM to watch the movie, and then stay for dinner and discussion around this important film. Faith Lutheran, ULC, plus four other area churches are sponsoring this community event, so all may attend at no cost. Invite some friends and join us for what is sure to be an enlightening evening!

## **RIC Sunday... Reception of New Members... and our Annual Meeting!!**

**January 25, 2026...** it is a day you won't want to miss! Wear something colorful and come to worship and celebrate our ministry together.

## **Super Bowl Chili Cook Off – February 8**

The Membership Development Committee and Parish Education Committee will be hosting a Super Bowl Sunday Chili Cook Off right after the church service in the fellowship hall. This will be a fundraiser for the youth (National Youth Gathering, etc.) This will be a free will offering and all participants (chili eaters) will get to cast one vote for their favorite chili. Check the narthex for the sign-up sheet to bring chili, as well as the sign- up sheet for those just wanting to participate in chili consumption.

## **WELCA Triennial Gathering, July 16-19, 2026, Des Moines, Iowa!**

Women of the ELCA are gathering in Des Moines this summer under the theme, “I Am Worthy,” based on Psalm 139:14: “I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” The conference offers four days of inspirational speakers, workshops, Bible Study, and a quilting exhibit... plus fellowship and more. Pastor Megan is considering going – it is a drivable distance (8-hour drive), and we have money for education available to offset the cost with scholarships. Please let her know if you are interested in going! There are flyers on the information tables with more information.