

Faith Lutheran Church

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10:00am Worship Service • Sunday, September 7, 2025 • 13th Sunday of Pentecost

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *Build Us Up Lord* ELW 670

You may be seated.

PASTORAL WELCOME

Faith's Mission is to openly share the saving grace of Jesus' love.

BLESSING OF TEACHERS

P I now ask you, people of Faith Lutheran Church and School: Will you today renew your commitment to our youngest brothers and sisters, our children and youth who look to you for guidance, support, and examples of righteous living?

T **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

P People of Faith Lutheran Church and School: Will you claim these gifted people as those called by God to help carry out our congregation's ministry to children, youth, and families? Will you support them and enthusiastically celebrate the work they do?

T **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

P Will you pray for these leaders and the young people they serve, celebrating our children and youth as the ones Jesus blessed and welcomed?

T **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

P Let us pray. Gracious God, for Jesus' sake, empower these ministers to care for the young ones in our family of faith. Help them to teach faithfully, lead patiently, and guide confidently. Stir up in these servants the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

People in the assembly may raise their hands in blessing as the presiding minister continues.

P Almighty God, who has given you the gifts and the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

C **Amen.**

P On behalf of Faith Lutheran Church and School, we now commission you for ministry, grateful for your gifts and your willingness to serve.

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS AND STUDENTS

P For the marvels of your creation,

C **we praise you, O God.**

P For the opportunity to explore and study,

C **we praise you, O God.**

P For those who guide us, teachers and mentors,

C **we praise you, O God.**

P Teach us your ways and guide us in your path, for you are the creator of all that is seen and unseen.

C **Amen.**

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

A The First Reading is from the 30th chapter of Deuteronomy.

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 1 – *read responsively.*

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21

A The Second Reading is from the 1st chapter of Philemon.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ

Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

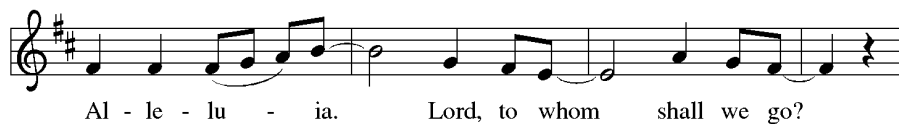
So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



GOSPEL

Luke 14:25-33

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

You may be seated

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day: *Earth And All Stars* ELW 731

APOSTLES' 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 into hell.
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.**

You may be seated.

FAITH MISSION MOMENT & GOD SIGHTINGS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church... God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We pray for creation... God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We pray for those in authority... God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We pray for those in need... God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We pray for those who are rejoicing... God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

OFFERING *Create In Me A Clean Heart* ELW 185

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

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. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

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

It is indeed right and salutary...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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:
C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

You may be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION

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.

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

Sending Song: *Jesus Loves Me* ELW 595

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE