



# Faith Lutheran Church

*Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ*

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 7, 2016



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**





# **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**C:** Amen.





**P:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord

**C: Amen**





**P:** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (*brief silence*)  
Most merciful God,

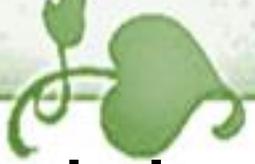
**C:** **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not**





**loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**





**P:** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**





## **OPENING HYMN ~**

**“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Devine”**

**What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.**





**Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all  
alarms;  
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting  
arms.**





**Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all  
alarms;  
leaning, leaning, leaning on the  
everlasting arms.**





**What have I to dread, what have I to fear,  
leaning on the everlasting arms?  
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all  
alarms;  
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting  
arms.**





**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.**





## INTRODUCTION

**P:** Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part today in assembly. Faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

**C: Amen.**



# Prayer of the Day



**P:** Let us pray.

**C:** **Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**





# ***Children's Church***





## **First Reading    Genesis 15:1-6**

A reading from Genesis, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is





Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your





descendants be.” And he believed the LORD;  
and the LORD reckoned it to him as  
righteousness.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God!**





## **Psalm 33: 12-22 ~ A Responsive Reading ~**

**R:** Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

**C:** The LORD looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.





R: God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.

**C: God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.**

R: A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.





**C: The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.**

R: Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you,  
O LORD, upon those who wait for your  
steadfast love,

**C: to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.**





R: Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD, our helper and our shield.

**C: Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.**

R: Let your loving kindness, O LORD, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.





## **Second Reading    Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16**

A reading from Hebrews, the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was





made from things that are not visible. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.





For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old and Sarah herself was barren because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the





innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.” All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would





have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God!**





## ALLELUIA



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.





## **GOSPEL Luke 12: 32-40**

**P:** The holy gospel according to Luke.

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

Jesus said “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear





out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the





master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming,





he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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





~ **SERMON** ~  
*“Making All Things Dear”*





## **HYMN OF THE DAY ~ “Be Thou My Vision”**

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**





**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,  
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.**





**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**





**Light of my soul, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of 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



**P:** Rooted in Christ and rising to serve, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.* Faithful God, encourage your church in new ventures of faith: new congregations, ministries, conversations, and partnerships.

Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**





**P:** Creating God, the abundance of your creation fills us with awe and delight. Call us daily to be vigilant and responsible stewards of all you have made.  
Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**





**P:** Merciful God, calm the fears that produce wars, prejudice, and injustice. Equip governments, leaders, and peacemakers to be models of cooperation and reconciliation among the nations. Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**





**P:** Restoring God, comfort all who long for relief from circumstances of grief or sickness (especially). Bless hospitals, mental health facilities, and all places of healing.  
Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**





**P:** Steadfast God, we pray for those in life transitions that bring anxiety. Heal those hurt by broken promises, and sustain them with your never-ending love. Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**





**P:** Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for all the saints who now enjoy unfailing treasure in heaven, and we rejoice that we are united with them in your love.  
Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**





**P:** We lift our prayers to you, O God,  
trusting your promise to hear us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**





## **SHARING THE PEACE**

**P:** The Peace of Christ be with you.

**C.** **And also with you.**





**~VIDEO DURING OFFERING ~**

***“Never Too Far Gone”***

***By Jordan Feliz***





1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.



# OFFERING PRAYER



**P:** Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.



## DIALOGUE



P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks and praise to the  
Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**





# **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**





# **THE LORDS PRAYER**

**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.**





# COMMUNION





**P:** Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C:** Amen.





# BLESSING

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace  
and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠  
give you peace

**C: Amen**





# **CLOSING HYMN**

**“Choral Benediction”**





**May the light of God shine on us today.  
May the light of God shine on us today.  
May it show us where to travel,  
lead us back if we should stray.  
May the light of God shine on us today.**





**May the love of God live in us today.  
May the love of God live in us today.  
May the warmth we feel within us,  
show in all we do and say.  
May the love of God live in us today.**





**May the peace of God be with us today.  
May the peace of God be with us today.  
May it guide us and protect us,  
as we go our separate ways.  
May the peace of God be with us today.**





# DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

***\*Please pick up your 6-month offering statement in the Narthex today.***





