

Time To Plan Ahead

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday, Sept. 14 - Book Club , 6:30-8 pm

This month's book is Whistling Past the Graveyard by Susan Crandall. Anyone is welcome to come!

Women's Retreat "Divine Design" Cancelled for Sept. 17 This will be rescheduled - future date to be announced

How God Has Used Women Through History" & "How God Has Used Women To Grow Faith Lutheran Church." This will be in the Fellowship Room from 9 to 1 ~ Lunch will be provided.

Led by Helen Meier, Anne Strasser and Sue Miller

Friday, September 23 - Those who are donating bars or cookies for the new Bishop's installation service: please bring these to our church by Noon, so they can be taken down to Rockford.

Saturday, September 24 - Service of Holy Communion and Installation of our new Bishop Jeffrey Clements

10:00 am at First Lutheran Church, 225 S. 3rd St, Rockford, followed by a reception at Our Savior's Church, 3300 Rural Street, Rockford. **Faith Lutheran Church is responsible for providing 15 dozen cookies/bars & 4 people to help park cars from 8am-10am.**

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 22 - Craft Show and Bake Sale We are looking for Kitchen help on the day, as well movers of pews and chairs on Thursday, October 20, then again after the craft show on Sat., Oct. 22 at 4pm. The crafters will set up their booths on Friday, October 21 from 9am - 6pm

NOVEMBER

Sun., Nov.13 - ALL Congregation Meeting & Luncheon
****ALL church members are asked to please attend ****

DECEMBER

Sat., Dec. 3 - Secret Sister Gift Exchange & Luncheon

Celebrating our sisterhood in 2016. All church women are cordially invited and warmly welcomed to attend and sign up for 2017! It's a ministry filled with prayer, friendship and surprises!



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ

Sunday, September 11, 2016

17th Sunday After Pentecost ~ 9:30 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.
C: **Amen.**
- P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: **Amen.**
- P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (*brief silence*) Gracious God,
C: **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**
- P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of †Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
C: **Amen.**

~ OPENING HYMN ~

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



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!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt.
 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

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.**



SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Graduation, Sympathy, and Get Well cards will be sent upon notification. Call Patty Dunaway at 815-389-8957 or Karen Murr at 815-389-2353 or email Patty at pkdunaway7@gmail.com

75th Anniversary Cookbooks are here! - \$15

Checks payable to: Faith Lutheran Church

Please see Sue in the church office



Please support our Brat Stand by:

- 👉 **Coming to have lunch! The Brat Stand is open every Friday and Saturday from 10:30-2:30. Bring your friends, family. Tell your neighbors!**
- 👉 Giving your time to cashier
- 👉 Giving your time to prepare food
- 👉 Giving your time to grill the food
- 👉 Donating Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Root beer and Diet Root beer, Sprite, Diet Sprite, Water
- 👉 Donating condiments: ketchup, mustard, pickles, relish, onions
- 👉 **Coming to have lunch! The Brat Stand is open every Friday and Saturday from 10:30-2:30. Bring your friends and family. Tell your neighbors!**
- 👉 You can always donate \$\$ - this ministry is helping to pay down our roof loan, now down to near \$20,000 from \$70,000. Thank you!
- 👉 The last days the Brat Stand will be open are Friday, Sept. 30 & Saturday, October 1st!

For a pastoral care emergency or hospitalization this week, please contact **Pastor Rick on his cell phone: 815-566-5247.**



PRAYER REQUESTS

We pray for Boyd, Claudine, Connie, Denise, Joyce, Nash, Pat, Steve, Lari, all service men & women, all those in need of prayers from our Faith family and friends, and all homeless persons and those who are unemployed.



Today's altar flowers are presented by Sue & George Brunson, in honor and memory of all of victims and their families of 9-11-2001

Request from the Bishop's Office

This very special event for new Bishop Jeffrey Clements will be held in two locations on Saturday, September 24, 2016. All are invited and encouraged to attend!

Church Service: First Lutheran Church, 225 S. 3rd St., Rockford, IL at 10:00 am, followed by a Reception: Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 3300 Rural St., Rockford, IL

Faith Lutheran Church has been asked to provide 15 dozen small to medium cookies or bars and 4 parking volunteers to help as Parking Lot Attendants.

Thanks to those who volunteer to help us do our part.

OUT TO DINNER GROUP

- ◆ **Benedetti's Supper Club, located at 3232 Riverside Dr. Beloit, WI**
- ◆ **6:00 PM on Friday, September 30th.**
- ◆ **Signup sheet is on the bulletin board**
- ◆ **Sign up by Sunday, September 25th**

INTRODUCTION

P: The grumbling of the Pharisees and the scribes in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God wills to seek and to save the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As Paul's first letter to Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

C: **Amen**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

ALL: **O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain your life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Children's Church

After the children's message, they are dismissed to go with their teacher downstairs.

FIRST READING EXODUS 32:7-14

A reading from Exodus, the thirty-second chapter

The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'"

The LORD said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.” But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’” And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 51 ~ A Responsive Reading ~

R: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses

C: **Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

R: For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

C: **Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

R: Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother’s womb.

C: **Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

R: Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

C: **Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

Worship

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church. We are so happy to have you worship with us today! Please join us after worship in our Fellowship Room for beverages, snacks and conversation.

Communion is by intinction. Come forward as directed by the ushers, receive the bread with an open hand then dip it in the wine (dark) or juice (light). If you accidentally eat the bread before dipping or drop it, please ask for another piece. You do not have to be a member of Faith or be Lutheran to take Communion. Christ is the host of the meal and ALL baptized believers are welcome!

Offering ~ As always, if you are unable to attend worship, please make sure to catch up with your **offering** the next week. Or, if you’d like, please mail it to the church office and write “offering” on the envelope and it will be included in that week’s offering and seen only by the designated counters for the day. Thank you for being faithful in giving generously to God’s work here at Faith Lutheran!

Financials for Sunday, September 4, 2016—Week 34

Outdoor Service Attendance - 200

Faith Lutheran Attendance - 17

Weekly Offering Actual	\$1,400.00
Weekly Offering Budget	\$2,068.00
2016 YTD Actual Offering	\$73,131.45
2016 YTD Offering Needed	\$74,448.00
Offerings YTD Toward Roof Loan	\$2,169.60

Today’s Worship Leaders

Altar Guild - Roger & Carol Frey

Computer Technician - Mike Banker

Offering Video - Helen Meier

Counters - Pat and Laurie Wicks

Fellowship - Gail Krause

Greeters - Eloise Manley & Joyce Hatch

Musician - Betty Comins

Reader - Ellen Olson

Ushers - Doug Congdon and George Brunson

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Richard J. Meier

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 forth into the world to serve God with gladness;
be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the
fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted;
honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in
the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



R: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

C: **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

SECOND READING 1 TIMOTHY 1:12-17

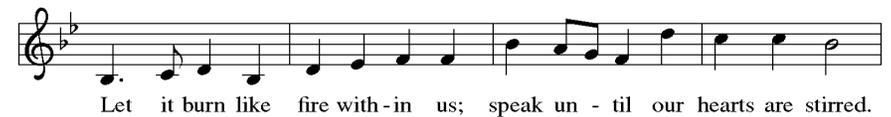
A reading from First Timothy, the first chapter.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners - of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: **Thanks be to God!**

“ALLELUIA”



GOSPEL Luke 15: 1-10

P: The holy gospel according to Luke, the 14th chapter

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

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON "Joy in Heaven"



THE LORD'S 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 ~

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: We come to you, O God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy, you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

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

C: **Amen.**



OFFERTORY RESPONSE



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. Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: **we give you thanks and praise.**

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

~ Hymn of the Day ~



Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;
3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.
keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

The 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 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: Rejoicing in the Spirit's work among us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. (*A brief silence.*) Gracious God, we thank you for your word that strengthens the weak and the faint in heart. We thank you for your word that encourages the believer and saves sinners.
Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for those places in our world ravaged by fires or floods (*especially*). Restore the land, and bless the efforts of those who work to save and protect it.
Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for the leaders of nations and all those in positions of authority. Guide them as they make decisions for the good of all. Lead them in the ways that make for peace.
Hear us, O God

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for those who suffer as the result of war, violence, terrorism, or natural disaster. And we pray for those who willingly serve others in dangerous situations: first responders, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, members of the military, law enforcement.

Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for our congregation. Prepare us to welcome newcomers. Make this a place of hope for the least of these in our community. Be with those who are sick, injured, or in any need (*especially*).

Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Let us remember with thanksgiving the blessed dead who rest from their labors. Gladden us by their lives of faith, and at the last day unite us in the joy of heaven.
Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~
"The Prayer"

Josh Rogan and Charlotte Church