

**Have you had your brat, burger, dog or pork chop sandwich yet? Support the Brat Stand - come and enjoy a meal! 10:30-2:30 every Friday and Saturday!**



The Out To Dinner Group will meet Friday, July 28th at 6pm at Jessica's Restaurant in Roscoe, IL, 5091 Edgemere Road. Please sign up on the board. Everyone is invited to come along and join us at our monthly group meal outing.

**Church Picnic & Potluck Sunday, Aug. 6th**  
**Outside Worship** - Music by Steve Weber  
Sign up on the board to bring a dish to pass for the picnic. Please bring your lawn chairs, too! Thanks.

***Faith Lutheran Church ~ 1942 - 2017***  
***Celebrating 75 Years on Sunday, August 27***  
***9:30 am Worship followed by an***  
***Open House with cake and punch.***  
***We are very pleased to welcome back***  
***former pastor, Kendra Nolde, who will be***  
***preacher. Pastor Nolde was our pastor for***  
***75 years anniversary. Family and friends, past church***  
***members and all previous pastors are invited to join***  
***for fellowship, cake, and punch. There will be some***  
***displays of church memorabilia, a 75 year***  
***video and a video of the actual 50th Anniversary***  
***service, including the church history skit.***

Faith Lutheran Church will be participating in the South Beloit Centennial Parade on Saturday, August 26th beginning at 10am. We are looking for volunteers to help decorate the float and/or walk in the parade with our float. We will be handing out water bottles with Faith Lutheran's 75th Anniversary celebration info & Brat Stand coupons.



**Faith Lutheran Church**  
*Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring*

Sunday, July 16, 2017  
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost ~ 9:30am

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**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 sins, 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. *(A brief silence.)* Gracious God,

**C:** have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, O God, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live in the newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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

**C:** Amen.

**HYMN** Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



Open now thy gates of beau-ty, Zi-on, let me en-ter there,  
 precious God, I come be-fore thee; come thou al-so un-to me;  
 thy praise is glad-ly chant-ed, here thy seed is du-ly sown;  
 my faith in-crease and quick-en, let me keep thy gift di-vine;  
 O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in-deed;



my soul in joy-ful du-ty waits for God who an-swears prayer.  
 we find thee and a-dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.  
 my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre-cious sheaves a-lone,  
 so-c'er temp-ta-tions thick-en, may thy word still o'er me shine  
 I un-dis-turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo-ple feed.



How bless-ed is this place, filled with so-lace, light, and grace!  
 my heart, oh, en-ter thou, let it be thy tem-ple now!  
 that all I hear may be fruit-ful un-to life in me.  
 my guid-ing star through life, as my com-fort in all strife.  
 of life the foun-tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

...ce of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and  
 ...munion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**REFLECTION**  
 ...ord is like the rain that waters the earth and brings  
 ...etation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed  
 ...inately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth.  
 ...m what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God  
 ...s a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the  
 ...life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

**PRAYER FOR THE DAY**  
 ...ay. (A brief silence.)  
 ...y God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of  
 ...rd. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with  
 ...according to it, and grow in faith and hope and  
 ...ough Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



Dear God, please keep my family a safe. Watch over them and give the health, happiness and blessings. W Adam, Alyson & Jarrett, Angie, Aun Pat, Baker Family, Barbara, Barry & Belinda, Beth, Betsy West, Bev, Bill Brad & Brenda, Brayton, Brett, Bria

Family, Carl, Carol, Cheryl, Cindy, Connie, Dakota, De Denise, Devin, Diane, Dick, Donna, Janie, Eloise, Eur Florence, Funk Family, Gary, Gavin, Gerda, Hatch Far Howard, Irene, Jackie, Jaleena, Janet, Janie, Jean, Jer Jim, Jim H., John, Jolynn, Julie, Julie Wright, June, Kar Kayla Cazmyre, Kelli, Kennadi, Kenny, Kenny & Lauri, Linda, Lisa Wright, Lucas, Lyla Williams, Mama June, Maureen, Mike, Nikko, Paige, Pierce, Raymond, Rich, Roger, Ronnie, Sam, Sarah, Scott Wright, Selena Wrig Stephanie, Stephany, Steve, Sue, Tammy, Ted, Teres Terry, Tim, Tina, Todd, Tom, Tom & Gale Miller, Tracy Witten, Zoey, all service men & women and their famili are homeless & unemployed, and our shut-ins.



Graduation, Sympathy, and Get Well c  
 sent upon notification. Please call Patti  
 815-389-8957 or Karen Murr at 815-38  
 could email Patti at [pkdunaway7@gmail.com](mailto:pkdunaway7@gmail.com)



We Send Happy Birthday Wishes To  
 Please see the new Happy Birthday Post  
 bulletin board. Make additions & correctio  
**HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAYS TO:** 2-Tim Boyette, 5  
 5-Debi Nelson, 9-Mindy Birch, 11-David Porter, 11-Boyd Miller  
 Coats, 14-Laurie Wicks, 16-Anne Strasser, 17-Linda Gilbert, 18-  
 19-Todd Strasser, 20-Ila Price, 24-Doug Congdon, 26-Mike Bar  
 Brunson, 27-Colleen Gill, 30-Amanda Guffey, 30-Pastor Rick



**Big thanks to everyone who  
 any way to make our An  
 Ice Cream Social a great su  
 You are all appreciate**



Today's Worship Leaders

**Car Guild - Carol & Roger Frey**  
**Computer Technician - Mike Banker**  
**Covering Video - Helen Meier**  
**Counters - Carol & Roger Frey**  
**Flowership - Anne Strasser**  
**Greeters - George & Sue Brunson**  
**Musician - Betty Comins**  
**Prayer Leader - Kathy Strasser**  
**Ushers - Ray Wendell and Craig Miller**  
**Nursery - Nicole Blakeman**  
**Worship Leader - Rev. Dr. Richard J. Meier**

Financials for Sunday, July 9, 2017 - Week 28

Attendance: 80

Weekly Offering Actual	\$1,964.70
Weekly Offering Budget	\$2,111.00
YTD Actual Offering	\$58,484.12
YTD Offering Needed	\$59,108.00
Offerings YTD Toward Roof Loan	\$2,827.63

Worship

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

Communion is by intinction. Come forward as directed by the ushers, and dip the bread with an open hand then dip it in the wine (dark) or white. **WE WILL NOW ALSO OFFER GLUTEN-FREE BREAD FOR COMMUNION. Just indicate to Pastor when you come forward.** If you eat the bread before dipping or drop it, please pick up another piece. You don't have to be a member of Faith or be baptized to take Communion. Christ is the host of the meal - and all believers are welcome!

If you are unable to attend worship, please make sure to bring your **offering** the next week. Or, if you'd like, mail it to the office and write "offering" on the envelope and it will be included in that week's offering and seen only by the designated offering collector that day. Thank you for being faithful in giving generously to the church here at Faith Lutheran Church!



**FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13**

A reading from Isaiah, the 55<sup>th</sup> chapter.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress, and the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the glory of the Lord our memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut away.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**A RESPONSIVE READING FROM PSALM 65**

R: You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You provide grain, for so you provide for the earth.

C: **You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges, you send down heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its furrows.**

R: You crown the year with your goodness, and your ways overflow with plenty.

C: **May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grain, and the hills be clothed with joy.**

R: May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.



**READING: Romans 8:1-11**

from Romans, the 8th chapter.

Therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law - indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, his body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

God, word of life.

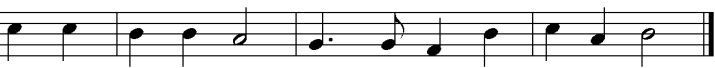
**Thanks be to God.**



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



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



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

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, our hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

**C: Amen.**

**BLESSING**

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant us to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ.

**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. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



~ VIDEO DURING THE OFFERING ~

“Praying Man”

By Brian Free and Assurance

#### MY RESPONSE

*Not by my own power,  
but by thine own, whatever the gifts may be  
I have is thine alone, a trust, oh Lord, from thee.  
Thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive,  
as though blessed us, to thee our first fruits give.*

#### PRAYER

Lord, through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak  
and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life  
and entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.  
Your Word of life, O God,  
we thank you and praise.

Lord, be with you.

Lord, be with you.

Lord, be with you.

Lord, be with you.

Lord, be with you.

Lord, be with you.

~ WORDS OF INSTITUTION ~

#### THE PRAYER

*God, 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  
debts, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and  
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
Thy kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
be thine ever. Amen.*

~ COMMUNION ~

#### GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the  
sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a  
boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the shore.  
And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen, the  
sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the  
path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on  
rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they  
sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the  
sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they  
withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns  
grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and  
brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some  
thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!” “Hear then the parable of the  
sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not  
understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was  
sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. And what  
was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word  
and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no  
root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or  
persecution arises on account of the word, that person  
immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns,  
this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world  
and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But  
what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word  
and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one  
case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

#### SERMON

“Spiritual Agriculture”



## THE DAY For the Fruit of All Creation



the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



our needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

## ' CREED

God, the Father almighty,  
ruler of heaven and earth.

Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,

led under Pontius Pilate,  
crucified, died, and was buried;  
descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;  
ascended into heaven,

seated at the right hand of the Father,  
he will come to judge the living and the dead.

With the Holy Spirit,  
and the catholic church,  
in communion of saints,

forgiveness of sins,  
in the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Called together in the Spirit's embrace, let us pray for the betterment and mending of God's world. (*A brief silence.*) Gracious God, please graciously give thanks for your living word that goes out and does not return empty. Make your church a partner in accomplishing what you desire. Unite us in faith, witness, and mission. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: For land, creatures, and people suffering from drought, please let the gentle rain bring life and hope. For mountains, hills, and trees of the field, that all creation clap for joy. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: For nations suffering the violence and hunger of war, please bring peace (*especially*). For exiles and refugees. Lead them home and bless them with your fullness. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: For victims and perpetrators of race-based crime. Please bring healing, and new life by the power of your Spirit. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: For this congregation and its leaders; through our prayers, let your word prosper among us and bring life to the world beyond our doors. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: In thanksgiving for all who have died recently, for ourselves, and dear ones who have blessed our lives and spared us grief, please give us hope (*especially*). Give comfort and confidence to all who mourn. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: All these things, and whatever else you see that we have entrusted to your care through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

