



We send prayers to Connie Price and family on the passing of Denny Price on Mon., Sept. 11. He passed in his sleep with family at his side. Funeral service will be here at Faith Lutheran this week. Connie's address: 1872 Big Cypress Blvd., Lakeland, FL 33810. Call Sue in the office 815-389-1824 for further information or to help with the luncheon.

BIRTHDAYS: 5-Becky Miller, 7-David Cliffe, 10-Lieske, 10-Shawn Guffey, 18-Austin Grover, 20-Ellen Olson, 22-Erika Stinson, 25-White, 25-Gerry Cliffe



SALE NOW FOR A GRAND PRIZE DRAWING OF A 60" FLAT SCREEN SMART TV - SEE IT IN THE HALL!
TICKETS ARE \$5 EACH OR \$20/5 TICKETS - SEE SUE BRUNSON AT THE HALL
WE ONLY SELLING 100 TICKETS - GREAT ODDS!

DRAWING WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, SEPT. 24TH
PROCEEDS WILL HELP PURCHASE A CHURCH DEFIBRILLATOR

SEPT. 24TH

*Monday, November 20th and
 Monday, February 12th
 4pm to 8pm*

needed: 4 runners, 2 door holders each night X 2 shifts
4pm to 6pm and 6pm to 8pm; SIGN UP IN HALLWAY!
Proceeds to help purchase a church defibrillator

The Out To Dinner Group will meet at the China Palace, 625 Blackhawk Blvd., Rockton, IL at 6pm, Friday, Sept. 22. Please sign up on the board by Sunday, September 17th.



Faith Lutheran Church
Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring
Sunday, September 17, 2017
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ 9:00am

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**100% g
 hurricane**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives our sins, whose mercy endures forever.

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. Jesus Christ our 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 failed to do, things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, O God, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and abound 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 sinners, 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.

MN

O Day of Rest and Gladness



day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;
day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n - ly man - na falls;
grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,



alm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:
you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;
ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum - pet calls,
each the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.



you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;
gos - pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams
sing to you our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," to the great God tri - une.
thus on you, most glo - rious, a three - fold light was giv'n.
liv - ing wa - ter flow - ing with soul - re - fresh - ing streams.
church its voice up - rais - es to you, blest Three in One.

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

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Guild - Carol & Roger Frey
Computer Technician - Anne and Rachel Strasser
Offering Video - Anne and Rachel Strasser
Counters - Roger and Carol Frey
Fellowship - Pat Wicks
Greeters - Sandy and Don Dittmer
Musician - Betty Comins
Reader - Nicole Blakeman
Ushers - Doug Congdon and Ray Wendell
Nursery -
Pastor - Rev. Dr. Richard J. Meier

Financials for Sunday, September 10, 2017 - W

Attendance: 75

Weekly Offering Actual	\$3,829.60
Weekly Offering Budget	\$2,111.00
2017 YTD Actual Offering	\$76,589.27
2017 YTD Offering Needed	\$78,107.00
Offerings YTD Toward Roof Loan	\$9,332.63

Worship

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

Communion is by intinction. Come forward as directed by ushers, receive the bread with an open hand then dip it in (dark) or juice (light). **WE WILL NOW ALSO OFFER GLUTEN FREE BREAD AS AN OPTION FOR COMMUNION. Just indicate to the Pastor when it's your turn.** If you eat the bread before you dip it, please ask for another piece. You don't have to be a member of Faith or be Lutheran to take Communion. Christ is the author of the meal - ALL baptized believers are welcome!

Offering ~ If you are unable to attend worship, please mail your offering to catch up with your **offering** the next week. Or, mail it to the office and write "offering" on the envelope. Thanks for your generosity in giving to God's work here at Faith Lutheran Church.



Please return your Craft Show tickets to Sue in the office.
Show yard sign to Sue in the office.

HYMN "Choral Benediction"

Light of God shine on us today.
Light of God shine on us today.
Show us where to travel,
Check if we should stray,
Light of God shine on us today.
Love of God live in us today.
Love of God live in us today.
Warmth we feel within us,
We do and say,
Love of God live in us today.
Grace of God be with us today.
Grace of God be with us today.
Bless us and protect us,
On our separate ways,
Grace of God be with us today.

Peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Today's altar flowers are donated by Karen Murr
in honor of Fay and Ada Hanson



We pray for: Audrey, Aunt Pat, Bill, Boyd, Cindy, Connie, Craig, Debi, Denise, Diane Ablett, Dick, Don, Dustin Insko, Eloise, Florence, Gary, George, Harriet, Heidi, Irene A., Jaleena, Janie, Jeff, Jessica, John, Kathy, Kathy Mears, Kim, Larry, Linda G., Louise, Lyla, Mary, Nancy, Nikko, Patti, Pfab Family, Pierce, Rich, Person Family, Tammy Lipinski, Terry, Tim, Tom, The Lipinski, Sue, Ted, Tim, Tom & Gale Miller, Viola, and all service men & women and their families, all who are employed, and our shut-ins. God Bless You!

Make hurricane donation checks payable to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 or call 1-800-638-3522

INTRODUCTION

P: In today's second reading Paul questions why we do not love one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Jesus' challenge to forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and identify ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism. The signs of reconciliation in the world.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. (*A brief silence.*)

C: O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals are lost. Remove far from us everything that is harmful to us toward all that gives life and salvation, through the grace of Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

A reading from Genesis, the 50th chapter.
Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said to him, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died: 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and me, the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." Egypt said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing to you today. Have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones. This way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.



Live Reading from Psalm 103

You are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger
abounding in steadfast love;

**not always accuse us, nor will you keep your
anger forever.**

You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid
us according to our iniquities.

**The heavens are high above the earth, so great is
your steadfast love for those who fear you.**

As the east is from the west, so far have you removed
our transgressions from us.

**For you have compassion for his children, so you have
compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.**

READING: Romans 14:1-12

From Romans, the 14th chapter.

Those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of
diverse opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while
others eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise
those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass
judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them.

Who are we to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before
God that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for
God is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be
better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let
each be convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the
day do it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in
honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those
who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

For we live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we
live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so
whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For
Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord
of the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on
your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother
or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.
Then, "As I live," says the Lord, "every knee shall bow to
me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of
us is accountable to God.

God, word of life.

Glory be to God.

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 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
the evil one. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

~ COMMUNION ~

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 Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face
shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with
favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.



Healer, calm the anxiety of those who are wrongly
 , who suffer under crushing debt, or who are in
 Reassure those who are lonely, impatient,
 hearted, homebound, hospitalized, or ill (*especially*).
 your mercy,
Prayer.

for this assembly; for our guests and visitors, for
 ers to this community, for those who are certain and
 no doubt, and for all who seek you in this place.
 your mercy,
Prayer.

ember and give thanks for the faithful of every age
 not live to themselves but lived to you. Raise us with
 the last day. Lord, in your mercy,
Prayer.

r hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we
 stinging the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.

ce of Christ be with you always.
Prayer.

~ VIDEO DURING THE OFFERING ~
"Point To You"
by We Are Messengers

RESPONSE

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

PRAYER

Prayer. O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you
 illumine our way through life with the words of your
 Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of
 and at the end bring all the world to your feast;
 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you
 Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 18th ch

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another mem
 church sins against me, how often should I forgive? A
 seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, b
 seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of
 may be compared to a king who wished to settle acco
 his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who o
 thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he coul
 his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife
 and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So
 fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience w
 I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the l
 slave released him and forgave him the debt. But tha
 slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow sla
 owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the t
 said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell do
 pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will p
 he refused; then he went and threw him into prison un
 pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had h
 they were greatly distressed, and they went and repo
 lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summonec
 said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that o
 cause you pleaded with me. Should you not have had
 your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in ang
 handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his
 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of yo
 not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"The Gift of Forgiveness"

THE DAY

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling



Softly and ten-der-ly Je-sus is call-ing, call-ing for
me. Would we tar-ry when Je-sus is plead-ing, plead-ing for
me? For the won-der-ful love he has prom-ised, prom-ised for



me. See, on the por-tals he's wait-ing and watch-ing,
for me? Why should we lin-ger and heed not his mer-cies,
for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer-cy and par-don,

Refrain



g for you and for me.
s for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"
n for you and for me.



o are wea-ry, come home." Ear-nest-ly, ten-der-ly,



is call-ing, call-ing, "O sin-ner, come home!"

n, 1847-1909
Will L. Thompson

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: Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the world, and all of God's creation. *(A brief silence)*
Good and gracious God, we pray for the church and its
ministries of congregations in our community *(local congregations may be named)*. Unite us in
proclamation of your life-giving gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Creator God, you spoke light into being, you set the seas,
waters, you formed the dry land. Protect and enliven our
creation you so love, and make us willing partners in your
care. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of the nations, you love all tribes, peoples,
languages. We pray for all who govern. Give them
wisdom and generous hearts for those they serve.
Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.