

### Today's Worship Leaders

**Guild** - Carol & Roger Frey  
**Audio Technician** - Mike Banker  
**Projecting Video** - Helen Meier  
**Prayers** - Roger and Carol Frey  
**Worship** -  
**Worshipers** - Sandy and Don Dittmer  
**Worship Leader** - Betty Comins  
**Worship Leader** - Craig Miller  
**Worship Leader** - Doug Congdon and Ray Wendell  
**Worship Leader** - Rev. Dr. Richard J. Meier

### Statistics for Sunday, September 17, 2017 - Week 38

**Attendance: 76**

Offering Actual	\$1,939.50
Offering Budget	\$2,111.00
YTD Actual Offering	\$78,528.77
YTD Offering Needed	\$80,218.00
YTD YTD Toward Roof Loan	\$9,452.63

### Worship

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

Worship is by intinction. Come forward as directed by the pastor. Receive the bread with an open hand then dip it in the wine (light). **WE NOW OFFER GLUTEN-FREE BREAD FOR COMMUNION.** Just indicate this to Pastor at your turn. 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 Lutheran to take Communion. Christ is the host of the table and baptized believers are welcome!

If you are unable to attend worship, please catch up on your offering the next week. Or, mail it to the church office with a "congratulations" on the envelope. Thanks for your faithful giving to God's work here at Faith Lutheran Church!

**Please return your Craft Show/Car Show yard sign to Sue in the office**



## Faith Lutheran Church

*Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring*

Sunday, September 24, 2017  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ 9:00 AM

**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.)* Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought and deed, by what we have done and by what we have not done. We have not loved you with our whole hearts, we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive our sins, O 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 Father. Amen.**

**P:** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given for 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—VERSES 1, 2 and 5**

**When Morning Gilds the Skies**



n - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries:  
h for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:  
- lier an - ti - phon in all high heav'n is known  
of hu - man kind in this their con - cord find:  
and stars of space, sing, all who see his face,



- sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning shad - ows fall,  
- sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer  
- sus Christ be praised!" There to the e - ter - nal Word  
- sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round  
- sus Christ be praised!" God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,



my cur - few call: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
that can com - pare with "Je - sus Christ be praised!"  
nal psalm is heard: oh, Je - sus Christ be praised!  
ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

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

**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.



**We pray for: Adam, Alyson & Jarrett, Angie B., Au  
Barbara K., Barry & Shelby, Bea, Betty C., Betty C  
Bob, Boyd, Cathy, Claudine, Connie, Debi, Deaco  
Don, Family of Dennis Price, Donna H., Eloise, Et  
Florence, Gary, Gary P., Gavin, George, Gerda, Ha  
Heidi, Helen, Irene, Jackie, Jaden, Janice E., Janie  
Jessica, Jim, Kelly Coots Family, Kenny, Kevin, L  
Laurie B., Linda G., Lisa Wright, Mary, Nancy, Pat  
Pierce, Rich, Robert, Sam, Sara, Sarah, Shirley, S  
Kreuger, Sue, Tammy, Ted, Todd & Judy M., Tom,  
Violet, Witten, all service men & women and their  
all who are lonely, homeless or unemployed, our  
students, and our shut-ins. God Bless You!**

## PRAYER

Word you called your people Israel to tell of your gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. Word of life, O God,  
**you thanks and praise.**

be with you.  
**with you.**

ur hearts.

**em to the Lord.**

e thanks and praise to the Lord our God.  
**to give God thanks and praise.**

~ WORDS OF INSTITUTION ~

## PRAYER

who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy  
ne, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
day our daily bread; and forgive us our  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
ever. Amen.

~ COMMUNION ~

## AFTER COMMUNION

rist, host of this meal, you have given us not only this  
l cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your  
. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we  
r your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of  
t you are Lord forevermore.

God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
now and forever.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables which Jesus says the reign of God is like workers paid the same no matter when they start. When C his mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil wa is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, about steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace o freely given to all. As Luther wrote, in the presenc mercy we are all beggars.

C: **Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C: **Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual kindness to us your servants. Because we ca on our own abilities, grant us your merciful ju and train us to embody the generosity of your Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



## FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10--4:11

A reading from Jonah, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

When God saw what the people of Ninevah did, how from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the that he had said he would bring upon them; and he d But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he becan He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious G merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast lo ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, ple life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jona of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to would become of the city.

God appointed a bush, and made it come up over  
to give shade over his head, to save him from his  
heat. So Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when  
the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked  
the bush so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a  
strong wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so  
that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is  
better to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Is it  
better to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes,  
I am angry to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned  
about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not  
bring into being in a night and perished in a night. And  
are you more concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in  
which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand  
people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also  
the animals?"

God, word of life.  
**Glory be to God.**

### **Scripture Reading from Psalm 145**

Praise you, my God and king, and bless your name  
forever and ever.

**Every day will I bless you and praise your name  
forever and ever.**

the LORD and greatly to be praised! There is no end  
to your greatness.

**Every generation shall praise your works to another and  
shall declare your power.**

Speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all  
of your marvelous works.

**Every generation shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,  
and every generation will recount your greatness.**

Every generation shall publish the remembrance of your great  
works; they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
merciful and abundant in steadfast love.**



P: God, you provide for all our needs. We pray for those  
who are homeless, jobless, or hopeless. We pray for those  
who are forgotten, ignored, or isolated. We pray for all our  
needs (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for our congregation and our neighborhood.  
Accompany us wherever we are on our journey of life.  
Give us joy in the present and hope for the future.  
Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of endings and beginnings, we remember before  
all the faithful departed (*especially*). Comfort those who  
mourn. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all our  
selves. We pray, trusting the power of Christ and the gifts of  
the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### **PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

### **VIDEO DURING THE OFFERING** *"In Christ Alone" by Stuart Townend*

#### **OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

*We give thee but thine own,  
whatever the gifts may be  
All that we have is thine alone,  
a trust, oh Lord, from thee.  
May we thy bounties thus,  
as stewards true receive,  
And gladly as though blessed us,  
to thee our first fruits give.*

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

In God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
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,  
crucified, died, and was buried;  
descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
ascended into heaven,  
and 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,  
in the catholic church,  
in the communion of saints,  
in the forgiveness of sins,  
in the resurrection of the body,  
and in the life everlasting. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

For the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church,  
the world, and all of God's creation. Let us pray for the  
world and its ministry. Unite us in one Spirit, striving side  
by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel.  
In your mercy,  
**Our prayer.**

Who stretched the spangled heavens, we thank and  
praise you for the gift of the sun, moon, stars, mountains,  
rivers, grasslands, and deserts. Lord, in your mercy,  
**Our prayer.**

For your great mercy and love, you show faithfulness and  
loyalty to the world every day. Guard those who suffer be-  
cause of dishonest policies, corrupt government, or unfair  
practices. Lord, in your mercy,  
**Our prayer.**

## SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

A reading from Philippians, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to  
live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know  
how to choose. I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire  
is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain  
in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this,  
that I will remain and continue with all of you for your joy and  
and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your  
in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life  
in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I  
am present and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will  
know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side  
with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated  
by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction,  
but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously  
granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but also  
but of suffering for him as well - since you are having the same  
struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our h



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news

## Matthew 20:1-16

gospel according to Matthew, the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**you, O Lord.**

to the disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a  
who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for  
After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily  
nt them into his vineyard. When he went out about  
he saw others standing idle in the marketplace;  
to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will  
tever is right.' So they went. When he went out  
noon and about three o'clock, he did the same.  
ve o'clock he went out and found others standing  
he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all  
aid to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said  
u also go into the vineyard.' When evening came,  
the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers  
m their pay, beginning with the last and then going  
When those hired about five o'clock came, each of  
d the usual daily wage. Now when the first came,  
they would receive more; but each of them also  
usual daily wage. And when they received it, they  
ainst the landowner, saying, 'These last worked  
r, and you have made them equal to us who have  
rden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he  
e of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did  
e with me for the usual daily wage? Take what  
ou and go; I choose to give to this last the same as  
Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what  
e? Or are you envious because I am generous?'  
will be first, and the first will be last."

obel of the Lord.

**to you, O Christ.**

### SERMON "Fair or Not Fair?"



## HYMN OF THE DAY

### Lord of Light



1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the  
2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some  
3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your  
4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your  
ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the  
low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs  
day or night; by the cross of Je - sus,



as the ser - vants of your grace; use us  
of the cross is still re - vealed, by the  
with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the  
peace to all and heal - ing light; by the



fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ y  
ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f  
from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of  
pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - d



*Refrain*  
Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your w