



**Monday, Feb. 12 - Scoopie Night - Beloit Culver's**  
 Don't cook! Come to Culver's to support our church from 4pm-8pm! Proceeds go towards an AED heart defibrillator and our youth program.



**Saturday, Feb. 24 - Spaghetti Dinner & Trivia Night Fundraiser**  
 2018 Houston Youth Gathering this summer. Dinner - 5pm.  
 Gluten free dinners available. Trivia at 6:30 - tables of 8. **Sign up on the board.** FREE Babysitting. Silent Auction Gift Baskets  
**COST: \$10 (13 +) \$5 (4-12) 3 & under - free (dinner only)**



**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:** 1 – Ted Balk  
 3 – Bernie Parisot, 9 – Dean Birch, 10 – Sue Miller  
 10 – Shari Birch, 11 – Cameron Gruenberg,  
 12 – Becky Gruenberg, 14 – Lucy Naff,  
 15 – Ethel Strasser, 16 – Taylor Gruenberg  
 16 – Courtney Schuller, 18 – Zach Hedrington  
 21 – Natasha Schneider, 22 – Autumn Marty  
 22 – Carol Frey, 22 – Ben Strasser,  
 28 – Patti Dunaway



We pray all service persons women, homeless and unemployed, our shut-ins, our college students, those in the military and their families. We pray for our friends, families, and loved ones, especially: Adam, Audrey, Aunt Bettie, Alyson & Jarrett, Ava, Bailey, Barry & Shelby, Bill, Bob, Boyd & Inez, Betty Comins, Bev, Brayton, Brett, Brian, Cindy, Connie, Dallas Helm Family, Deacon & Alexis M., Debi, Denice, Devyn, Dodi, Doloris, Don, Family of Becky Hart, Florence, Frostman Family, Gail, Gary, Gavin, George, Harriet, Heidi, Hugo, Irene, Jaleena, Janet, Janie, Jen, Jim, John, Kelli, Kennadi, Kenny, Kris, Larry, Linda, Matt, Marion, Mary, Maureen, Nan, Pastor Rick and Helen, Patti, Rich, Rogalla Family, Roger, Sharon, Shelly, Shirley, Steve, Sue, Tammy, Teresa, Tim, Tina, Todd, Tom, Tracy, Trisha, Vicki, Victor, Viola, Vivian, Zach, Zak, and Zoey.



# Faith Lutheran Church

*Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ*  
 Sunday, February 4, 2018  
 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany ~ 9:30 am  
**"Souper Bowl" Sunday**



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, 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, through 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 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 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!  
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign - ing  
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;  
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!  
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.  
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.  
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,  
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been  
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do  
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?  
if with his love he be - friend you.  
Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

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 to the Day

P: In Isaiah it is the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars - it is that God who strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service. Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up to health and Diakonia (service). Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

C: **Amen.**

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

**Communion** is by intinction. Come forward by rows to receive the bread with an open hand then dip in the wine (dark) or juice (light). **Gluten-free bread is an option - just indicate to Pastor when it's your turn.** If you eat the bread before dipping or drop 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 host of the meal ~ all baptized believers are welcome.

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

### Financials Sunday, Jan. 28 - Week #4

**Attendance - 72**

<b>Weekly Offering Actual</b>	<b>\$1,615.00</b>
<b>Weekly Offering Budget</b>	<b>\$2,176.00</b>
<b>2017 YTD Actual Offering</b>	<b>\$9,825.80</b>
<b>2017 YTD Offering Needed</b>	<b>\$8,704.00</b>

### Today's Worship Leaders

**Altar Guild - Carol & Roger Frey**

**Computer Technician - Mike Banker**

**Offering Video - Helen Meier**

**Reader - Nicole Blakeman**

**Counters - Roger & Carol Frey**

**Fellowship - Bernie and Pat Parisot**

**Greeters - Don and Sandy Dittmer**

**Musician - Betty Comins**

**Ushers - Doug Congdon and Ray Wendell**

**Guest Pastor - Rev. Dr. Richard J. Meier**



**We warmly welcome back Pastor Rick and Helen. It's so good to have you back with us for worship!**

## Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.  
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess - ing, tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace.  
 May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.  
 let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
 Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.  
 May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



Since today is Super Bowl Sunday, churches all across America are receiving a special offering for World Hunger Relief called the "Souper Bowl." Place your donation in either soup pot at the door for the team you are rooting for. We'll announce the results next Sunday. Thanks for your support!



*Pastor Rick and Helen wish to thank the congregation for remembering them at Christmas. Your gifts gave them a boost for their vacation month away. They are now glad to be home again!*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C: **Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Children's Church

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

A reading from Isaiah, the 40<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **A Responsive Reading From Psalm 147**

R: Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

**C: The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

R: The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

**C: The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.**

R: Great is our LORD and mighty in power there is no limit to God's wisdom.

**C: The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.**

R: Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God,

**C: who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.**

R: God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

**C: God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

R: but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love. Hallelujah!

**C: Amen.**

### **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23**

A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak.

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

### **~ COMMUNION ~**

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now - today, tomorrow, every day - that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever.

**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.**



P: For those who gather in fellowship and festivities, for the ministries of this congregation in our community and throughout the world, that in all our service we see ourselves centered around Christ, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: In thanksgiving for those who have died in the faith and now sing praises around the throne of God, and that we be assured of the promise of everlasting life, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

### OFFERING

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~

*“On Eagles Wings” by Michael Crawford*

### OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*We give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be;*

*All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, in thee.*

*May we thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive,*

*And gladly as though blessed us, to thee our first-fruits give.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

P: 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.**

I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

R: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### ALLELUIA

*Alleluia! Lord and Savior open now your saving word!*

*Let it burn like fire within us;*

*Speak until our hearts are stirred.*

*Alleluia! Lord we sing for the good news that you bring.*

### GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

P: The holy gospel according to Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

As soon as Jesus and the disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

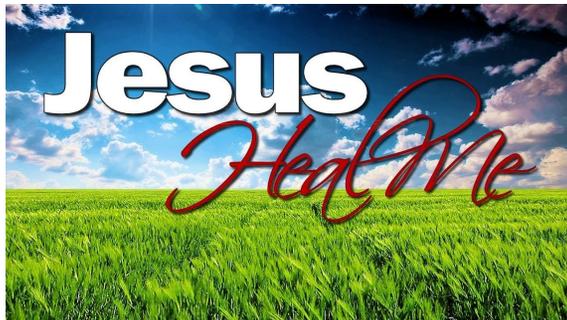
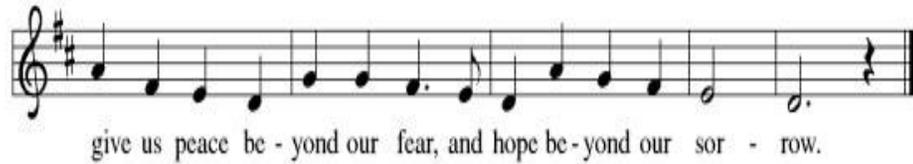
**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

### SERMON

**“Searching for Jesus”**

## Hymn of the Day

### Healer of Our Every Ill



## 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: Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need. (*A brief silence.*) For the church, its pastors, deacons, musicians, artists, teachers, seminarians, and all proclaimers of the gospel, that your gift of steadfast love and mercy will spread throughout the world, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: For the earth and all living creatures, for those preparing fields for planting, and for favorable weather, that all of us who care for this life will find voice to help creation thrive, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: For all rulers of the earth in local, regional, national, and international offices, and those without the power of official office, that they will be given the courage to work for the protection of all people and act as servants of all, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: For all who suffer this day: the sick and wounded, the grieving and brokenhearted, the hungry and exploited, those with malaria, and all who need our prayers (*especially*), that they will be consoled and healed by health care workers, counselors, family, and friends, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**