

**THE MIRACULOUS
POWER OF PRAYER**

We pray for the homeless, unemployed those with mental struggles, our shut-ins, our college students, military families & all who

are serving in the military. We pray for our friends, families & our loved ones: Adam, Alyson & Jarrett, Audrey, Autumn, Barb, Barry & Shelby, Beth, Betty Bonner, Betty Comins, Betty Lampher, Bill, Bob, Boyd, Brad, Brayton, Brenda, Brett, Brian, Charles, Cindy, Claudine, Dani, Dawn, Debi, Denise, Devin, Diane, Dick, Dodi, Don, Donna, Doug, Dustin, Eloise, Emily, Family of Than Ho, Florence, Gabe, Gary, Gavin, George, Gere, Harriet, Heidi, Helen, Hugo, Ian, Irene, Inez, Jackie, Jaleena, Jamie, Janice, Janie, Janet, Jean, Jeff, Jen, Jess, Jessica, Jim, John, Julie, Karen, Kathy Mears, Kathy Strasser, Kayla, Kelli, Kenny, Kian, Kim, Kim S., Kolton, Kris, Kurt, Larry, Linda, Linda G., Lori, Lyla W., Margot, Marion, Mary, Matt, Maureen, Melissa, Mike, Missy, Nan, Olivia, Pat, Patricia Sarabia, Patti, Payton, Rich, Rick, Ricky, Roger, Ruthann, Sara, & Cory, Sarah, Sasha, Seth, Shalom, Sharon, Shelly, Shirley, Steve, Tammy, Tatem, Ted, Teresa, Terri, Terry, Thelma, Tim, Tina, Todd, Tom, Tom & Gale Miller, Tori, Tracy, Trisha, Tristan, Vance, Vicki, Viola, Violet, Vivian, Wayne, Zach, Zak, and Zoey.



The Out to Dinner Group will meet Friday, May 18th At 6:00 PM at Sam's Restaurant, 1031 Harlem Rd. Machesney Park. Signup sheet on bulletin board. Please sign up by Sunday May 13th.



Happy Birthday To You!

MAY: 1—Sandy Dittmer & Rebecca Naff, 4—Michael Stinson, 7—Rob Binder, 8—Al Schnurr, 9—Betty Comins, 11—Tyler McCormick, 15—Helen Meier & Roger Frey, 21—Dorothy Taylor, 22—Diane Lipinski & Kennadi Rice-Devlin, 24—Laura Hill, 26—Donald Schlegel, 27—Grady Naff, 31—Kelli Hedrington



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ

Sunday, May 6, 2018

Sixth Sunday of Easter ~ 9:30 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



God Bless Helen and Pastor Rick!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who calls us beloved children, who gathers us into one flock, who guides us into all truth.
- C:** Amen.
- P:** Let us confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *(A brief silence.)* Faithful and just God,
- C:** **we confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**
- P:** In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent the Son to atone for our sins. In the name of + Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and Inspire you to live for others.
- C:** Amen.

Sixth Sunday of



OPENING HYMN

O Day of Rest and Gladness



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



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



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



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

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.**

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church

We are happy to have you worship with us today! Join us for beverages, snacks and conversation after worship.

Communion is by intinction. Come forward to receive the bread with an open hand then dip in the wine (dark) or juice (light). Gluten-free wafers are available - 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 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. Thanks for being so faithful in giving generously to God's work at Faith Lutheran.

Financials Sunday, April 29 - Week #17

Attendance - 78

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Actual Offering | \$1,491.50 |
| Weekly Offering Budget | \$2,176.00 |
| 2017 YTD Actual Offering | \$39,617.89 |
| 2017 YTD Offering Needed | \$36,992.00 |

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Guild - Carol & Roger Frey

Computer Technician - Mike Banker

Offering Video - Helen Meier

Reader - Nicole Blakeman

Counters - Carol & Roger Frey

Fellowship - Church Council in honor of Pastor Rick's 5th Anniversary at Faith Lutheran

Greeters - Eloise

Musician - Betty Comins

Ushers - Doug Congdon & Ray Wendell

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Richard J. Meier



Church T-Shirt Orders are due May 20th
All info is on the order form. Forms are on the narthex table & in the office. Size charts are on the board. See Sue for more info.

BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-'ry
3 Come, Al-might-y, to de-liv-er; let us all thy
4 Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion, pure and spot-less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy
trou-bled breast; let us all in thee in-her-it; let us
life re-ceive; sud-den-ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er-
let us be; let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-



faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion,
find thy prom-ised rest. Take a-way the love of sin-ning;
more thy tem-ples leave. Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing,
ly re-stored in thee! Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,



pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with
Al-pha and O-me-ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a-bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.
its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.
crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise!

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C: **you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

A reading from Acts, the 10th chapter.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A Responsive Reading from Psalm 98

R: Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

C: O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

R: You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

C: Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

R: Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

C: With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

R: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

C: Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.

R: The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

A reading from 1st John, the 5th chapter.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks 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.

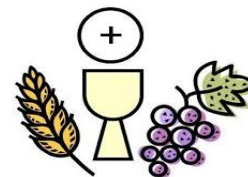
P: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

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



~ COMMUNION ~

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

P: We entrust all our prayers to you, gracious God.
Receive them by the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~
"Glorious Day" by Casting Crowns



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.



love
each other
as I have
loved you.
John 15:12

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

P: The holy gospel according to John,
the 15th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

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.

SERMON

"Christ for All, with Love"

Hymn of the Day

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Refrain



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:



Refrain

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
this is the way we will live with you.

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 life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need. *(A brief silence.)* Holy God, your voice calls us to worship. Where discord bellows within the church, unite us in harmony. Where we lack direction, guide us in singing your song with our unique voices. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Creative Lord, your melodies formed the earth and all that is in it. Receive the roar of the sea and the rhythmic clap of the rivers. Rejoice as the hills ring out in praise. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Holy One, you hear all our moans and groans. Where lament and the blues resound, send us to listen. Send us to comfort. Send us to build relationships rooted in your justice and peace. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Serenade the estranged and all who suffer alone. Accompany high-functioning addicts and the frightened who have no one to turn to. Give rest to overworked care givers and people living with schizophrenia. Today we pray especially for Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Eternal Song, you call us to share our gifts for your glory. We thank you and praise you for our musicians and vocalists, choir directors and hymnwriters. Bless all who lead and all who sing in worship. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.