

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2026

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Shannon Roesch

GATHERING

Call to Worship

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession

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.

Silence

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of 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 name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

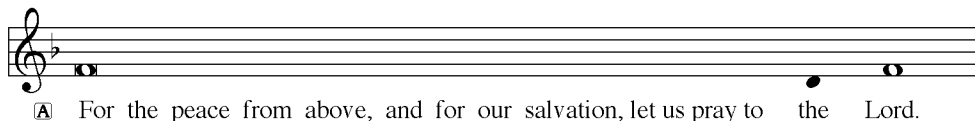
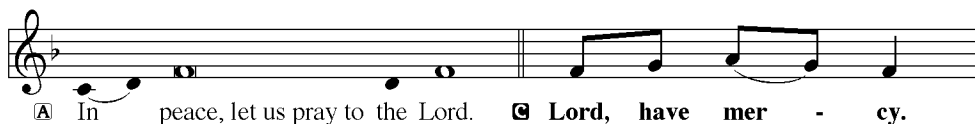
- 1 **O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light,
O balm for care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright:
on you the high and lowly, through ages joined in tune,
sing, “Holy, holy, holy,” to the great God triune.**
- 2 **On you, at earth's creation, the light first had its birth;
on you, for our salvation, Christ rose from depths of earth;
on you, our Lord victorious the Spirit sent from heav'n;
and thus on you, most glorious, a threefold light was giv'n.**
- 3 **Today on weary nations the heav'nly manna falls;
to holy convocations the silver trumpet calls,
where gospel light is glowing with pure and radiant beams
and living water flowing with soul-refreshing streams.**
- 4 **New graces ever gaining from this our day of rest,
we reach the rest remaining to spirits of the blest.
We sing to you our praises, O Father, Spirit, Son;
the church its voice upraises to you, blest Three in One.**

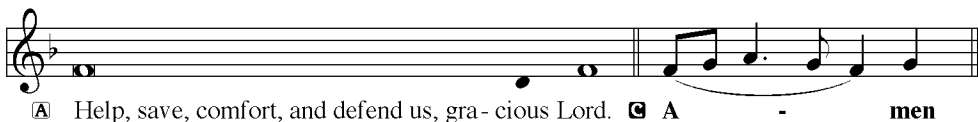
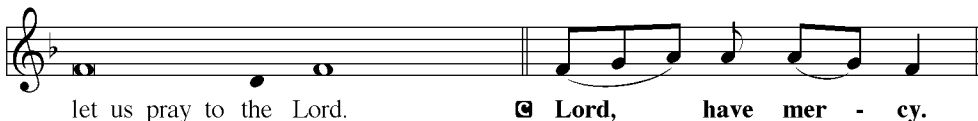
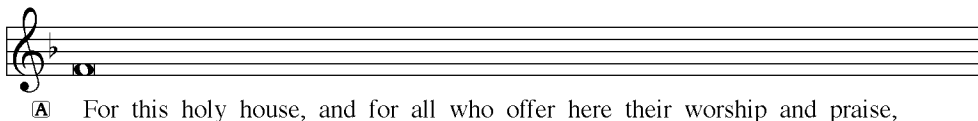
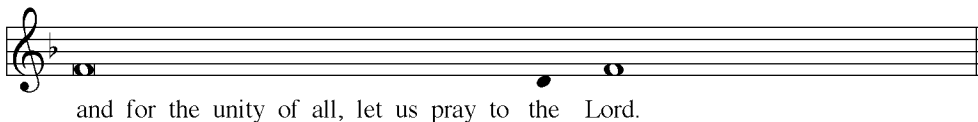
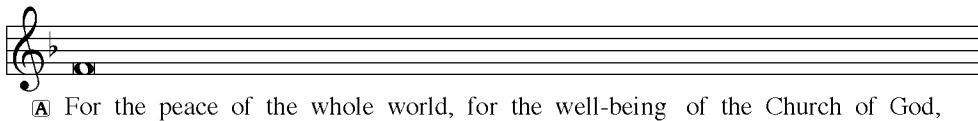
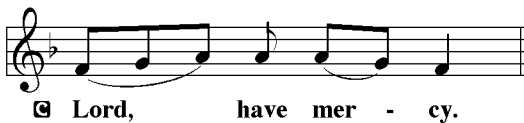
**Greeting*

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.

**Kyrie*





**Hymn of Praise: "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"*

(piano)

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.**

**Prayer of the Day*

P: God of the commandments, you gave the Israelites laws so that they might live in harmony with one another. Show us how to live in peace, so that all may know of your love. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

**Sharing Christ's Peace*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Children's Sermon

WORD

Reading: Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17

Reader: Mike Fenner

³ Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the Israelites: ⁴ 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶ but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

⁷ So Moses went, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him.

20 Then God spoke all these words,

² "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³ you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ "You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me ⁶ but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ "You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰ But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²“Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

¹³“You shall not murder.

¹⁴“You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵“You shall not steal.

¹⁶“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

R: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:17-20*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

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

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter,[[] not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Song – “Be Like You”

(piano)

1. **Teach me to love, teach me to serve. Teach me to tell of the truth of Your Word. Help me be weak, help me be strong, to love what is right and to hate what is wrong.**

I know that I have a long way to go until I’m made pure and true.

But, ‘til that day, this Lord I pray, help me to be like You.

2. **Teach me to trust, teach me to pray. Teach me to walk in the faith to obey. Help me be meek, help me be bold. Help me to serve both the young and the old.**

I know that I have a long way to go until I’m made pure and true.

But, ‘til that day, this Lord I pray, help me to be like You.

**To be a friend of compassion, a servant with passion, a lover of Your dear bride.
To be filled with conviction, a part of Your mission, a servant of Christ who died.**

3. Teach me to stand, teach me to fall, down on my knees in response to Your call.
Help me to die, help me to live. Help me to share the true love that You give.
I know that I have a long way to go until I'm made pure and true.
But, 'til that day, this Lord I pray, help me to be like You.
But, 'til that day, this Lord I pray, help me to be like You.

Sermon: "Covenant and Commandments – Law and Gospel"

Song of the Day – "On Eagle's Wings" ELW 787

(piano)

- 1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust!"

*Refrain: And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.*

- 2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear;
under God's wings your refuge,
with faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

- 3 You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come. *Refrain*

- 4 For to the angels God's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

*Final refrain: And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand;
and hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.*

**The 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*

Stewardship Time

Sandi Watts on organ

—We now have Worship Cards in the pews. Please let us know if you are communing, share a prayer request, and place your card in the offering plate as a gesture of stewardship as we grow in relationship with God through the use of our time, talents, and finances—

**Offering Prayer*

P: Merciful God,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

**Great Thanksgiving*

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 to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Words of Institution*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**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 Songs

“Seek Ye First”

(piano)

- 1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God, And His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you -- Allelu, alleluia!**
- 2. Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you -- Allelu, alleluia!**
- 3. We do not live by bread alone, but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Allelu, Alleluia!**

“Take My Life that I May Be” ELW 685

(organ)

- 1. Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
- 2. Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.**

3. **Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.**
4. **Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.**
5. **Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.**
6. **Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.**

**Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

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.**

**Sending Song* – “To Be Your Presence” ELW 546

(organ)

1. **To be your presence is our mission here,
to show compassion's face and list'ning ear,
To be your heart of mercy ever near, alleluia!**
2. **To be your presence is our mission bold,
to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,
To be your hands of justice, right uphold, alleluia!**
3. **To be your presence is our mission blest,
to speak for all the broken and oppressed,
To be your voice of hope, your love expressed, alleluia!**

4. **We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice,
to serve your people is our call and choice,
And in his mission we, the church, rejoice, alleluia!**

**Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The altar plants are donated today by the Roth Family in celebration of
Elliot Snodgrass' 7th birthday today
and
by Liddy Stark in honor of Kimberly Rowe-Stark's birthday

Song Credits

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"Seek Ye First," by Karen Lafferty, Maranatha! Music, © 1972. CCLI#973583

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Barb Davenport
Greeter: Barb Davenport
Reader: Mike Fenner
Usher: Mike Fenner
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Organist: Sandi Watts
Pianist: Shannon Roesch
Drummers: John Demien & Louis Dichsen
Financial Assistants: Kevin Krohe & Kay Schnitker
Chancel Committee: Martha Krohe
Coffee Hosts: Laura Sweatman & Verla Buckner
Singers:

Maddie Crossin
Benen Dichsen

Kelly Hartz
Terri Kimler

Adam Krohe
Kris Roth

Cole Street
Melissa Street



Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kevin Krohe	Monica Proefrock	Cory Street
Greg Kimler	Patty Nelson	Kay Schnitker	John Williams

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, October 18, 9:30am: Worship **Newsletter Deadline**

10:45am: "Digging Deeper" in the Justice Room

4-6pm: Fall Fest in the parking lot

Wednesday, October 21, 10:00am: Read the Bible in a Year Group – Faith Library

Sunday, October 25, 9:30am: Worship

10:45am: "Digging Deeper" in the Justice Room

Wednesday, October 28, 10:00am: Read the Bible in a Year Group – Faith Library

News Updates

Lay Ministry Sign-Up Sheets

Sign-Up Sheets are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Faith's Little Flock and Faith's Older Flock

We now have two groups of children meeting during worship on the Sundays we are inside. Faith's Little Flock is for children ages 2-7, and Faith's Older Flock is for children gr. 1-6.

Post-Service Discussions – Digging Deeper

Join us in the Justice Room for exploring the new sermon series based on the Lectionary.

Fall Fest Is Here!

The 3rd Annual Fall Fest at Faith Lutheran is happening **today** from 4:00–6:00 PM. Families, friends, and neighbors are encouraged to come enjoy a Trunk or Treat, bounce house, free food, music, games, and more.

This is a wonderful chance to celebrate the season and create a fun, welcoming experience for the community.

All Saints Sunday -- November 1

On November 1, we will be celebrating All Saints Sunday, an opportunity to remember all the saints of God, specifically recalling members and loved ones of members of our congregation who have died or were baptized in the last year. If you would like the name of your loved one shared, please submit it to the church office **by Friday, October 30** as we will read their names aloud. And while the Story of David and Bathsheba may seem out of place for such a solemn day, we remember that we all are at the same time saints and sinners.

Doorbell Dinners October 26-30

It's back! Yes, we delivered Doorbell Dinners last month as well, but it's our turn again! Sign up soon for a chance to volunteer this month, and consider inviting a friend to join you... maybe even take them out for ice cream afterwards. The time commitment is 11:15-12:30 each day. If you want to learn more, talk to Sharon Zuiderveld to tell her that you'd simply like to ride along and observe. We are confident you will want to do it again and again! To sign up, visit the signup counter by the Fair Trade coffee sales.

Read the Bible in a Year

Please join us in reading the New Testament, starting October 1. We will meet weekly on Wednesdays from October 7 through December 31, from 10:00-11:00am in the Library, to discuss the reading for each week. By December 31, we will have read the entire New Testament. If you would like more information and the reading schedule, please contact Pam Devlin at 217-473-7375 or pdevlin56@gmail.com. God's Blessings to all.

New Faith Telephone Directory

A new Faith Directory is available at the Coffee Sales counter. Please take one (1) per family. We will also soon be printing a new pictorial directory – please submit a picture to the church office (by email is preferred: faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) for us to include in the new directory. Thank You!

Women's Mini Retreat

First Presbyterian Church (870 W. College) invites all women to a Women's Mini Retreat on Saturday, November 7, 8:45am-Noon. The theme of the retreat is "The Next Chapter: What Will You Do with Your Story?" The speaker will be Pastor Linda Strader from St. John, Springfield, and the musician will be Marilyn Dichsen. Lunch will be catered by Dinner Made Simple. A good-will offering will benefit Spirit of Faith Soup Kitchen. Please call asap to make your reservation as they are limited to only 60 participants (217-245-4189).