

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Jean Welch, piano solo – “Christ, Be Our Light,” arr. Farrell

GATHERING

**Call to Worship and Confession*

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

C: Amen.

P: Ministry is a gift.

C: It is a gift that calls out every bit of our being – heart, mind, soul, and strength.

P: Ministry is a gift.

C: It is God’s gift to us, invited to join with all the church as we are one in God’s mission.

P: Ministry is a gift.

C: It is our gift to God as we offer our gifts and passions in service as disciples of Jesus.

P: As partners in ministry, we are blessed to be a blessing. We are blessed by the opportunities to serve and the ways it enriches our lives. We are a blessing to others as we share God’s love and invite them into new life in Christ. These blessings are gifts through God’s grace, yet God works through us, saints and sinners. Our worship today is a confession and claiming. We confess the times that we have neglected this work, overlooking the needs and opportunities to speak and act. And we claim our calling, that through the waters of Holy Baptism, we have been gifted and called for lives in ministry. Let us join in prayer as we commit ourselves to this partnership of ministry:

P: God of compassion...

C: Through your son, Jesus Christ, you make us one. You give us a mission and call us to live it out with the gifts you have given us and as the children of God you

have made us to be. Give us courage to love and live in the unity we have in you as we go all in and live your mission together. Amen.

Gathering Song – “All Are Welcome” ELW 641, vv. 1, 3, & 4 (organ)

**Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:**

Refrain: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

**Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine, and wheat:
A banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *Refrain***

**Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they’ve known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God’s face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger: *Refrain***

Children’s Sermon

Hymn of Praise – “All My Days” (piano)

**1 All my days I will sing this song of gladness,
give my praise to the Fountain of delights;
For in my helplessness You heard my cry,
and waves of mercy poured down on my life.**

**2 I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer, I will sing of the blood that never fails;
Of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed, of death defeated and life without end.**

*Refrain: Beautiful Savior, Wonderful Counselor, clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You’re the Way, the Truth, the Life, Star of the Morning, glorious holiness,
You’re the Risen One, heaven’s Champion, and You reign, You reign over all!*

**3 I long to be where the praise is never ending,
Yearn to dwell where the glory never fades;
Where countless worshippers will share one song,
And cries of ‘worthy’ will honor the Lamb! *Refrain***

WORD

Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6

Reader: Angela Spray

¹I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Gospel Reading:* John 17:20-26

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 17th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁰‘I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵‘Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.’

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

Song: "The Church Song"

(piano)

*Refrain: We are the Church, the body of our Lord;
We are all God's children. We have been restored.*

1. **The Church is not a building where people go to pray;
It's not made out of sticks and stones, it's not made out of clay. *Refrain***
2. **You can go to worship but you cannot go to Church;
You can't find a building that's alive no matter how you search. *Refrain***
3. **The Church is not a business, a committee or a board;
It's not a corporation for the business of the Lord. *Refrain***
4. **The Church, it is the people, living out their lives,
Called, enlightened, sanctified for the work of Jesus Christ. *Refrain***

Sermon: "We are One in Mission!"

Song of the Day – "We All Are One in Mission" ELW 576

(organ)

- 1 **We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single great commission compels us from above
to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.**
- 2 **We all are called for service, to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are diff'rent; our purpose is the same:
to touch the lives of others with God's surprising grace,
so ev'ry folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.**
- 3 **Now let us be united, and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.**

**The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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*

Stewardship Time

Mission Moment – “Giving Boutique”

Karen Dean

Stewardship is about our grateful response to God's grace for us. How do you respond? If you would like to financially support our ministry together, you can place a donation in an offering box or through our website. If you would like to support our ministry together through service, you can find a list of ministry teams online or on our ministry team menu. Consider joining a ministry team, or starting a new one, today!

–Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew–

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are gifts of God's grace to claim and sustain us in our lives as disciples of Jesus. Baptism proclaims our identity, that we are beloved children of God, called to love God and our neighbors. Holy Communion reconnects us to the Body of Christ and nurtures our lives of faith with forgiveness and life.

C: **We give thanks to God as we receive this gift of grace anew today.**

**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

“Come to the Table” *(piano)*

We all start on the outside, the outside looking in,

This is where grace begins.

We were hungry, we were thirsty, with nothing left to give,

Oh the shape that we were in.

And just when all hope seemed lost, love opened the door for us.

He said come to the table, come join the sinners who have been redeemed.

Take your place beside the Savior, sit down and be set free,

Come to the table.

**Come meet this motley crew of misfits, these liars and these thieves,
There's no one unwelcome here.
And that sin and shame that you brought with you, you can leave it at the door,
And let mercy draw you near, so ...**

**Come to the table, come join the sinners who have been redeemed.
Take your place beside the Savior, sit down and be set free,
Come to the table, come to the table.**

**To the thief and to the doubter, to the hero and the coward,
To the pris'ner and the soldier, to the young and to the older.
All who hunger, all who thirst, all the last and all the first,
All the paupers and the princes, all who fail you've been forgiven.**

**Come to the table, come to the table.
Sit down and be set free, come to the table.**

"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!**

**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: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

**Sending Song – “My Life Flows on In Endless Song” ELW 763 (piano)*

- 1 **My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.**

*Refrain: No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?*

- 2 **Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?** *Refrain*
- 3 **What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth.**
Refrain

- 4 **The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?** *Refrain*

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Song Credits

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“All My Days,” by Stuart Townend. © 1998 Thankyou Music/Adm. Used by permission.

“The Church Song” by Jay Beech, © 1988. CCLI#973583

“Come to the Table,” words & music by Frey, Glover, & McDonald, © 2015 Dayspring Music LLC. CCLI#973583

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Hallie Mayner
Greeter: Lillian Korous
Reader: Angela Spray
Usher: Pat Glyshaw
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Music Director: Jean Welch
Pianist: Jean Welch
Organist: Sandi Watts
Drummer: John Demien
Financial Assistants: Patty Nelson & Mike Oldenettel
Chancel Committee: Pat Glyshaw
Coffee Host: Martha Krohe



Singers:

Benen Dichsen	Rigby Dichsen	Adam Krohe	Carol VanderKloot
Louis Dichsen	Kelly Hartz	Kris Roth	
Marilyn Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Melissa Street	

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Patty Nelson	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Mike Oldenettel	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, September 17, 9:30am: Worship **Newsletter Deadline**
10:45am: Sunday School & Bell Rehearsal

Wednesday, September 20, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group
10am: Discipleship Group in the Faith Library
6pm: Women of Faith at Los Rancheros

Thursday, September 21, 5:30pm: Choir Rehearsal
6pm: Church Council Meeting

Sunday, September 24, 9:30am: Worship
10:45am: Sunday School, Bell Rehearsal, & Plant Exchange

Wednesday, September 27, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Thursday, September 28, 5:30pm: Choir Rehearsal

News Updates

Sunday School

Calling all kids! After worship, fellowship, and snacks, we will gather for music and then head to our classes. We have two classes this year, one for pre-K through Kindergarten and the other for early elementary. If you have questions or are interested in helping, contact Patty Nelson at 217-653-3105.

Deeper Discussions – Total Ministry

Come join us as we go deeper and learn more about the exciting wave of Total Ministry that is washing over our congregation. **After worship today and on September 24**, members of our steering team will be leading presentations in the sanctuary. You will learn more about the rationale and planning of the last two years that have gotten us to where we are today, as well as information on how this will call each of us to get involved as we follow God's gifting and call in our lives. All are welcome and encouraged to attend these discussions. Just grab a snack and drink after worship and head back into the sanctuary.

Choir Rehearsals have Begun!!!

As we look back over 75 years of our church's history, we can see the importance that music has played in this church in many forms. We have seen changes in the style of music we sing and the instruments we use all to the glory of God. I would encourage all of you to consider the musical talents you have and join us as we continue to celebrate the Word of God through music.

Chancel Choir rehearsals are on **Thursdays..** We begin at 5:30pm for 45 minutes in the sanctuary. Anyone interested in singing, we need you! We sing once or twice a month during church.

Exaltation Ringers will have rehearsals the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month after service at 10:45am in the sanctuary. We ring one Sunday each month. If you are interested in ringing, please let me know. Jean Welch, *Music Director*

Discipleship Group

It's time to put the "attitude" in the Beatitudes! Join us at **10am on Wednesday, September 20**, in the Faith Library to find out more about the way Jesus wants us to live

our lives. Bring your favorite Bible with you or borrow one from the Faith library. Most importantly, bring yourself! For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at khartz@sompo-intl.com.

Women of Faith Fellowship Night

The Women of Faith fellowship group is meeting for dinner on **Wednesday, September 20th at 6:00pm** at Los Rancheros. We'd love for you to join us! Please RSVP to Monica at 217-737-0475 by Sunday, September 17th.

Soup Luncheon - Carry-Out Style

Our Carry-Out Soup Luncheon was a success last year, and we will be offering that style again! Carry-out soups and desserts will be available on **Sunday, October 8, from 10:30am - 1:00pm**. We could use your help!

Signup sheets are available for a variety of ways you can volunteer from providing soups/desserts to helping in the building. Please sign up on the Coffee Sales counter next to the coat closet.

Tickets are available for you to purchase or sell to your family and friends. **The cost is \$7.00 in advance or \$8.00 at the door.**

Posters are available for you to take around town to help us advertise.

Let's work together to serve our community and share some delicious Lutheran Love! (Please bring in any cardboard trays or small boxes for us to use.)

Mark Your Calendar:

Faith Lutheran Church 75th Anniversary Celebration on November 12!

75th Anniversary Choir

Faith Lutheran's 75th Anniversary Celebration is November 12th. Music has played an important part in the life of this congregation through the years. In celebration of this event, we would like to invite you to sing with the Chancel Choir that day. This is an invitation to those who may be coming back to visit also.

A **rehearsal** is scheduled for **Saturday, November 11th at 1:30 pm in the sanctuary**. Please contact Jean Welch at 217.652.7009 (text) or email jrwelch53@msn.com and she can set you up with the music and a recording prior to the rehearsal.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Join this exciting new ministry team! Sharon Zuiderveld and her sister, Mary Ellen Peterson, are looking for crocheters and knitters (or those who want to learn) to help make prayer shawls. The shawls will then be given to friends as reminders that they are covered by our prayers and the love and grace of God. Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting for the Prayer Shawl ministry may contact Sharon Zuiderveld. Beginners (and lefties) are welcome. Please let her know what day and time are best for you.

Her email is: sharonzuiderveld@hotmail.com and her cell is: 217-883-1258

Installation of our New Bishop

You are invited to attend the Rev. Greg Busboom's installation as Bishop of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod of the ELCA. The worship service will be held **Saturday, September 23, at 11:00am at St. Agnes Catholic Church**, 245 N. Amos Ave., Springfield. ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton will preside at the service. A reception will follow the service at St. John's Lutheran Church, 2477 W. Washington St., Springfield. Rostered ministers are invited to vest and process. The color of the day is red. In order to help the planning team prepare communion elements, bulletins, and seating arrangements, you are requested to RSVP at CSIS-ELCA.org/rsvp.

Fall Plant Exchange – Sunday, September 24

Fall is a great time to plant perennials and divide those house plants that have grown out of their pots. The zinnia and marigold seeds are drying, and the flowering vine seeds are ready to harvest. Please consider bringing some plants to church for the exchange.

Weather permitting, tables will be set up outside to display the bounty. Sticky notes will be available to label plants if you remember what they are called.

Contact Patty Nelson if you have any questions or want to help set up on the 24th! 217/653-3105 or pattynelson1938@gmail.com.

The Giving Boutique Is Coming

This fall Kathy Trenter and Karen Dean are planning a new project in anticipation of the giving season. This Giving Boutique will take place following worship on **Sunday, October 29**. It will feature handmade/designed crafts for decoration or gift giving. We already plan wreaths, trees, book stacks, shelf sitters, nativity stones, and tier trays.

The Giving Boutique comes with a twist! The emphasis will be on the Giving! The "purchase" of any item will actually be a donation to the group of YOUR choice: HUGS, Faith Lutheran Youth Group, Jacksonville Food Center, "Share the Light" Ministry, or

Lutheran World Relief. You will receive a gift card to present to a special recipient that a gift has been made in their honor. You may then keep the item for yourself, share it with that recipient, or even give it to another. The Giving goes on!!

If you would like to participate, we would love to include your crafts in the event. Please sign up on the list on the Coffee Sales counter. Not all that crafty?? No worries. The most important participants will be all those who take advantage of this event to remember special friends and family members in this creative way. More information will follow, but start crafting now to be part of the Giving!

Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches Fall Collection

The JACC is collecting items to help at-risk youth in our area. Donated items will be delivered to Midwest Youth Services, who serve at-risk, runaway, and homeless youth. This program serves youth ages 14-24 who may be struggling to pay rent, searching for independence, pregnant or parenting, living with friends, living with relatives, couch surfing, living in a shelter, homeless, or at risk of being homeless. Needed items include:

Small bottles of dish soap	All-purpose cleaner	Paper towels
Hand soap	Disinfectant spray or wipes	Rubber gloves
Windex	Sponges	Small bottles of toilet bowl cleaner

Please place your items in the blue box by the Mission & Ministry Center **through October 29**.

Western IL FCA – 2023 Fall Fundraising Banquet in Jacksonville

Over the past seven years, God has done exciting things through Western Illinois FCA...impacting the lives of coaches, athletes, and others in our community. We are continually looking for opportunities to expand Fellowship of Christian Athletes and take the love of Christ to more of our local schools!

Date – **Saturday, November 11, 2023 @ Hamiltons**

Format – Our event will begin at 4:30pm with remarks from local athletes and coaches, words of encouragement from St. Louis Cardinal, Tommy Edman, and a wonderful dinner. Guests must make reservations through a table host or through www.WesternILFCA.org. There is no cost to attend, but we will receive an offering to support the ministry of Western IL FCA. Seating is limited.

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!*

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange (on the counter outside of the coat closet). Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display. Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.

Contribution Envelopes for 2023

are available in the office. If you don't see a box with your name on it, please mention this to Barb Davenport, Pam Devlin, or Kris Roth. We will happily provide you with a box. If you would like to register for our easy, **automatic online giving service**, contact the church office.