

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

October 15, 2023

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by the Faith Singers – “Open the Eyes of My Heart,” by Paul Baloche

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: *(Jeremiah 17:7-8)* ⁷Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

C: ⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

P: Our family tree of faith is filled with men and women who live by faith and make mistakes. When we stumble, we are in good company. Yet, we are also surrounded by a company of saints, redeemed by the mercy of God. Let us confess our sin and put our trust in this mercy.

Silence

C: Forgiving God, we confess that our actions do not always reflect your goodness. Like Abraham, we question your promise. Like Jacob, we take what is not ours. Like Moses, we fear that we are not enough. In your love and compassion, prune our faults and failures and keep us connected to you.

P: God has heard your confession and forgives your sin. Jesus is living water for you and all. May the Holy Spirit dwell in you richly that you bear the fruit of love for God and one another.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song – “Beneath the Tree of Life”

*Refrain: Come and gather beneath the tree of life.
Come and gather beneath the tree of life –
Root of wisdom, branch of peace, fruit of healing and release.
Come and gather beneath the tree of life.*

**Flowing from this tree of grace and passion,
Oh how sweet the taste, how deep and rich the wellspring of your love. *Refrain***

Children’s Sermon

Hymn of Praise – “Great Is the Lord”

**Great is the Lord, he is holy and just. By his power we trust in his love.
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true. By his mercy he proves he is love.
Great is the Lord and worthy of glory. Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord, I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice.
Great is the Lord, great is the Lord. *Repeat***

WORD

Reading: Genesis 32:9-13, 22-30

Reader: Carol VanderKloot

⁹And Jacob said, ‘O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O LORD who said to me, “Return to your country and to your kindred, and I will do you good”, ¹⁰I am not worthy of the least of all the steadfast love and all the faithfulness that you have shown to your servant, for with only my staff I crossed this Jordan; and now I have become two companies. ¹¹Deliver me, please, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I am afraid of him; he may come and kill us all, the mothers with the children. ¹²Yet you have said, “I will surely do you good, and make your offspring as the sand of the sea, which cannot be counted because of their number.”’

¹³So he spent that night there, and from what he had with him he took a present for his brother Esau,

²²The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until

daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' ²⁷So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' ²⁸Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.'

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

**Gospel Reading:* Matthew 5:21-24, 43-47

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement." ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

⁴³'You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy."
⁴⁴But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. ⁴⁶For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? ⁴⁷And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

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

Song: "Comfort, Comfort All My People"

*Refrain: Comfort, comfort all my people with the comfort of my Word.
Speak it tender to my people: All your sins are taken away.*

1. **Though your tears be rivers running; though your tears be an ocean full;
though you cry with the hurt of living: comfort, comfort.
Ev'ry valley shall be lifted, ev'ry mountain shall be low,
ev'ry rough place will be smoother, comfort, comfort! Refrain**
2. **Though your eyes see only darkness, though your eyes can see no light,
Though your eyes see pain and sorrow: comfort, comfort.
Ev'ry night will have its morning, ev'ry pain will have an end,
Ev'ry burden will be lightened: comfort, comfort. Refrain**
3. **Though we build strong walls for prisons, though we feast while others starve,
Though we fill this world with weapons: comfort, comfort.
Ev'ry pris'ner will be rescued, ev'ry hungry mouth be filled,
Ev'ry gun will rust, forgotten: comfort, comfort. Refrain**
4. **Though we fracture God's creation, though we stand so far apart,
Though we fail to love each other: comfort, comfort.
Ev'ry wall will crack and crumble, ev'ry stranger will be friend,
Ev'ry one embrace another: comfort, comfort. Refrain**

Sermon: "A Twisted Trunk: Jacob and Esau"

Song of the Day – "You Are Mine"

1. **I will come to you in the silence, I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice, Be still and know I am here.**
2. **I am hope for all who are hopeless, I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night, I will be your light. Come and rest in me.**
*Refrain: Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me. I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine.*
3. **I am strength for all the despairing, Healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see, The lame will all run free, And all will know my name.**
Refrain
4. **I am the Word that leads all to freedom, I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name, Embracing all your pain, Stand up, now walk, and live!**
(Refrain

**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: "Dear World," by Echosmith
Sung by Marilyn Dichsen and Kelly Hartz

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–

**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

“Now Is the Time”

Refrain: Come to us, you who say, “I will not forget you.”

Be with us, you who say, “Do not be afraid.”

Take hold of us, our hearts, our minds, our whole being.

Make us you own, now is the time.

1. **Spirit of love, crush the pain of hatred. Spirit of hope, stand before our eyes.**
Spirit of light, dance within our darkness.
Make us you own, now is the time. Refrain
2. **Spirit of peace, silence tongues of anger. Spirit of life, break the chains of death.**
Spirit of joy, overcome our sadness.
Make us you own, now is the time. Refrain
3. **Spirit of faith, rise above our doubting. Spirit of truth, save us from our lies.**
Spirit of God, walk among your people.
Make us you own, now is the time. Refrain

"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil" ELW 512

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

**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 – “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”*

**Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I’m so glad you’re in my life; I’m so glad you came to save us.**

*Refrain: You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,
from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky,
Lord, I lift your name on high.*

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Hallie Mayner
Greeters: Judy Dillard & Vicki Robson
Reader: Carol VanderKloot
Usher: Pat Glyshaw
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Music Director: Jean Welch
Musician: Jean Welch
Drummer: John Demien
Financial Assistants: Kelly Hartz & Mike Oldenettel
Chancel Committee: Pat Glyshaw
Coffee Host: Karen Sibert



The altar plants are donated today
by the Roth family in celebration of Elliot Snodgrass' 4th birthday on October 18
and
by Pat Glyshaw in celebration of Brian & Jess' 5th wedding anniversary on October 20

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			

Song Credits

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What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, October 15, 9:30am: Worship

10:45am: Sunday School

Monday, October 16, 11:30am: Potluck & Movie

Wednesday, October 18, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

10am: Discipleship Group in the Library

6-7:30pm: Women's Fellowship – Game & Pizza Night

Thursday, October 19, 5:30pm: Choir Rehearsal

6:00pm: Church Council Meeting

Sunday, October 22, 9:30am: Worship

10:45am: Sunday School

10:45am: Bell Rehearsal

Wednesday, October 25, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

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.

Potluck & Movie

Potluck and a Movie will be on Monday, October 16 at 11:30 am and will feature the recent film **The Hill**. **The Hill** is an American biographical sports drama film about **baseball player Rickey Hill** overcoming a physical handicap in order to try out for a legendary major league scout. *Sharon Zuiderveld*

Doorbell Dinners: coming up October 30-November 3

Help us deliver meals in the community. For more information and to sign up, visit the signup counter by the Fair-Trade coffee sales.

Soup Luncheon Carry-Out Style

Our Carry-Out Soup Lunch was a huge success!! THANK YOU to all who signed up to help work and/or provide food and monetary donations, Thanks also to all of you who bought a meal to take home and enjoy. We still have some of Carol Kilver's Sweet House salad dressing available, 8 oz. jars for \$5.00 (please see Kris Roth or Terri Kimler).

Music Rehearsals!!!

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: a rehearsal will be held on Thursday, October 19, and we will sing on Sunday, October 22 We begin at 5:30pm for 45 minutes in the sanctuary. Anyone interested in singing, we need you!

Exaltation Ringer rehearsals are on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month after service at 10:45am in the sanctuary (but not on October 8). We ring one Sunday each month. If you are interested in ringing, please let me know.

Jean Welch, *Music Director*

Discipleship Group

Take Two! It's time to put the "attitude" in the Beatitudes! Join us at **10am on Wednesday, October 18**, 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

In October we're doing a Gal's Game & Pizza Night! Join us in the Great Room on **Wednesday, October 18th at 6:00 pm** for some friendly competition and yummy pizza. Bring your favorite board or card game and we'll choose ones that evening to play. Please RSVP to Monica at 217-737-0475 by TODAY so we can provide enough food.

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!

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

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.