

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Outdoor Service
October 6, 2024

Greetings and Welcome

The Story – The Waiting Room

GATHERING

**Call to Worship*

P: Wandering in the desert, lost, without direction, the Israelites sought God.

C: We wander in our own wilderness, we come, we gather, we seek God.

**Confession and Forgiveness*

P: Holy God, invisible to our eyes yet present with us in all creation, in starry skies and glorious sunshine, in oceans and mountains, in forests and fields, in animals and human beings.

C: Your presence is also found in scripture, in the stories of men and women. They came close to you and you came close to them. They strayed far from you, though you never strayed far from them.

P: Your presence is found most fully in Jesus, who lived and walked among us and who revealed your love for us.

C: Lord, your desire is for us to focus our eyes and hearts on you, yet too often, like those before us, we lose our focus and turn away, focusing on the golden calves of our lives.

P: Lord, the journey is long, we get lost and weary, we get fed up and fearful. Help us to keep our focus on you, to find ways of supporting each other, and helping each other.

C: Lord, forgive us, as you forgave your people Israel.

Silence for confession

P: Dear Family in Christ, through the grace and mercy of Jesus Christ, God has come near to us in love. In the name of Jesus Christ +, God has forgiven your sin and bids you to walk in newness of life. Amen.

Gathering Song – “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less” ELW 597

- 1 **My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

- 2 **When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace; in ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain***
- 3 **His oath, his covenant, his blood sustain me in the raging flood; when all supports are washed away, he then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain***
- 4 **When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found, clothed in his righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne! *Refrain***

**Prayer of the Day*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...

C: Faithful God of an unfaithful people, the people of Israel doubted your power and turned to other gods to fulfill their needs. We too, turn to other gods, seeking acceptance, power, and independence. Show us how to live humbly in you, and walk in your ways, in the name of the one who offered true power to all humanity, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Sharing of the 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 32:1-14

Reader: Patty Nelson

¹When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, ‘Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ ²Aaron said to them, ‘Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.’ ³So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. ⁴He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ⁵When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, ‘Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord.’ ⁶They rose early the next day, and offered burnt-offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

⁷The Lord said to Moses, ‘Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!”’ ⁹The Lord said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.’

¹¹But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, ‘O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹²Why should the Egyptians say, “It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth”?’ Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, “I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever.”’ ¹⁴And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

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

Sermon: “Moses: God's Promise Tested”

Song of the Day – “Dear World” Kelly Hartz, solo

**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. 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

~ “Precious Lord,” arr. Smith ~
Jean Welch, keyboard

–Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder provided by the Ushers–

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 Distribution

“You Are My All in All”

- 1. You are my strength when I am weak You are my treasure that I seek
You are my all in all.
Seeking you as a precious jewel Lord, to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all.**

*Refrain: Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.*

2. **Taking my sin, my cross, my shame Rising again I bless your name
You are my all in all.
When I fall down you pick me up When I am dry you fill my cup
You are my all in all. Refrain**

“Be Thou My Vision” ELW 793

1. **Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**
2. **Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul’s shelter, thou my high tower,
raise thou me heav’nward, O Pow’r of my pow’r.**
3. **Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou, and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**
4. **Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven’s joys, O heaven’s Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

**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: As we leave this place, let God replace our golden calves. Place God at the center of all we say and do. Let God guide our lives and our encounters this week. Go with God's love, Jesus' gentle care, and the Spirit's breath inspiring us each day.

C: **Amen.**

**Sending Song: "For the Beauty of the Earth" ELW 879*

- 1 **For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:**

Refrain: Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.

- 2 **For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:** *Refrain*
- 3 **For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:** *Refrain*
- 4 **For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild:** *Refrain*
- 5 **For each perfect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;
for thyself, best gift divine, to our world so freely giv'n:** *Refrain*

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Portions of today's liturgy come from "Spill the Beans: worship and learning resources for all ages" and Luther Seminary's Narrative Lectionary worship resources.

Song Credits

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"You Are My All In All," by Dennis Jernigan, © 1991 Shepherd's Heart Music.

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Glen VanderKloot
Greeters: Gayla Smith & Debbie Stevens
Reader: Patty Nelson
Usher: John Williams
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Music Director: Jean Welch
Musician: Jean Welch
Financial Assistants: Ken Devlin & Patty Nelson
Chancel Committee: Kris Roth
Coffee Host: *Indoor Potluck*



Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Gaylon Martin	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Patty Nelson	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, October 6, 9:30am: Outdoor Worship
10:30am: Indoor Potluck

Wednesday, October 9, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group
6:00pm: Women of Faith at Kitchen 63 (1265 Sandusky Rd.)

Saturday, October 12, 10:00am: Soup Carry Out preparation

Sunday, October 13, 9:30am: Worship
10:30am: Carry Out Soup Lunch
4:30pm: Bible Boot Camp
5:30pm: Faith Inkubators

Wednesday, October 16, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group
10:00am: Discipleship Group in the Faith Library

Thursday, October 17, 6:00pm: Church Council Meeting

Saturday, October 19, 11:00am: First Communion class Chalice Decorating

News Updates

Outdoor Worship and Potluck

Our last outdoor worship service of the season is today. To assure all can participate, there is seating and communion stations on the east lawn, on the parking lot, and indoors (with worship visible from the Justice room windows), as well as being live streamed. Following the service, we will move indoors for a potluck meal in the Great Room. All are welcome!

Indoor Potluck Today

Following outdoor worship today, we will move indoors for a potluck meal in the Great Room. If you can help clean up after the service and/or the meal today, that would be great.

Women of Faith

The next Women of Faith gathering will be dinner together on **Wednesday, October 9 at 6:00pm** at Kitchen 63 at K's Creek Golf Course. Please RSVP to Monica (217-737-0475) **by today** if you can make it. We'd love to have you join us!

Soup Luncheon - Carry-Out Style

Our Carry-Out Soup Luncheon is coming up! Carry-out soups and desserts will be available on **Sunday, October 13, 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/cornbread** to helping in the building: we'll need help to package food on Saturday morning (October 12), then help with the carry out after church on Sunday. Please sign up at the table in the gathering area just outside the sanctuary.

Tickets are available there for you to purchase or sell to your family and friends. The ticket price today is \$7.00; next Sunday at the event it will be \$8.00.

Posters are also 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.)

Men's Prayer Group

Help us grow our group! You can meet in person at Faith on **Wednesday mornings at 7:00**, or on zoom. Contact one of the guys to let them know you are coming: Kevin Krohe or Larry Kuster.

Discipleship Group

Join our monthly discussion at **10:00am on Wednesday, October 16**, in the Faith Library. Enjoy good food, great discussion, and a lovely, vibrant community of believers. For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at khartz@sompo-intl.com.

Music is a Great Way to Connect!

The **Chancel Choir** will sing for **Reformation Sunday, October 27**.

Rehearsal will be **Thursday, October 24 at 6:30pm**. Hope you will join us!!

We are always looking for people to sing or play special music for a prelude or a stewardship offering. Please contact Jean Welch if you are interested in sharing your musical gifts. jrwelch53@msn.com or 217-652-7009 (phone/text)

“Faith’s Little Flock”

Faith's Little Flock meets in the classroom next to the nursery after the children's sermon until communion time. Activities this month will follow Pastor's theme of God's promises. The children can look forward to making mini water globes, crafts with hearts and lambs, and more while listening to a Bible stories. We are also adding some fun music for the little ones called "Sing the Bible". A special thanks to everyone who has volunteered your time in September. We will be working on a schedule for volunteers and getting things organized for the remainder of the year. Blessings, *Melissa Street*

Bible Boot Camp – our next session is October 13!

We introduced Bible Boot Camp, a new program for elementary school aged children, in September. Pastor Adam warmed them up with singing, dancing, and some retelling of Bible stories from recent worship services. Patty Nelson and Shelley McDaniel led them in some creative play and crafts, and then we all joined with parents and older youth for a meal. Future events are scheduled on Sundays, from 4:30-6:00, October 13 and 20, November 10 and December 15. Spread the word and bring a friend!

Faith Inkubators – our next session is October 13!

Our Confirmation Class has resumed under a different name. Our Faith Inkubators youth nights incorporate all the learning of confirmation, but also some games and activities so that it is open for some upper-elementary-aged kids that are up for the challenge and our high school youth to still be involved. Future events are scheduled on Sundays, from 5:30-7:30, October 13 and 20, November 10 and December 15.

Youth Service Projects

Our youth are willing and able to help with service projects in your home! Last month they helped with the *God's Work, Our Hands* clean up as well as washing windows for a member. If you would like to have them help at your home, contact one of our Youth Ministry Team leaders (Marilyn Dichsen, Adam Krohe, and Barb Davenport). They are often available after worship, but may be able to schedule another time as well. If your project falls over a mealtime (or anytime in between), they may appreciate some snacks and drinks.

Reformation Sunday -- October 27

Let's roll out the red carpet (or paraments) as we celebrate Reformation Sunday! It will be a special morning with traditional Lutheran liturgy, a musical offering from our Chancel Choir, and an opportunity (or two) to belt out "A Mighty Fortress is Our God." Celebrate Reformation Sunday with us and wear red, the color of the Holy Spirit, as we trust that God's reforming work and refining fire continue to be at work in us and throughout Christ's church.

Trunk-or-Treat at Faith - Need Volunteers!

This year Faith is hosting its first trunk-or-treat! Save the date for **Sunday, October 27, 2-4 pm**. This free, family-friendly event will be a great way for us to connect with the community, but we need your help to make it a success! We need people to sign up to decorate their trunks and hand out candy/trinkets, people to donate candy/trinkets, and for everyone to help spread the word. Please talk with Monica Proefrock or the Youth Ministry Team if you have any questions. And sign up now to volunteer for this fun outreach event!

Women of the ELCA Biennial Convention

Please consider attending the Central/Southern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA 2024 Biennial Convention on **Saturday, October 19** at St. John's Lutheran Church (2477 W. Washington St., Springfield, IL 62702), sponsored by the Women of the ELCA (WELCA). Contact Sharon Zuiderveld for more information or if you would like a ride.

Doorbell Dinners: October 28 - November 1

Thank you to all who helped with Doorbell Dinners in September. Our next opportunity will be coming up from OCTOBER 28-NOVEMBER 1. We are in need of drivers & deliverers to cover the needs of five routes — time commitment is 11:15-12:30 each day. For more information and to sign up, visit the signup counter by the Fair Trade coffee sales.

All Saints Sunday

On November 3, 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, November 1.**

Neighbors in Need Outreach at GoChurch (767 S. West St., Jacksonville)

Sunday, October 20, 12:00 – 2:00pm

We will be providing a hot meal, hygiene products, sleeping bags, socks, and underwear for anyone who does not have a physical address. We have also purchased a Mobile Salon "Matthew 25 Mobile", that will have its first debut at the outreach. We will have a licensed barber and beautician on site at this event. Haircuts and a shampoo will be provided to those also who do not have a physical address. Haircuts will be first-come, first-serve, and clients will need to sign in to reserve a space. The salon will be available from 12-2 that day. Since this is our first run with the salon, we will need to iron any kinks out. We will only be able to do a limited number of cuts, most likely 10-12 that day. Our goal is to have a mobile shower available by next spring. We have a few costly items to address to get that fully functional. We are excited for this new opportunity. We will also make our salon available for other events around our community.