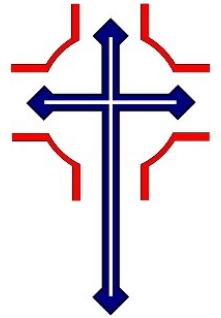


Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Washington, IL
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Baptismal Anniversary
September 21, 2025



Prelude

Welcome – Please take a moment to sign the black attendance books in the pews.

Good Shepherd Sunday

Remembering our Baptism: Will the members who were baptized between January thru April please come forward.

We believe that our baptism is one of the most important day of our lives, because on that day God called us each by name and claimed us as his own forever. The Lord adopts us into his family and makes us a part of the Body of Christ in the church.

So it is good to remember and celebrate that day when our baptism happened

Today we recognize those whom we know were baptized in the first quarter of the year. These are the names of those who are listed with a baptismal anniversary from January-April so we might recognize that glorious event.

As we celebrate the baptismal anniversaries of these people, we should also remember our own. The moment where each of us were joined together with the cross of Christ.

Today, you are washed clean by the receiving of the water in the remembrance of your baptism.

A reading from Galatians: “In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.”

When you were baptized you were claimed by God and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Today, we celebrate your baptism with thanksgiving and joy.

We affirm that baptism and its ongoing power in our lives. Baptism makes us children of God and followers of Jesus as long as we live and in heaven forever.

Together with all the people of God, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C I renounce them.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C 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.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C 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.

P You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

The group makes affirmation:

C I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

P I ask all the people of God, do you promise to support and pray for these baptized and for one another in your life in Christ?

C We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

Let us pray. Gracious God we thank you for the new life you give us through Holy Baptism. Bless each person here as they mark the anniversary of their baptism. We give you thanks, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in all your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence both now and forever. Make us faithful to follow you as long as we live. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Faith Lutheran Church
2206 Washington Rd,
Washington, IL 61571
Website and online worship:
www.shareourfaith.org
Church: 309-745-9306
faithlth@shareourfaith.org
Pastor Mike Rahlf
Home: 563-495-3485

May you live in God's peace and follow Jesus as you live out your baptism.
The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you

Let us share that peace with one another.



Hymn: "Take My Life, That I May Be" Red Book #685 v. 1-4



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, 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.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.

Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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.

Hymn of Praise

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you.

Will you pray with me?

Eternal and all-merciful God, **with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

First Reading – Amos 8:4-7 Pew Bible Page #740

4 Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land,

5 saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain,

and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances, 6 buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat.” 7 The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

R The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Psalm 113

1 Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the Lord; praise the name | of the Lord.

2 Let the name of the Lord be blessed, from this time forth forevermore.

3 From the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the Lord be praised.

4 The Lord is high above all nations; God’s glory above the heavens.

5 Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high,

6 but stoops to behold the heavens | and the earth?

7 The Lord takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

8 enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.

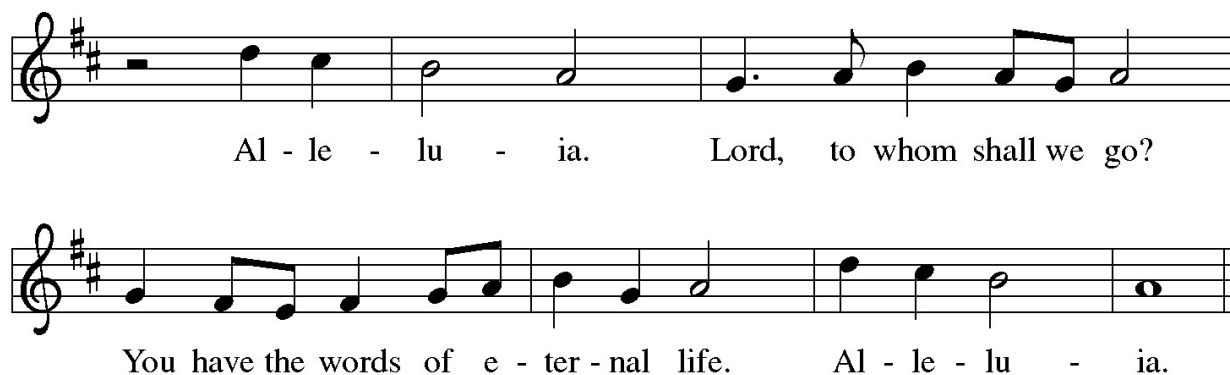
9 The Lord makes the woman of a childless house to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

Second Reading – 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Pew Bible Page# 963

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, 2 for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. 3 This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, 4 who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, 6 who gave himself a ransom for all this was attested at the right time. 7 For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

R The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God



Gospel Reading – Luke 16:1-13 Pew Bible Page #846

C Glory to you, O Lord:-

1 Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. 2 So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ 3 Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. 4 I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ 5 So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ 6 He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ 7 Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ 8 And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. 9 And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. 10 “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. 11 If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? 12 And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? 13 No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

C Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon by Pastor Mike Rahlf

Sermon Hymn: "Let Streams of Living Justice" Red Book #710

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934
Text © 1989 William Whitla.

Prayers: After each portion of the prayers finishes with “God of grace,” please respond, “receive our prayer.”

Offering: Jesus gives us life, hope, and salvation. Let us commit ourselves to God and joyfully lift our offerings to the Lord.

Please take a moment to give an offering to the church on the website with the Tithe.ly app or bring your gift to the plate during communion.



Offering Prayer

P Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.
C Amen.

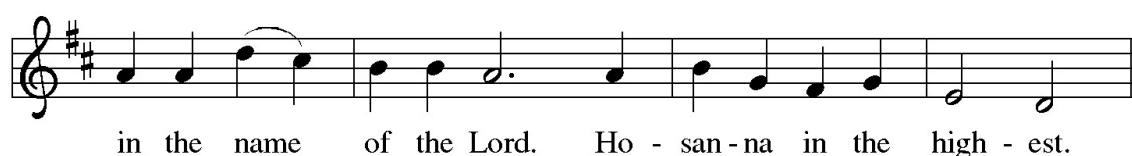
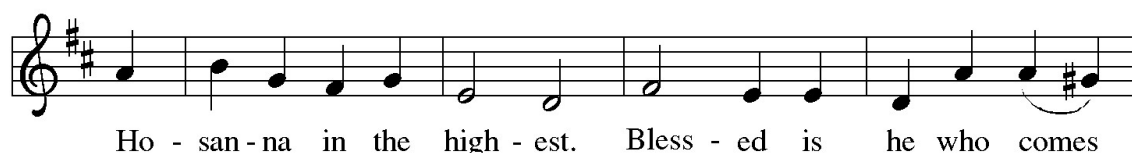
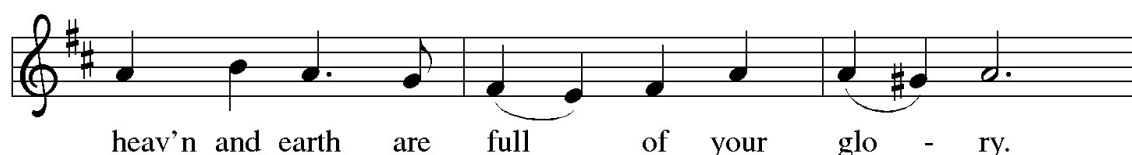
Faith Lutheran website
link

The 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.



P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy Communion

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.

C 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**



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Distribution

Communion Hymn: "Let Us Break Bread Together" Red Book #471



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

Communion Prayer

P God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Hymn: "Let Justice Flow like Streams" Red Book # 717



- 1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar-ling wa - ter, pure,
- 2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
- 3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans-ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans-lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus - tice, right, and peace per-vade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926

Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

Text © 1984 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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