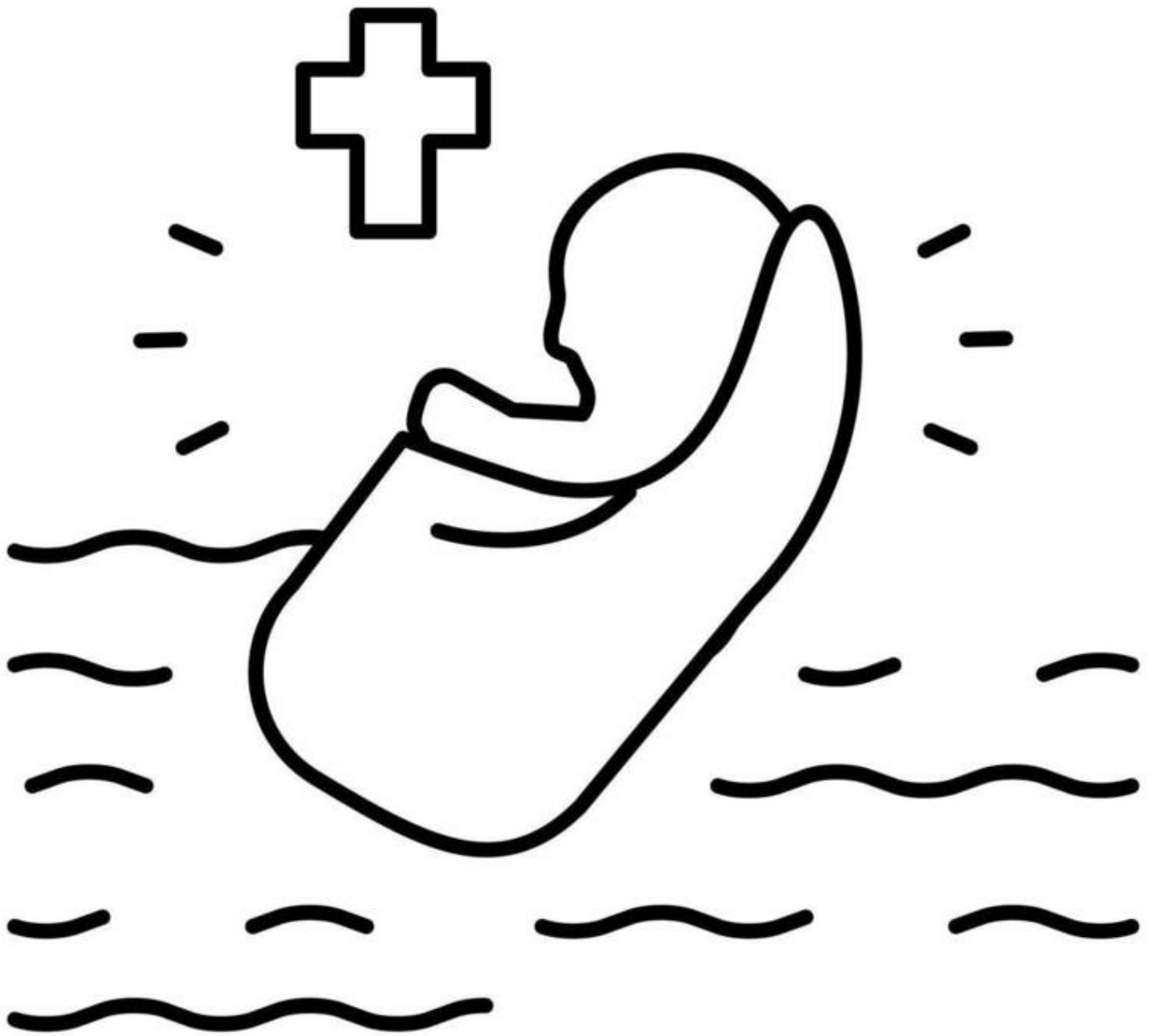


Faith Lutheran Church



23rd Sunday after Pentecost
November 16th, 2025

Faith Lutheran Church is a community living in God's love which embraces and welcomes every person as part of God's Beloved Community. We celebrate each person created in God's image as we strive for justice, peace, and racial equity in our community and the wider world. We openly welcome and affirm all persons of every race, age, socioeconomic class, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical and mental ability, marital and family status, background, and experience. We seek to live as a community of God's people that values each person's voice, gifts, and full participation in all areas of the congregation's life and worship. We embrace the work of the Holy Spirit moving in and through us as we care for the earth and all of God's people.

Today we welcome Jaxson Otis Pautz, son of Stephanie & Peter Pautz, who will receive the gift of Holy Baptism. We celebrate with them in Jaxson's new life in Christ!

Introduction

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

GATHERING

Hymn

ELW 796 "How Firm a Foundation"

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

**you have shown us the ways of your heart,
yet we stray from your paths.**

**We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom
of your faithful promises.**

We ignore our neighbors.

We exploit the earth.

**We reject your abundance,
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.**

Repair our relationships,



restore what we have broken,
 renew our hearts,
 and bring us to new life.
 Amen.

Hear the good news:
 God the Faithful One loves you,
 † in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
 and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.
 Amen.

Hymn

ELW 167 "Now the Feast and Celebration"

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

Refrain



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

Refrain



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

Refrain

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Children's Sermon & Sunday School

WORD

First Reading Malachi 4:1-2a

Malachi, whose name means "my messenger," warns that "the day is coming." On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the "sun of righteousness" will shine on those who honor God.

¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a} But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

In righteousness will the LORD judge the world. (Ps. 98:9)

¹ Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

² **O LORD, you have made | known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.**

³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

⁴ **Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing. R**

⁵ Sing to the LORD | with the harp,
with the harp and the | voice of song.

⁶ **With trumpets and the sound | of the horn**

shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.

⁷ Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,
the world and those who | dwell therein.

⁸ **Let the rivers | clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge
the earth.**

⁹ The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peo- | ples with equity. **R**

Second Reading 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Luke 21:5-19

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶ "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

⁷ They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this

is about to take place?”⁸ And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹ “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.”¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

After the reading:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon & Silent Reflection

Hymn of the Day

ELW 597 “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

Holy Baptism

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Sponsors: I present Jaxson for baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Jaxson baptized into Christ?

Parents: I do.

As you bring Jaxson to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with *him* among God's faithful people,
bring *him* to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach *him* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,

place in *his* hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture *him* in faith and prayer,
so that *he* may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Jaxson grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: I do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Jaxson in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: I do.

People of God, do you promise to support Jaxson and pray for *him* in *his* new life in Christ?

We do.

The assembly stands.

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?

Response: I renounce them.

Assembly

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Baptism

Jaxson Otis, I baptize you in the name of
the Father,*
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Jaxson Otis with 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.

Amen.

Jaxson Otis, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

Welcome

Let your light so shine before others
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.
Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Prayers of Intercession

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

MFAI

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

"For Jesus, the quality of the gift is not how large it is, but the proportion you give and the heart with which you give it."

Offertory Hymn

ELW 465 "As the Grains of Wheat"

Refrain

The musical notation is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first three staves form the main body of the hymn, and the last two staves form the refrain. The lyrics are: 'As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you. 1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst, 2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when may we share the pres-ence of your love, all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.'

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.
1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when
may we share the pres-ence of your love,
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Refrain

Offering Prayer

God of healing and hope,
you bless those who are hungry,
promising to fill them with good things.
Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.
Nourish us with the abundance of your feast
and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior,
now and forever.

Amen.

Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -

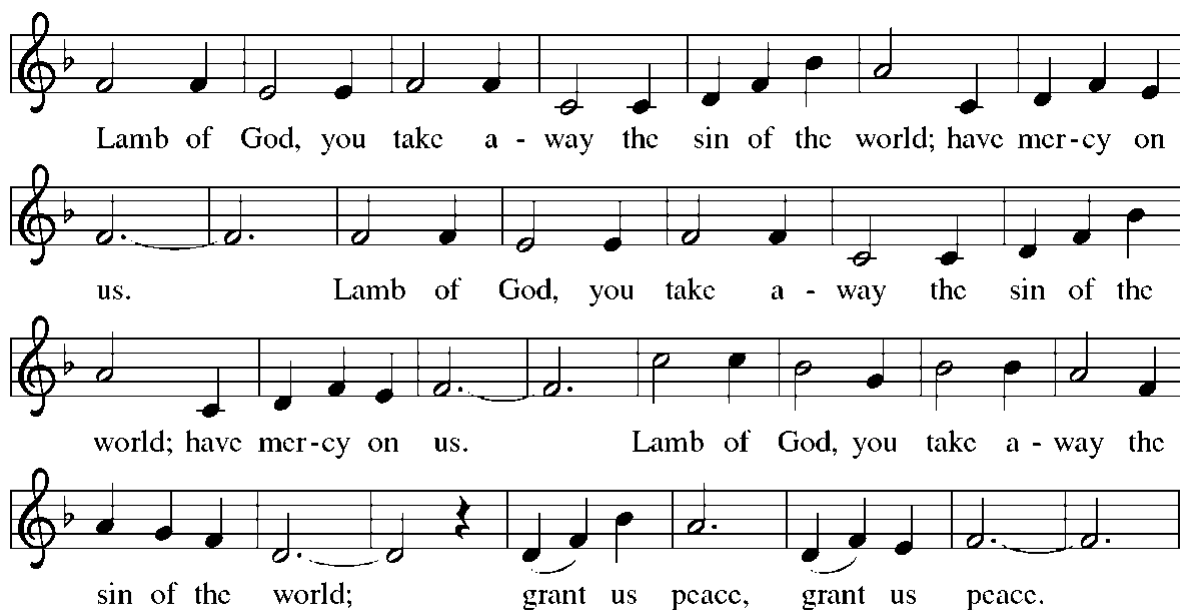
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Holy Communion is offered at the front of the church in either one or two lines. The ushers will let you know when to go forward and will start in the back of church. If you prefer to remain in your pew, indicate to the usher that you would like communion brought to you, or use one of the available individual sealed cups.

Lamb of God



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.

Distribution Hymn

ELW 785 "When Peace like a River"

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood
strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.
Amen.

Prayer after Communion

God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven
that gives life to the world.

Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who
hunger and thirst,
and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,
God the Son save you,
and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.

The holy Trinity bless you ✠
and grant you a faithful and courageous heart
now and forever.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

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FAITH ACTIVE IN LOVE

Gathered as a community living in God's love we serve all people, care for the earth and embrace the work of the Holy Spirit.

Faith Lutheran Church will be recognized as a community of spiritual growth, a place of acceptance and inclusion, a gateway for environmental stewardship, a creator of partnerships and an advocate for social justice and peace.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP this Sunday includes:

Presiding	Rev. John C. Norquist
Organist/Pianist	Stephen V. Hibbard
Reader	Cindy Dellegrazio
Communion Assistant	Cindy Dellegrazio
Sunday School Instructor(s)	Tom Schoofs
Greeter	
Ushers	
Communion Set-up	Esther Rusch, Carol Bury & Sandy Stelter
Live Stream	Joe & Dottie Dorr

Please pray for

James Kincaide ~ Nancy Hammen ~ Joyce ~ Chuck Thiele ~ Cathy Berntson ~ Craig Hoff ~ Pat Jelinek ~ Edward Golding ~ Maritza ~ Kirby ~ Heather ~ Don Gauger ~ Stacey (Lohman) Barta ~ Gail ~ Janet Polum ~ Robb H ~ Donna Stroder ~ Bob Duff ~ Brian Schaff ~ Julia Gergens ~ Leanne ~ Bob Kettlewell ~ Tony ~ Jodie ~ Ron S. ~ Eli

Week Ahead

Sunday the 16th~ 9:30a Sunday Worship with mid-service Sunday School, 10:30a Fellowship Time, 11a Adult Forum on ELCA World Hunger Session 2 of 3 with Joyce Caldwell

Monday the 17th~

Tuesday 18th ~ 10a Tai Chi Class

Wednesday 19th~ 7a Bible Study Breakfast @ PJ Pipers, 9a Sunrise Circle, 9:15a Staff Meeting, 12p ELCA Pastor's Lunch, 5:15p Confirmation Class, 6p Pink Umbrella Theater Class

Thursday 20th~ FOCUS Deadline, 6:30p Church Council

Friday 21st~

Saturday the 22nd~

Sunday the 23rd~ 9:30a Sunday Worship with mid-service Sunday School, Temple Talk during worship with Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge, 10:30a Fellowship Time, 11a Adult Forum on ELCA World Hunger Session 3 of 3 with Cindy Dellegrazio

November Mission of the Month

ELCA World Hunger

As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we are called to share in God's work in the world. Fifty years ago, Lutherans in the United States launched the World Hunger appeals to stand with their neighbors experiencing hunger. Now a core ministry of the church, ELCA World Hunger embodies our hope in God's promise and our faith that God is revealed in the neighbors we accompany together.

This year, Faith is supporting ELCA World Hunger in a few ways...

- ***Noisy Offering:*** *Each Sunday in November, the children of the congregation will be collecting change from us during the offering time.*
- ***Forums:*** *For three Sundays in November, we will be showing a video and discussing the study "ELCA World Hunger and Justice Ministry/Intersections"*
 - November 9, Session 1: How Do ELCA World Hunger Partnerships Work?
 - November 16, Session 2: What is Intersectional Justice?
 - November 23, Session 3: Root Causes of Poverty
- ***Other monetary gifts:*** *As with other Missions of the Month, checks can be written out to Faith indicating your gift is for ELCA World Hunger. You can also give online by going to www.faithlutherancedarburg.com/give and picking the category "Mission of the Month".*

As we reflect on the ELCA World Hunger's last 50 years of ministry together, we know God calls us to respond to the needs of the world now more than ever. Thank you!

Family Sharing Bin

With the uncertainty of SNAP benefits, Kristi Walsh has led a collection initiative throughout Cedarburg with Family Sharing to collect non-perishable food items for families in need. The most needed items of non-perishable foods are: pancake mix, cereal, broth, canned pineapple, jelly or jam, canned carrots, apple sauce, canned tomato soup, toilet paper, and women's deodorant. Thank you for helping our siblings in Christ!

Sunrise Circle Needs Your Help

Sunrise Circle is in desperate need of sheets, any size. These are used to line the quilts. Please drop off at the church office. Thank you!

Community Book Club

All are welcome to join our community book club! The next book our community book club will be reading is *Say Nothing: A True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland* by Patrick Raden Keefe. The book club will meet, **Monday, November 24th at 6:30pm** to discuss, hope to see you there!

Financial Update

Thank you for Growing In Faith as we carry out our congregation's mission together. You are making a difference in our community and world! Here is a summary of progress toward our financial goals for this year. If you have questions about our finances please contact our Treasurer Tim Gergens or any of our Church Council members. Your gifts make this ministry possible- thank you.

Year To Date Budget vs. Actuals

January – September 30, 2025	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Over/Under Budget
<i>Total Giving:</i>	\$155,132	\$176,250	-\$21,118

More Perfect Union

Faith friend, Naomi Lundman, is a Brickyard Captain of the Dairyland Brickyard More Perfect Union group in Cedarburg. Please consider joining +MPU!

+MPU unites the country and strengthens communities through social connection, service, and civic engagement.

+More Perfect Union monthly coffee club

2nd Thursday of the month, 12:30pm

Starbucks Cedarburg

Please visit: <https://www.mpu.us/chapters/dairyland-brickyard-wi/> for more information

Honoring Creators of Justice

This week's gospel reading is a part of an apocalyptic speech Jesus gives in the temple. Jesus' talk of war can be alarming to our ears. We want to hear him speak about peace and love and mercy. However, there is much in this world that is scary and violent. Jesus would not be doing his pastoral due diligence if he did not talk about these things. Jesus reminds us that, yes, things are going to get bad. But he calls us to cling to our faith and respond to God's charge that we love and serve our neighbor. And by this, he assures us, we bring about the kingdom.

November 11 is honored as Veterans Day in the United States and Remembrance Day in Canada. Originally it was called Armistice Day to commemorate the ending of World War I and the signing of a ceasefire. It signaled the end of the violence.

An "armistice" is an agreement to stop fighting, to bring about peace. But as Martin Luther King Jr. famously observed, "Peace is not the absence of conflict but the presence of justice." Jesus tells us that violence will happen, but our calling as baptized Christians is to live in the promise of his grace and to go out into the world to be creators of justice and peace.

This week, as we honor and remember those who have served and experienced the violence Jesus speaks of, we must heed Jesus' pastoral words of hope: "Do not be afraid." In the midst of chaos and fear, Jesus gives us his strength and the wisdom to follow him. Blessed are all who work toward armistice in service of peace and justice.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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