

Faith Lutheran Church

20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 11th, 2026



***Today we welcome Pastor Eli and the students from Lutheran
Campus Ministry at The Corner House!***

Introduction

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

Gathering

Gathering Hymn

ELW 523 "Let Us Go Now to the Banquet"

Refrain / Estribillo



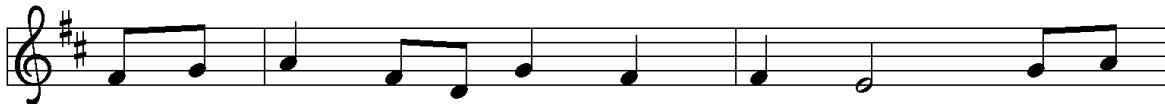
Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la
Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the



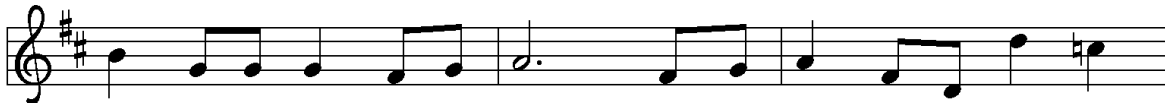
me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is



re - te tie - ne un pues - to yu - na mi - sión.
wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.



1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -
1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -
2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the
3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all



pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do a - le - gre la
mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm
ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be
peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -

Refrain / Estribillo



cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.
walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.
hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.
geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

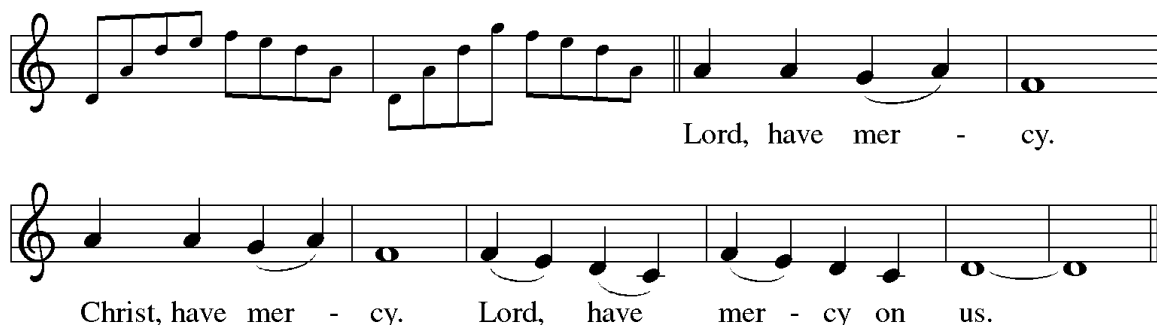
Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✙ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

Kyrie

ELW 158



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

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Children's Sermon

Word

First Reading *Isaiah 25:1-9*

After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

¹ O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

² For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of foreigners is a city no more;
it will never be rebuilt.

³ Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

⁴ For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

⁵ the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;
⁸ he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,
“See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me be- side still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no
evil;**

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading Philippians 4:1-9

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

¹ My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made

known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 22nd chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon & Silent Reflection

Hymn of the Day

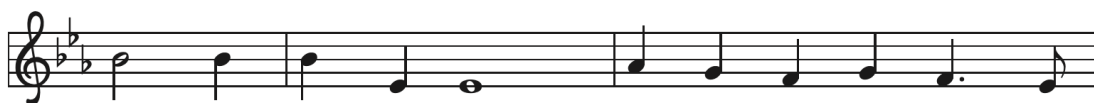
ACS 1032 "Lift Up Your Heads"



1 Lift up your heads, all you bowed low,
2 Lift up your hands, your voices raise,
3 Lift up your hearts, your great A - men;
4 Be - hold, the Spir - it here a - bides,



hear the liv - ing wa - ter flow: quench - ing
bold in plead - ing, bright with praise. Weep no
Mer - cy feeds her guests a - gain: bread e -
bear - ing God's a - bun - dant life: peace be -



spring and cleans - ing pool, heal - ing riv - er, clear and
more, your God has come; greet the wound - ed, ris - en
nough to break and share, fes - tive wine that scents the
tween you, love with - in, grace be - side you loos - 'ning



cool. How fresh it falls up -
One, who bless - es you with
air, Oh, taste and see what
sin. Be - lov - ed, Christ a -



on your face, stream - ing from the font of grace.
joy com - plete, dwell - ing in the Word of peace.
once was lost ris - ing in this feast of love.
mong you stands, mov - ing through your hearts and hands.

Prayers of Intercession

Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude:

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Meal

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." There are many options for giving including plate giving, text to give (833-686-4752) or through our website.



Offertory Hymn

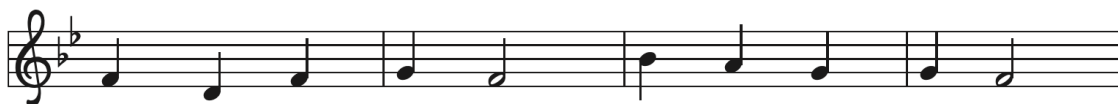
ACS 1059 "Come Now, You Blessed"



1 "Come now, you bless - ed, eat at my ta - ble,"
2 When did we see you hun - gry or thirst - y?
3 "When you gave bread to earth's hun - gry chil - dren,
4 Christ, when we meet you out on life's road - ways,



said Je - sus Christ to the righ - teous a - bove.
When were you home - less, a strang - er a - lone?
when you gave wel - come to war's ref - u - gees,
look - ing to us in the fac - es of need,



"When I was hun - gry, thirst - y, and home-less,
When did we see you sick or in pris - on?
when you re - mem - bered those most for - got - ten,
then may we know you, wel - come and show you



sick and in pris - on, you showed me your love."
What have we done that you call us your own?
you cared for me in the small - est of these."
love that is faith - ful in word and in deed.

Offering Prayer

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

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.

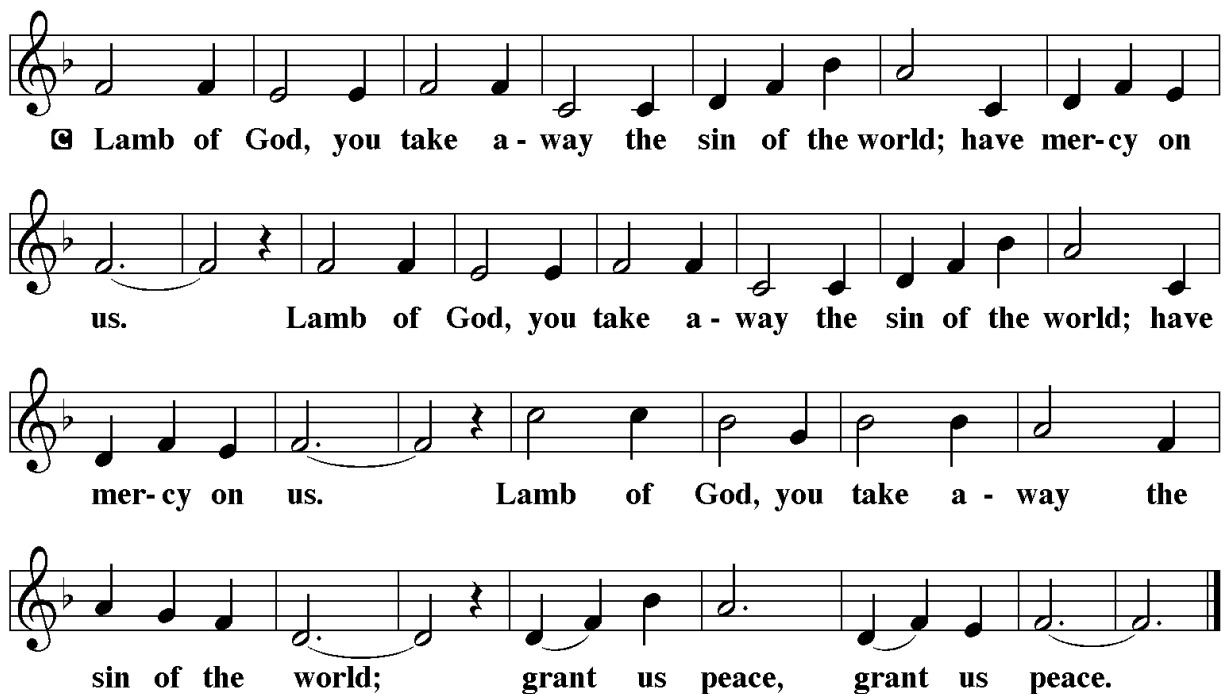
Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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



♩ 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 491 "Come, Let Us Eat"



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.
rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.
in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.

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

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

Sending

Blessing

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

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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.

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	<i>Rev. John C. Norquist</i>
Preaching	<i>Rev. Eli Henry</i>
Organist/ Pianist	<i>Stephen V. Hibbard</i>
Greeter	<i>Vangie Sherman</i>
Ushers	
Communion Set-up	<i>Bev & Glenn Yurske & Virginia Anderle</i>
Live Stream	<i>Schoofs Family</i>

Thank you to Pastor Eli and the students at LCM at Corner House for preaching, sharing in the Word, and as communion assistants!

Sunrise Circle is in need of sheets!

The Sunrise Circle is in need of sheets for their quilting. If have any sheets or would like to donate some for their use, please let them know. If you have questions or would like more information, please see the quilters or contact Ruth Gollnick

October Mission of the Month

Lutheran Campus Ministry in Greater Milwaukee

Lutheran Campus Ministry is a community for college students who want to grow closer to God and one another through worship, discipleship, connection and service. LCM is located at the Corner House across the street from the UW Milwaukee Student Union. The Corner House is a Reconciling in Christ congregation and students of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, nationalities, ethnicities and dis/abilities are welcome.

Pastor Eli Henry was called to the Corner House in 2025 and is starting his second year of leadership. The Corner House hosts several weekly events open to all students including Sunday evening worship and dinner, Monday morning

breakfast and Wednesday evening Bible Study. In addition to the regular weekly activities, social events are scheduled throughout the year.

The Corner House also offers students the opportunity to take on leadership roles within the ministry. Known as Peer Ministers, these students plan, coordinate and lead the various events and take an active role in worship. Students can also live at the Corner House. Julia Gergens of Faith is both a Peer Minister and resident of the Corner House.

Pastor Eli and the peer ministers will be at Faith on **October 11th** to participate in worship and lead the forum time after service. Please plan to join us to learn more about the Corner House and its many ministries.

As a non-traditional congregation, the Corner House relies heavily on donations to fund its many ministries. For example, a donation of \$25 helps keep the kitchen stocked with coffee, tea and snacks, \$50 helps serve free breakfast to hungry college students, \$100 supports retreats, conferences and speakers, and \$500 helps keep the Corner House living community affordable for students. Any amount, large or small, is very appreciated. Please consider a gift to the Corner House Mission of the Month this month to help this ministry to continue to grow and thrive!

Do you See What I See?

This Faith community represents a lineage of religious beliefs and expressions, a blend of religious traditions from those who came before us and shared their insights and understanding of God, the Christian life and faith with that of our own time. The banner design is an attempt at producing a visual metaphor for the history of the ministry of Faith Lutheran Church. The seven decades of ministry by Faith Church are represented through the application of layers upon painted layers of the words "Faith" "70". Some patterns of ministry occurred early on in our history. Some patterns applied later are very distinctive, other aspects of our ministry have faded into the background. Some aspects of current or past ministry might even be viewed as downright backwards. None-the-less, what we are now is an expression of Faith which is a mix of old and new, that of our predecessors (the first layers, earliest layers) and that which we are now (the latest layers). Some generations' ministry may appear strong and bold while others weak and faint. Some are easy to discern, while others not so clear and again, even backwards. But altogether, the sainted members of the past and we as the current community of Faith are making our mark(s) in time. – Terry Groh

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.

	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Actual</i>
	<i>8/31/2026</i>	<i>8/31/2026</i>	<i>8/31/2025</i>
Income	\$149,838	\$155,500	\$148,675
Expenses	\$161,534	\$165,096	\$159,345
Net Loss	(\$11,696)	(\$9,596)	(\$10,670)

Reading the Bible SDRAWKCAB (Backwards)

Sunday Adult Forum- November 1st and 8th at 11:00am

Led by Terry Groh

It has often been taught (and thought) that the Old Testament is prophetic (a forecaster) of Jesus' life and ministry as recorded in the New Testament Gospel narratives.

These forums will explore the concept that the Gospel accounts are woven through with reflections (looking back) at Israel's history. The early church may have expressed and validated their belief in the personhood of Jesus by allusions of him to the great religious heroes of their past. It was rooted in the understanding that God was working during the early church age, in the same way he had with their ancestors.

The first Sunday, November 1, will introduce the overall concept by comparing New Testament stories and texts with those in the Old Testament.

The next Sunday, November 8, with the same sdrawkcab (backward) looking focus, the forum will cover the life and ministry of Jesus, the miracles, passion accounts, the betrayal, trials, crucifixion and burial.

Welcomed In

A crowd gathered in the church basement like they did every third Thursday of the month. They walked past the kitchen window. They grabbed their plates. They filled up cups of ice water and coffee and swung by the dessert table on their way to folding chairs situated around circular folding tables throughout the room. Conversations bubbled up as old friends greeted each other around the free meal provided, as it was every month. Everyone was welcome, no questions asked.

This image of a free meal in the church basement, attended by any and all comers, is reminiscent of the wedding feast the king gives in today's parable. When those who are invited fail to show up, the king sends his servants out into the entire surrounding countryside to bring to the meal any and all who will attend. The king doesn't check credentials; the king doesn't ask questions. The joy of the wedding feast is open to all.

The parable tells us of one guest without a wedding robe, who winds up outside the joy of the feast. This can cause us to worry or despair. Do we have a wedding robe fit for the kingdom of heaven? What happens to us if we do not? Our baptism in Jesus, however, reminds us that we have no need to fear. We have been clothed not with a robe but with the grace of Jesus, which assures us that we, who have been gathered into the feast of the reign of God, have a place and an inheritance among God's people. Gathered around that table of grace, we too are sent to share the good news and welcome others into the reality of God's reign.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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