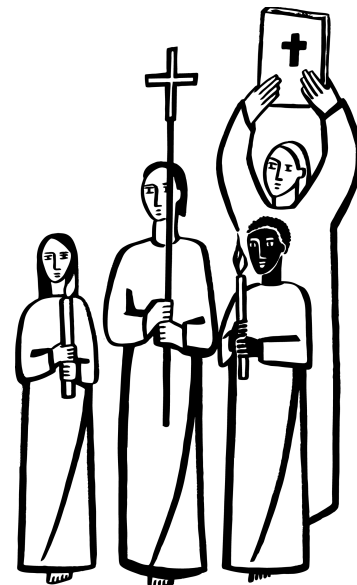


Faith Lutheran Church

Reformation and Confirmation Sunday

October 25th, 2026

Today we celebrate Bennett Borkenhagen, Aaron and Benjamin Lee, and Will Pezewski who are being confirmed today and enter a new life in Christ Jesus and in the church!



Introduction

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Gathering

Gathering Hymn

ACS 979 "Making Their Way"



1 Mak-ing their way down through the a - ges, sin - ners and saints have
2 Mak-ing their way all the world o - ver, Chris - tians as - sem - ble
3 Mak-ing our way sea - son by sea-son, pil - grims, we jour - ney



heard God's call: wealth - y and poor, pow - er - ful, low - ly,
on this day, hear - ing the Word, shar - ing the Ban - quet,
till life's end, trav - el - ing light, shar - ing the rich - es,



Je - sus' dis - ci - ples, one and all. Gath - ered for wor - ship, of - fer - ing thanks,
learn - ing to walk in Je - sus' way. Mem - bers of Christ, u - nit - ed in love,
car - ing for strang - er as for friend, till in the joy of long - ing ful - filled,



the great - est with the least have come to share this feast.
they seek our God to know, and so to - geth - er grow.
to - geth - er we will come to our e - ter - nal home.

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.

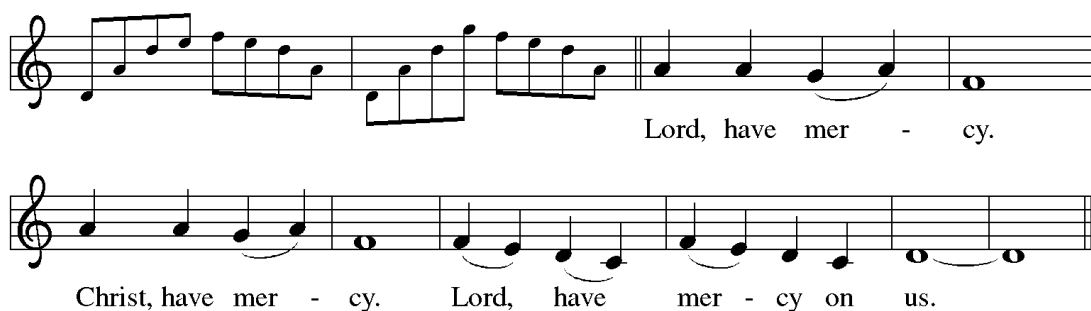
Hear this good news:

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

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Children's Sermon & Sunday School

Word

First Reading *Jeremiah 31:31-34*

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

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

Psalm 46

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³ though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶ **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸ **Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up- on the earth;**

⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Reading Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 8th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³ They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

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

Sermon & Silent Reflection

Hymn of the Day

ACS 1023 "God Alone Be Praised"



1 O - ceans rise, the coast-land trem-bles; moun-tains melt and dry earth
2 Na - tions rage, the em - pire fal - ters; seek-ing ref - uge, ex - iles
3 Come and see; God's mer - cy gath - ers all that sin and grief have



crum-bles. All the world with long - ing groans. Love a -
wan - der. Walls and weap - ons rise from fear. Through this
shat - tered. Life from fields of death is raised. Peace, be



bides, this gra - cious prom - ise is our help, our hope and
wil - der - ness a riv - er flows to heal and bless us
still; let pride - ful thun - der yield to songs of joy and



so - lace. God's strong word is sol - id ground.
ev - er. God the cru - ci - fied dwells here.
won - der. God and God a - lone be praised.

Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation

I present Bennett, Aaron, Benjamin and Will, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for Bennett, Aaron, Benjamin and Will, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.

You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith.

Uphold Bennett, Aaron, Benjamin and Will in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

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.**

Affirmation

You have made a 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?

Response

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

Assembly

People of God, do you promise to support Bennett, Aaron, Benjamin and Will and pray for them in their life in Christ?

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

Let us pray.

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

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Bennett, Aaron, Benjamin and Will the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm them faith, guide their lives, empower them in their serving, give them patience in suffering, and bring them to everlasting life.

Amen.

Assembly:

Let us rejoice with this siblings in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

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

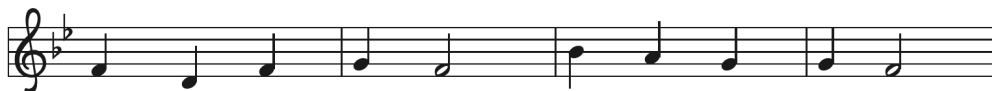
ACS 1059 "Come Now, You Blessed"



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.

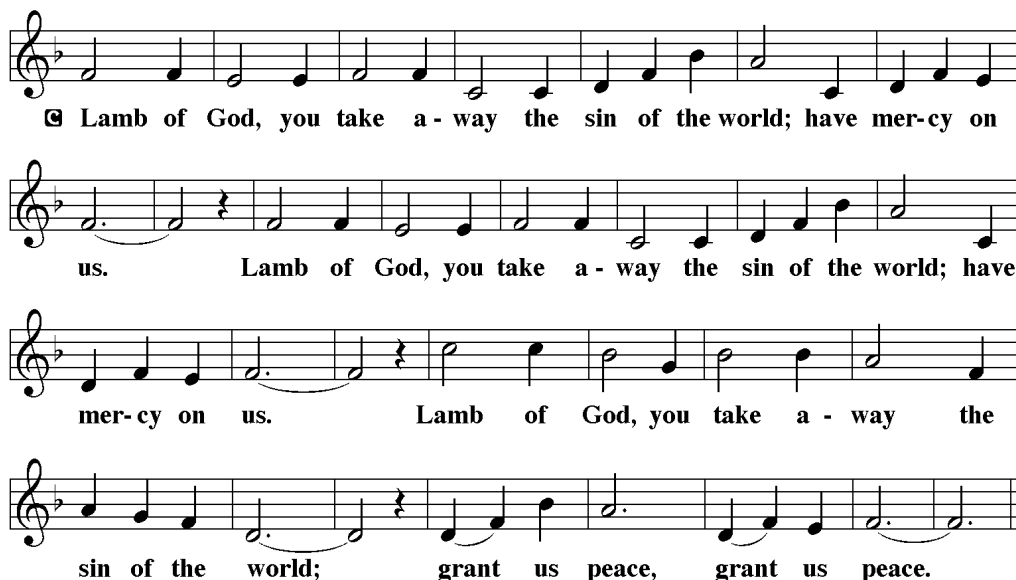
Holy, Holy, Holy

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 779 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright
 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to
 now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

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>
Pianist	<i>Pamela Gergens</i>
Reader/Assistant	<i>Vonna Pitel</i>
Communion Assistants	
Sunday School Instructor	<i>Joyce Caldwell</i>
Greeter	<i>Vangie Sherman</i>
Ushers	
Communion Set-up	<i>Bev & Glenn Yurske & Virginia Anderle</i>
Live Stream	<i>Joe & Dottie Dorr</i>

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!

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

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.

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>9/30/2026</i>	<i>9/30/2026</i>
Income	\$171,606	\$169,800
Expenses	\$182,506	\$185,183
Net Loss	(\$6,521)	(\$12,783)



Always Reforming

A core teaching for Martin Luther and other church reformers in the sixteenth century was that God grants us salvation not because of our good works but by God's grace through faith. Our good works flow out as our response to God's great gift.

The work begun by Luther and others has continued through the years. The church in North America may appear to be in decline today, but do not lose heart. The church is always in the process of reformation, and the Holy Spirit is always at work in the church.

The church's mission to bring good news to all also continues. Out of gratitude for God's gifts to us, we go out to proclaim the gospel, work for justice and peace, and love our neighbors in all parts of the world. For some, good news comes in the form of word and sacrament. For others, good news is food, clothing, housing, advocacy, disaster relief, caring conversations, and much more. Wherever we go, we meet people where they're at.

On this Reformation Day, take time to pray for the church, for its ongoing reformation, for the healing of divisions, for the renewal of faith and mission, and for the strength to persevere in these efforts. How might you or your congregation support or participate in this important work?

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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