

Seventh Sunday of Easter



May 17, 2026

WELCOME!

If you are a visitor, please sign the guest book in the narthex. If you are seeking a church home, we joyfully invite you to join with us; please speak to me, Pastor Jami Possinger.

Holy Communion is open to all baptized believers who trust that the Lord is present for them in His Supper.

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices to fully enter into this time of worship.

Faith Lutheran Church

550 Rt. 940 | PO Box 228
Blakeslee, PA 18610
Office 570-646-0309

Email: faithoffice@faithlutheranblakeslee.org

Website: faithlutheranblakeslee.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Faith-Lutheran-Church-Blakeslee-PA-1721550018126312>

Leader: Phil Newlander
Lector Lois Childers
Greeters/Ushers: Don Childers
Music: Molly Finkbiner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bulletins: donated by Cheryl Ray. “When people fail you, read Psalm 27.”

New Members: We will be receiving new members at the service on Sunday, June 14, followed by our Holy Grounds Coffee Hour where we will greet them personally. I hope you can be there to be part of their welcome to Faith.

Faith Book Club: will meet today after service at Murphy’s Loft to discuss the book, “The Measure,” by Nikki Erlick. All are welcome.

Faith Fair: Coming **August 8!** We’re looking for volunteers to help make this event a success. There are plenty of ways to get involved: Donate baked goods for the bake table and cake walks, help staff tables, assist with even set up/clean up.

- Donate any of the following:
 - Filled raffle baskets
 - Individual items for raffle baskets (new)
 - Bingo prizes (new)
 - Gently used books
 - Gently used costume jewelry, purses and fancy hats

Your time and talents make all the difference in bringing our community together. If you’re able to help in any way, we would truly appreciate it! Please contact Sara Cornell at saracornell10@gmail.com or (570) 472-5560 with any questions. Thank you for your support.

Altar Service Signup: Volunteers are needed to set-up, bake bread, and clean up after communion. Please email Jan Frantz at Boris_fan@yahoo.com to help.

Bulletin Sponsors and Flower Donations: Sign-up sheets for 2026 are on the table in the foyer entrance of the church. In-house bulletin for \$10 and \$10 towards silk flowers, or you may bring your own fresh flowers. **Please complete the requisition form with your dedication note.**

Faith Fellowship Team: Our mission is encouraging interaction, building relationships, and creating a sense of belonging within the congregation and with the local community. If you’re interested in becoming part of the Faith Fellowship Team, please contact Sara Cornell at 570-472-5560 or at saracornell10@gmail.com.

MEETINGS/EVENTS

AA Meetings: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 12 p.m.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: July 15, 2026, 1 p.m.-6 p.m. Please call 800-733-2767 to pre-register.

Bible Study: Sundays, 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Studying Joshua.

Bible Study: Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to Noon with Pastor Jami.

Faith Library: Please see one of the “Little Librarians” or Sara Cornell with any donations or questions.

Faithful Community Quilters: Second Monday of the month, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Free Community Lunch: First Tuesday of each month. (June 2) 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Five Loaf House, 133 Firehouse Road, Pocono Pines.

Holy Grounds Coffee Hour: Fellowship will be held after worship on the second Sunday of each month. Volunteers to host are needed—please sign up on the sheet in the back of the church.

Pastor Jami Possinger has weekly office hours. Confidential email: pastor@faithlutheranblakeslee.org or private cell phone: 610-216-9951

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

PRELUDES: "Diademata," "Improvisation on Diademata"

Please rise as you are able.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!
Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever. **Amen.**



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,

his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the

vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful

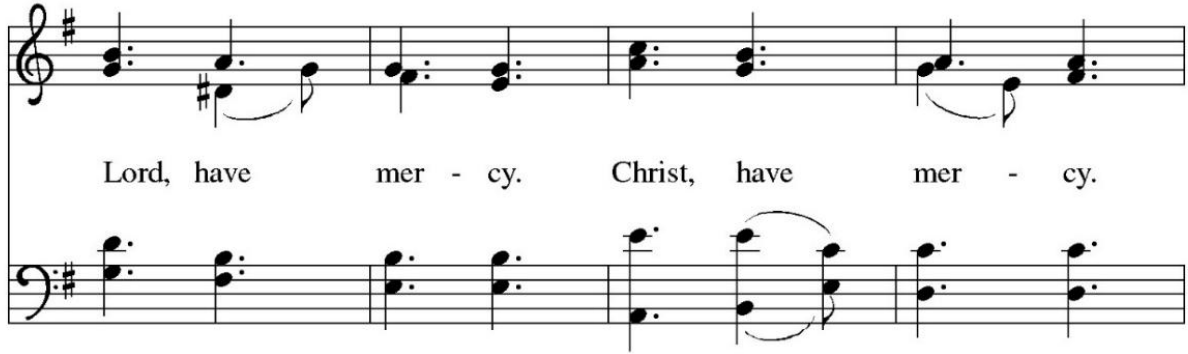
Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus

out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

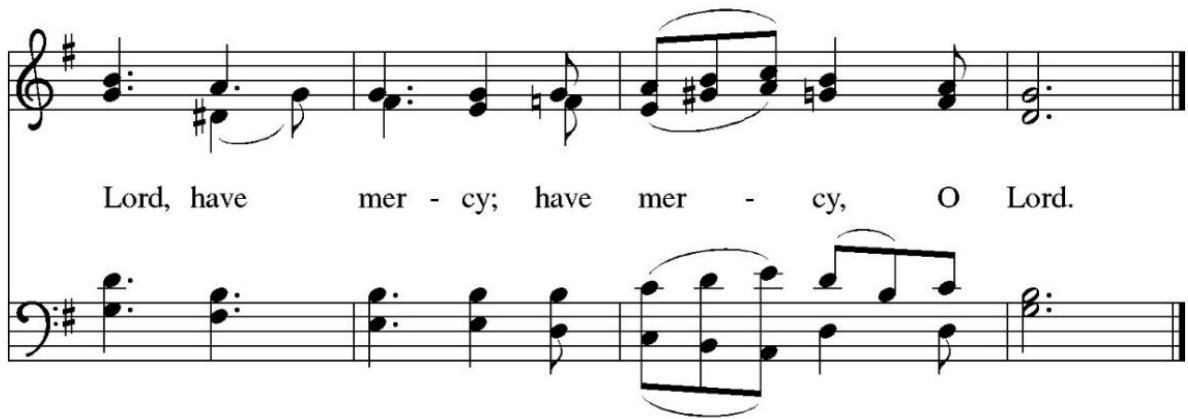
GREETING

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.**

KYRIE



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.



HYMN OF PRAISE

Now the Feast and Celebration



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.



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



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



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



God; to make all things new.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14

Today's reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Sing to God, who rides upon the clouds. (Ps. 68:4)

¹ Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered; let those who hate God flee.

² **As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away; as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

³ But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

⁴ **Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds; I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

⁵ In your holy habitation, O God, you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

⁶ **you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

⁷ O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

⁸ **the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

⁹ You sent a bountiful rain, O God; you restored your inheritance when it languished.

¹⁰ **Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

³² Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

³³ **You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens; you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

³⁴ Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

³⁵ **How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel, giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to John 17:1-11

Glory to you, O Lord.

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

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

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S TIME

SERMON



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain
 where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

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,
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.**
**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 OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

O God, your people sing praises throughout the church. By your Holy Spirit, inspire musicians, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your creative power fills the universe. Bring favorable weather, nurture plants and animals, protect us from natural disasters, and guide us to care for all you have made. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your justice is exercised in society by those in authority. Instill in political leaders, business leaders, school administrators, and all who care for others a desire for peace and equity. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your compassion and care come through the gifts of medicine and relationships. Soothe the anxious, protect widows and orphans, comfort those living with memory loss and their families, and heal the sick. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

PRAYER LIST

Jim H.; Megan; Larissa; William; Richard Z.; Florence G.; Michael K.; Danielle S.; David S.; Gail and Bob C.; Shirley S.; St. Peter, Plainfield.

Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as graduation, retirement, new employment, and accompany us in our prayers during these times. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, your promise of eternal life is certain and sure. Inspire us by the steadfast faith of those who have gone before us, so that we may be confident in the assurances you give. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**



THE PEACE

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

OFFERING MUSIC: “Babilone,” Charles Callahan, *played by Molly Finkbiner.*

OFFERTORY SONG

692 **We Are an Offering** [U]

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of four systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line. The lyrics are: "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we".

Chord symbols: F, G, C, Dm⁷, C², C, F, C, Dm⁷, F, G, C, Dm⁷, C², C, F, C, Dm⁷, F, G⁷, Em⁷, A, Dm⁷, Esus - E, Am.

Chords: Dm⁷, C², B^b, Dm⁷, F, G

give to you, we give to you. We lift our

Chords: C, Dm⁷, C², C, F, C

voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:

Chords: Dm⁷, C

we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. May goodness and mercy follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

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.**

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

LBW 170

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave

hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
 whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,

and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

5 Crown him the Lord of peace,
 whose pow'r a scepter sways
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
 absorbed in prayer and praise.
 His reign shall know no end,
 and round his pierced feet
 fair flow'rs of paradise extend
 their fragrance ever sweet.

6 Crown him the Lord of years,
 the potentate of time,
 creator of the rolling spheres,
 ineffably sublime.
 All hail, Redeemer, hail!
 For thou hast died for me;
 thy praise and glory shall not fail
 throughout eternity.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

May 17th, 2026 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

Prelude:

Diademata, Charles Callahan. © 2006 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers. #10-597-27. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

Improvisation On Diademata, George T. Elvey, Robert J. Hughes. © 1989 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services). #1032001. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

Gathering Song:

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt., Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887. © Public Domain.

Hymn of the Day:

Thine Is the Glory, Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939, Tune: George F. Handel, 1685-1759, adapt. © Public Domain.

Offering Music:

In Babilone, Charles Callahan. © 2006 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Publishers. #10-597.51. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

Offering Song:

We Are An Offering, Dwight Liles. © 1984 Word Music, LLC. #16220. CCLI License #20635975 and Streaming License #20635982.

Sending Hymn:

Crown Him with Many Crowns, Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893. © Public Domain.

Postlude:

Jesus Shall Reign, Dorothy Wells, John Hatton. © 1992 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services). #994229.

Service Music:

Kyrie, Avon Gillespie. © Avon Gillespie, 1987, GIA Publications, Inc. #94856. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Now the Feast and Celebration: Now the Feast, Marty Haugen. © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc. #01108. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

Now the Feast and Celebration: Gospel Verse, Marty Haugen. © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc. #01111. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

Now the Feast and Celebration: Thanks Be To You, Marty Haugen. © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc. #01117. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Jami Possinger	pastor@faithlutheranblakeslee.org
Sara Cornell, Council President	Saracornell10@gmail.com
Paul Frantz, Council Vice President.....	pfrantz61@yahoo.com
Peggy Rapp, Council Secretary.....	drpeggy09@aol.com
Paul Frantz, Finance Committee	pfrantz61@yahoo.com
Phil Newlander, Finance Secretary	prnewlander@yahoo.com
Ben Mroz III, Treasurer.....	Treasurer@faithlutheranblakeslee.org
Mike Gillis, Property Maintenance	pocono570@ptd.net
Don Childers	loisj@ptd.net
Barbara Laughlin.....	mrs.emt4075@yahoo.com
John Lyman	jclyman@ptd.net
Steve Marga	smarg40@hotmail.com
Janet Kath, Church Secretary	Faithoffice@FaithLutheranBlakeslee.org

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

**GET
READY**

29th Annual Faith Fair

**Saturday, August 8
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

Food and baked goods will be available for purchase. We will **NOT** be accepting flea market items; however, we do welcome donations of the following types:

- **Gently Used Purses and Jewelry**
- **Gently Used Books**
- **Gently Used Baskets** (to be used for raffle baskets)
- **Raffle Baskets** (filled or unfilled)
- **New themed items** (to fill raffle baskets)
- **BINGO Prizes** (new, small items)

Of course, the Fair won't be a success without volunteers! There will be sign-up sheets available. We will need help manning these tables. And, of course, we will need people to help as Ambassadors to spread the word about Faith Lutheran as well as help with set-up and clean-up.

For more information:
Sara Cornell – 570-472-5560
or email: saracornell10@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED