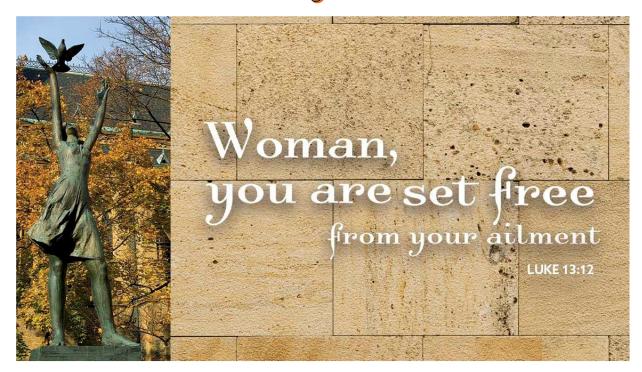
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



August 24, 2025

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 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.

As an alternative to passing the offering plate during the service, the Church Council approved of placing the offering plate on the table at the rear of the church.

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

Faith Lutheran Church

550 Route 940 | P.O. Box 228 Blakeslee, PA 18610

Office: 570-646-0309 Email: faithoffice@faithlutheranblakeslee.org

Website: faithlutheranblakeslee.org

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Faith-Lutheran-Blakeslee-PA1721550018126312

Minister:	Jami Possinger
Lector:	Ben Mroz, III
Greeters/Ushers:	Phil and Ruth Newlander
Communion Assist. /Clean up	Bob Ray/Peg Rapp
Music:	Molly Finkbiner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baptism: Today, we welcome into baptism, *Avery Quinn White*. Her godparents are Sarah Balisalisa and Scott Possinger.

Backpack Blessing: We will have a blessing of backpacks for all students returning to school.

Flowers: donated by Barbara Laughlin in memory of Joan Serviss.

Bulletins: donated by Cheryl Ray.

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.

Faith Cookbook: Recipes can be for appetizers, soups and salads, main courses, side dishes, casseroles and desserts. Please submit your recipe to Sara Cornell or Barbara Laughlin. Please be sure to include your name with your recipe.

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 2025 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.

MEETINGS/EVENTS

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

American Red Cross Blood Drive: Sept. 17; 1 p.m.-6 p.m. Please call 800-733-2767 to pre-register.

Annual Congregational Meeting: Sunday, September 28, 2025, after worship service.

Applefest: October 4, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Dates to Remember:

- Sunday, September 28 baskets are due.
- Wednesday, October 1st at 6 p.m. wrap and bow baskets
- Friday, October 3rd at 2 p.m. set up for Applefest

Bible Study: Sundays, 7:30 a.m. Sessons resume September 7, 2025.

Bible Study: Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to Noon with Pastor Jami. *There will be no session on Sept. 3.*

Boom Whackers: Begins Wednesday, September 10, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal: Resumes Sunday, September 7, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Men's Bible Study: Thurs. via TEAMS. Contact Bob Ray at 551-265-4071 or Rayfolks@ptd.net.

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

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

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

Pastor Jami Possinger has weekly office hours. You may contact her using her confidential email: pastor@faithlutheranblakeslee.org or by her private cell phone: 610-216-9951



Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's Day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

PRELUDE: "Variations on Bunessan"

(Please stand as you are able.)

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

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**



GATHERING HYMN:

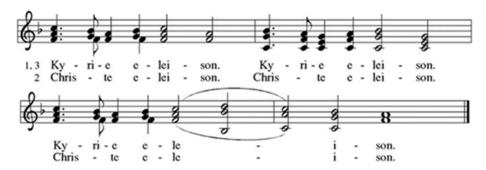
Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table



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



HYMN OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Loving God, you are more ready to hold out your hand to us than we are ready to grasp it. By the encouragement of your Spirit, help us to overcome reticence or fear, and step forward to receive blessings appropriate to our true need. Then, made whole by your grace, may we become a blessing to those who lives we encounter. Through Christ Jesus our healer and liberator. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14

God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. ¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. ¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

¹³ If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs; ¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

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

PSALM: Psalm 103:1-8

The LORD crowns you with mercy and steadfast love. (Ps. 103:4)

- ¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
- ² Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits—
- ³ who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases;
- ⁴who redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;
- ⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- ⁶O Lord, you provide vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.
- ⁷ You made known your ways to Moses and your works to the children of Israel.
- ⁸ Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:18-29

Using images of Moses, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.

¹⁸ You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰ (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." ²⁷ This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel Acclamation Celtic Alleluia



GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Luke 13:10-17

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.

¹⁰ Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day." ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

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

(Please be seated.)

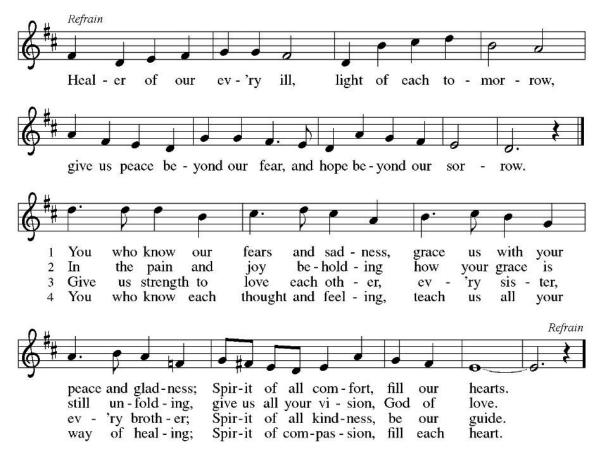
CHILDREN'S TIME SERMON

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

WOV 738

Healer of Our Every Ill



ORDER OF HOLY BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

Avery Quinn White

presented in baptism by her parents, Christopher Brian and Abigail Leigh (Possinger) White and her sponsors, Sarah Balisalisa and Scott Possinger.

APOSTLES CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

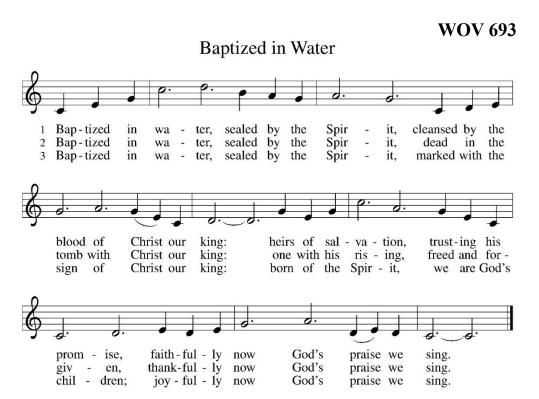
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.



A brief silence.

You call your church to proclaim liberation and freedom to all. Give wisdom to bishops, synod councils and staff, and congregation leaders as they pursue a more just and equitable church and society. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You inspire all creation to sing and bless your holy name. Send healing rains to parched places and relief to flooded lands. Lead us to enact policies to rebuild ruined ecosystems and habitats. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

You work vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. Strengthen the resolve of world leaders and local officials in the way of love and mercy, so that all persons may experience abundant life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You satisfy your people with good things. In your steadfast love, receive the cries of all who are bent over under the weight of addiction, isolation, and mental or physical illness. Manifest your healing presence in their midst. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

PRAYER LIST

Tom M; Valerie M.; Pastor Michael Ryan; Jill A.; Nancy M.; Phyllis & Jim N.; Shirely S.; Jim H.; Jenn & Rachel; Bob & Gail C.; Martha E.; Mya; Mary D.; Ron L.; Nicky S.; Leon P.; Homer A.; Judi C.; James K. & Family; Kathleen A.; Tom S. Gary P.; Larissa; Barbara & David L.; Gabe and Amanda W. & Family, Mary F. & Family; Joyce K.; St. Mark, Appenzell.

You call us to delight in the sabbath. Invigorate worship planners and leaders with creativity to aid this assembly in fresh and faithful prayer and praise. Enable all who gather here to be nourished and renewed. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With all your apostles, prophets, and saints, we give thanks and bless your holy name. As they now rest from their labors, guide us by the witness of their lives to pursue your reign, which can never be shaken. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

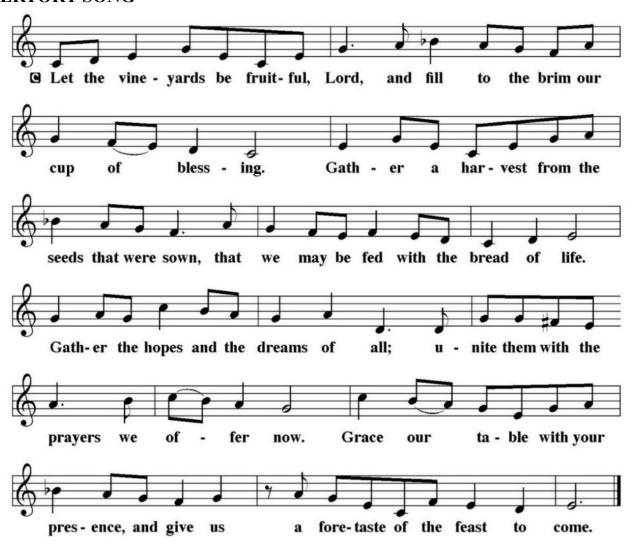
(Please share Christ's peace in social and acceptable ways.)

(*Please be seated.*)

OFFERING MUSIC "Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven," Don Hustad, played by Molly Finkbiner.

(Please stand.)

OFFERTORY SONG



OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

And also with you.

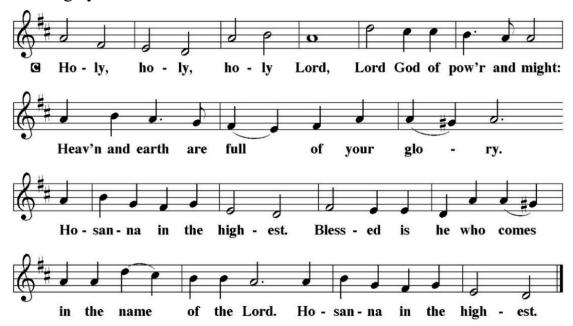
We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. And so, with all

the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup, we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

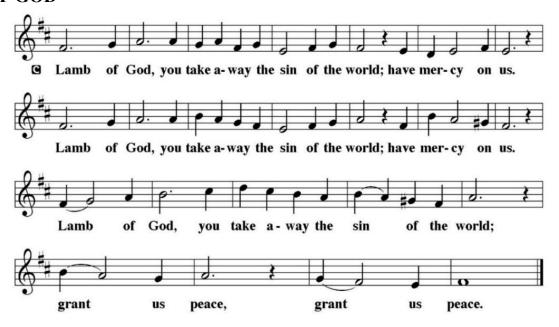


INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

(Please be seated.)

LAMB OF GOD

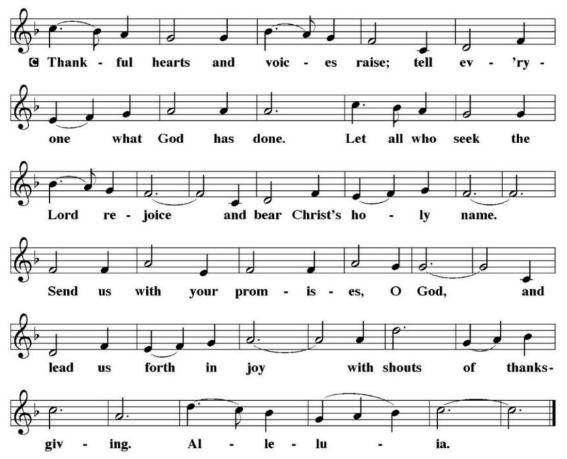


"The body of Christ.... Given for you."

"The blood of Christ.... Shed for you."

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen**.

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS



BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN LBW 543

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. Thanks be to God.

August 24th – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude:

Variations on Bunessan, Charles Callahan. © 2006 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc., St. Louis, MO. #10-597-3. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

Gathering Hymn:

Look Who Gathers, Michael Corzine, Thomas Troeger. © 2000 Michael Corzine admin Augsburg Fortress, Thomas Troeger Oxford University Press. #AF20210548. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Hymn of the Day:

Healer of Our Every III, Marty Haugen. © 1987, GIA Publications, Inc. #00115. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Baptismal Hymn:

Baptized In Water, Michael Saward. © 1982, The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Company). #17. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

Offering Music:

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven, Don Hustad. © 1970 Hope Publishing Company. #64238. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Sending Hymn:

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt., Tune: Ernewerten Gesangbuch, Stralsund, 1665. © Public Domain.

Postlude:

Lobe den Herren, Charles Callahan. © 2006 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers. #10-597.59. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Service Music:

Celtic Alleluia, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. © 1985, OCP. #81515. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

Let the Vineyards, Lutheran Book of Worship, Communion Setting One. Tune: © 1978, Augsburg Fortress. #AF2019221. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

This is the Feast, Holy, Holy, Holy, Through Him, With Him, Lamb of God, Lutheran Book of Worship, Communion Setting Two. Tune and Text: © 1978, Augsburg Fortress. #AF2019221. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

Thankful Hearts, Setting 5, With One Voice. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress Publishers. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Jami Possinger	pastor@faithlutheranblakeslee.org
Tom Hutton, President	<u>hutlamp@epix.net</u>
Peggy Rapp, Vice President	drpeggy09@aol.com
Barbara Laughlin, Secretary	<u>mrs.emt4075@yahoo.com</u>
Paul Frantz, Finance Committee	pfrantz61@yahoo.com
Phil Newlander, Finance Secretary	prnewlander@yahoo.com
Ben Mroz III, Treasurer	<u>Treasurer@faithlutheranblakeslee.org</u>
Jacquie Halko, Worship Committee	jacquie5444@yahoo.com
Don Childers	loisj@ptd.net
Mike Gillis	pocono570@ptd.net
John Lyman, Property Maintenance	jclyman@ptd.net