Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



October 11, 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

Minister: ..... Pastor Jami Possinger
Lector..... Judie Tim
Greeters/Ushers:..... Diane Trancredi
Communion Asst./Clean up: ..... Hamm Kolev/Peggy Rapp
Music:..... Molly Finkbiner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us for coffee hour this morning after service.

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 2027 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: Nov. 18, 1 p.m.-6 p.m. Please call 800-733-2767 to pre-register.

Bible Study: Sessions on Sundays, 8 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Studying Joshua. Please call Tom Hutton if you are interested in attending. 570-972-6331.

Bible Study: Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to Noon with Pastor Jami. *Please note there will be no Bible study this Wednesday, October 14.*

Choir Rehearsals: Sundays from 8:30 – 9:15 a.m. New members welcomed.

Faithful Book Club: Our current title is, "Whistler," by Ann Patchett. Our discussion will take place after worship service on October 26, 2026, at Murphy's Loft.

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. (Nov. 3.) 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 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.

PRELUDES: **"**Converse;" "Assurance," "Oh, How I Love Jesus"

Please rise as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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.**



GATHERING HYMN "Let Us Go Now to the Banquet" ELW 523



2 *Dios invita a todos los pobres*
a esta mesa común por la fe,
donde no hay acaparadores
y a nadie le falta el conqué. Estribillo

3 *Dios nos manda a hacer de este mundo*
una mesa donde haya igualdad,
trabajando y luchando juntos,
compartiendo la propiedad. Estribillo

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

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.**

Please be seated.

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.**



SPECIAL MUSIC: "My Shepherd is the Lord," Raymond Guiaso, *sung by Faith Lutheran Choir.*

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.

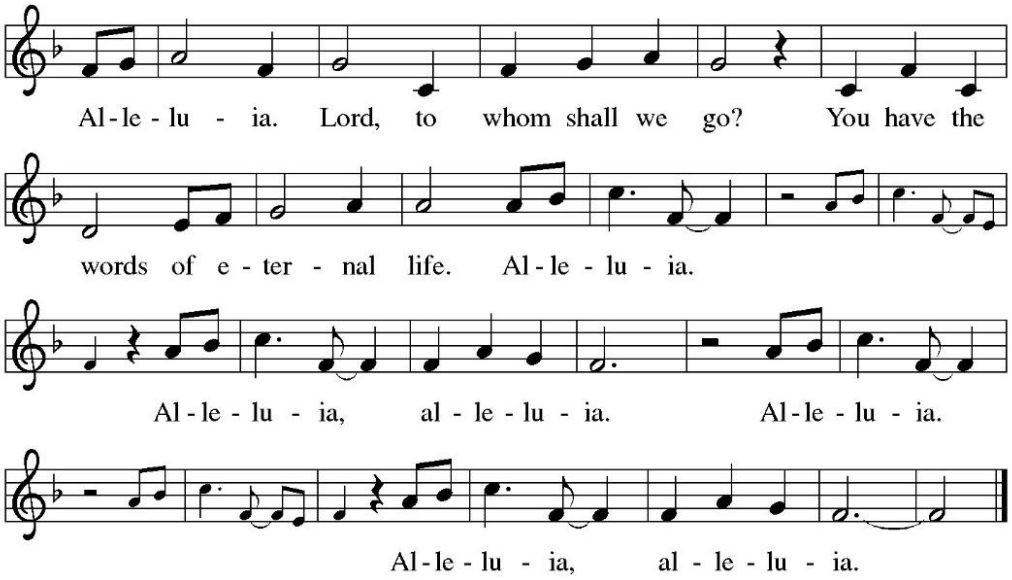
4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your gentleness be known to
everyone. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer
and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace
of God, which surpasses all 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.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to **Matthew 22:1-14**

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, 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.**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY Look who Gathers at Christ's Table ACS 1086



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

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

Holy God, we remember your promise of unity on your holy mountain. Empower the World Council of Churches and all those working across religious difference, that the world may know your undivided love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise of green pastures and quiet waters. Preserve all places of natural beauty and restore our relationship with the land. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise to not abandon us amid storm and disaster. Renew all communities facing disasters and give your courage to those leading relief efforts. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise to wipe away every tear. Heal and console all who are sick or suffering. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

PRAYER LIST

Jim H.; Megan; Larissa; Denis H.; William; Richard Z.; Danielle S.; David S.; Michael K.; Gail and Bob C.; Shirley S.; Justin E.; Ed. T.; Dale H.; Tom M.; Tom S.; Sabrina Mendez & Family; St. Mark, Minisink Hills.

We remember your promise of a banquet open to all people. Challenge this congregation to open wide our doors and welcome everyone to the table. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise to swallow up death forever. We give thanks for those who have gone before us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS





- ✞ **Maggie Fiedor**
- ✞ **Barbara Morgan**

THE PEACE

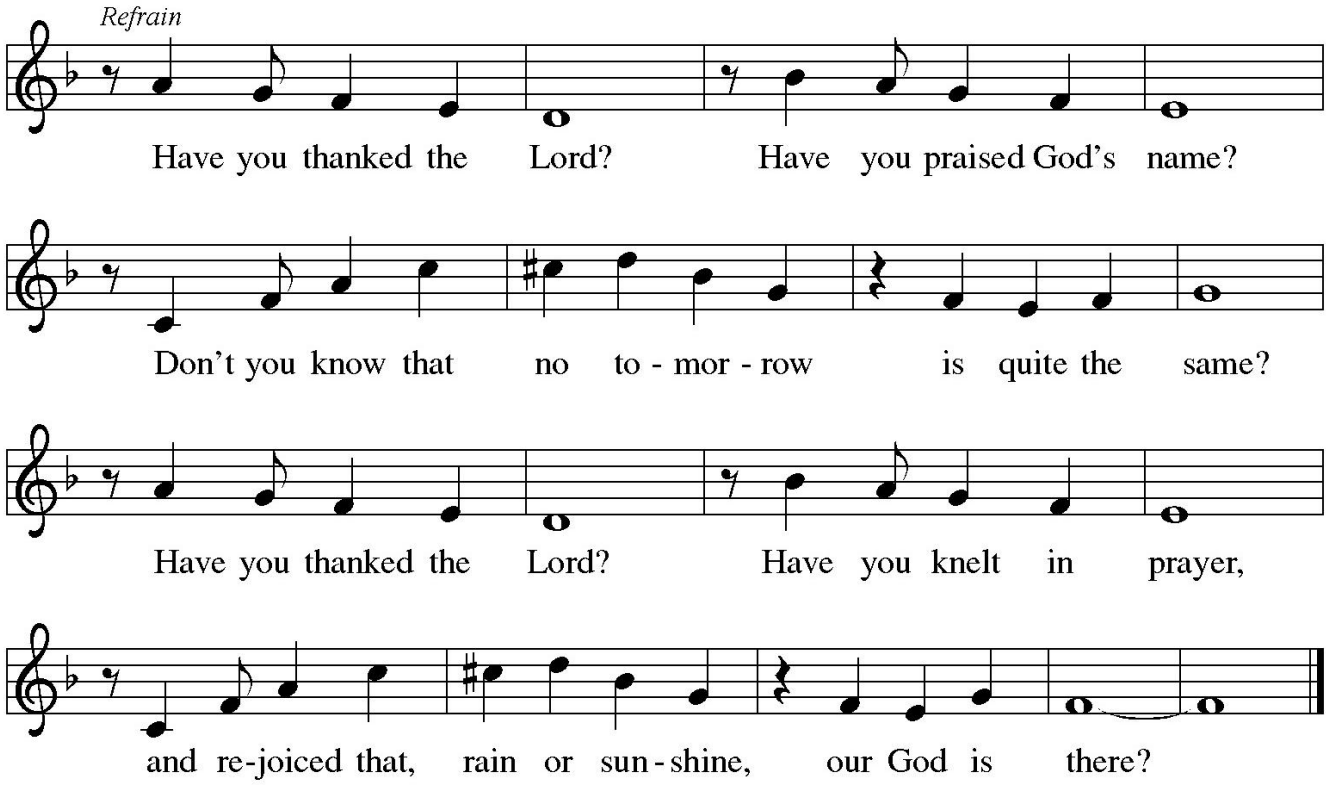
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING MUSIC: "Let Us Break Bread Together," Charles Callahan, *played by Molly Finkbiner.*

OFFERTORY SONG



Have You Thanked the Lord?



OFFERING PRAYER

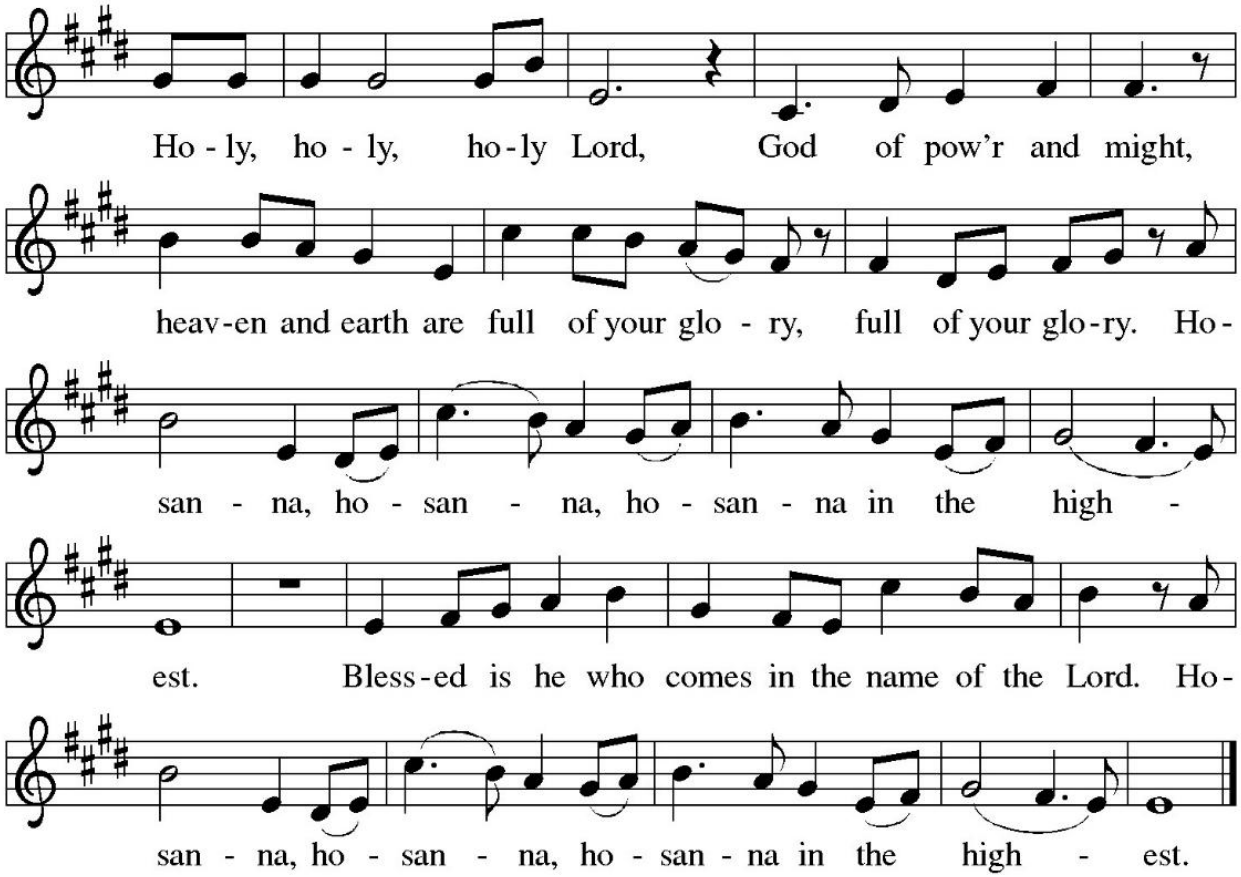
God of creation, all blessings are from you. Make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

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 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in your truth. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

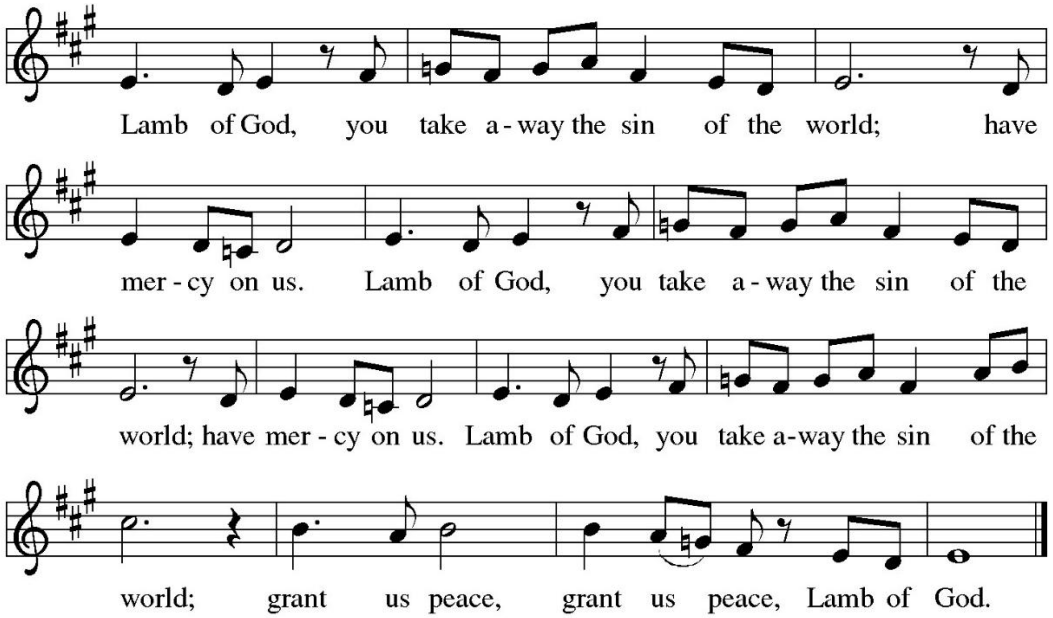
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!



LAMB OF GOD



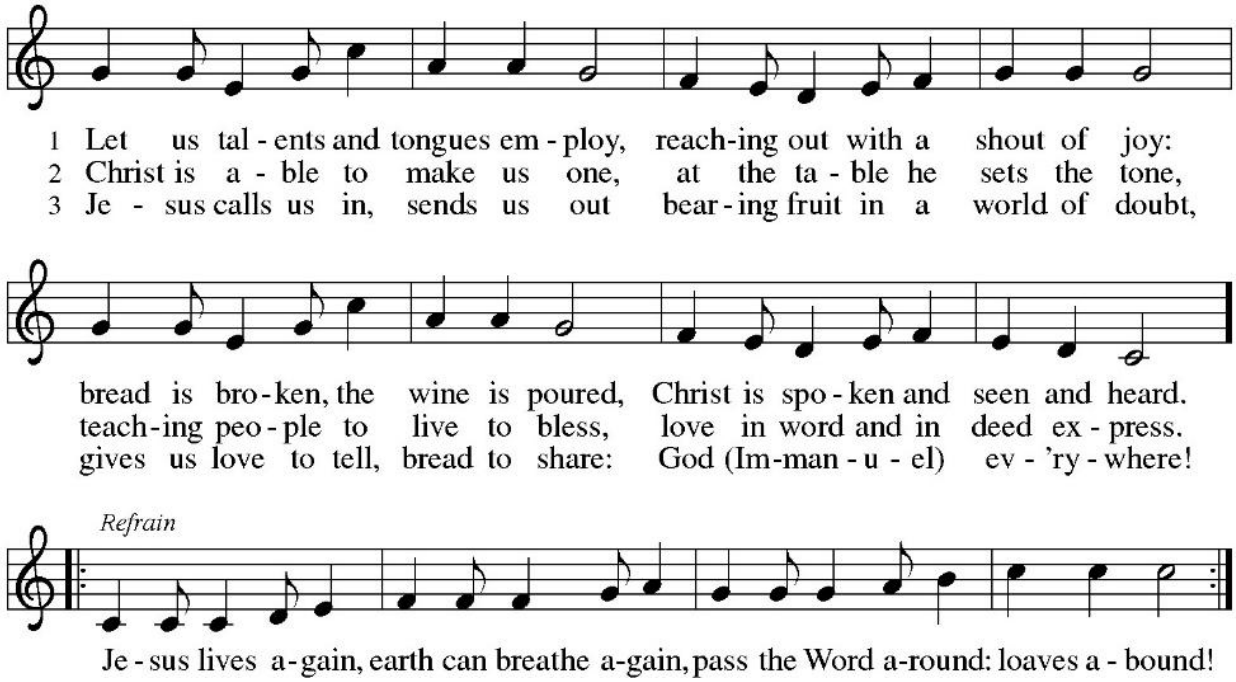
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

SONG AFTER COMMUNION

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



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.**

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN **"Sent Forth by God's Blessing** **ELW 547**



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

October 11th, 2026 – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude:

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Gathering Song:

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet, Guillermo Cuellar. © 1988, GIA Publications, Inc.; harm. By Ronald F. Krisman, © 2005, GIA Publications, Inc., Text: Guillermo Guellar; English tr. By Hesla and Dexheimer-Pharris; © 1988, tr. © 1996, GIA Publications, Inc. #01713. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Hymn of the Day:

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.

Special Music:

My Shepherd Is The Lord, Raymond Paul Guiao, John Purifoy. © 1998 Lorenz Publishing Company, assigned to Lorenz Publishing Company (Admin. by Music Services). #1003471. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Offering Music:

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Communion Music:

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Sending Hymn:

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Postlude:

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, Doreen Potter. © 1975 Hope Publishing Company. #106219. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Service Music:

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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

All Are Welcome

Holy Communion is a feast for all of us—friends and strangers. We share bread, wine, and blessings together at the table (altar), sing songs, and pray.

People celebrate Holy Communion many ways. Circle the picture closest to the way your congregation shares this fabulous feast!



SPARK ACTIVATE FAITH

READER

Pentecost 20

- Today is the **20th** Sunday after Pentecost.
- At Pentecost the Holy Spirit **rushed in**.
- The Holy Spirit didn't need an invitation to come to the **Pentecost party**.
- During the Pentecost season, we think about the **Holy Spirit**.

Who Will Come to the Banquet?

In today's story, many people hide from the king. God doesn't want us to hide. God wants us to come to the feast. Draw some people hiding in the tree. Draw yourself standing boldly in front of it!



Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.

Memory Verse

Matthew 22:9

The king sent his servants to find people to come to the banquet. Go on a hunt for words from the memory verse.

Z	G	T	W	E	D	D	I	N	G
S	T	R	E	E	T	S	T	D	G
E	I	A	K	Q	T	K	H	B	R
U	N	K	Q	D	U	F	E	A	Y
O	V	O	M	L	B	N	R	N	O
R	I	P	Y	M	Z	D	E	Q	A
N	T	J	Z	R	L	H	F	U	L
O	E	S	W	U	E	Q	O	E	S
A	S	X	L	S	R	V	R	T	K
M	U	X	T	G	K	J	E	Z	Z

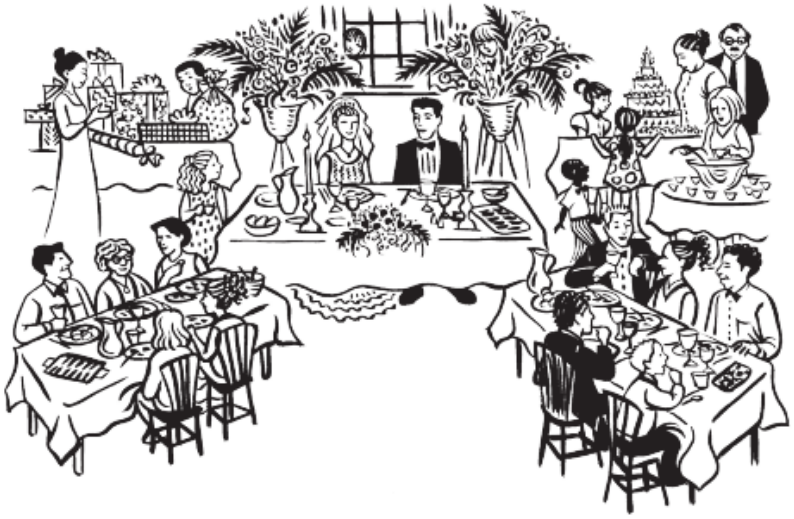
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The Fabulous Feast

Matthew 22:1-14

Today's Gospel is about a huge wedding feast. The king invited everyone—even strangers! God is like the king in this story. Each of us is invited to be a wedding guest. Will you go to the party?

Draw yourself at this fabulous feast. Find 3 people who don't feel welcome to join the party and are hiding. How might you help them? How can you tell God is at this party?



All Saint's Day Remembrance

Sunday, November 1, 2026

Your name: _____

I would like to buy ____qty. white roses/ $5 each in memory of:

1._____

2._____

3._____

4._____

5._____



Please order your altar flowers in memory of your loved one(s) by ***Sunday, October 19, 2026.***

_____***Qty x $5.00 = $***_____

Payment Date: _____ ☐***Cash*** ☐***Check***