



***September 13, 2020***

***14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost***

***Autumn Worship***

***Communion, Indoors***

***We welcome you with open  
arms and open hearts***

Faith Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered, Bible-reading, welcoming spiritual home for seekers, believers, and everybody between. We're a family of God "because God first loved us." (1 John 4:19) Because you're here, your part of the family—welcome.

Young children are welcome in the service.

If you are new to Faith, we would like to be in touch with you. Please share your contact information with the church office, 406-363-2964, or [office@faithlutheranhamilton.org](mailto:office@faithlutheranhamilton.org).

**Welcome to Faith and thank you for coming!**

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## ***God Gathers The Body Of Christ***

**Prelude**

Amber Richardson, Accompanist

**Call to Worship**

Pastor Paul Anderson

**Welcome**

AM: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

*(AM: Prayer Requests and Service Announcements.)*

*(AM: Please stand as you are able for our gathering hymn)*

**Gathering Hymn**

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” ELW #834

## Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love,  
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee,  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

TEXT: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt.  
 MUSIC: ST. DENIS, Welsh traditional, arr. John Roberts, 1807-1876

### The Kyrie (*Spoken*)

ELW page 193-194

AM: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

AM: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord have mercy.**

AM: For the peace from above, and for our salvation,  
 let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord have mercy.**

AM: For the peace of the whole world, the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord have mercy.**

AM: For Faith Lutheran Church, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord have mercy.**

AM: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**All: Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

AM: Let us pray.

**All: O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **God Speaks To Us In The Word**

**Preface to the Word** (*sung*)

ELW# 512

**Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.**

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
where love can grow and peace is understood.**

**When my heart is hard, break the stone away.**

**When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.**

**When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.**

**Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

## First Reading:

Genesis 50:15-21

Lector: A reading from Genesis chapter 50:

*After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.*

<sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>"Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

*(Lector: give directions for psalm responses)*

## **Psalm: Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13**

<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

<sup>2</sup>**Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits**

<sup>3</sup>who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases;

<sup>4</sup>**who redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

<sup>5</sup>who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

<sup>6</sup>**O LORD, you provide vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.**

<sup>7</sup>You made known your ways to Moses and your works to the children of Israel.

**<sup>8</sup>LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

<sup>9</sup>you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.

**<sup>10</sup>You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

<sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

**<sup>12</sup>As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

<sup>13</sup>As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

## Second Reading

Romans 14:1-12

Lector: A reading from Romans chapter 14:

*This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.*

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

<sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat,

eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

<sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

L: Holy wisdom, holy word...

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**Kid's Talk**

Pastor Paul Anderson

**Gospel Acclamation**

“Celtic Alleluia”

ELW #174

Gospel Acclamation  
*Celtic Alleluia*

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the 'Celtic Alleluia'. Both staves are in the treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is written on a five-line staff. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker  
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## Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

PM: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew:

**All: Glory to you , O Lord.**

*When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.*

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

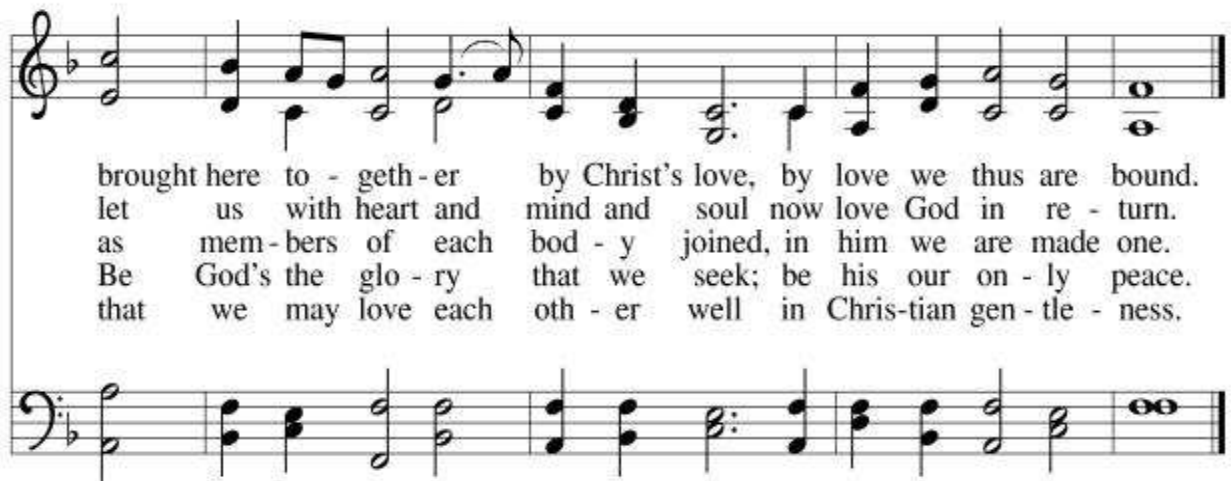
L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ!**

### Where Charity and Love Prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;  
 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;  
 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;  
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.  
 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.  
 Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842  
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## **Response to the Word** (*Creed*)

WOV page 79

AM: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**All: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.** (*Ephesians 1:13-14*)

AM: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

**All: 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 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.**

## **Confession**

PM: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith; *Jude 20*

**All: Pray in the Holy Spirit.**

PM: Keep yourselves in the love of God; *Jude 21*

**All: Look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

PM: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: *2 Cor. 5:17*

**All: Everything old has passed away; behold everything has become new!**

PM: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

**All: Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.**

PM: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*(silence is kept for confession and reflection)*

PM: Most gracious God,

**All: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

PM: The almighty and merciful God grants you pardon, forgiveness, and release from all your sins.

**All: Amen.**

## **The Prayers of the Church**

“O Lord, Hear My Prayer”

ELW# 751

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:  
when I call, answer me.**

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:  
come and listen to me.**

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes and youth ministries. Nurture new ministries of education and growth (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The heights of the heavens show us the vastness of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you (*especially John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, whom we commemorate today*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Pass the Peace**

PM: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

*Take a moment to pass the peace with those around you, and send a message of peace to those listening and watching with you.*

**The Offering** “Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring” WOV #759 Vv. 1&3

**Accept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place upon your table.**

**We do not worship as we ought but only as we’re able.**

**Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares**

**we lift in prayer before you.**

**Lord, by your grace now come to us, as humbly we adore you.**

## **The Offering Prayer**

AM: Let us pray,

**All: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things.  
Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.  
With them we offer ourselves to your service and  
dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all  
that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for  
us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Jesus Comes To Us In His Supper**

*Dear members and friends of Faith: as you trust the God you see in Jesus, please be welcome to share his meal. Christ offers here and now his body and blood, his death and resurrection, as a demonstration that God “loves you to death” and is present to, in, and through you now and forever  
Communion will be served in individual portions.*

*Directions for communion.*

## **Words of Institution**

WOV page 37

PM: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.  
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.  
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,  
that by this Holy Communion we may know  
the unity we share with all your people  
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**All: Amen**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:2-4

PM: Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**All: 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.**

### **Distribution**

PM: And now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior,  
Jesus Christ keep you in his grace. Amen.

### **Post Communion Prayer**

PM: Let us pray,

**All: We give you thanks, gracious God,  
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,  
the body and blood of Christ.  
Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,**

**into your beloved vineyard  
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,  
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ  
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
Amen.**

## **Benediction**

PM: May the peace of God be in your heart,  
The grace of God be in your words,  
The love of God be in your hands,  
The joy of God be in your soul,  
And in the song that your life sings. Amen.

## **Announcements for the congregation**

**Sending Song**

“On Our Way Rejoicing”

ELW #537

## On Our Way Rejoicing

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "On Our Way Rejoicing". It consists of seven systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The lyrics are as follows:

1  
2  
On our way re-joic-ing glad-ly let us go.  
Un-to God the Fa-ther joy-ful songs we sing:  
Christ our Lord has con- quered; van- quished is the foe.  
un- to God the Sav- ior; thank- ful hearts we bring:  
Christ with- out, our safe- ty; Christ with- in, our joy;  
un- to God the Spir- it bow we and a- dore,  
who, if we be- faith- ful, can our hope de- stroy?  
on our way re- joic- ing now and ev- er- more.  
*Allegretto*  
On our way re- joic- ing; as we for- ward move,  
hear- ken to our prais- es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Morrell, 1831-1875, alt.  
Music: HERMAS, Francis R. Flaverghal, 1836-1879

## Dismissal

ELW page 222

AM: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

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*Please call or email us with your prayer requests*

***Pray for our Members and Friends...***

***Prayers to all teachers and students, stay safe.***

**Prayers for healing:** Julie Belcher, Ken Cathey, Linda Bentz, Jack & Susie, Ken Clark, Heidi, Luken, Gloria Mason, Ron Osborn, Gail Lewis, Larkin, Shirley Hanson.

**Prayers for comfort:** Family and friends of LaVonne Beers, Deb Cathey, Kathleen Gazarra

**The Beehive:** Morry Mitteness, Yvonne Olson, Bertie Henderson

**Valley View:** Ruth Dillon

**Remington:** Betty Swift, Chuck Olson

**Home Nursing Care:** Virginia Rotering, Smitty

**Incarcerated:** Jacob Bachman, George Davis