



“The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels..”

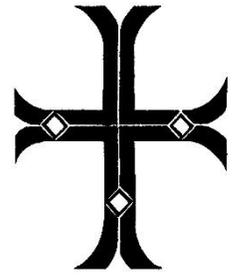
Matthew 13

WELCOME

Good morning and welcome to worship at Faith Lutheran!

There can be no doubt that the enemies of God and of his eternal Truth work feverishly against him at every turn. The believers' natural response is to plead that God end all wickedness and injustice right now and apply appropriate, final punishment to all who oppose him. But our all-knowing and compassionate God has a different and much better solution – GRACE. While he will judge justly and vindicate his saints on the Last Day, until then he will ensure the Gospel is continually preached and more souls will be added to eternal fellowship with him in heaven. We await that day of reckoning on which he offers himself as a refuge to all wearied by the world. That day's certainty breeds courage in God's forgiven children. We praise him again today for his marvelous mercy!

May God bless your time spent in worship with us today. Please come and worship again with us very soon.



OUR FACILITIES

Our restrooms are located just to the left of the tower entrance. A family restroom is also available there. The members of Faith believe that families should be allowed to worship together. If your young one needs some “time out,” we have an audio-equipped children's room just outside of the church doors to your right. If you need anything during the service, please feel free to ask an usher.

LISTENING ASSISTANCE & LARGE PRINT MATERIALS



Large print service folders and hearing assistance devices are available from an usher at your request. Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assist T-loop. If your hearing assist device is T-coil equipped you may switch to T-coil so sound can be transmitted directly to your hearing assist device.

OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE

Faith Lutheran Church still observes the biblical and historical practice of member communion. (This is also often referred to as “close” communion.) If you are not currently a member of our congregation, we would kindly ask that you speak with one of our pastors before communing. We look forward to talking about this very important issue with you!

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O Lord – our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter – we are assembled in your presence to hear your holy Word and receive your precious sacrament. We pray that you would open our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of your Word we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus, and grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.



Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

“Growing Together in the Eternal Gospel”

24300 West Grass Lake Rd Antioch, IL 60002

(847) 395-1660

www.faithantioch.org

WFEL 99.9 FM

facebook.com/faithantioch

Pastor Greg Hermanson – Personal Ministry

(847) 293-6578

Pastor Ed Ungemach – Worship & Administration

(847) 293-6101

Mr. Craig Breitzkreutz – Director of Christian Education

(847) 409-9593

Ms. Ellen Golvach – Parish Administrator

(847) 293-2609



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 30 & August 2, 2020

The Lord Will Be a Refuge for His People

COVID 19 ACCOMMODATIONS – Following the research and recommendations currently available Faith worship leaders are choosing to significantly reduce the total amount of singing by the entire assembly during the course of each service and also abbreviate our time gathered together. Worship as we've known it and prefer it will return in its full vibrancy when the pandemic is over.

OPENING HYMN

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

Christian Worship # 523



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On your peo -
2 Lo, the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn the Christ,
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; Bend our pride
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e -



ple pour your pow'r; Crown your an - cient Church's
as - sail his ways. From our fears that long have
to your con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish
vils we de - plore; Let the gift of your sal -



sto - ry; Bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r.
bound us, Free our hearts to faith and praise.
glad - ness, Rich in things and poor in soul.
va - tion Be our glo - ry ev - er - more.



Grant us wis - dom; grant us cour - age For the fac - ing
Grant us wis - dom; grant us cour - age For the liv - ing
Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age Lest we miss your
Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, Serv - ing you whom



of this hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.
of these days, For the liv - ing of these days.
king - dom's goal, Lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
we a - dore, Serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by your help be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ, you Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be Seated

THE WORD OF GOD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Joel 3:12-16

Even in times of deserved divine judgment the Lord will be a refuge for his faithful people.

¹²“Let the nations be roused;
let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat,
for there I will sit to judge all the nations on every side.

¹³Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe.

Come, trample the grapes, for the winepress is full
and the vats overflow— so great is their wickedness!”

¹⁴Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision!

For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

¹⁵The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine.

¹⁶The LORD will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem;
the earth and the sky will tremble.

But the LORD will be a refuge for his people,
a stronghold for the people of Israel.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 18 (*Christian Worship* page 69)

C: The mighty Lord is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

M: The LORD is my rock, my fortress and by deliverer;*

C: my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.

He reached down from on high and took hold of me;*
he rescued me from my powerful enemy.

He brought me out into a spacious place;*
he rescued me because he delighted in me.

C: The mighty Lord is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

You, O LORD, keep my lamp burning;*
my God turns my darkness into light.

You save the humble*
but bring low those whose eyes are haughty.

You give me your shield of victory,*
and your right hand sustains me.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,*
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

C: The mighty Lord is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

NEW TESTAMENT EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 8:26-27

God reads the prayers upon our hearts and minds when words and human wisdom fail us.

²⁶In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. ²⁷And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God’s will.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Isaiah 55:11b

C: Alleluia. Alleluia!

M: My Word will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

C: Alleluia.

Stand out of respect for the words and works of Christ.

GOSPEL

St. Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

True and lasting judgment of the wicked belongs alone to God and his angels on the Last Day.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation responds:

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

²⁴Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷“The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’

²⁸“‘An enemy did this,’ he replied.

“The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’

²⁹“‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them.

³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’”

³⁶Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

³⁷He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

⁴⁰“As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. ⁴²They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

After the Gospel, the congregation responds:

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be Seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Lord Jesus Christ, With Us Abide”

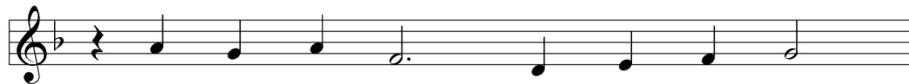
Christian Worship # 541:1-5



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, with us a - bide,
 2 O God, how sin's dread works a - bound!
 3 In these last days of sore dis - tress
 4 Lord Je - sus, help, your Church up - hold,
 5 Oh, keep us in your Word, we pray;



For round us falls the e - ven - tide,
 Through - out the earth no rest is found,
 Grant us, dear Lord, true stead - fast - ness
 For we are slug - gish, thought - less, cold.
 The guile and rage of Sa - tan stay!



Nor let your Word, that heav'n - ly light,
 And false - hood's spir - it wide has spread,
 That pure we keep, till life is spent,
 Oh, pros - per well your Word of grace,
 Oh, may your mer - cy nev - er cease!



For us be ev - er veiled in night.
 And er - ror bold - ly rears its head.
 Your ho - ly Word and sac - ra - ment.
 And spread its truth in ev - 'ry place.
 Give con - cord, pa - tience, cour - age, peace.

SERMON

based on the Gospel
 Pastor Greg Hermanson

Side By Side the Wheat and Weeds Grow

+ Struggle to thrive +
 ++ The day of harvest is coming ++

OFFERTORY (a musical piece played during the gathering of the offering) & OFFERING PRAYER

During the Covid crisis our preference is to gather our offerings electronically or through the mail but for those who do choose to bring offerings with them to worship there is a large offering basket at the main worship area doors for you to drop in your offerings later as you are dismissed from worship.

If you are not a member of Faith, we do not want you to feel obligated to participate in the offering. (God desires cheerful givers - not gifts based on a sense of guilt or obligation.) We gather our offerings during worship, because the Bible teaches that giving is *an act of worship*. Most of our church and school ministry is carried out by what is given in weekly worship offerings. May the Lord bless you, and may he use every one of our offerings to him as a blessing to many others.

Stand

C: Blessed by you with gifts and graces, May we heed your Spirit's call,
Gladly in all times and places Give to you who gives us all.
You have bought us; now no longer Can we claim to be our own;
Ever free and ever stronger We shall serve you, Lord, alone. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has called us to be his own so that we might live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
 God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -
 ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -
 ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
 na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

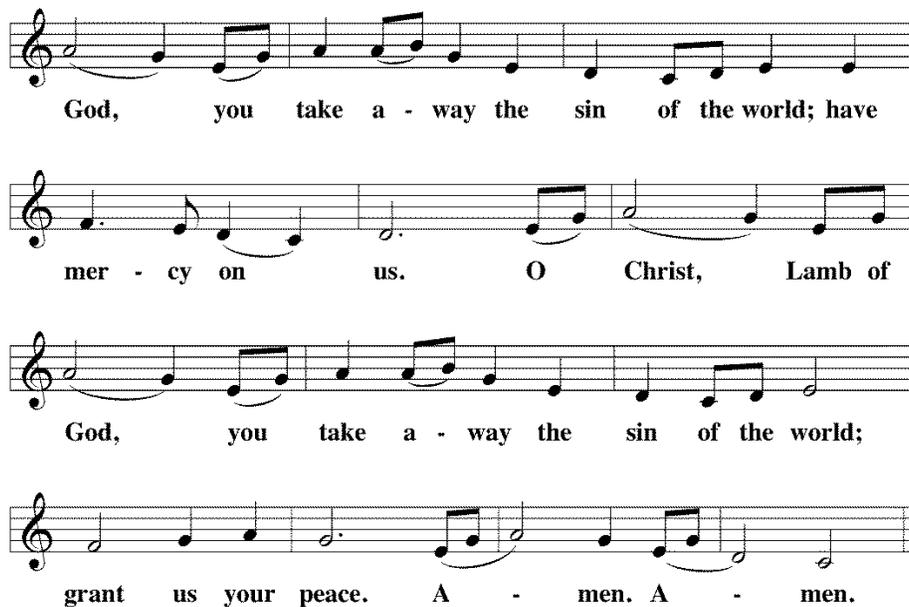
M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei

O Christ, Lamb of
 God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men. A - men.

Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION

no hymns will be sung during distribution

*Please note that during the COVID crisis we are practicing a **continuous distribution** pattern.*

Please follow the direction of the ushers and the markings on the floor.

Please extend your hand for the host to be dropped into it.

Please proceed to the tables with the individual cups to carefully choose your own while refraining from touching others.

Please place your used cup in the receptacle provided before returning to your seat.

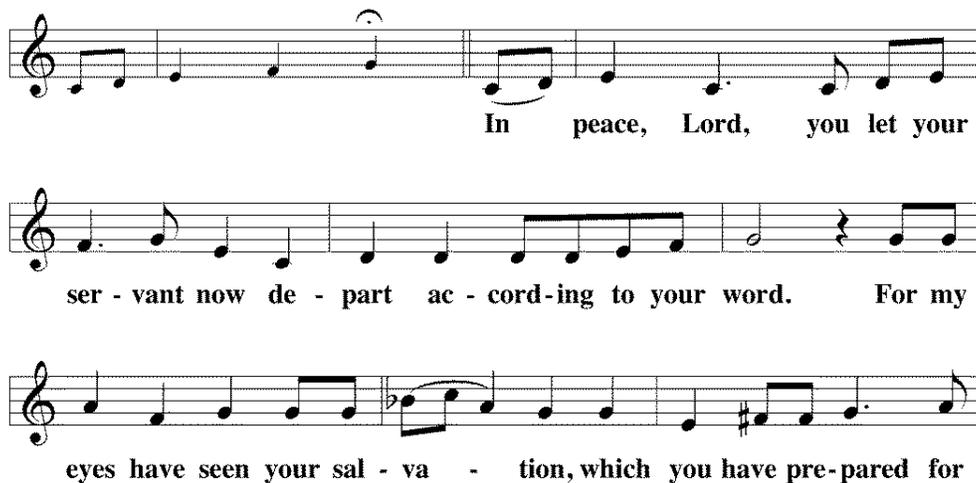
One "dismissal blessing" will be spoken for all who have received the sacrament at the conclusion of distribution.

THANKSGIVING

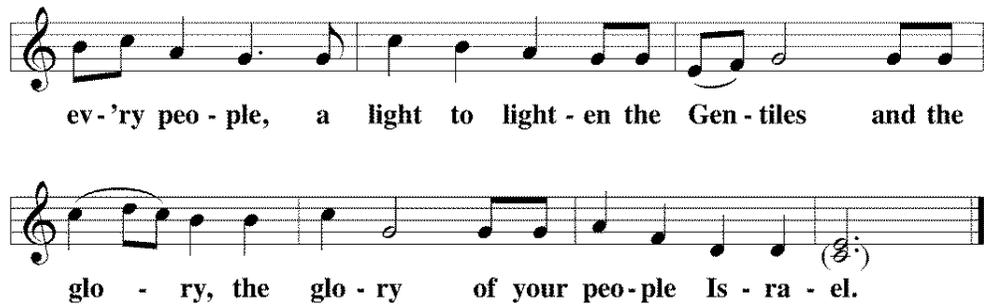
Stand

SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis



In peace, Lord, you let your
ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my
eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for



ev-'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the
glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

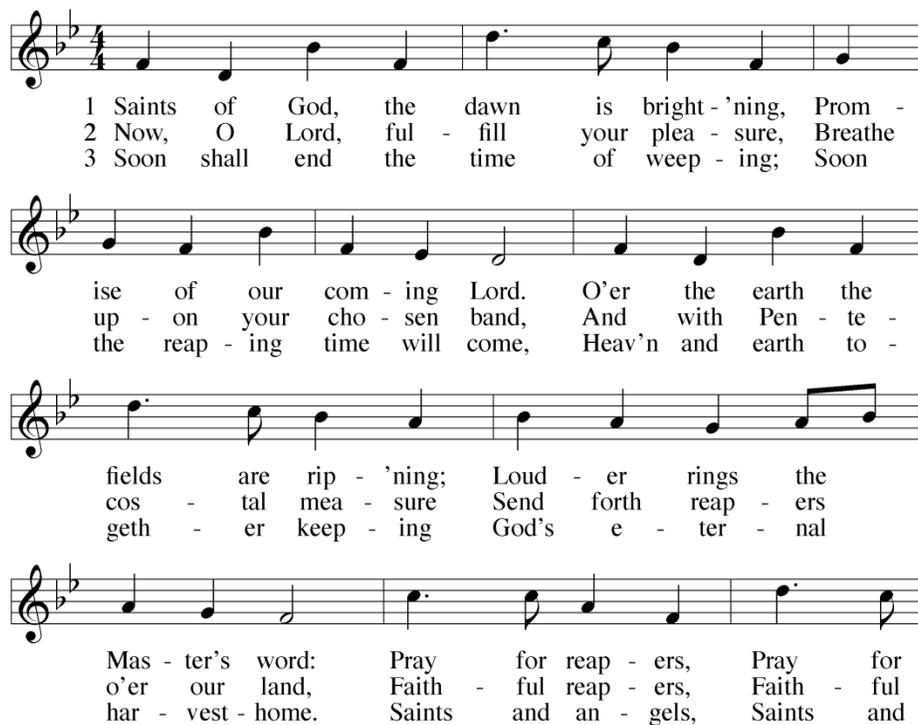
M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Please remain standing

CLOSING HYMN

“Saints of God, the Dawn Is Brightening”
Christian Worship # 578



1 Saints of God, the dawn is bright-'ning, Prom -
2 Now, O Lord, ful - fill your plea - sure, Breathe
3 Soon shall end the time of weep - ing; Soon
ise of our com - ing Lord. O'er the earth the
up - on your cho - sen band, And with Pen - te -
the reap - ing time will come, Heav'n and earth to -
fields are rip - 'ning; Loud - er rings the
cos - tal mea - sure Send forth reap - ers
geth - er keep - ing God's e - ter - nal
Mas - ter's word: Pray for reap - ers, Pray for
o'er our land, Faith - ful reap - ers, Faith - ful
har - vest - home. Saints and an - gels, Saints and



reap - ers In the har - vest of the Lord.
reap - ers, Gath - 'ring sheaves for your right hand.
an - gels Shout the world's great har - vest - home.

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