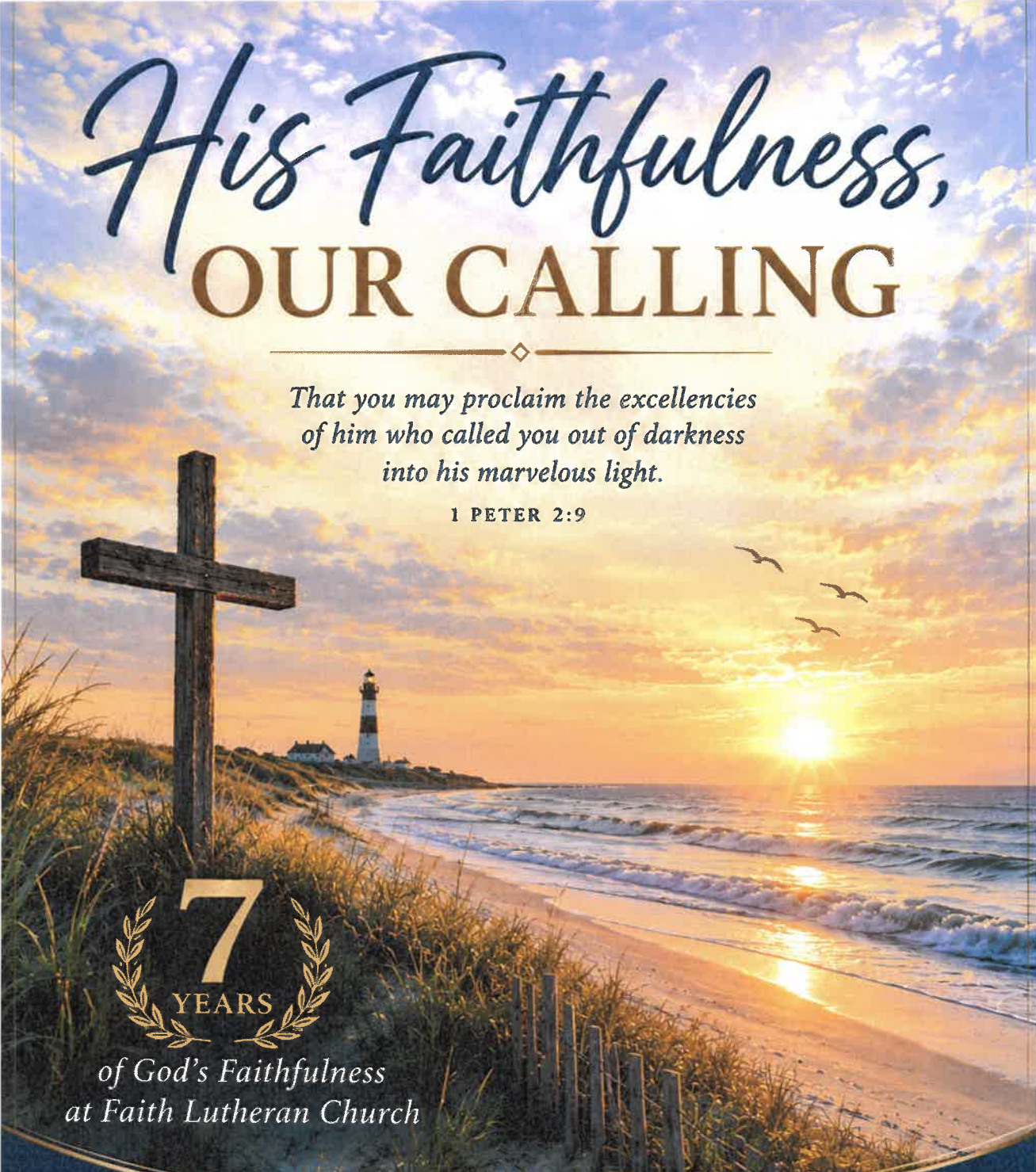




His Faithfulness, OUR CALLING

*That you may proclaim the excellencies
of him who called you out of darkness
into his marvelous light.*

1 PETER 2:9



*of God's Faithfulness
at Faith Lutheran Church*

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHRIST-CENTERED • MISSION-DRIVEN
TRADITIONALLY GROUNDED • CONGREGATIONALLY FOCUSED

PENTECOST 15 • SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

Welcome to our Visitors!

Welcome in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are glad you are here. It is our sincere prayer that God would refresh you by His Holy Word and Sacrament and that you would take with you His peace and joy. If you would care to give us your contact information, we would like to get to know you better and keep in touch. If you have questions or are interested in membership, please speak to anyone here.

Holy Communion

We come to the table at the invitation of the Lord, receiving the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Christians who share this faith and wish to join us at the table are welcome. Young children may be brought forward for a blessing.

Mission Statement

“...that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”

1 Peter 2:9

+++++

Ministers: Members of Faith Lutheran Church

Pastor: Paul Ebert

Director of Parish Music: Debra Ebert

Mailing Address:

Faith Lutheran Church
1319 Military Cutoff Suite CC/200
Wilmington, NC 28405

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Email: office@flcwnc.org

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Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Faith's 7th Anniversary

Sept. 6, 2026

LSB Setting Four/Combined Liturgy

*indicates to please stand

Bold-congregation responses

PRELUDE THAXTED

Gustav Holst

Arr. David Howard Pettie

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

Amen.

God our Father does care about us. In His mercy, He has given His Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the church 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. May Almighty God strengthen and preserve you unto life everlasting.

Amen.

***ENTRANCE HYMN O God Beyond All Praising**



All 1. O God, be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to -
 Choir 2. The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure - ly
 All 3. Then hear, O gra-cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we



day and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can - not re -
 die, its frag - ile bloom sur-ren - der to you, the Lord most
 bring, that we who know your fa - vor may serve you as our



pay; for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you
 high; but hid - den from all na - ture the e - ter - nal seed is
 King; and wheth - er our to-mor - rows be filled with good or



send, at bless - ings with - out num - ber and
 sown— though small in mor - tal stat - ure, to
 ill, we'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and



mer - cies with - out end: we lift our hearts be -
 heav - en's gar - den grown: for Christ the man from
 rise to praise you still: to mar - vel at your



fore you and wait up - on your word, we
 heav - en from death has set us free, and
 beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways, and



hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.
 we through him are giv - en the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
 make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

***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.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

***KYRIE**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



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



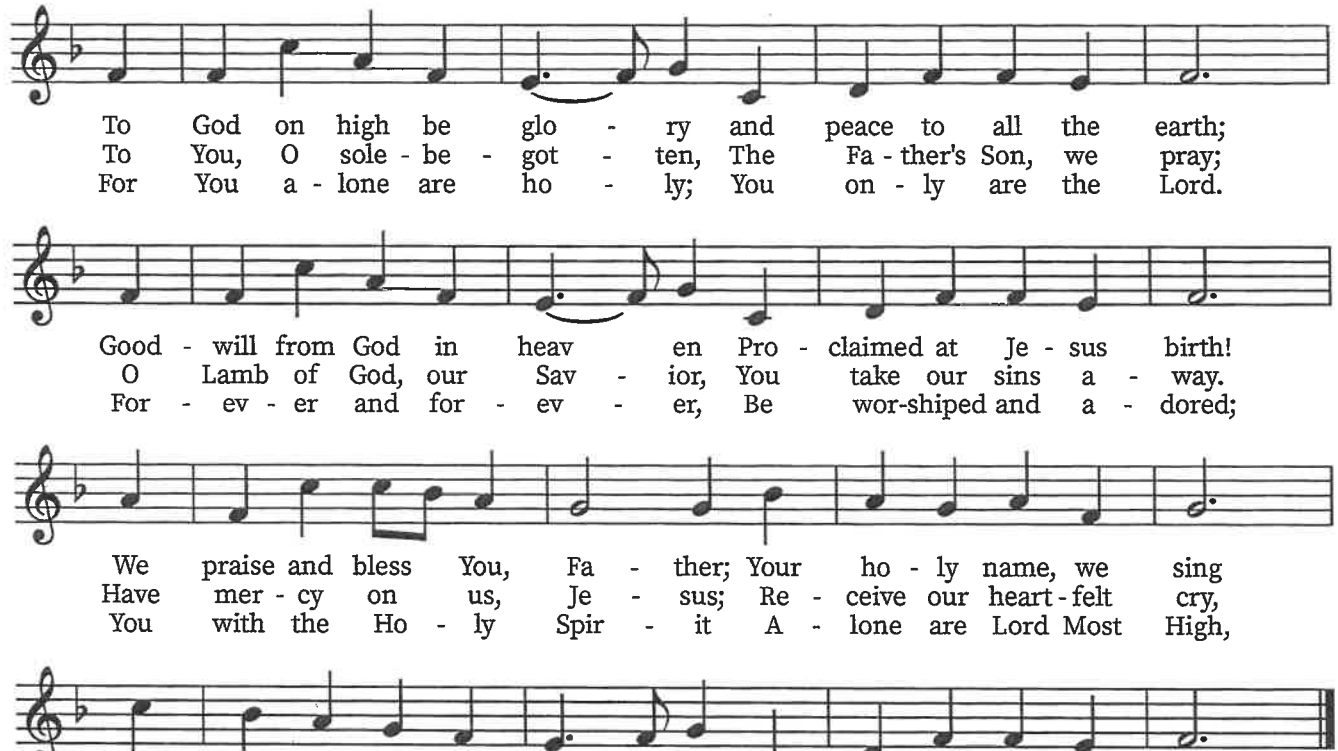
For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord



*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



The musical notation is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four lines of music, each with three lines of lyrics underneath. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes. The lyrics are in all caps and lowercase, with hyphens indicating syllables across notes.

To God on high be glo - ry and peace to all the earth;
To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.

Good - will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;

We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,

Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high.
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

*SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

Gracious God, You have gathered us as Your people and faithfully called us out of darkness into Your marvelous light. Keep us centered in Christ, grounded in Your Word and Sacraments, and faithful to proclaiming Your steadfast love.

Bless and preserve this congregation, that we may serve You and our neighbors in humility and joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen

FIRST READING

The First Reading is from Ezekiel, the 33rd chapter.

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32



- ¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!
- ²Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- ³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.
- ⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer. **Refrain:**
- ⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and did not conceal my guilt.
- ⁶I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.”
Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.
- ⁷Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- ⁸You are my hiding place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance. **Refrain:**

SECOND READING

The Second Reading is from Romans, the 13th chapter.

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. ⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*ALLELUIA AND VERSE

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a 7/8 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***HOLY GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: Pr. Paul "His Faithfulness, Our Calling"

HYMN OF THE DAY The Church's One Foundation

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

***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 into hell.

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 THE CHURCH**

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear Our Prayer.

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

And also with you.

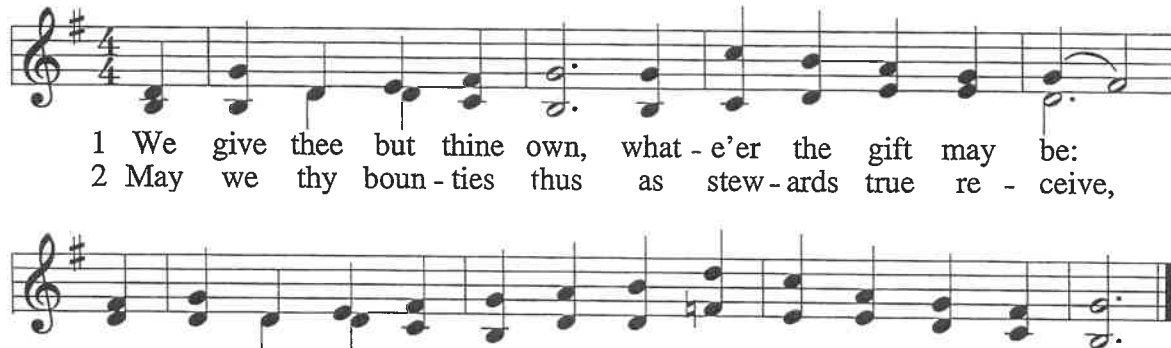
(At this time we offer each other a sign of Christ's peace)

OFFERTORY "Then Sings My Soul" *Faith Choir*

Words & Music by Stuart K. Hine,

Choral Setting by Mary McDonald

***WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN**



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be:
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

WORDS: William W. How (1823-1897)
MUSIC: Mason and Webb's *Cantica Laudis*, 1850

SCHUMANN
S.M.

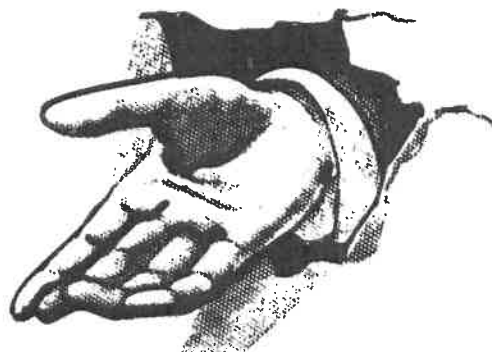
***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray...

Merciful Father,

We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us; our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up you hearts.

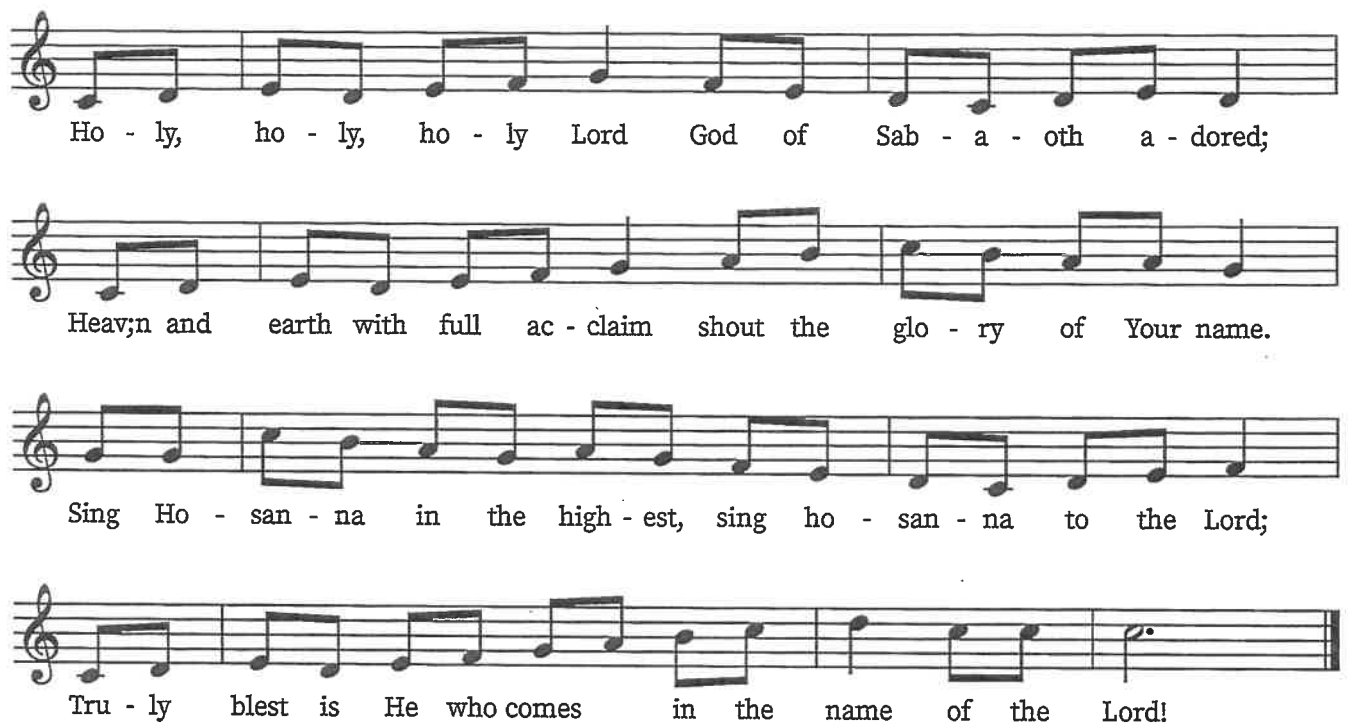
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

*SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav;n and earth with full ac - claim shout the glo - ry of Your name.

Sing Ho - san - na in the high - est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed by 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



*AGNUS DEI

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true us, Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

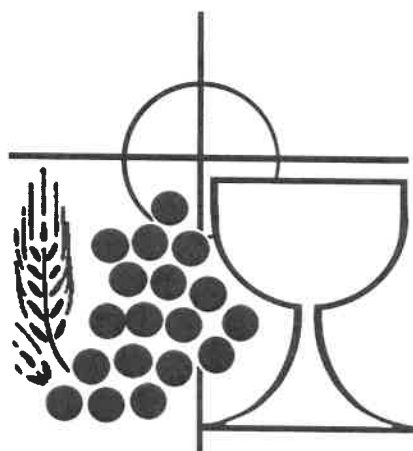
COMMUNION

The body of Christ given for you.

Amen.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

Amen.



COMMUNION HYMN I Am the Bread of Life (Vs. 1 & 4)

Verses



1. I am the Bread of life. You who come to me
2. The bread that I will give is my flesh for the
3. Un - less you eat of the flesh of the
4. I am the Res - ur - rec - tion, I
5. Yes, Lord, we be - lieve that you



1. shall not hun - ger; and who be - lieve in me shall not thirst.
2. life of the world, and if you eat of this bread,
3. Son of Man 7 and drink of his blood, and
4. am the life. If you be - lieve in me,
5. are the Christ, 7 the Son of God,



1. No one can come to me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons.
2. you shall live for ev - er, you shall live for ev - er.
3. drink of his blood, you shall not have life with - in you.
4. e - ven though you die, you shall live for ev - er.
5. who has come in - to the world.

Refrain



And I will raise you up, and I will raise you



up, and I will raise you up on the last day.

Text: John 6:35, 44, 51, 53-54; 11:25-27; Suzanne Toolan, RSM.
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*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you unto life everlasting.

Amen.

*NUNC DIMITTIS



The musical score for 'Nunc Dimittis' is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: O All Lord, now let to Your the ser - vant De part glo - ry in heav'n - ly the peace, Son, For All I have seen to the glo - ry of Your re - deem - ing in grace: Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One; A For light as to in lead the the be - gin - ning, Un to now, Your shall ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your peo - ple, Your chos - sen Is - ra - el. sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

The Summons

KELVINGROVE

Scottish trad.

Words and Arr. John L. Bell

Adapt. and Arr. Gary Daigle



1. Will you come and fol - low me if I but
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but
3. Will you let the blind - ed see if I but
4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but



call your name? Will you go where you don't know and
call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and
call your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners free and
call your name? Will you quell the fear in - side and
call my name. Let me turn and fol - low you and



nev - er be the same? Will you let my love be shown,
nev - er be the same? Will you risk the hos - tile stare
nev - er be the same? Will you kiss the lep - er clean,
nev - er be the same? Will you use the faith you've found
nev - er be the same. In your com - pa - ny I'll go



will you let my name be known, will you
should your life at - tract or scare? Will you
and do such as this un - seen, and ad -
to re - shape the world a - round, through my
where your love and foot - steps show. Thus I'll



let my life be grown in you and you in me?
let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?
mit to what I mean in you and you in me?
sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
move and live and grow in you and you in me.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Liturgical elements from: The Lutheran Service Book, Lutheran Book of Worship & Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

+++++

Serving the Family of Faith

This Week: 9/6

Reader: Nancy Wells

Communion: Nancy Wells

Fellowship: Fellowship Committee

Usher: Gary Ebeltoft

Trumpeter: Bill Palmer

Next Week: 9/13 CFS

Reader: Bill Palmer

Communion: Jerry Bramley

Fellowship: Connie Palmer

Usher: Ken Schiess

Birthdays: 9/8 Tuesday, Kevin Gallagher

Reminders: Thank you to all who signed up to serve. There are still more opportunities☺

9/8 Faith's 7th Anniversary. Please join us for Fellowship today.

9/13 Chicago Folk Service liturgy.

9/13 Start of Bible Study after Fellowship

10/18 Faith's picnic at Trinity Landing.

Please put it on your calendar!

Given to the glory of God: \$865.00

The Sending Hymn, "The Summons" was used in our first Worship Service at the clubhouse. We thought it summarized how God had called us in the formation of Faith Lutheran Church. It still holds true 7 years later!!!