

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

August 20, 2023

Pastor Curt Adams

God's Hard, Absolute - and Wonderful Word of Truth



The Lord Lifts Up the Lowly

“And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard” (Gen. 4:1–15). For unlike Abel, Cain’s offering did not proceed from a heart that revered and trusted in the Lord. Thus, the lowly tax collector who prayed, *“God, be merciful to me, a sinner!”* was the one who went down to his house justified before God, not the respectable, outwardly righteous Pharisee who trusted in himself and his own good living (Luke 18:9–14). *“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast”* (Eph. 2:1–10). The one who penitently despairs of his own righteousness and relies completely on the atoning mercy of God in Christ is the one who is declared righteous. For Christ died for our sins and rose again the third day (1 Cor. 15:1–10). Therefore, *“everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”*

The Divine Service is celebrated each Sunday at 8:00 am and 10:30 am, and Wed. at 5:00 pm.

Bible Class is held on Sunday at 9:15 am.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH is a Christological, Scriptural, Confessional and Liturgical member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. We believe that God has called us to believe, teach and confess that Christ was crucified for our sins and we receive salvation by faith, which is a gift of God through His grace given to us in our baptism, as is revealed in the Holy Bible which is the inspired and inerrant Word of God. In response to His gift of salvation we eagerly

desire to do good works out of thanksgiving and praise to the Triune God.

Communion Statement

Because we take the Word of God seriously and we love our visitors, **we ask that if you are not a member of Faith Lutheran or another LCMS church, please refrain from taking communion until you have talked with Pastor Poock.** In the meantime, we would love to have you participate by coming forward and receiving a blessing.

Communion offers the immense blessing of forgiveness of our sins. However, it can be taken to one's judgment if not properly understood. 1 Cor 11:27,29 says, "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the LORD in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the LORD...For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself."

We teach that a person receives the real Body and the real Blood of Jesus Christ "in, with and under the bread and wine." It is not symbolic or merely a spiritual presence.

Welcome to Our Visitors!

We rejoice to have you with us today. The liturgy is found in the Lutheran Service Book in the rack in front of you. You may place this bulletin in the back of your hymnal to help you follow along with the order of service. The Propers for the day are printed within the bulletin. Please read the message in this bulletin concerning reception of Holy Communion at our church.

OPENING HYMN *"Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice"* (v. 1-5) **p. 556**

+ INVOCATION, CONFESSION, AND ABSOLUTION + **LSB 151**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong.: Amen

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

Cong.: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Cong.: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, in the stead and by the command of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong.: Amen.

+ INTROIT +

Psalm 68: 1, 3, 71, 10B, 19

Pastor: God is in his holy habitation;

Cong.: [he] settles the solitary in a home.

Pastor: The God of Israel – he is the one

Cong.: who gives power and strength to his people.

Pastor: God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered;

Cong.: and those who hate him shall flee before him!

Pastor: But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God;

Cong.: they shall be jubilant with joy!

Pastor: O God, when you went out before your people,

Cong.: in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

Pastor: Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up;

Cong.: God is our salvation. 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.

+ KYRIE +

LSB 152

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Cong.: LORD, have mercy.

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

Cong.: LORD, have mercy.

Pastor: 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.

Cong.: LORD, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the LORD.

Cong.: LORD, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious LORD.

Cong.: Amen.

+HYMN OF PRAISE+

“Gloria in Excelsis”

LSB 154

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

**Cong: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

+ SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY +

Pastor: The LORD be with you.

Cong.: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting merciful God, always more ready to hear than we pray and to give more than we either desire or deserve, pour down upon us the abundance of Your mercy, forgiving those things which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things that we are not worth to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Christ, Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Cong.: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 29:4-14

⁴“Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵ Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. ⁶ Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. ⁷ But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. ⁸ For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, ⁹ for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, declares the LORD.

¹⁰ “For thus says the LORD: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. ¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹² Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. ¹³ You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴ I will be found by you, declares the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Cong.: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

2 Timothy 4:1-8

¹ I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵ As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Cong.: Thanks be to God.

+ALLELUIA & VERSE+ (sung)

p. 156

*Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia*

+ HOLY GOSPEL +

Luke 18: 9-14

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighteenth chapter.

Cong.: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁹ He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: ¹⁰ *“Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”* This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Cong.: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE SERMON HYMN: “Oh, How Great Is Your Compassion”

p. 559

SERMON

NICENE CREED

p. 158

I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth

and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of His Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LSB 159

Pastor: Lord in Your mercy.

Cong.: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: ...through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Cong.: Amen

CREATE IN ME

LSB 192

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

LSB 160

Pastor: The LORD be with you.

Cong.: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Cong.: We lift them up to the LORD.

Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the LORD our God.

Cong.: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

+ THE PROPER PREFACE +

+ THE SANCTUS +

LSB 161

*Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!*

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER + (spoken)

LSB 162

**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**

+THE WORDS OF OUR LORD +

LSB 162

+ PAX DOMINI +

LSB 163

Pastor: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

Cong.: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

“Lamb of God”

LSB 163

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread” p. 625
“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” p. 686
“Just as I Am, without One Plea” p. 570

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE “Thank the Lord” **LSB 164**

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST COMMUNION COLLECT **LSB 166**

+THE BENEDICTION+ **LSB 166**

Pastor: 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.

Cong.: Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN *“Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice”* (v. 6-10) **p. 556**

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Cong.: Thanks be to God.



Pastor Curt Adams
Organist Bill Vlasak

Happy Birthday

Pixie Reay 20th

Jeff Snell 21st

Mert Janovec 22nd

Samantha Speropulos 22nd

Susmitha Madidi 25th

Happy Anniversary

Ken & Caroline Spirduso 20th (35 years)

Chuck & Teresa Moore 21st (2 years)

Brad & Roberta Teitelbaum 22nd (53 years)

Bob & Janice Cascio 26th (51 years)

Greg & Carol Wissner 26th (51 years)

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES AT FAITH:

Sunday August 20th

8:00 am & 10:30 am Divine Services

9:15 am Bible Study/ Sunday School

11:30 am Coffee Fellowship

Wednesday August 23rd

3:30 pm Bible Study

5:00 pm Divine Service

NO Women of Faith

LOOKING AHEAD:

August 27th

8:00 am & 10:30 am - Divine Services Welcomes New Members!

11:30 am - The Coffee Fellowship Welcomes

New Members!

September 10th - Youth Confirmation

September 11th - First Session of Grief Share @ 6:30 pm

Fellowship Room