



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 13, 2020

Serving us in worship today:

*Bryce Formwalt, Sermon; Andrew Cave, Liturgy; Mike Andrews, Lay Reader,
8:30; Roxanne Heckmann, 9:30; Brandon Westerholm, Ben Weise, Ushers 8:30;*

Ed Engelhardt, Pat and Missy Sagebiel, Ushers 9:30.

Amanda Serold, Children's Church; Annette Stout, LeAnne White Music

Welcome to Worship!

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church, a people who love and follow Jesus Christ our Lord! We are blessed and honored that you chose to be with us today!

As we worship outside AND inside today, we encourage you to fellowship with other believers while maintaining a safe distance and observing our COVID-19 protocols. Children's Church, for ages pre-K through third grade, will meet at the bell tower and proceed to their worship of Jesus at the 8:30 service.

To those attending the 9:30 service, please keep your mask on during the service and as you are ushered out, we ask that you join in fellowship OUTSIDE and do not congregate in the Narthex before or following the service.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

OPENING HYMN: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" LBW 315

(Children meet at Bell tower for Children's Church during 8:30 service)

- 1) Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.
- 2) Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;

let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of your Baptism.

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

C: Amen.

A: 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.

C: Amen.

A: *If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all wickedness. (1 John 1: 8-9, NLT)*

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

A: Most Merciful God,

C: 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.

A: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all of our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he give the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *"Lord God, Heavenly King,"* Pg. 80 LBW

♪ 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 ♪

Please be seated.

FIRST READING FROM GOD'S HOLY WORD: Ecclesiastes 3:1-4, 11a

For everything there is a season,
a time for every activity under heaven.

²A time to be born and a time to die.

A time to plant and a time to harvest.

³A time to kill and a time to heal.

A time to tear down and a time to build up.

⁴A time to cry and a time to laugh.

A time to grieve and a time to dance.

¹¹ Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end.

A: Here ends the reading.

SECOND READING FROM GOD'S HOLY WORD: Romans 8:18-30

¹⁸ Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. ¹⁹ For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. ²⁰ Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, ²¹ the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay. ²² For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³ And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us. ²⁴ We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don't need to

hope for it. ²⁵ But if we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.)

²⁶ And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. ²⁷ And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will. ²⁸ And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. ²⁹ For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory.

A: Here ends the reading.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23

³ He told many stories in the form of parables, such as this one:

"Listen! A farmer went out to plant some seeds. ⁴ As he scattered them across his field, some seeds fell on a footpath, and the birds came and ate them. ⁵ Other seeds fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. The seeds sprouted quickly because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But the plants soon wilted under the hot sun, and since they didn't have deep roots, they died. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns that grew up and choked out the tender plants. ⁸ Still other seeds fell on fertile soil, and they produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as had been planted! ⁹ Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand."

¹⁸ "Now listen to the explanation of the parable about the farmer planting seeds: ¹⁹ The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the message about the Kingdom and don't understand it. Then the evil one comes and snatches away the seed that was planted in their hearts. ²⁰ The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. ²¹ But since they don't have deep roots, they don't last long. They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God's word. ²² The seed that fell among the thorns represents those who hear God's word, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life and the lure of wealth, so no fruit is

produced. ²³ The seed that fell on good soil represents those who truly hear and understand God's word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!"

A: The gospel of the Lord.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *"The Church's One Foundation"* LBW 369 Vs. 1, 4 & 5

1) The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

4) Through toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

5) Yet she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see you face to face.

SERMON: *"The Promise"*

Bryce Formwalt

OFFERTORY: *"Create In Me A Clean Heart..."* Pg. 96 LBW

Please stand as you are able.

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, And uphold me with your free Spirit. ♪

APOSTLES CREED:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS / LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: *"Bind Us Together"* WOV 748

Refrain

Bind us together, Lord,
bind us together with cords
that cannot be broken.

Bind us together, Lord,
bind us together, Lord;
bind us together in love.

1. There is only one God.
There is only one King.
There is only one Body;
that is why we can sing: *Refrain*

2. You are the fam'ly of God.
You are the promise divine.
You are God's chosen desire,
you are the glorious new wine. *Refrain*

P: Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

"WORDS OF FAITH" BROADCAST SUNDAYS AT 8 AM ON KWED 1580 AM RADIO

This week has been sponsored to the glory of God by Faith Lutheran Church.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

Have been given to the glory of God by the Sherwood family in celebration of Julie's birthday today and Caroline's birthday on Monday. We also celebrate Kate, even though her birthday is in January! ☺

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS:

Month to Date (September): \$10,716.00; YTD Offerings and Misc. \$352,411.91
(2020 budgeted offerings is \$549,000)

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Julie Sagebiel	Judy Saunders	Nora Lavelett
Carolyn Sagebiel	Walt Fruehling	Kathy Ersch
Ric Landvatter	Dot Day	Gladys Fruehling
Teresa Kiel	Sue Blumberg	Pat Sagebiel
Faye Talley	Debbie Lehmann	Ronnie Foreman
Roy Biediger		

FAITH ADULT MUSIC GROUPS

Our music groups will be meeting again beginning **Wednesday, September 16**. Hand Bell choir will meet in the sanctuary beginning at 6:00 PM, and the Chancel Singers will begin at 7:00 PM, also in the sanctuary. Everyone is asked to wear a mask while in the building and during rehearsals. We would like to invite YOU to come join us! We are always looking to add more members! NOW is your chance! Come join us in making joyful noises to the Lord!

JOYFUL NOISE CHILDREN'S MUSIC

Will begin meeting on **Wednesday, September 16, at 6:00** in the choir room. Covid protocols will be in place, and Mrs. White looks forward to seeing everyone! All children, ages Kindergarten on up, are invited to come join us!



Please join us for a come and go
Baby Shower honoring
Chase & LeAnne White!

*Drop by at your delight
To shower baby Jackson White
Stay a little, stay a while,
Either way will make us smile!*

SUNDAY September 27th
1 p.m.—3 p.m. LEC
www.babylist.com/baby-leanne-white

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

Frist communion classes will be held on Sunday, September 20th and 27th at 10:30 A.M. The class is for all 5th graders, and any other young person whose family feels they are ready, to learn and prepare to receive this Holy Sacrament. Please email Children's Ministry Leader Lisa Owen at children@faithsequin.org, or call the church office if your child will be attending.

WORSHIP UPDATE

Our worship schedule is changing SLIGHTLY from what was announced in previous weeks. We will continue to offer **TWO worship services** through the month of September to best meet the needs of our congregation. An OUTDOOR service will be held at **8:30 AM**, followed by an INDOOR service at **9:30 AM**. COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed, including wearing a face covering during the 9:30 service. If inclement weather should occur, both services will be held inside, and again, members are asked to choose one service to attend. **The 9:30 service will be the only service LIVE-STREAMED on our Facebook page and on our Website.** Beginning September 20, Children's church will be held at both services and will take place during the pastor's sermon. (For approximately 20-25 minutes)

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR LWR SCHOOL KITS:

This is the time of the year when people start thinking of school and school supplies. The stores have their shelves full of school supplies and the sales are on. So please remember to support the Women of Faith in providing school kits for Lutheran World Relief. In 2019, Charity Circle packed 151 school kits. We could not have done it without the contributions of school supplies by the members of Faith. Here is a listing of the school supplies needed for each kit:

- 4 70 sheet notebooks (wide or college ruled)
- 1 30 cm ruler with inches on other side
- 1 2 1/2" eraser
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 blunt scissors
- 5 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- 5 black or blue ball point pens (no gel pens)
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons

Please place any school supplies in the basket located in the narthex. Thanks for your help and support in this worthwhile project.

GOLF CARTS NEEDED

The National Via De Cristo Gathering will be held here in Seguin at TLU in July of 2021, and many plans need to be made in advance. They are in need of several 4-6 passenger golf carts to be used to transport guests with mobility issues to and from events around campus. If you have a 4-6 passenger cart that you would consider loaning them for a weekend, please contact Doris Engelhardt at 830-303-9999.

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD

Thank you for those of you who have been dropping off items for the Christian Cupboard. The September item is breakfast cereals. This week's update is **40 items** as of September 9.

CHURCH PICNIC UPDATED UPDATE

The Annual Church Picnic slated for October 4 is on "hold" as of now. We hope to plan a similar fellowship later this fall. Stay tuned.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Children's Ministry team is looking for Sunday school teachers for our Pre K – Kindergarten. Full time, part-time, or even substitutes are needed! Please let Lisa Owen know if you would like to help out in this important ministry.