

# Worship Service ~ September 24, 2023, 10:30

## 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

VISION: Be the body of Christ:  
welcoming all, inspired by God, and sent out to live our Faith.

MISSION: Led by the Spirit to share God's grace.

Today's Worship Broadcast is sponsored by Mary & Tony Buck  
in memory of Sophie Sargeant.

Prelude Music *"Glory to God"*

Worship Band and Wednesday Night Drop-in

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

OPENING SONGS *Cornerstone*  
*Hope of the Nations*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

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

**C: Amen.**

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L: Steadfast and faithful God,

**C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

L: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God,

**C: you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## PRAYER LAB

R: A reading from Jonah.

### **Jonah 3:10-4:11**

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup>And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." <sup>4</sup>And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

<sup>5</sup>Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. <sup>6</sup>The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup>But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." <sup>9</sup>But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." <sup>10</sup>Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. <sup>11</sup>And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

R: A Gospel reading from the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew.

### **Matthew 20:1-16**

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.'

So they went. <sup>5</sup>When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' <sup>7</sup>They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' <sup>8</sup>When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' <sup>9</sup>When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup>saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?' <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

MESSAGE

Pastor John Klawiter



MUSICAL OFFERING *Great Are You Lord*

*You can give online by scanning the QR code.  
Cash/Checks can be put in the secure offering boxes by  
the exit doors. Thank you for giving to Faith!*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray. God of power,

**C: all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table,  
that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

## BLESSING

L: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

## CLOSING SONG     *The Blessing*

## DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2007 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.  
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #30622. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. CCLI License #806083 CCS Worshipcast License #10638.

### **Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA, Forest Lake, MN**

Pastor John Klawiter, Senior Pastor; [johnk@faithfl.org](mailto:johnk@faithfl.org)  
Pastor Steve Melander, Visitation Pastor; [stevem@faithfl.org](mailto:stevem@faithfl.org)  
Deacon Nina Joygaard, Adult Ministry; [ninaj@faithfl.org](mailto:ninaj@faithfl.org)  
Cathy Nelson, Children, Youth & Family, [cathyn@faithfl.org](mailto:cathyn@faithfl.org)  
Linda Burk, Worship Arts Director, [lindab@faithfl.org](mailto:lindab@faithfl.org)  
[www.faitthfl.org](http://www.faitthfl.org) - livestreaming at [faithfl.org](http://faithfl.org).



You can give to Faith through Venmo.  
Scan the QR code to get to our page. Thank you.