



Faith Lutheran Church—Hot Springs Village

1196 Desoto Blvd. 71909 (501) 922-5700

12th Sunday of Pentecost, August 31, 2025

Pastor Amos Gray and Liturgist Larry Marhenke

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church this Twelfth Sunday in Pentecost. We pray our ministry of Word and Sacrament is renewing to your faith and life. Your presence is a blessing to all others as we worship together today. Members and guests please complete the visitor card and as you exit, place it in the basket.

AS WE GATHER

Finding one's right place in each setting can be a challenge of life in any society. In Bible times, it was important not only that people had seats in the right location; it was equally important that they sat down in the right sequence. The social guideline was this: at a session of study, precedence is to be given to wisdom; in reclining at a feast, to age. Jesus was a close observer of the earthly society in which He lived, including observing who sat where at a banquet table. He saw firsthand how limiting and restrictive some tables were when people were excluded from the feast. Contrasting those earthly tables, His description of the heavenly banquet was inclusive and expansive. He said to His followers, "Many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 8:11). By faith, we look forward to that wonderful banquet. But anywhere that we can be at the Lord's Table is the right place to be for us—including here and now!

PRELUDE "Peace in God's Good Time", by Peter Burkhardt

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” LSB 733 sts. 1–6



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!

(Please Stand)

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 149:1–4*

P Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,

C His praise in the assembly of the godly!

P Let Israel be glad in his Maker;

C let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

P Let them praise His name with dancing, making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre!

C For the LORD takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with salvation.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on confession in Luther's Catechism instructs us with these words:

"Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven." Humble yourselves, then, before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

C O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature, I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all of my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.

P God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen.

P As you believe, so let it be. As an ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

KYRIE

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

P 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.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray together.

C **Remember us, O Lord, not for what we deserve, but because You have begun Your good work in us. As You have called us to follow Your example of humble service, make us worthy of our calling; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever .Amen**

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Proverbs 25:2–10

(Guidelines for a blessed life)

L A reading from Proverbs chapter twenty-five.

²It is the glory of God to conceal things,
but the glory of kings is to search things out.

³As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth,
so the heart of kings is unsearchable.

⁴Take away the dross from the silver,
and the smith has material for a vessel;

⁵take away the wicked from the presence of the king,
and his throne will be established in righteousness.

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,

⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

What your eyes have seen

⁸do not hastily bring into court,
for what will you do in the end,

when your neighbor puts you to shame?

⁹Argue your case with your neighbor himself,
and do not reveal another's secret,

¹⁰lest he who hears you bring shame upon you,
and your ill repute have no end.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC “Be Thou My Vision”, by Daniel Burton
Tune: SLANE, Trad. Irish Melody
Lynne Border-Koon, Organist

EPISTLE

Hebrews 13:1–17

(Living in God-pleasing ways)

L A reading from Hebrews chapter thirteen

¹Let brotherly love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. ⁵Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” ⁶So we can confidently say,

“The Lord is my helper;
I will not fear;
what can man do to me?”

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. ¹¹For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹²So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. ¹⁵Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

¹⁷Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Luke 14:11

P Alleluia

C. Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 14:1–14

(Jesus teaches about Pride, Humility and Service))

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ²And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" ⁴But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" ⁶And they could not reply to these things.

⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸"When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

¹²He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be Seated)

SERMON HYMN

"Sing to the Lord of Harvest"

LSB 893



1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest, Sing songs of love and praise;
2 God makes the clouds rain good - ness, The des - erts bloom and spring,
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar The gifts His good - ness gave,



With joy - ful hearts and voic - es Your al - le - lu - ias raise.
The hills leap up in glad - ness, The val - leys laugh and sing.
The gold - en sheaves of har - vest, The souls Christ died to save.



By Him the roll - ing sea - sons In fruit - ful or - der move;
God fills them with His full - ness, All things with large in - crease;
Your hearts lay down be - fore Him When at His feet you fall,



Sing to the Lord of har - vest A joy - ous song of love.
He crowns the year with bless - ing, With plen - ty and with peace.
And with your lives a - dore Him Who gave His life for all.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–75, alt.

Tune: Johann Steurlein, 1546–1613

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON “The Invitation of Humility: A Seat at the Table”

Pastor Amos Gray

Luke 14:1-14

1. The Dangers of Pride (Vs. 1-7)
2. The Call to Humility (Vs. 8-10)
3. The Heart of Service (VS. 12-14)

APOSTLES’ CREED

P We stand and confess our faith in the words of the Apostles’ Creed.

C **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 will 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 OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Heavenly Father, through the redemptive work of Your Son, You have called us to a place at Your heavenly table. Teach us to treasure this place of honor, and so to spurn the foolish honors of this world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful Lord, Your Son has come to this earth to call us sinners to repentance and to offer us His forgiveness. Teach us to trust His love whenever we offend Him, and to go to His house to be forgiven by those who are called to forgive us in His name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, grant mercy to Your Holy Church here and throughout the world and to all who confess Christ as Lord and Savior, that unity of the Church in doctrine and practice may abound. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, You have established the family and the home to be a place where we learn, care for and extend Your love to one another. We pray to You on behalf of Your people, asking that You would visit and bless our homes. Strengthen and restore our relationships through the healing power of Your forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Righteous judge, bless our nation, and give guidance, wisdom, and compassion to those who serve on behalf of this people. Watch over all the nations, that justice and peace may reign. Grant courage to Christians to endure in faith in times of testing, trial and persecution. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious God, we commend to You all who are passing through difficult circumstances: the lonely and the persecuted, the imprisoned and the addicted, those suffering from mental distress and those suffering from bodily affliction [*especially* _____]. Comfort them with Your promise that You will never leave or forsake them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, we remember with thanksgiving those among us who are celebrating birthdays..., and anniversaries..., and other moments of joy this week. May their lives reflect Your glory and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, dear Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again, and who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C **Amen.**

(Please be Seated)

(Ushers will deliver the offerings to Pastor at the Altar)

OFFERTORY

"For the Fruits of His Creation"

LSB 894 v. 1&2

1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.

For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done. In our

plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
world - wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,

Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.
In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

Text: © 1970 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000245

Tune: Public domain

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray together:

G God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and prosper the work of our hands. May our offerings be multiplied that our lives and our witness might be for the world signs of your gracious presence through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

G 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.

BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless us and keep us.
The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give us peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “For the Beauty of the Earth” Not in pew hymnal

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, For the glo - ry
2 For the won - der of each hour Of the day and
3 For Your - self, best gift di - vine To the world so

of the skies, For the love which from our birth
of the night, Hill and vale and tree and flow'r,
free-ly giv'n; A - gent of God's grand de - sign,

O - ver and a - round us lies:
Sun and moon and stars of light:
Peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

Refrain
Christ, our Lord, to You we raise This our hymn of grate - ful praise.

Text: Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.
Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

SENDING

- P** Go in peace
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE “God of Our Fathers”; arr. Lani Smith TUNE: NATIONAL HYMN by George William Warren

The flowers on the altar are there to the glory of God in celebration of Julie Keck's birthday!

Please remember in your prayers: Faith Members: Pastor Bob and Mary Benke, Frankie, Berlanga, Beverly Denman, Sherry Galatis, Janet Johns, Pam Johnson, Sonya Marhenke, Bette Miller, John & Pat Muzika, David Preboski, Fred Smith, Karen Tidquist, Bobby Traywick, Jeff Wohlrabe as well as loved ones of...

Faith Members' Family and Friends, Marge Avoles, Mary Baldwin, Joan Beach, Patricia Beauregard, Scott Brooks, Bill Burke, Stephanie Carley, Linda Dean, Floyd Garrot, John Geweke, Tim and Lisa Gula, Eileen Hood, Debbie Kjarland, Jane Leathers, Michael Lilly, Jan Malzahn, Cheryle Mauro, Oliver "Olly" Meyers, Michael Nally, Bonnie Nelson, Joshua Reed, Julianne Reed, Charlie Salman, Mark Schaumburg, David Schmidt, Diane Schultz, Linda Skaggs, Tyler Soto, Linda Stipp, Chelle Vandertulip, Fran and Manny Werfelmann Jake Whisenhunt and Sue Zacek.

SERVING US TODAY

Preaching: Rev. Amos Gray

Organist: Lynne Border-Koon

Elder: Charles Peterson

Altar Guild: Barbara & Randy Bennett

Audio: Bob Barnett

Visitor's Desk: Liz Coonfer

Liturgist: Rev. Larry Mahenke

Music Director: Sigilda Naidin

Reader: Bonnie Mason

Ushers: Mark Klemann, Hank Jarvis

Rudy Schaumburg, Jim Retzer

**Counters: Dave & Jeanine Preboski
& Janis Griffin**



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH, DOT NEUNABER TURNS 90!

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall before the service on September 7th to help celebrate this mile stone birthday!! Donuts, coffee and best wishes start at 9:15 am.

MEN'S MINISTRY GATHERING

Let's continue the roll of successful gatherings on **Monday, September 8th.**

We will be learning about **Rev. Amos Gray's** ministry High Impact Movement.

We will be discussing some options for our future mission!

We will be enjoying pulled pork and plenty of fellowship with dessert.

NOTE: There will be NO QUILTING on Monday, Sept. 1st due to the Labor Day Holiday!! Julie Keck

FIRST FCA LUNCHEON

You are invited to the First Fellowship of Christian Athletes luncheon this Friday, September 5th at 12N-1:15pm at Village United Methodist.

Just call Dane Thomson at 214-682-9005 to signup for that \$6 lunch by Sept. 3rd.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY BEGINS WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 10 AT 9:45

Ladies,

We will begin the Bible study: **PROMISED REST: FINDING PEACE IN GOD'S PRESENCE** is an amazing 8 week study by Michelle Diercks.

"Michelle invites us to find God's promised rest by studying eight different names and characteristics of God" (Concordia Publishing Company) We will begin **September 10 at 9:45 for a short fellowship time, then starting the lesson each week at 10:00-11:00, keeping the lesson to 1 hour.** The first week will be a discussion on the introduction to the book and an opportunity to get to know each other a little better. All ladies are welcome, bring a friend. The books have arrived. If there's anyone else who would like to attend but didn't get to sign up, please let me know as soon as possible so we have time to order the books.

For more information, feel free to contact me: **Veronica Detjens**
402-992-3441

"SOCIABLE SIX" ... NEW SESSION... SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER



It's time to sign up for the first time or to continue in the upcoming session! All Faith members are encouraged to join in the fellowship and get to know one another better.

During the four-month period, the six-member groups will meet three times to share a meal (breakfast, lunch or dinner) or you can also get together for a social event ...be creative!

Contact Shirley Smestad cssmestad@hotmail.com or call 501-915-9687... more details in the Sept newsletter.

**FREE CONCERT TONIGHT! Village Strings Performance at 6 P.M.
at Coronado Baptist Church, 91 Coronado Drive, HSV. Our
Organist Lynne Border-Koon and our Violinist last Sunday, Kathy
Ogilvie, are part of the performance. Free-will offering is
requested.**

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	8/31	8:30 am 9:15 am 10:00 am	Adult Bible Study Coffee Fellowship Holy Communion
Monday	9/1	8:00 am 1:00 pm	Memorial Garden No Quilters Mah Jongg
Tuesday	9/2	9:00 am	NO Braille
Wednesday	9/3	8:00 am 12:00pm 1:00 pm 2:30 pm 3:30 pm	NO Men's Bible Study AA Faith Ringers Men of Faith Faith Singers
Thursday	9/4		Open
Friday	9/5		Open
Saturday	9/6	9:00 am	AA

Faith Lutheran Church

1196 Desoto Blvd. Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

Sunday Bible Study 8:30 am Divine Worship 10 am

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