

Faith Lutheran Church
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Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost
September 21, 2025

Hymns: **64 468:1-4 469 586**
(Words are printed in this folder)

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aim at righteousness
godliness, faith
love
steadfastness
gentleness
1 TIMOTHY 6 : 11

TODAY'S DIVINE SERVICE

(Rite One, pages 41-59 in the *Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary*)

THE OPENING PRAYER (*Stand*)

P: O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. We pray You to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN: 64 "Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens, Adore Him" (*Sit*)

1 Praise the Lord, ye heav'ns, adore Him;
Praise Him, angels, in the height;
Sun and moon, rejoice before Him;
Praise Him, all ye stars of light.
Praise the Lord, for He hath spoken;
Worlds His mighty voice obeyed;
Laws which never shall be broken

For their guidance He hath made.

2 Praise the Lord, for He is glorious;
Never shall His promise fail;
God hath made His saints victorious;
Sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation;

Hosts on high, His power proclaim;
Heav'n and earth, and all creation,

Laud and magnify His name.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN (*Stand*)

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us: have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us a true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE KYRIE ELEISON (LORD, HAVE MERCY)

C: ♪ O God the Father in heaven, have mercy upon us. O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us. O God the Holy Ghost, true Comforter, have mercy upon us.

THE ABSOLUTION

P: Lift up your hearts unto God! Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized will be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all. Amen.

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

P: Glory be to God in the highest!

C: ♪ And on earth peace, good will toward men. All glory be to God on high who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, the strife at last is ended; God showeth His good will to men, and peace shall dwell on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!

THE SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with your spirit.

THE COLLECT (Prayer for the Day):

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Ecclesiastes 5:10-20 (*Sit*)

¹⁰ He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. ¹¹ When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? ¹² Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.

¹³ There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, ¹⁴ and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. ¹⁵ As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. ¹⁶ This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? ¹⁷ Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and anger. ¹⁸ Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot.

¹⁹ Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. ²⁰ For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.

THE GRADUAL Psalm 92

P: It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High. To proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise awaits you, O God, in Zion: to you our vows will be fulfilled. Alleluia!

THE EPISTLE: 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19

⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

¹⁷ As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.

¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take

hold of that which is truly life.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13 (*Stand*)

He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. ² And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ ³ And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶ He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ ⁷ Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ ⁸ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

¹⁰ “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹ If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³ No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

C: ♪ God be praised for His glad tidings.

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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From there 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.**

CHIEF HYMN: 468 vv. 1-4 “All Depends on Our Possessing”

1 All depends on our possessing
God's abundant grace and blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart.
He who trusts with faith unshaken
In his God is not forsaken
And e'er keeps a dauntless heart.

2 He who hitherto hath fed me
And to many joys hath led me,
Is and ever shall be mine.
He who did so gently school me,
He who still doth guide and rule me,
Will remain my Help divine.

3 Many spend their lives in fretting
Over trifles and in getting
Things that have no solid ground.
I shall strive to win a treasure
That will bring me lasting pleasure
And that now is seldom found.

4 When with sorrow I am stricken,
Hope my heart anew will quicken,
All my longing shall be stilled.
To His loving-kindness tender
Soul and body I surrender;
For in Him alone I build.

THE SERMON “Godliness with Contentment is Great Gain” **1 Timothy 6:6-7**

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*Stand*)

P: Everlasting and merciful God, we beseech You in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ:

C: To have mercy upon us and to hear our prayer.

P: Look in mercy upon Your Church. Protect it and sanctify it by Your truth. May Your Word be taught in its purity and Your Sacraments be rightly administered. Grant unto Your Church faithful pastors who shall declare Your truth with power and shall live according to Your will. Send forth laborers into Your harvest and open the door of faith unto all unbelievers and unto the people of Israel. In mercy remember the enemies of Your Church and grant to them repentance unto life.

C: O God, in the multitude of Your mercy, hear us in the truth of Your salvation.

P: Let Your protecting hand be over our country and over all who travel. Prosper what is good among us and bring to naught every evil counsel and purpose. Protect and bless Your servants, the President of the United States, the Governor of this state, our judges and magistrates and all in authority. Fit them for their high calling by the gift of Your Spirit of wisdom and fear, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

C: Hear, O Lord, and have mercy! Lord be our helper.

P: According to Your promise, O God, be the defender of the widow and the father of the orphan. Relieve and comfort the sick and the sorrowful. Graciously help those who are

assaulted by the devil and who are in peril of death. Be the strength of those who are suffering for the sake of Christ's holy name. Grant that we may live together in peace and prosperity. Bestow upon us good and seasonable weather; and bless us with upright Christian counsel in all that we undertake.

C: O Lord, be with all in trouble. Hear their prayers to the honor of Your Name.

P: We especially commend to Your care and keeping this Your congregation which You have bought with a great price. Keep from us all offenses and bind us together in the unity of Your holy love. Grant that the little ones who are baptized in Your name may be brought up in Your fear. At Your table give to those who there commune with You peace and life everlasting.

C: Let all rejoice who trust in You; let them shout for joy because You defend them.

P: In Your mercy look upon In Christ's name we pray.

C: Lord, in Your mercy hear our prayer.

P: Be merciful, O God, to all, according to Your great love in Christ Jesus, our Lord. When our final hour shall come, grant us a blessed departure from this world, and on the last day, a resurrection to Your glory.

C: Amen. Grant us Your peace, O Lord!

C: 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 APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit † be with you all.

THE OFFERING

If you are a first-time visitor with us, we encourage you to fill out a welcome card which is in the pew in front of you. You may place it in the offering plate as it comes by and our Pastor will happily reach out to you.

A HYMN: 469 “Sweet Is the Work” (Sit)

1 Sweet is the work, my God, my King,
To praise thy Name, give thanks and sing,
To show Thy love by morning light,

And talk of all Thy truth at night.

2 Sweet is the day of sacred rest;

No mortal cares shall seize my breast;
My heart shall triumph in my Lord,
And bless His works, and bless His Word.

3 And I shall share a glorious part
When grace hath well refined my heart;
When doubts and fears no more remain

To break my inward peace again.

4 Then shall I see and hear and know
All I desired or wished below;
And ev'ry pow'r find sweet employ
In that eternal world of joy.

THE COLLECT (*Stand*)

P: Lord God, our heavenly Father, we thank You, that of Your great mercy You have given us Your holy and blessed Word, by which You also among us gather Your Christian Church. We humbly entreat You, grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we receive Your Word with thankful hearts, and live according to it, and ever increase in Christian faith, and hope, and love, and at last obtain eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with His favor and give † you peace.

C: ♪ Amen, amen, amen.

CLOSING HYMN: 586 “How Blest Are They Who Hear” (*Sit*)

1 How blest are they who hear God's Word,
And keep and heed what they have heard!
They daily grow in wisdom.
Their light shines brighter day by day,
And while they tread life's weary way,
They have the oil of gladness
To soothe their pain and sadness.

2 God's Word a treasure is to me,
Through sorrow's night my sun shall be,
The shield of faith in battle.
The Father's hand hath written there
My title as His child and heir,
"The kingdom's thine forever."
That promise faileth never.

3 Today I was my Savior's guest;

My soul was here so richly blest,
The bread of Life receiving.
O may thereby my faith prevail
So that its fruits shall never fail
Till my account is given
Before the throne in heaven!

CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS for September 21, 2025

Potluck & Baby Shower after service today.

Wednesday 9:30 AM: **Women's Bible Study - 2 Peter**
 7:30 PM: **Women's Bible Study - 1 Peter**

Sunday 9:00 AM: **Sunday School & Bible Study**
 10:30 AM: **Divine Service with Communion**

If you would like to put flowers in church for a special occasion, please speak with Walter Rosser about what you would like the bulletin announcements to say. You can bring your own flowers or contact Sylvia Bull Sr. for more information. **210-260-0275**