



September 20, 2026

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to Worship

We are an intentionally inclusive community, proclaiming a warm welcome to people of every race, nationality, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, and ability into all aspects of our church life.

~ Faith Lutheran Church

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of the Coast Salish people, including the Duwamish People past and present. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the Duwamish Tribe.



Welcome

We are so glad you're here!

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Welcome to worship at Faith Lutheran Church. Everything you need to follow the service is **in this bulletin**. Please take a moment to fill out the **information card** found in the pew rack. Place the card in the offering plate so we can be in touch with you.

Prayer requests to be offered during worship can be written on the prayer request card in the pew rack and passed toward the center aisle where it will be collected by an usher during the first hymn.

There are **coffee and treats** in the Library after the service. We would like to welcome you to continued fellowship. **Restrooms** are located on the far side of the Library or down the main stairs. Should an emergency occur an **AED unit** is located in the narthex on the wall by the main entrance. **Masks and sanitizer** are available at both entrances to the Sanctuary.

The **elevator** is located at the top of the stairs in the Narthex. Feel free to explore the building and ask questions of the pastor, ushers or anyone you see!

We encourage you to introduce yourselves and hope you feel **comfortable** here.

Children are welcome and highly encouraged to be in worship. We understand that children have the need to move and make sound; which we find to be a joyful and important part of worship. **Blessing Bags** are found near both entrances of the sanctuary filled with activities for children. A cry room is available at the back of the sanctuary should you need a brief respite.

Faith Lutheran Church is a lively, caring and energetic community.
We are so glad you are here!



Overview of Scripture

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.



WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give Me Jesus

AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

SHARI ANDERSON, GUEST PIANIST*

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✙ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.



1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and
 2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -
 3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may
 4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom
 ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance
 low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,
 day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing



as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -
 of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -
 with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions
 peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that



fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.
 ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:
 from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun;
 pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:



Refrain
 Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

Text © Union of Welsh Independents

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GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, 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.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING Jonah 3:10—4:11
God's concern for the city of Nineveh

¹⁰ When God saw what the people of Nineveh 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.

^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² 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 and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵ 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.

⁶ 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. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ 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."

⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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?"

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

SECOND READING Philippians 1:21-30
Standing firm in the gospel

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 20th Chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for

the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ 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?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸ 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.' ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² 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.' ¹³ But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?' ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The Word of the Lord,
Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 724

All Who Love and Serve Your City

NEW ORLEANS



1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who
2 In your day of loss and sor - row, in your
3 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed
4 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the
5 Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the



bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for peace and
day of help - less strife, hon - or, peace, and love re -
work and wast - ed play, call to mind the word of
Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a world that
cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our judge, our



jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless,
treat - ing, seek the Lord, who is your life.
Je - sus, "You must work while it is day."
spurns him, of - f'ring peace from Cal - v'ry's hill.
glo - ry. Be its name "The Lord is there!"

Text: Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: NEW ORLEANS, Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

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PRAYERS

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us...

...Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great...

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of the peace as you are comfortable.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

CALVIN HAMPTON

SHARI ANDERSON, GUEST PIANIST*

OFFERING PRAYER

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,

be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORDS PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION INVITATION

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ. Come, all is ready, all are welcome.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

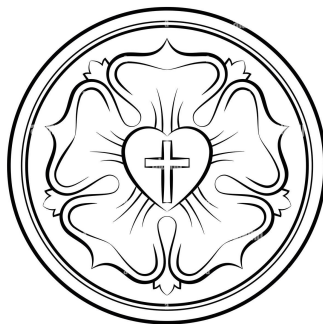
As we gather for communion, all are invited to come forward to the bottom step near the baptismal font. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please place your hands over your heart as a sign of requesting the blessing. You will receive the bread (host) and the wine or grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available and the baked bread is gluten free. If you are communing from another location, we trust that Christ is present through the Holy Spirit in the bread and the wine/grape juice. Please note the importance of the words of institution and the invitation to communion, holding holy worshipful space within this sacrament.

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace now and forever, Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,

your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional
 Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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BLESSING

The God of love
 draw you into full accord and one mind,
 in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
 grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
 through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Christ, Be Our Light

BERNADETTE FARRELL

SHARI ANDERSON, GUEST PIANIST*

SENDING

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

+ + +

***WORSHIP NOTES:** While our music director is on vacation, this week, we are happy that **Shari Anderson** is returning to the piano bench as our guest keyboardist for worship.

Shari is a northwest native who was born in Seattle and grew up in Spokane. She graduated from Whitworth University in Music and Music Education, with graduate studies at University of Idaho, University of Oregon, University of North Alabama, and Seattle Pacific University. She taught music in the public schools from 1982 - 2026, and has directed church and private children's choirs.

Shari is a long-time member of Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church, where she also served as accompanist and assistant director of the youth choir for 15 years.

Sundays and Seasons (liturgical elements from Augsburg Fortress)

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TODAY IN WORSHIP

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Shannyn Fuerst

Music: Shari Anderson, Guest Pianist

Reader: Cheryl Peters

Ushers: Selma Wendt & John Hushagen

Fellowship: Jean & John Bergo

NEXT WEEK:

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Shannyn Fuerst

Music: David Buice

Reader: Aileen Ida

Ushers: Jean & John Bergo

Fellowship: *Would you like to volunteer?*



*Reader, Usher &
Fellowship
sign ups*

September SCAN ME!



October SCAN ME!



*or email Mary Jo at
mjhershly@msn.com*

Happenings at Faith Lutheran Church

All Zoom links can be found on the main page faithseattle.org

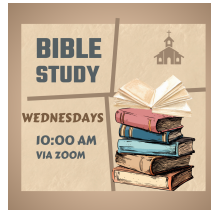


MORNING DEVOTIONS

Monday-Friday, 7:00-7:10a

Start your day with a short morning devotion led by different church members.

Join via Zoom for a brief devotion and prayer time.



BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, 10:00a

Weekly Bible Study gives background information and discussion on the scripture for the upcoming Sunday.



GENTLE YOGA

Tuesdays 9:45a, Wednesdays 5:30p

Led by certified instructor, Christa Wells, find some quiet, gentle movement to restore your body and soul.

Make yourself comfortable in any location and join via Zoom.



FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP

Friday, 11:00a

Join for conversation and fellowship online each week at 11:00a. It is a time to connect with one another, have information conversation and stay connected in community!



RUTH CIRCLE

3rd Thursday, 12:00noon

Ruth Circle meets online on the 3rd Thursday of the month. A fellowship gathering begins at noon followed by Bible Study together using the [Gather Magazine](#).

Contact Donna Shy with questions!



CHOIR PRACTICE

Wednesdays 7:30p

All voices are invited to be part of the choir! Choir meets in the sanctuary on Wednesdays at 7:30p and practices again on Sunday morning before church.



Quilters

QUILTING

Wednesdays 10:00a-2:00p

All are invited to join the quilters in the social hall on Wednesdays. No sewing skills are necessary. There are projects for all levels, interests, and ages.

These quilts are distributed locally and globally.



WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

3rd Tuesday, 7:15p

The Women's Book Group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month rotating between different homes. Each month a new book is chosen for conversation and fellowship. You are invited to join regularly each month or come as your schedule allows.

Contact Sheryl Schmeling to get on the reminder email list.



PANTRY SUNDAYS

4th Sunday each month

Providing local mutual aid to the two pantries on our block!

Every fourth Sunday of the month, we will collect pantry items as part of our offerings. Daisy's Hygiene Pantry provides soap, tooth brushes, toothpaste, feminine hygiene products, lotions, shaving supplies and hair care products.

The Little Free Pantry on the corner of 18th and 82nd provides canned soups and stews, canned fruits and veggies, canned protein foods(tuna, salmon, chicken and peanut butter, dried beans and rice and individually wrapped granola/protein bars. Let's help supply these pantries with needed items for our neighbors!



SHELTER LUNCH BUNCH

Once a month

Once a month this program provides 40 lunches on weekends for The Oaks, the enhanced (24-hr) shelter on Aurora which is run by Lake City Partners. Next date is Saturday 5/23.

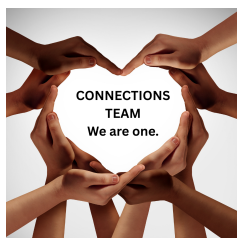


MOVE IN BINS for THE OAKS SHELTER

When a shelter client is moved into the permanent housing, they are given a bin that contains the basics needed to begin housekeeping.

You can participate in any of three ways:

1. Monetary donation to FLC and mark it MOVE-IN BINS
2. Shop for items needed and drop them off at Faith
3. Help assemble bins on the occasional Sunday after church



CONNECTIONS TEAM

Sometimes an extra helping hand is needed with a meal, ride, encouragement, or listening voice. The Connections Team provides this all. Please contact the office or Pastor Shannyn if you would like to volunteer or if you are seeking assistance.



Confirmation begins on Sunday, September 20th, 4:00-5:30p and will be held in the Youth Room (downstairs, Northwest room). We are once again partnering with Maple Leaf Lutheran, Immanuel Lutheran, and Central Lutheran.

Upcoming:

Large group: Sept 20, 4:00-5:30p @ Faith Lutheran

Small group: Oct 13, 6:00-6:45p @ Faith Lutheran

Large group: Oct 18, 4:00-5:30p @ Maple Leaf Lutheran

Small group: Nov 10, 6:00-6:45p @ Faith Lutheran