

October 18, 2026

Twenty First 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.



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.

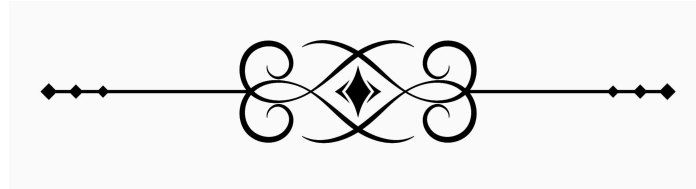
Faith Lutheran Church is a lively, caring and energetic community.

We are so glad you are here!



Overview of Scripture

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.



WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Chromatic Fantasy, Part I

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH*

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 All my hope on God is found - ed who will all my
 2 Mor - tal pride and earth - ly glo - ry, sword and crown be -
 3 Great thy good-ness, e'er en - dur - ing; deep thy wis - dom,
 4 Still from earth to God e - ter - nal sac - ri - fice of

trust re - new, who through change and chance will guide me,
 tray our trust; what with care and toil we fash - ion,
 pass - ing thought; splen - dor, light, and life at - tend thee,
 praise be done, high a - bove all prais - es prais - ing

on - ly good and on - ly true. God un - known, God a -
 tow'r and tem - ple, fall to dust. But thy pow'r, hour by
 beau - ty spring - ing out of naught. Ev - er - more from thy
 for the gift of God's own Son. Christ doth call one and

lone, call my heart to be thine own.
 hour, is my tem - ple and my tow'r.
 store new - born worlds rise and a - dore.
 all: ye who fol - low shall not fall.

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; para. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.
 Music: Herbert Howells, 1892–1983

MICHAEL
 87 87 33 7

GREETING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

As followers of Christ, we learn to love and live to serve.

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.

KYRIE

Assistant: In peace, in peace,

Assistant: Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,
Congregation: Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

*Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
 for the unity of all... (Refrain)*

*Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise,
 for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)*

Congregation: Help, save and de - fend us, O God. A - - - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

ANTHEM

Bright Canaan

ARR. ALICE PARKER
& ROBERT SHAW*+

*O who will come and go with me, I am bound for the land of Canaan.
I'm bound fair Canaan's land to see, I am bound for the land of Canaan.
O, Canaan, bright Canaan, I'm bound for the land of Canaan,
O, Canaan, it is my happy home. I am bound for the land of Canaan.*

*I'll join with them who've gone before, I am bound for the land of Canaan.
Where sin and sorrows are no more, I am bound for the land of Canaan.*

*Our songs of praise shall fill the skies, I am bound for the land of Canaan,
And higher still our joys they rise, I am bound for the land of Canaan.*

FIRST READING Isaiah 45:1-7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

- ¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
² I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;
³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.
⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷ I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

MARTY HAUGEN

**Alleluia, alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL Matthew 22:1-15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" ²¹ They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

The Word of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON



1 Sing praise to God, the high - est good, the au - thor of cre -
 2 What your al - might - y pow'r has made, in mer - cy you are
 3 We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy
 4 All who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, give God the praise and



a - tion! O God of love, you un - der - stood our need for
 keep - ing; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade, your eye is
 hear us. Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness and came with
 glo - ry! Let all God's sav - ing pow'r pro - claim; give God the



your sal - va - tion. With heal - ing balm our souls you fill;
 nev - er sleep - ing; in the do - min - ion of your might
 peace to cheer us. For this we thank and praise the Lord,
 praise and glo - ry! Cast ev - 'ry i - dol from its throne;



all our la - ment with peace you still.
 all things are just and good and right. To God all praise and glo - ry!
 who is by one and all a - dored.
 God is the Lord, and God a - lone;

Text: Johann J. Schütz, 1640–1690; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–1897, adapt.
 Music: LOBT GOTT DEN HERREN, IHR, Melchior Vulpus, 1570–1615

PRAYERS

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world...

...Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great...

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Chromatic Fantasy, Part II

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH*

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.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Chromatic Fantasy, Part III

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH*

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.**

SENDING HYMN 580

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

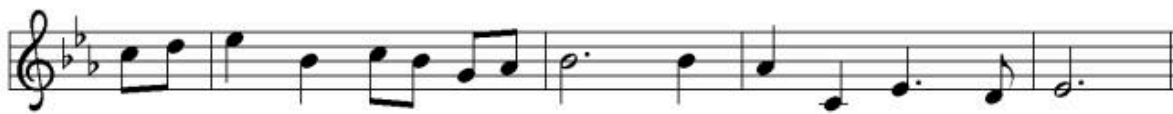
REPTON



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,
if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,
in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.
and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.
the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord's face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor,
And give you peace.
In the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Our Songs of Praise Shall Fill the Skies*

ARR. ALICE PARKER
& ROBERT SHAW*+

SENDING

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

+ + +

***WORSHIP NOTES:** **Johann Sebastian Bach** has been described as *a musical colossus, bestriding the centuries*; without a doubt, one of this titan's hallmarks is his mastery of what might be called "monumental transformation", taking his predecessors' forms of expression and, in making them his own, elevating and expanding them to a level of power and expressivity previously unheard.

The famous **Chromatic Fantasy** can be heard as Bach's monumental transformation of the unmeasured preludes (such as was heard in last Sunday's worship service) of the Couperins and other French *clavecinistes*; a fever dream of flowing passagework and arpeggiated harmonic progressions, the fantasy maintains its connection to the French practice of the seventeenth century, while reaching new heights of dramatic tension.

Bach is also known as The Great Amalgamator; his pulling together of various elements of other national styles includes passagework reminiscent of his teacher Dietrich Buxtehude, along with recitatives that would be at home in an Italian *concerto grosso*.

The earliest manuscripts of the work include versions with and without an accompanying fugue; this morning's service features the Fantasy alone, highlighting more distinctly its relation to its French antecedents.

Many of **Alice Parker's** choral compositions were collaborations with the late **Robert Shaw**, with whom Parker studied composition and conducting as a student at the Julliard School. **Bright Canaan** was the first anthem our choir rehearsed and sang in worship with David Buice as Music Director, nine years ago.

+Anthem and Benediction Response copyright 1961 by the Lawson-Gould Music Publishers, Inc.

Sundays and Seasons (liturgical elements from Augsburg Fortress)

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TODAY IN WORSHIP

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Shannyn Fuerst
Music: David Buice, Chancel Choir
Reader: Diane Machatka
Ushers: Wally & Eileen Powelson
Fellowship: Debbie & Mark Strom
Altar Guild: Donna Shy
Zoom Host: Kathy Brandstetter
Tech Host: Rick Brandstetter



NEXT WEEK (Oct 25)

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Shannyn Fuerst
Music: David Buice, Chancel Choir
Reader: Cheryl Peters
Ushers: **Want to cheerfully welcome people?**
Fellowship: Wally & Eileen Powelson
Altar Guild: Karren Johnson
Zoom Host: Debbie Strom
Tech Host: Mark Strom



Special Concert TODAY October 18th, 3:00p Sanctuary

The Fourth Annual Sanctuary Keyboards Festival

Sundays at 3:00 p.m.



October 18: Byron Schenkman, Harpsichordist
Founder & Artistic Director, Sound Salon

GATHER King County 18-35 year olds

Join young adults from the greater King County (Mercer Island/Seattle/Bellevue) region in fellowship, worship, community, and discussion. GATHER meets quarterly to spend time asking challenging questions of ourselves, our faith, and our world. All young adults (18-35) from across race, faith background, gender, sexuality, and perspective are welcome here to meet, to be, to gather.

www.htlcmi.org/pages/young-adult-18-35



Advent 2026

Wondering...
and
...Waiting

Advent Devotional

It may seem early, but you are invited to consider offering a devotional piece that will be sent out via email and posted to social media daily during the season of Advent.

This year we are inviting you to either **write**, share a piece of **art**, **music**, or **sacred text** that speaks to the season.

A daily scripture from the book of Psalms will

be provided. We will pray our way through the Psalms as we are curious (wonder) what God is up to in our midst and listen (wait) for clarity and guidance.

More information, examples, and sign ups will be coming in a few weeks, but start thinking about your offering to this shared ministry opportunity.

Support in the Community

AA, NA, and Al-Anon Meetings

Meeting days & times held at Faith Lutheran

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) is a mutual aid fellowship where people come together to address their drinking problem. It is free, open to anyone with a desire to stop drinking, and has no age, education, or religious requirements.

Sundays at 5:30p
Tuesdays at 6:30p
Thursdays at 7:00p
Fridays at 7:30p



Al-Anon is a world wide, free, and anonymous fellowship that helps families and friends of people with alcohol use disorder find support, understanding, and recovery. Membership is open to anyone whose life has been affected by someone else's drinking, including spouses, partners, parents, adult children, siblings, friends, coworkers, and roommates. Participants do not need the alcoholic to be in recovery or even acknowledge a problem.

Tuesdays at 6:30p



Narcotics Anonymous (NA) is a global, nonprofit, 12-step fellowship for people recovering from drug addiction, offering free, peer-supported meetings and a message of hope and freedom.

Saturdays at 7:30p

