

# Lift Your Voices



**FAITH & ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES**  
**POLKA SERVICE 10:00 a.m.**  
**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Sunday, September 29, 2024**

**Mark 9:45 – “And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell.”** So what is causing us to sin? Lust? Greed? Fear? Better to cut it off! We need the Lord's help to do this — and you are in the right place this Lord's Day to receive that help through Word and Sacrament!

# Welcome

## **WELCOME VISITORS:**

We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today. We pray that your worship with us is rewarding. Please be sure to sign your name and address in our guest register, located in the narthex. If you are looking for a church home we would like to invite you to be a part of our Bible Based Church family.

## †**OPENING SONGS** †

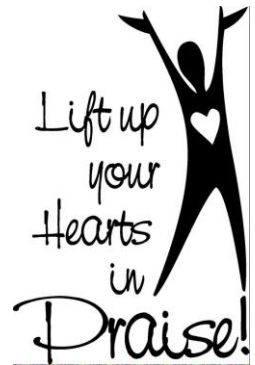
### ***We Have Come into His House***

We have come into His house,  
gathered in His name to worship Him

We have come into His house,  
gathered in His name to worship Him

We have come into His house,  
gathered in His name to worship Christ the  
Lord

Worship Him, Christ the Lord



### ***Above the Mountain***

High above the mountain tops the angels sing

Praise the Lord for He is King

And we answer from this humble church below

Praise the Lord forever so

### ***Chorus***

***All the world with joyful hearts sing praise of love***

***His blessings sent from up above***

***It is right in thanking Him and praising Him***

***A-men, a-men***

In our lives we show our love for God each day

Each in our own special way

And we thank Him for the gifts HE gives to us

He will always be with us **(Chorus)**

### † INVOCATION †

P: Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. (*Colossians 3:16*)

**C: And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (*Colossians 3:17*)**

P: We begin our worship in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen!**

### † CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION †

P: “Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness” (*2 Timothy 2:19*) and “He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.” (*Proverbs 28:13*) Therefore, let us confess and renounces our sins with a sincere heart and mind before the Lord.

**C: “Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me... a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. (*Ps. 51: 10-12,17b*) “God, have mercy on me, a sinner.” (*Luke 18:13*)**

*A moment for silent confession and personal reflection*

P: Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit. (*based on Ps 32:1,2*) Upon, This your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word announce the Grace of God unto you, and by the command and in the stead of the Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit. “Be of Good Cheer Your; your sins are forgiven you. (*Matt. 9:2 KJV*) Now, go live a life

worthy of your calling in Christ Jesus, and produce fruit in  
keep with repentance. (Eph 4:1; Matthew 8:3)

**C: Amen! By Grace I am saved. By grace I am forgiven.  
By Grace of the Blood and Resurrection of Christ  
Jesus, God's own Son I am set free.**

**† RESPONSIVE SONG †**  
***Sing With Me a Hallelujah***

***Chorus***

***Sing with me a hallelujah, sing with me a thank you Lord  
And in thanking Him for all His blessing, let us love Him  
even more***

For our family and our friends, for the sunshine that He  
sends

For the peace He brings within my soul  
For the flowers and the trees,  
for the mountains and the seas  
For the rain that makes the rivers flow

***Chorus***

***Sing with me a hallelujah, sing with me a thank you Lord  
And in thanking Him for all His blessing,  
let us love Him even more***

For the wonders of His birth,  
for the His teachings here on earth  
For His life He gave so we could live  
For forgiveness of our sins, so that we may enter in  
To Heaven with Him Christ our King (***Chorus***)

**† THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES US  
THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD †**

P: Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of  
Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation.

**C: For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (2 Peter 1:20-21)**

† Old Testament †

**Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3**

<sup>10</sup> And behold, a hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees. <sup>11</sup> And he said to me, “O Daniel, man greatly loved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for now I have been sent to you.” And when he had spoken this word to me, I stood up trembling. <sup>12</sup> Then he said to me, “Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that

you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. <sup>13</sup> The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia, <sup>14</sup> and came to make you understand what is to happen to your people in the latter days. For the vision is for days yet to come.”

<sup>1</sup> “At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. <sup>2</sup> And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup> And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

**P** Jesus replied to Satan “Man does not live on bread alone  
**C** But on every word that comes from the mouth of God.”  
(Matthew 4:4)



† Epistle †

**Revelation 12:7-12**

<sup>7</sup> Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, <sup>8</sup> but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. <sup>9</sup> And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. <sup>10</sup> And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the



salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. <sup>11</sup> And they have conquered him by the blood of

the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. <sup>12</sup> Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!”

**P** and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

**C** **All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.**

† Holy Gospel †

**Matthew 18:1-10**

<sup>1</sup> At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” <sup>2</sup> And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup> and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of



heaven. <sup>4</sup> Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>5</sup> “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup> but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. <sup>7</sup> “Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is

necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! <sup>8</sup> And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. <sup>9</sup> And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. <sup>10</sup> “See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.

**P** The Grass withers and the flowers fall

**C** But the Word of the Lord stands forever. (1 Peter 1:25)

### † SERMON SONG †

#### ***Rock of Ages***

Rock of ages cleft for me  
Let me hide myself in Thee  
Let the water and the blood  
From Thy riven side which flowed  
Be of sin the double cure  
Cleanse me from its guilt and power

Not the labors of my hand  
Could fulfil Thy laws demands  
Could my zeal no respite know  
Could my tears forever flow  
All for sin could not atone  
Thou must save and Thou alone

Nothing in my hand I bring  
Simply to Thy cross I cling  
Naked come to Thee for dress  
Helpless look to Thee for grace  
Foul I to the fountain fly  
Wash me Savior or I die

While I draw this fleeting breath  
When mine eyelids close in death  
When I soar to worlds unknown  
See Thee on Thy judgment throne  
Rock of ages cleft for me  
Let me hide myself in Thee

† **SERMON** †

† **OFFERING** †

† **CONFESSION OF FAITH** †

***Apostle's Creed Song***

I believe in God the Father  
Maker of the earth and sky  
And His only Son Christ Jesus  
Who responded to man's cry  
Made true man by God the Spirit  
He was born of Mary pure  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate  
All our many ills to cure

Crucified and dead and buried  
With the dead He found His place  
But HE rose again with power  
On the morn of Easter day





Now gone back once more to heaven  
Reigns He on His Fathers right  
'til to judge the dead and living  
He shall come in glory bright

I believe in God the Spirit  
In one church here and beyond  
Joining all the saints together  
In one fellowship and bond  
I believe in God's forgiveness  
I believe that I shall rise  
And I look for life unending  
In my home in paradise

† **COLLECT OF THE DAY** †

**P** Let us pray. Everlasting Father, source of every blessing, mercifully direct and govern us by Your Holy Spirit that we may complete the works You have prepared for us to do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen!

† **PRAYERS** †

Pastor: For the day with its glorious sun, its sunrises and sunsets.

**People: God be praised for the day!**

Pastor: For the earth with its hills, plains, deserts and seas.

**People: God be praised for the earth!**

Pastor: Let us praise God for food without which we would die.

**People: God be praised for food!**

Pastor: Praise God for Homes so we are sheltered from summer's heat and winter's cold.

**People: God be praised for homes!**

Pastor: Praise God for mothers and fathers; brothers and sisters who help us in trouble and do kind things for us.

**People: God be praised for family!**

Pastor: Praise God for friends who give us joy and cheer us when we are sad.

**People: God be praised for friends!**

Pastor: Give God praise for good health so that we have strength to do His service.

**People: God be praised for health!**

Pastor: For all those who could not make it to join us on this,  
Your beautiful created day!

**People: We Praise You O Lord!**



† LORD'S PRAYER †

*Lord's Prayer in Song*

Our Father who art in heaven  
Hallowed would 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 debts  
As we forgive our debtors  
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.

## † BLESSING †

P: Let us do what Christ has commanded us to do to “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (*Matthew 28:19-20*) “The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (*Number 6:24*)

**C: Amen!**



## † DEPARTING SONGS †

### ***What A Friend We Have in Jesus***

What a friend we have in Jesus  
All our sins and griefs to bear  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer  
Oh what peace we often forfeit  
Oh what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer

Have we trails and temptations  
Is there trouble anywhere  
We should never be discouraged  
Take it to the Lord in prayer  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share  
Jesus knows our every weakness  
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Are we weak and heavy laden  
Cumbered with a load of care  
Precious Savior still our refuge  
Take it to the Lord in prayer  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee  
Take it to the Lord in prayer  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee  
Thou wilt find a solace there

***Lord Dismiss With Thy Blessing***

Lord dismiss us with Thy blessing  
Fill our hearts with joy and peace  
Let us each Thy love possessing  
Triumph in redeeming grace  
Oh refresh us, oh refresh us  
Trav'ling through this wilderness

Thanks we give and adoration  
For Thy gospel's joyful sound  
May the fruits of Thy salvation  
In our hearts and lives abound  
Ever faithful, ever faithful  
To the truth may we be found

So when're the signals given  
Us from earth to call away  
Borne on angels wings to heaven  
Glad the summons to obey  
May we ever, may we ever  
Reign with Christ in endless day

### ***Let the Son Shine In***

Joyful hope, love of God, and smiling faces  
The heritage we have as sons of God  
Christ has risen to new life, put an end to death and strife  
Now we celebrate as one and sons of God

### ***Chorus***

***So let the Son shine in, share Christ with your neighbor  
And happiness will never leave your heart  
So let the Son shine in, shake hands with your neighbor  
And happiness will never leave your heart***

On the job, in your home, or at a party  
People wishing all their friends the peace of Christ  
Happy feeling in the air forget your troubles and your cares  
And join all those who share the peace of Christ

### ***Chorus***

### ***God Bless America***

*(Intro – Solo by Carl Uttech)*

God bless America, land that I love  
Stand beside her and guide her  
Through the night with a light from above  
From the mountains to the prairies  
To the oceans white with foam  
God bless America, my home sweet home  
God bless America, land that I love  
Stand beside her and guide her  
Through the night with a light from above  
From the mountains to the prairies  
To the oceans white with foam  
God bless America, my home sweet home



*SPECIAL THANKS to Carl Uttech and the Polish Cowboys for their music in our service today.*

*The service features liturgy, prayer, sermon and religious themed songs. The trio features Carl on the Concertina, John Uttech on the trumpet and base and Jim Mijal on the drums.*

**All are welcome to join in for CHILI DINNER following worship today.**

**Free will offering will go to the Klade twins – Cecelia and Lucille**

**to help cover medical expenses.**

*Guaranteed good food and fantastic fellowship!*



#### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

**Sunday:** Deuteronomy 1:19-36;  
Matthew 5:21-48

**Monday:** Deuteronomy 1:37 – 2:15;  
Matthew 6:1-15

**Tuesday:** Deuteronomy 2:16-37;  
Matthew 6:16-34

**Wednesday:** Deuteronomy 3:1-29; Matthew 7:1-12

**Thursday:** Deuteronomy 4:1-20; Matthew 7:13-29

**Friday:** Deuteronomy 4:21-40; Matthew 8:1-17

**Saturday:** Deuteronomy 5:1-21; Matthew 8:18-34

**Saturday:** Deuteronomy 5:1-21; Matthew 8:18-34



**CONFIRMATION CLASSES on  
Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. at Faith.  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**Classes will meet  
during the sermon  
at St. John's.**

**Classes are at 9:15 a.m. at  
Faith.**



**FAITH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES**



Please remember the following in  
your prayers:

Gary Baumann    Bob Burish  
Cheryl Dahlke    Doris Dahlke  
Rodney Dahlke    Steve Dahlke  
Alice Fromm    Wallace Emmerich  
Angie Harkner    Emma Hein  
Dale Janisch

Cecelia & Lucille Klade    Emily

Klug    Rob Koebe    Bruce Krenz

Ron Lang    Debbie Olson    Mark Pester    Edgar Pfaff

Marge Radenz    Karen Rajek    Jo Schedler

Audrey Steckling    Lorraine Steckling    Carl Uttech

Philip Vogel    Deb Wiederhoelt    Susie and Ellie Zastrow



**ST. JOHN'S  
NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY**

Looking for updated pictures and  
contact information for all St. John's  
members and their families. Please  
check your church mailboxes for  
more information.



## **CHURCH CALENDAR ST. JOHN'S and FAITH**

### **Sunday, September 29**

**10:00 a.m. Dual Parish Polka Service at Faith**

*Chili Dinner following worship*

### **Monday, September 30**

5:30 p.m. Choir at Faith

**6:30 p.m. Worship at Faith**

### **Tuesday, October 1**

6:30 p.m. Women of Faith

### **Wednesday, October 2**

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

### **Thursday, October 3**

6:30 p.m. Mary Martha Guild

### **Sunday, October 6**

**8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at St. John's**

*Sunday School during Sermon at St. John's*

**10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith**

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

### **Monday, October 7**

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith

**6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith**

### **Wednesday, October 9**

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

### **Saturday, October 12**

LWML Zone Rally at St. John's. Watch for upcoming information

### **Sunday, October 20**

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Pancake Dinner at Faith





**FIFTH SUNDAY OFFERING**  
**Sunday, September 29**

Polka Service/Chili Dinner  
Offering will go to the Klade family  
to help with medical costs for their  
twins, Lucille and Cecelia



**FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR** today are in honor of twins – Cecelia and Lucille Klade – from Aunt Theresa (Schade) and Uncle Wally Smukowski and family.



If anyone has EYE GLASSES AND/OR CASES that are no longer used, there is a Lion's Eye Glass Bucket in the coat room, All glasses and cases can be put in the bucket. Any questions, contact Beth (715-574-0190) or Leon Bartelt (715-574-1261) of the Maine Lion's Club.



**SIGN UP SHEETS** are in the back of church for help with the Pancake Dinner and Bake Sale on October 20.



**ADULT INFORMATION CLASS** starting Thursday, October 10 at 6:30 p.m. at St. John's. For more information talk with Pastor Love. All are welcome to join the class.

## REFORMATION DAY 2024

### Circuit Reformation Service

October 30 at 6:00 p.m. St. John – Merrill

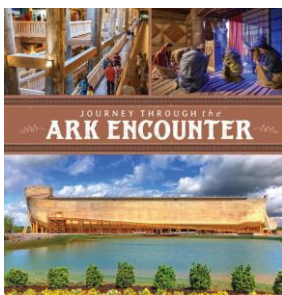
*If interested in joining the Circuit Vocal Choir, contact Sharon Voight at Faith or Miriam Lipke at St. John – Merrill.*



## CIRCUIT 6

### ARK ENCOUNTER TOUR NOVEMBER 1-3, 2024

Contact Bonnie Grueneberg at 1-715-613-0003 or Jeremy Lee at 715-536-2477 for more information or to reserve your seat - \$150.00 deposit is due within 10 days of making your reservation. Final payment is due October 1st.



**HARVEST and CANNING TIME IS HERE!!** Be sure to pick up scrip gift cards for all your canning and freezing needs ... and don't forget all other household needs. Help support the ministry of our church through the Scrip program. ... *All without it costing you an extra penny!*



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Thank You for your generous sacrificial offerings to the Lord, to help us keep our ministry going. You can also mail your offerings to Our Churches at**

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

15425 County Road K South  
Merrill, WI 54452

or

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

134058 County Road L  
Athens, WI 54411

*(Please do not send hard cash through the mail)*

**Please help us spread the Word. Visit us online at Pastor's (Don Love) Facebook Page, or Faith Lutheran Merrill Facebook Page <https://faithmerrill.webs.com/>**



