



READY TO  
*serve*

••••• LUKE 1:38 •••••



Lutheran Women  
*in Mission* SUNDAY

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Sunday, October 6 and**  
**Monday, October 7, 2024**

## THE LEAGUE PLEDGE

In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love  
and His blood-bought gift of redemption  
we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that  
we are and have; and in obedience to His call  
for workers in the harvest fields,  
we pledge Him our willing service  
wherever and whenever He has need of us.

We consecrate to our Savior  
our hands to work for Him,  
our feet to go on His errands,  
our voice to sing His praises,  
our lips to proclaim His redeeming love,  
our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom,  
our will to do His will,  
and every power of our life to the great task  
of bringing the lost and the erring into  
eternal fellowship with Him.  
Amen.

**Mark 10:6 – “But from the beginning of creation ...”** In recent years our country, along with most (formerly) Christian nations of Europe, have lost their way when it comes to marriage. We have ignored the fact that it is God who created us. We always go off-the-tracks when we forget that He made us and that everything good in this world comes from His hand. In big things and in small things, in the life of a nation or the life of an individual, things go dreadfully wrong when we ignore the Creator’s instructions for life.



**WELCOME VISITORS:**

We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today. We pray that your worship with

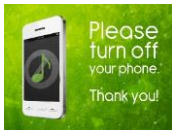
us is rewarding. Please be sure to sign your name and address in our guest register, located in the narthex. If you are looking for a church home we would like to invite you to be a part of our Bible Based Church family.

**RECEIVING THE HOLY SACRAMENT** Because we deeply long to celebrate the Love of God and the true unity of teachings of God’s Holy Scriptures we ask those who are not members of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) to please make an appointment to meet with Pastor Love before communing with us. We respectfully do this not at all because we think that we are the only saved Christians, but because it is our Sacred Belief that those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion gives a witness of unity in the major teachings and faith confessed by the congregation and Synod (1 Corinthians 10:16-18; 11:23-29; Romans 16:17).

This Biblical and historical practice is called close(d) communion. Thank you for respecting our sacred beliefs and practices. Please pray with us for honest unity around God’s High and Holy Scriptures. If you have any questions,

please contact Pastor Love. *NOTE: Gluten free wafers are now available.* (See 1 Corinthians 5 & 6; 11:17-34)





Please **TURN OFF ALL CELLPHONES** before service begins. Phones that are on may interfere with transmission of the service to social media and shutting down your phone can help solve network connectivity problems

**ORDER OF SERVICE**  
**Divine Service I**  
LSB page 151

**OPENING HYMN**

***“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”***

**LSB #790**

**INVOCATION**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all  
in remembrance of their Baptism.*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God’s Word  
and for self-examination.*

**CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION**

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of**

**Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and 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.

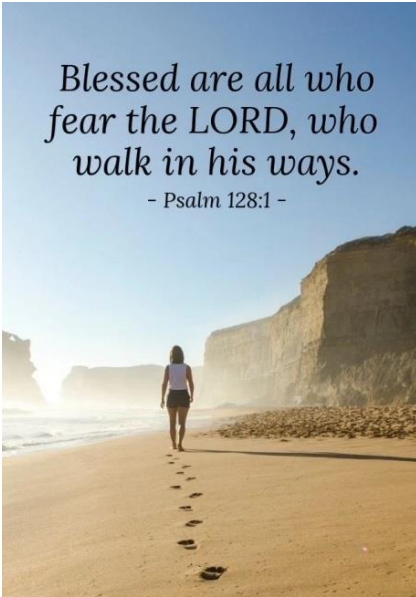
**C** Amen.

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### PSALM 128

*Blessed are all who  
fear the LORD, who  
walk in his ways.*

- Psalm 128:1 -



**P** <sup>1</sup>Blessèd is everyone who fears the LORD,

who walks in his ways!

**C** <sup>2</sup>You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.

**P** <sup>3</sup>Your wife will be like a fruitful vine

within your house; your children will be like olive shoots

around your table.

**C** <sup>4</sup>Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD.

**P** <sup>5</sup>The LORD bless you from Zion!  
May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem  
all the days of your life!

**C** <sup>6</sup>May you see your children's children!  
Peace be upon Israel!

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Merciful Father, Your patience and loving-kindness toward us have no end. Grant that by Your Holy Spirit we may always think and do those things that are pleasing in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**CATECHISM REVIEW****Holy Baptism - First**

**P** *What is Baptism?*

**C** **Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.**

**P** *Which is that word of God?*

**C** **Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Genesis 2:18–25*

<sup>18</sup>Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." <sup>19</sup>So out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to



every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. <sup>21</sup>So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the LORD God had

taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
she shall be called Woman,  
because she was taken out of Man.”

<sup>24</sup>Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. <sup>25</sup>And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL

*Psalm 91:11; 103:1*

**P** He will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways.  
Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

## EPISTLE

*Hebrews 2:1–18*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. <sup>2</sup>For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, <sup>3</sup>how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, <sup>4</sup>while God also bore witness by signs and

wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

<sup>5</sup>Now it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. <sup>6</sup>It has been testified somewhere,

“What is man, that you are mindful of him,  
or the son of man, that you care for him?

<sup>7</sup>You made him for a little while lower than the angels;  
you have crowned him with glory and honor,

<sup>8</sup>putting everything in subjection under his feet.”

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. <sup>9</sup>But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.



<sup>10</sup>For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. <sup>11</sup>For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, <sup>12</sup>saying,

“I will tell of your name to my brothers;  
in the midst of the congregation I will sing your  
praise.” <sup>13</sup>And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again,  
“Behold, I and the children God has given me.”

<sup>14</sup>Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of



death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup>and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. <sup>16</sup>For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 19:3–12*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the nineteenth chapter.

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

<sup>3</sup>Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?” <sup>4</sup>“Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female,” <sup>5</sup>and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’? <sup>6</sup>So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.” <sup>7</sup>“Why then,”



they asked, “did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?” <sup>8</sup>Jesus replied, “Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. <sup>9</sup>I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery.” <sup>10</sup> The

disciples said to him, "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry." <sup>11</sup> But he said to them, "Not everyone can receive this saying, but only those to whom it is given. <sup>12</sup> For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuch by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**SERMON HYMN "Oh, Blest the House"**

**LSB #862**

**SERMON**

**NICENE CREED**

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

### **OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

***“We Give Thee But Thine Own”***

**LSB #781 sts. 1–2**

## **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

### **PREFACE**

*LSB 160*

### **SANCTUS**

*LSB 161*

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*LSB 161*

**P**

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C**

**Amen.**

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

## PAX DOMINI

*LSB 163*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **Amen.**

**DISTRIBUTION**

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

*“Children of the Heavenly Father”*

**LSB #725**

*“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”*

**LSB #636**

*“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”*

**LSB #940**

**THANK THE LORD**

LSB 164

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**P** Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son’s body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**BENEDICTION**

LSB 166

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN**

*“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*

**LSB #700**

**Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

**Sunday:** Deuteronomy 5:22 – 6:9;  
Matthew 9:1-17

**Monday:** Deuteronomy 6:10-25;  
Matthew 9:18-38

**Tuesday:** Deuteronomy 7:1-19;  
Matthew 10:1-23

**Wednesday:** Deuteronomy 8:1-20; Matthew 10:24-42

**Thursday:** Deuteronomy 9:1-22; Matthew 11:1-19

**Friday:** Deuteronomy 9:23 – 10:22; Matthew 11:20-30

**Saturday:** Deuteronomy 11:1-25; Matthew 12:1-21

**Saturday:** Deuteronomy 11:26 – 12:12; Matthew 12:22-37



## 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 Wiederhoeft

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, October 6**

*LWML SUNDAY AT FAITH*

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

9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith

9:30 a.m. Bible Study at St. John's

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

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

4:30 p.m. ISI Men's Ministry at John Sturm's

**Monday, October 7**

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith

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

**Tuesday, October 8**

6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting at St. John's

7:00 p.m. Elders' Meeting at St. John's

**Wednesday, October 9**

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. AbleLight Volunteers

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

**Thursday, October 10**

6:30 p.m. Adult Information Classes at St. John's

**Saturday, October 12**

LWML Zone 6 Rally at St. John's. Registration at 8:15 a.m.

**Sunday, October 13**      *LWML SUNDAY AT ST. JOHN'S*

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

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

9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith

9:30 a.m. Bible Study at St John's

**10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith**

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

12:15 p.m. Stewardship and Evangelism Meeting at Faith

**Monday, October 14**

5:30 p.m. Choir at Faith

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

7:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting at Faith

**Wednesday, October 16**

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

**Thursday, October 17**

6:30 p.m. Adult Information Classes at St. John's

**Sunday, October 20**

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



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.



**REFORMATION SERVICE**

**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.*





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

## ADULT INFORMATION CLASS

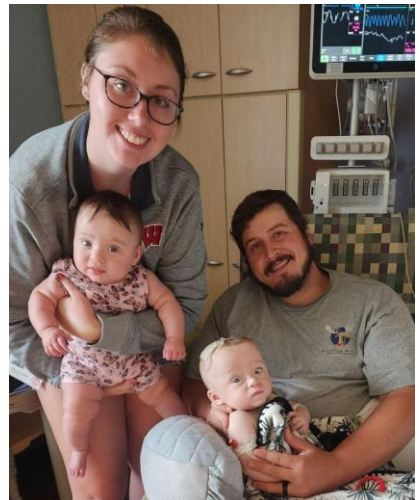
starting Thursday, October 10 at 6:30 p.m. at St. John's. For more information talk with Pastor Love. All are welcome to join the class.



*A round of applause to all those who helped with the Polka Service and Chili Dinner. Thank you for all the hard work. Your kindness and effort really stand out. You help others with a happy heart, just like Jesus taught us. Your*

*dedication and efforts make a difference Your service is a blessing to the church and to each other.*

*Lucas and MiKayla Klade also extend their deep gratitude for all the kindness and generosity shown to them and their girls, Cecelia and Lucille.*



**FALL SPORTS ARE IN FULL SWING!!** Whether you are cheering for the Badgers, Packers, Brewers and/or your favorite high school teams, don't forget your tailgating and celebration supplies whether at home or away. It's also time to remember those supplies for fall harvest or yard work. Pick up scrip for all your household needs. Help support the ministry of our church through the Scrip program. ... *All without it costing you an extra penny!.*



## FALL EVENTS



**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 N1660 Leafy Grove Rd, Merrill  
**Luncheon and Craft and Bake Sale**  
**Sunday, October 13**  
 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
 Adults \$8 Kids \$4

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 1104 E. Third Street, Merrill  
**Church Bazaar, Craft and Bake Sale**  
**Wednesday, October 16**  
 Begins at 9:00 a.m.  
 Sandwich, Soup and Pie Luncheon  
 Served from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
 Carryouts available – call 715-536-4722

**LUTHER MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 N5302 Townhall Road and Highway 17, Gleason  
**Harvest Dinner**  
**November 17**

11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Buffet of Turkey, Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Squash, salads and desserts

Dine In, Carryout, Drive Through

Adults \$13 Child 6-12 \$7 5 and under Free



*Pastor Love,  
Thank you for being  
a shepherd to the  
flock and a guiding  
light in our lives.  
Your dedication to  
the Lord's work  
touches our hearts  
and souls daily. For*

*your guidance, wisdom, and unwavering  
faith, we are forever grateful.*

*Faith and St. John's Congregations*

*The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: <sup>25</sup> The Lord make his  
face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: <sup>26</sup> The Lord  
lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.*

Numbers 6:24-26 KJV

### **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/>**



All You Can Eat  
**PANCAKE DINNER and BAKE SALE**

**Sunday, October 20**  
**11 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

*Homemade Potato Pancakes and Buttermilk  
Pancakes served with  
Scrambled Eggs and Breakfast Sausage*

**Adults - \$10    Children 6-12 - \$4**  
**5 years old and under – Free**  
*Carryouts available*

**Faith Lutheran Church**

15425 Highway K South - Merrill