

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - Hamburg
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
Sunday, February 2, 2025
8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
Monday, February 3, 2025

Luke 4:34 – “Ha! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are — the Holy One of God.” The

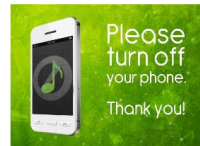
demon that Jesus drives out knows who He is. But knowing that Jesus is the Holy One of God will not save the demon from hell. Knowledge is not faith. To know something is not the same thing as trusting someone. Faith is trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. Mere knowledge of the facts does not give life: trusting in the living God is how we receive life. Knowledge doesn't necessarily lead anywhere — but a living faith in the Lord Jesus leads to a life build on Him and walking in His footsteps.



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.

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.



RECEIVING THE HOLY COMMUNION. 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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Divine Service IV

LSB page 203

Opening Hymn “Thine Forever, God of Love” LSB #687

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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Confession and Absolution

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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 71:1-11

P ¹In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame!

**C ²In your righteousness
deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me, and
save me!**

P ³Be to me a rock of refuge,
to which I may continually
come;
you have given the command
to save me,
for you are my rock and my
fortress.

**C ⁴Rescue me, O my God,
from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of the unjust
and cruel man.**

P ⁵For you, O Lord, are my
hope,

my trust, O LORD, from my youth.

**C ⁶Upon you I have leaned from before my birth;
you are he who took me from my mother's womb.
My praise is continually of you.**

P ⁷I have been as a portent to many,
but you are my strong refuge.

**C ⁸My mouth is filled with your praise,
and with your glory all the day.**

P ⁹Do not cast me off in the time of old age;
forsake me not when my strength is spent.

**C ¹⁰For my enemies speak concerning me;
those who watch for my life consult together**

P ¹¹and say, "God has forsaken him;
pursue and seize him,
for there is none to deliver him."



Kyrie

LSB 204

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 1:4–19

⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

⁵“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

⁶Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” ⁷But the LORD said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’;
for to all to whom I send you, you shall go,
and whatever I command you, you shall speak.

⁸Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
declares the LORD.”

⁹Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me,

“Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰See, I have set you this day over nations and over
kingdoms,
to pluck up and to break down,

to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant.”

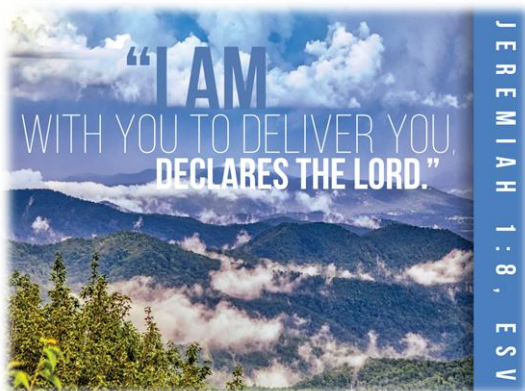
¹¹And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, “Jeremiah, what do you see?” And I said, “I see an almond branch.” ¹²Then the LORD said to me, “You have seen well, for I am watching over my word to perform it.”

¹³The word of the LORD came to me a second time, saying, “What do you see?” And I said, “I see a boiling pot, facing away from the north.” ¹⁴Then the LORD said to me, “Out of the north disaster shall be let loose upon all the inhabitants of the land. ¹⁵For behold, I am calling all the tribes of the kingdoms of the north, declares the LORD, and they shall come, and every one shall set his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, against all its walls all around and against all the cities of Judah.

¹⁶And I will declare my judgments against them, for all their evil in forsaking me. They have made offerings

to other gods and worshiped the works of their own hands.

¹⁷But you, dress yourself for work; arise, and say to them everything that I command you. Do not be dismayed by them, lest I dismay you before them. ¹⁸And I, behold, I make you this day a fortified city, an iron pillar, and bronze walls, against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, its officials, its priests, and the people of the land. ¹⁹They will fight against you, but they shall not prevail against you, for I am with you, declares the LORD, to deliver you.”



P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Praise the Lord, all nations!

Extol him, all peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us.

and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever!

Ascribe to the Lord, the glory due his name;

Bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 12:31b—13:13

I will show you a still more excellent way.

¹If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

⁴Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice at

wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

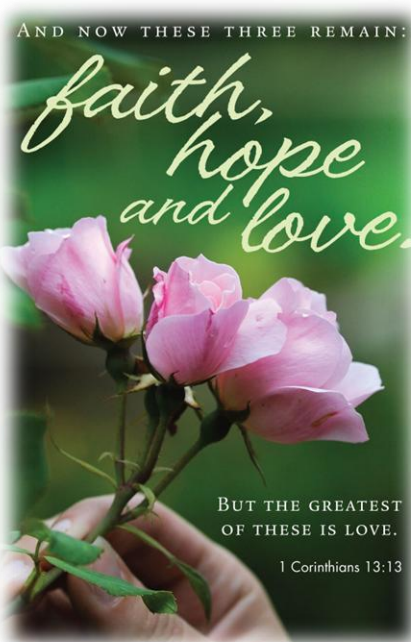
⁸Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹²For now we see in a mirror dimly,

AND NOW THESE THREE REMAIN:

*faith,
hope
and love.*

BUT THE GREATEST
OF THESE IS LOVE.

1 Corinthians 13:13



but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

¹³So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205

Holy Gospel


Luke 4:31–44

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

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

³¹[Jesus] went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, ³²and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority. ³³And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, ³⁴“Ha! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” ³⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent and come out of him!” And when the demon had thrown him down in their midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. ³⁶And they were all amazed and said to one another, “What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!” ³⁷And reports about him went out into every place in the surrounding region.

³⁸And he arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon’s house. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. ³⁹And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her,



"The grass withers,
and the flower falls,
but the word of the Lord
remains forever."
And this word is
the good news that
was preached to you.

and immediately she rose and began to serve them.

⁴⁰Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them.

⁴¹And demons also came out of many, crying, “You are the Son of God!” But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ.

⁴²And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them, ⁴³but he said to them, “I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose.” ⁴⁴And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed

LSB 206

Sermon Hymn

“Love in Christ Is Strong and Living”

LSB #706

Sermon

Prayers of the Church

ST. JOHN’S: Dedication of Processional Cross

FAITH: Installation of Church Officers, Board Members
(See Insert)

Offering

Offertory Response

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

LSB #781 sts. 1–2

Service of the Sacrament

Preface *LSB 208*

Sanctus *LSB 208*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer *LSB 209*

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."

Pax Domini *LSB 209*

Agnus Dei *LSB 210*

Distribution

Distribution Hymns

"Praise the Almighty"

LSB #797

"Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower"

LSB 694

"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"

LSB #722

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 211*

Post-Communion Collect

LSB 212

Benedicamus

LSB 212

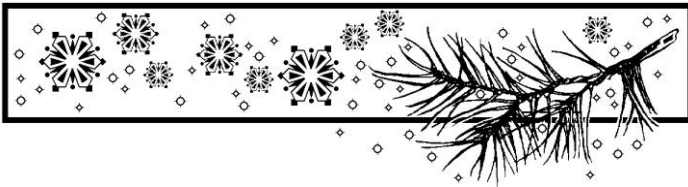
Benediction

Closing Hymn

“Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing”

LSB #924

Acknowledgments Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday: Zechariah 12:1 – 13:9; Titus 1:1 - 2:6

Monday: Zechariah 14:1-21; Titus 2:7 – 3:15

Tuesday: Job 1:1-22; John 1:1-18

Wednesday: Job 2:1 – 3:10; John 1:19-34

Thursday: Job 3:11-26; John 1:35-51

Friday: Job 4:1-21; John 2:1-12

Saturday: Job 5:1-27; John 2:15-25



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

*Please remember the following in
your prayers:*

Gary Baumann Rodney Dahlke

Alice Fromm Wallace Emmerich

Angie Harkner Emma Hein Dale Janisch

Cecelia & Lucille Klade Rob Koebe Ron Lang

Karen Love Debbie Olson Mark Pester Edgar Pfaff

Marge Radenz Karen Rajek Jo Schedler Audrey

Steckling Lorraine Steckling Carl Uttech Deb

Wiederhoeft Susie and Ellie Zastrow



VBS Meeting
Today, Sunday, February 2
12:15 p.m.
at Faith



CHURCH CALENDAR
ST. JOHN'S and FAITH

Sunday, February 2
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

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

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

12:15 p.m. VBS Planning Meeting at Faith

Monday, February 3

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

Tuesday, February 4

6:30 p.m. Women of Faith

Wednesday, February 5

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

Thursday, February 6

6:30 p.m. Mary Martha Guild

6:30 p.m. Bible Study at St. John's

Sunday, February 9

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

10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Class at Faith

Monday, February 10

6:30 p.m. Worship at Faith

7:30 p.m. Church Council at Faith

Tuesday, February 11

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

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

Wednesday, February 12

10:00 a.m. AbleLight Volunteers

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

Thursday, February 13

6:30 p.m. Bible Study at St. John's

Sunday, February 16

4:30 p.m. ISI at Pine Ridge Restaurant, Merrill



**CIRCUIT YOUTH
WINTER RETREAT**

Sunday, February 9

Beginning at 8:00 a.m.
for Worship at St. John,
Merrill

Lunch will be served,
then head to Camp
Forest Springs for
skiing, snowboarding,

ice skating, snowtubing, etc.

Cost is \$15. Bring your own snacks and or equipment or you can
purchase snacks at the lodge or rent equipment at the camp.

Return home about 6:00 p.m.

***RSVP to Deaconess Frances Szeto by Wednesday, February 5 at
715-536-4722 or fszeto@stjohnmerrill.org***

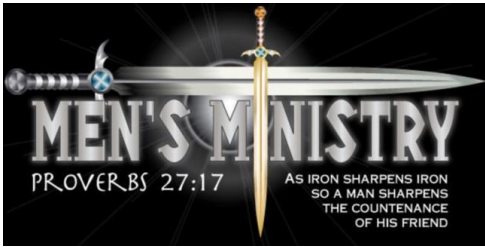
CAMP LUTHER

Camp brochures are on the counter in
the narthex in the back of the church.

Share them with your family and
friends. Programs include camps for
kids starting at 4 years old through
High School as well programs for
families. Besides camping, there are
also summer jobs available to
interested persons. Contact

*campluther.com or
call 1-715-546-3647*





**Iron Sharpens
Iron
(ISI)
Sunday, February 16
4:30 p.m.**

Pine Ridge Restaurant, Merrill

LWML STAMPS FOR MISSIONS

The LWML collects used stamps to be sold to collectors. The Forever stamps are especially good. Trim them from the envelope with a 1/4" margin. There is a container on the south wall in St. John's Fellowship Room. At Faith, bring them to the church office.



WINTER IS HERE! Whatever you have planned with family and friends, make it happen with Scrip! Be sure to pick up scrip cards for all your activities and household needs. Help support the ministry of our church through the Scrip program. ... *All without it costing you an extra penny!*

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

Check out the "new and improved" facebook page at "*Faith Lutheran Church -Merrill WI*". Thank you to Lillie McCulloch and Beth Bartelt for creating our new page.



FINANCIALS for FAITH

JANUARY 2025

INCOME

January 5-6

Offerings \$1996.00

January 12-13

Offerings \$3816.00



Church Finances

January 19-20

Offerings \$988.00

January 26-27

Offerings \$1610.00

DEDICATED ACCOUNTS

Building Fund \$1000

Memorials \$60.00

Scrip \$6000

Cemetery \$50

TOTAL \$15,520.00

EXPENSES

Mission 2024 \$6899.00

Pancake Dinner Proceeds

TOTAL 27,504.85

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 Church, or

on the church website at

www.faithlutheranmerrill.com



TRAVEL MINISTRY PLANS IN THE CENTRAL WISCONSIN AREA

These trips will be similar to other bus trips, but with a distinctly Lutheran perspective. Each trip will include Lamer's bus transportation, hotel accommodations, 2-3 meals, shows or attraction tickets, daily devotions, and good Christian fellowship. These tours are designed for our older members that love to travel and want to see what our younger members experience when they attend Youth Gatherings, servant events, or class trips. (But maybe not quite as grueling!) The following is the schedule for the first 6 planned trips.

March 17th, 2025 - March 21st, 2025 (4 nights) St. Louis & Branson Missouri

July 2025 (4 nights) - Creation Museum & Ark Encounter

Christmas 2025 - New Orleans & Laurel, MS (HGTV's Hometown filming location)

Spring Break 2026 - Lake Michigan Circle tour (including Frankenmuth, MI)

Summer 2026 - Washington, D.C. with history expert Mr. Jim Wegner

New Years 2026 - Pasadena, CA to work on LHM Rose Bowl float

All tours require a \$100 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit. If we do not get at least 35 individuals for the tour, the tour will be cancelled and your deposit will be returned.

More details are available for interested adults. Please contact Sue Lilienthal at St Paul Lutheran Church in Stevens Point for further information. Phone 715-344-5660 or email at slilienthal@splpoint.com Friends and family welcome. You do NOT need to be a member of a NWD church to attend.

Registrations for the March 2025 trip to St. Louis & Branson are now available. Cost for this trip is \$950/person for single
\$745/person for double
\$660/person for triple or quad

Registration for the summer Creation Museum/Ark Encounter trip will be available in early February