

CHRIST THE KING
SUNDAY



**I WILL EXALT YOU,
MY GOD THE KING;
I WILL PRAISE YOUR
NAME FOR EVER
AND EVER.**

PSALM 145:1, NIV

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAMBURG**

Last Sunday of the Church Year

Sunday, November 23, 2025

8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Colossians 1:18a – “*And he is the head of the body, the church.*” We are part of the Body of Christ; He is our Head. Where He goes, we follow. His thoughts direct our actions. This is how the people of God learn how to give and why they give. Because Jesus gives, indeed He gives all He has.



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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Divine Service I page 151

OPENING HYMN

“Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain”

LSB #435

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.**

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

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

- 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

OLD TESTAMENT LITANY

(Based on Proverbs 14 and Deuteronomy 8)

- P** Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.
- C** **So you shall keep the commandments of the Lord your God, by walking in His ways and fearing Him.**
- P** For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing forth in valleys and hills.
- C** **A land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey.**
- P** A land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper.
- C** **And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land He has given you.**

- P** Take heed lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes, which I commanded you this day.
- C** **Lest when you have eaten and are full, and have built goodly houses and live in them...and all that you have is multiplied, then your heart be filled up and you forget the Lord your God.**
- P** Beware lest you say in your heart, “my power and the might of my hands have gotten me this wealth.”
- C** **You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He Who gives you the power to get wealth.**
- P** And if you forget the Lord your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I solemnly warn you this day that you shall surely die.
- C** **Like the nations that the Lord makes to perish before you, so shall you perish, because you would not obey the voice of the Lord your God.**

KYRIE

LSB 152

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 154

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray.
 Lord Jesus Christ, You reign among us by the preaching of Your cross. Forgive Your people their offenses that we, being governed by Your bountiful goodness, may enter at last into Your eternal paradise; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

CATECHISM REVIEW

- P** *The Fourth Petition*
- C** **Give us this day our daily bread.**

P *What does this mean?*

C God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

P *What is meant by daily bread?*

C Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

FIRST READING

1 John 2:15–27



¹⁵Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires

of the eyes and pride in possessions—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

¹⁸Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour. ¹⁹They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us. ²⁰But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge.

²¹I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but

because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth. ²²Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. ²³No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. ²⁴Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. ²⁵And this is the promise that he made to us—eternal life.

²⁶I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you. ²⁷But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything—and is true and is no lie, just as it has taught you—abide in him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

2 Thessalonians 2:1–11

¹Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, ²not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. ³Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, ⁴who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. ⁵Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?



⁶And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. ⁸And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. ⁹The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, ¹⁰and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. ¹¹Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false,

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156

HOLY GOSPEL


Matthew 24:3–14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the close of the age?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “See that no one leads

you astray. ⁵For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and they will lead many astray. ⁶And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end



Signs Of The Times

Matthew 24:3-14

is not yet. ⁷For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸All these are but the beginning of the birth pains.

⁹“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name’s sake. ¹⁰And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. ¹¹And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. ¹²And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ¹⁴And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN

“I’m But a Stranger Here”

LSB #748

SERMON

APOSTLES’ CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart”

LSB #806

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.

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

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

LSB #802

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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THANKSGIVING EVE

WORSHIP AT FAITH

Wednesday, November 26

6:30 p.m.



Sunday: Daniel 3:1-30;

Revelation 20:1-15

Monday: Daniel 4:1-37;

Revelation 21:1-8

Tuesday: Daniel 5:1-30;

Daniel 7:1 – 8:27; Revelation 21:9-27

Wednesday: Daniel 6:1-28; Daniel 9:1-27;

Revelation 22:1-21

Thursday: Isaiah 1:1-28; 1 Peter 1:1-12

Friday: Isaiah 2:1-22; Isaiah 3:1 – 4:6; 1 Peter 1:13-25

Saturday: Isaiah 5:1-25; Amos 1:1 – 9:15; 1 Peter 2:1-12

FAITH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

*Please remember the following in your
prayers:*

Gary Baumann Joe Calmes

David Czech Rodney Dahlke

Alice Fromm Christopher Emmerich

Wallace Emmerich Duane Grunenwald

Gerhard Hanneman Angie Harkner

Dale Janisch Cecelia & Lucille Klade

Lorraine Kleinschmidt Rob Koebe

Kim Love Bob Meyer Gene Mootz Debbie Olson

Hayden Partyka Mark Pester Bob Porath

Marge Radenz Karen Rajek Rod and Laurie Runge

Jo Schedler Audrey Steckling Lorraine Steckling

Carl Uttech Deb Wiederhoeft Florence Williamson

Susie and Ellie Zastrow



Annual FRUIT SALE

Order forms are in the back of
the church.

Deadline to order Wednesday,
November 26

For more information, contact Terry Seidler
at 715-203-5736. *All are welcome to order*



ST. JOHN'S and FAITH CALENDAR

Sunday, November 23

8:30 a.m. **Worship at St. John's**
Sunday School during the 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 Study at Faith

Monday, November 24

NO MONDAY WORSHIP

Wednesday, November 26

10:00 a.m. AbleLight

5:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal at Faith

6:30 p.m. **Thanksgiving Eve Service at Faith**

Sunday, November 30 *FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT*

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

Wednesday, December 3 *MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE*

5:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal at Faith

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

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

Thursday, December 4

10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's

THANKSGIVING IS NEAR!!! Whether you are hosting at home or invited away, get scrip cards for your celebration supplies whether at home or away. It's also time to remember those supplies for fall harvest or yard work.

And remember, holidays are coming up soon. 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!*



ADVENT

Adventures

We direct *our hearts*
and *our worship* now toward
the coming of Jesus
at Christmas and
at the end of time.



*This Year's Advent Midweek will follow the
Theme of Advent Adventures and will feature
the four names of the Advent Candles*

Wednesday, December 3 – *Hope*

Advent Adventures of Hope in Hardship

Luke 1:5-25;57-66

Wednesday, December 10 – *Peace*

Advent Adventures of Peace in Peril

Luke 1:26-38

Wednesday, December 17 - *Joy*

Advent Adventures of Joy

in Life's Jarring and Jolting Journey

Luke 2:8-20

Wednesday, December 24 - *Love*

Adventures of Love in A World at War With Itself

Luke 2:1-7

Lenten Midweek Services
6:30 p.m. at Faith



A request from Pastor
Ruhbush. If anyone has
**STRINGS OF CHRISTMAS
LIGHTS**

that do not work or have some bulbs burned out, don't throw them away – he goes through all of the strings and fixes what he can and uses what he can to repair others. Everything that he repairs he takes to Ablelight Thrift Shop to be sold. He enjoys doing it and has been fixing 100's of strings for many years. There is a white plastic container in the coat room that lights can be put in.



the form in the basket on the Scrip table or drop off at the church office.

In the beauty and celebration of Christmas, we are decorating the Faith Sanctuary and Narthex with poinsettias this year. Donations for the POINSETTIA FUND will be taken through **Sunday, December 14.** Please fill out the form on the Scrip table and enclose it with your check payable to Faith Lutheran Church. Place



Gifts for children: *Watch for the tree with tags in the back of church at Faith.* Gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 14. For information, contact Bonnie Grueneberg at 715-613-0003 or e-mail at bkg9005@gmail.com



**CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR PINE
CREST RESIDENTS**

Pine Crest is asking for donation of Christmas presents and/or money which allows Pine Crest to give a gift to each resident. Items should be dropped off by Sunday, December 7 at Faith. A list of items can be found on the table in the church entryway.



St. John's Tree of Giving

The Tree of Giving are items that families from Maple Grove School are in need of for the winter months.

Take 1 or more tags and sign your name on the sign-up sheet next to the appropriate tag number. Purchase item(s) requested and include gift receipt(s) in case the size doesn't work. Put your tag(s) on the bags so it can go to the appropriate family.

Bring purchased bags to St. John's Church by November 23, 2025. They will then be delivered to Maple Grove School on November 24, 2025.

If you have any questions, please contact Lori Baumann at (715) 573-8923.

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/>



Christmas Stars **A Christmas Spectacular** **Saturday, December 6th**

THERE ARE STILL OPEN SEATS.

***If interested, contact Bonnie Grueneberg ASAP
at 715-613-0003***

Enjoy a day away! We will travel via Progressive Travel motorcoach to the Appleton area. **Departure from Faith Lutheran Church - Merrill - will be at 8:00 a.m.** to arrive at the **Fox River Mall** for a little shopping time and lunch on your own. Our next stop is at the **Xavier Fine Arts Center** to see the Christmas Stars production of **"A Christmas Spectacular"**! Get ready to see some fantastic talent from local folks of all ages from little tots on up to senior adults. Xavier Fine Arts puts on two shows a year, All Rise! for Easter and Christmas Stars for this time of year. The show last year included over three hundred people! Enjoy a mixture of comedy, dance, singing and the full Christmas Story! On our-way home we will make a stop at **Culver's** in St. Point with an estimate return time to Merrill at 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$80.00 per person (inc. deluxe motorcoach transportation and show ticket)

Reserve a seat today by calling or texting Bonnie Grueneberg at 715-613-0003. Once confirmed, fill out the form below and send it along with your full payment to:



Progressive Travel, Inc.

211085 State Highway 13, Spencer, WI 54479

Attn: Bonnie

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

Make checks payable to: Progressive Travel, Inc

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

Today is the last Sunday of the liturgical year before Advent. We take this Sunday to reflect on Christ's kingship over our lives and the entire universe. Its place at the end of the liturgical year also reminds us of His Second Coming at the end times.

