



Shew me
thy ways,
O LORD;
teach me
thy paths.
Psalm 25:4, KJV

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAMBURG
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 20, 2026
Monday, September 21, 2026**

Matthew 20:9 – “And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius.” Behold the generosity of God! He gives out of His grace, not what we deserve to receive. Living a godly life means living in imitation of God — and surely one of the foundations of God’s being is His generosity.



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

In deep Christian love and commitment to the Word of God we continue to hold to the Biblical and Ancient practice of closed communion. We believe that those who commune together must confess the same faith, and recognize the great power and real presence of the body and blood Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine. (*1 Corinthians 10:16-18; 11:23-29; Romans 16:17*).

Likewise, since one's membership helps promote that church's major teachings we ask that only those commune who are confirmed and communicant members of the



LCMS, and who are not under church discipline. Thank you for respecting our beliefs and practices. Please pray with us for honest unity around the Word of God. If you have any question please contact Pastor Love. *NOTE: Gluten free wafers are now available at the Lord's Table. Please let Pastor know before worship service that you would like the gluten free wafers."*

**Order of Service
Divine Service I
LSB page 151**

Opening Hymn

"Salvation unto Us Has Come"

LSB #555 vs. 1-6

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

Psalm 27:1-9

P ¹The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

C ²**When evildoers assail me
to eat up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stumble and fall.**

P ³Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.

C ⁴**One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his temple.**

P ⁵For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high upon a rock.

C ⁶**And now my
head shall be lifted up
above my enemies
all around me,
and I will offer in
his tent
sacrifices with
shouts of joy;
I will sing and make
melody to the LORD.**

I will sing and
make melody
to the LORD.

Psalm 27:6



P ⁷Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!

C ⁸You have said, “Seek my face.”
My heart says to you,
“Your face, LORD, do I seek.”
⁹Hide not your face from me.
Turn not your servant away in anger,
O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,
O God of my salvation!

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 God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before
You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in
Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and
reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.

C Amen.

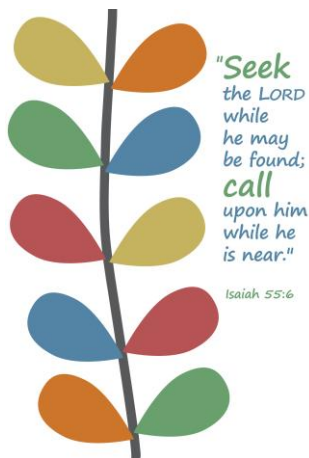
Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:6–9

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have
compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,



neither are your ways my ways,
declares the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than
the earth,
so are my ways higher than your
ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

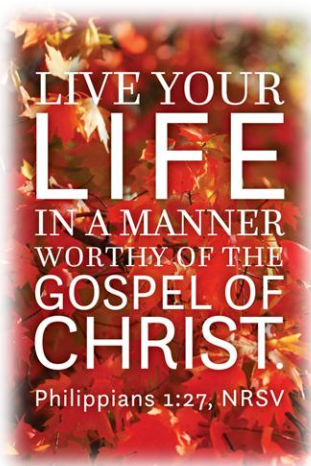
Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and

not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.



P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

Holy Gospel

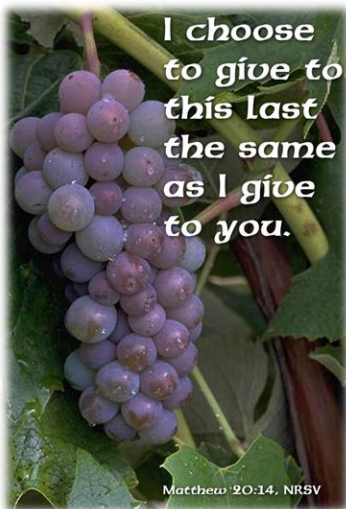
Matthew 20:1–16

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ ⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive

more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?' ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last."



P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn

"Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"

LSB #851

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 $\pm$ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Offering

Offertory Hymn

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

LSB #781 vs. 1–2

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

Sanctus

LSB 161

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

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

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

“Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior”

LSB #619

“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”

LSB #680

“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”

LSB #636

Thank the Lord

LSB 164

Post-Communion Collect

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

“Salvation unto Us Has Come”

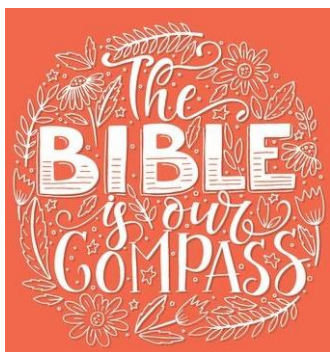
LSB #555 vs. 7–10

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday: Nehemiah 4:7-23;

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Monday: Nehemiah 5:1-16; 6:1-9,
15-16; 1 Timothy 4:1-16

Tuesday: Nehemiah 7:1-4; 8:1-18;
Ezra 1:1 – 10:19; 1 Timothy 5:1-16

Wednesday: Nehemiah 9:1-21;
1 Timothy 5:17 – 6:2

Thursday: Nehemiah 9:22-38;

Nehemiah 10:1 – 13:31; 1 Timothy 6:3-21

Friday: Malachi 1:1-14; Matthew 3:1-17

Saturday: Malachi 2:1 – 3:5; 4:1-6; Matthew 4:1-11

CHURCH CALENDAR
ST. JOHN'S and FAITH

Sunday, September 20

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

Sunday School during Sermon

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 a.m. Inspired Singles Salad Luncheon at Faith

Monday, September 21

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

Wednesday, September 23

10:00 a.m. Ablelight

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

Thursday, September 24

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

Saturday, September 26

LWML Fall Rally at St. Paul's Pine River

Sunday, September 27

POLKA SERVICE

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

Monday, September 28

NO MONDAY WORSHIP

Wednesday, September 30

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith



Check Your
Calendar



POLKA SERVICE

**at Faith on Sunday, September
27 at 10:00 a.m.**

Pots-Blessing following the Service
with a Free Will
Offering.

*For those that are able, please bring a
dish to pass. A sign up sheet is on the
Scrip table to sign up for your
potluck dish.*





FAITH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

*Please remember the following in your
prayers:*

Gary Baumann Lisa Burish
Joe Calmes David Czech
Doris Dahlke Rodney Dahlke Dorothy Duncan
Alice Fromm Christopher Emmerich Wallace Emmerich
Jim Goetsch Duane Grunenwald Gerhard Hannemann
Angie Harkner Rev. Hans Heisinger Dale Janisch
Cecelia & Lucille Klade Rob Koebe Jim Koebe
Hugo Koppa Brian Luedtke Bob Meyer Gene Mootz
Debbie Olson Sarah Piel Mark Pester Bob Porath
Karen Rajek Elvira Saeger Jo Schedler
MiKenzie Schultz Audrey Steckling Lorraine Steckling
Carl Uttech Deb Wiederhoeft Florence Williamson
Laurie Young Susie and Ellie Zastrow

End of Summer Events and Activities! Back to School!

For all of your upcoming events and activities, don't forget to pick up Scrip Cards. One can always use cards for everyday personal and household needs such as gas and food, Help support the ministry of our church through the Scrip program ... *all without it costing you an extra penny!*



NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT ADULT GATHERING

**Tuesday, October 13
Mount Olive Lutheran
Church, Weston**

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. with program from 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Catered lunch will be served, Devotions will be led by District President Rev. Timothy Shoup. Keynote speaker is Rev. Dr. Brian Gauthier, managing director of the global mission operations of the LCMS Office of International Missions. Registration deadline is September 25. Registration forms and information folders are available in the narthex.



LWML Fall Rally
Saturday,
September 26
at St. Paul's Pine River

More information available from Women of
Faith and Mary Martha Guild leadership.



Lutheran Hour
Ministries

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES
North and South Wisconsin LLL Joint
District Convention
"Faith Formation in the Household"
Saturday, October 10
Rib Mountain Lutheran Church,
Wausau

7:30 am. Doors Open 8:30 a.m. Opening Worship Service
Featured speakers: Rev. Timothy Shoup, North Wisconsin LCMS
District President; Rev. Nathan Meador, South Wisconsin LCMS
District President; Rev. German Novelli, Director LHM Hispanic
Ministries

Register by visiting lhm.org/no-sowis-III
Registration deadline, Monday, October 5



Faith Lutheran Church
All You Can Eat
PANCAKE DINNER and
BAKE SALE

Sunday, November 1
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

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



St John's will be doing

TRUNK & TREAT

on October 24 from 1-3. If anyone would like to donate candy, it would be appreciated. Anyone is welcome to come with their

vehicle and hand out treats and candy. Contact Diane Hinz at St. John's if interested.



PLEASE HELP update all of the church's data and be sure to fill out the membership information form to keep everything current. Phone numbers and addresses have changed along the way and it is important that we are able to reach you by phone and/or via mail. One form for each person in your household please.

Thank you.

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



The LORD hath done
great things
for us; whereof
we are glad.

~PSALM 126:3, KJV~