

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - Hamburg
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, October 18, 2026
Monday, October 19, 2026

Matthew 22:21 – *"Then he said to them, 'Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."* So what is Jesus saying? Doesn't everything belong to God? Yes — and God has a place for everything. Some of what He gives us goes to Caesar. Some must come back to the work of His church. And some goes to support the families He has given us. All belongs to God, and He has work for us to do with what He has given us in the home, in the church and in society.



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 - page 151

Opening Hymn
"Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings" **LSB #782**

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 96:1-9

P [1]Oh sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth!

C **[2]Sing to the LORD, bless his name;**
tell of his salvation from day to day.



P [3]Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples!

C **[4]For great is the LORD, and greatly to be**
praised;
he is to be feared above all gods.

P [5]For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.

C **[6]Splendor and majesty are before him;**
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

P [7]Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

C **[8]Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;**
bring an offering, and come into his courts!

P [9]Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth!

Kyrie *LSB 152*

This is the Feast *LSB 155*

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.
O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Second Commandment

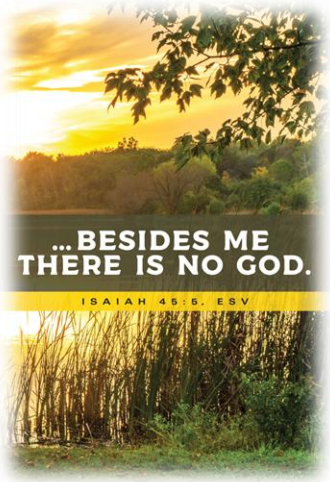
C You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

P *What does this mean?*

C We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

Old Testament Reading **Isaiah 45:1–7**

[1]Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped,
to subdue nations before him
and to loose the belts of kings,
to open doors before him
that gates may not be closed:
[2]"I will go before you
and level the exalted places,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,



3 I will give you the treasures of darkness
and the hoards in secret places,
that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
4 For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I name you, though you do not know me.
5 I am the LORD, and there is no other,
besides me there is no God;
I equip you, though you do not know me,
6 that people may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is none besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
7 I form light and create darkness,
I make well-being and create calamity,
I am the LORD, who does all these things."

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle *1 Thessalonians 1:1–10*

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.
2 We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, 3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know

what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. [6]And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, [7]so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. [8]For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. [9]For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, [10]and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.



P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse *LSB 156*

Holy Gospel ***Matthew 22:15–22***

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[15]Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. [16]And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone’s opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. [17]Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” [18]But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? [19]Show me the coin for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. [20]And

Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” [21]They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” [22]When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.



P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon Hymn
“All Depends on Our Possessing” **LSB #732**

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*

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

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.**

℗ 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*

℗ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

ℂ **Amen.**

Agnus Dei *LSB 163*

Distribution

Distribution Hymns

"Earth and All Stars"	**LSB #817**
"Praise the Almighty"	**LSB #797**
"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"	**LSB #549**

Thank the Lord *LSB 164*

Post-Communion Collect

℗ Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore

You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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
"Crown Him with Many Crowns" LSB #525

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday: Deuteronomy 17:1-20; Matthew 14:1-21
Monday: Deuteronomy 18:1-22; Matthew 14:22-36
Tuesday: Deuteronomy 19:1-20; Matthew 15:1-20
Wednesday: Deuteronomy 20:1-20; Matthew 15:21-39
Thursday: Deuteronomy 21:1-23; Deuteronomy 22:1 – 24:9; Matthew 16:1-12
Friday: Deuteronomy 24:10 – 25:10; Matthew 16:13-28
Saturday: Deuteronomy 25:17 – 26:19; Matthew 17:1-13

CHURCH CALENDAR
ST. JOHN'S and FAITH



Sunday, October 18
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
4:30 p.m. ISI at Czech cabin

Monday, October 19
6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith

Wednesday, October 21
5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith
7:15 p.m. Youth Group at Faith

Thursday, October 22
10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's

Saturday, October 24
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat at St. John's

Sunday, October 25
8:30 a.m. Worship at St. John's
Sunday School during Sermon
9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith
10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith
11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

Monday, October 26
NO MONDAY WORSHIP

Wednesday, October 28
10:00 a.m. AbleLight
5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith
6:30 p.m. Circuit REFORMATION WORSHIP at Faith

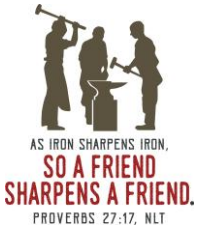
Thursday, October 29
10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's



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



IRON SHARPENS IRON (ISI)

will meet on **Sunday, October 18**
at 4:30 p.m. at Czech's hunting cabin.



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.

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

TICKETS ARE ON SALE TODAY AT THE SCRIP TABLE IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

Adults $12 Children 6-12 $5

Children 5 and under Free



Fall has Arrived! Time for Yard Clean-up and then Enjoying Baseball and Football! 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!*





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. Forms can be given to an usher or dropped in the church office of in the basket on the scrip table.Thank you.

PANCAKE DINNER
SIGN UP SHEETS



are in the back of church

- *Looking for workers on Saturday, October 31 and Sunday, November 1.*
- *There are also sheets to sign up for food donations*

Please help as you are able.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Is hosting this year's CIRCUIT REFORMATION SERVICE
on Wednesday, October 28 at 6:30 p.m.

CIRCUIT CHOIR REFORMATION REHEARSAL!

If anyone wishes to join our Circuit Reformation Service Choir please meet for rehearsal at St. John Lutheran Church, Merrill. Wednesday October 21st. at 6:00 p.m.

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



Sunday, November 1
clocks fall back from
2 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Autumn has arrived, daylight is fading earlier in the evening and another seasonal milestone is approaching: the changing of the clocks.

The change means sunset will suddenly arrive about an hour earlier, while sunrise will also shift overnight earlier in the morning. Daylight saving time officially ends on Sunday, Nov. 1, when clocks fall back from 2 a.m. to 1 a.m., giving most people across the United States an extra hour overnight.

Circuit 6
Feed My Starving Children
and Mall of America trip
November 14, 2026

Saturday, November 14th

7:30 a.m.	Loading @ Faith – Merrill
7:45 a.m.	Depart Faith – Merrill
8:30 a.m.	Pick-up @ Zion – Colby
	We will do a break stop @ Kwik Trip – Baldwin Exit
11:30-11:45 a.m.	Arrival time @ Feed My Starving Children – Eagan, MN
12:00 – 1:45 p.m.	Feed My Starving Children
2:15 p.m.	Arrival time @ Mall of America
5:30 p.m.	Departure time from Mall of America
	**We will travel straight through going home, so you will either want to eat while you are at the mall or bring your food onto the coach to eat on the way home.
8:00 p.m.	Est. return time to Zion – Colby
8:45 p.m.	Est. return time to Faith – Merrill



**Cost is $40.00 per person to cover the cost of the motorcoach transportation.

**All ages are welcome at Feed My Starving Children – youth under the age of 14 need to be with an adult unless other arrangements have been made with their individual church group.

**While at the Mall of America anyone under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult beginning at 3:00 p.m. – everyone must be able to show proof of identification with either a State Issued Driver's License or a State Issued ID Card. School I.D.'s are not accepted.



For more information, contact Bonnie Grueneberg at 1-715-613-0003

Immanuel Lutheran
Church

Town of Corning
Annual Bazaar

With
Casserole & Salad
Luncheon

Sunday, November 8, 2026
11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Adults $10.00
Children 6-12 yrs $5.00
Children under 5 yrs - Free



IN INFINITE WISDOM THE LORD SURELY KNEW, THAT WE'D NEED A PASTOR AS FAITHFUL AS YOU. A LOVE OF GOD'S WORD AND A HEART FOR HIS FLOCK, YOU GIVE OF YOURSELF, AND YOU STAND ON THE ROCK.

We appreciate you!