

**Faith Lutheran Church
St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church - Hamburg
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 28 and Monday, April 29, 2024**

John 15:2 – “Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.” God is interested in the fruit that we bear in good works, and He even prunes us so that we may bring forth more fruit. Trusting in our Lord's work for us, being grafted by grace into His vine, we desire to be more like Him, to grow into His image. That's growth in fruit bearing — and it always comes with some pruning.



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

ORDER OF SERVICE

Divine Service III

LSB 184

OPENING HYMN

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

LSB #905

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.

Confession and Absolution

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**

- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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 150

- P** ¹Praise the LORD!
Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty heavens!
C ²Praise him for his mighty deeds;
praise him according to his excellent greatness!
P ³Praise him with trumpet sound;
praise him with lute and harp!

- C** **4Praise him with tambourine and dance;
praise him with strings and pipe!**
- P** **5Praise him with sounding cymbals;
praise him with loud clashing cymbals!**
- C** **6Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD!**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever
shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Kyrie

LSB 186

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Catechism Review

- P** The Ninth Commandment
- C** **You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.**
- P** *What does this mean?*
- C** **We should fear and love God so that we do not
scheme to get our neighbor’s inheritance or house,
or get it in a way which only appears right, but help
and be of service to him in keeping it.**

First Reading

Acts 8:26–40

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are

reading?” ³¹And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.



P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Christ has risen from the dead.

God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor. He has given him dominion over the works of his hands; he has put all things under his feet.

Epistle

1 John 4:1–11

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.



P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia

LSB 190

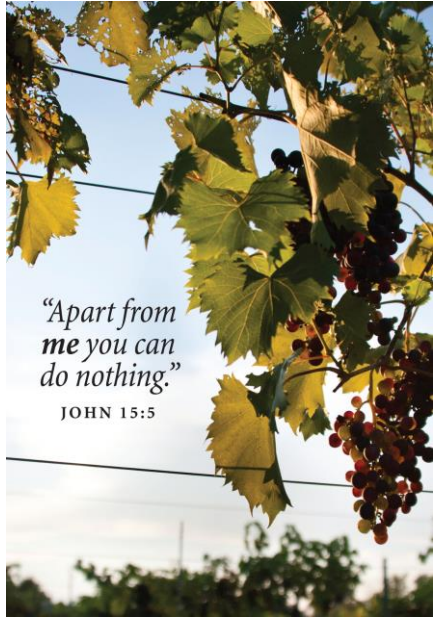
Holy Gospel

John 15:1–8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹Jesus said: “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in



me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

LSB 192

SERMON HYMN

“O Holy Spirit, Enter In”

LSB #913

Sermon

Offering

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart”

LSB #806

Prayers of the Church

Lord’s Prayer

LSB 196

Benediction

LSB 202

CLOSING HYMN

“Spread the Reign of God the Lord”

LSB #830

Acknowledgments Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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TODAY, APRIL 28

Please join us for the VBS meeting at Faith on April 28. Meeting will start after worship at 11:15 a.m. A light lunch will be served. We look forward to seeing you there. VBS is Monday and Tuesday, June 10 and 11 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. and Wednesday, June 12 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Our theme is *A WALK WITH JESUS*

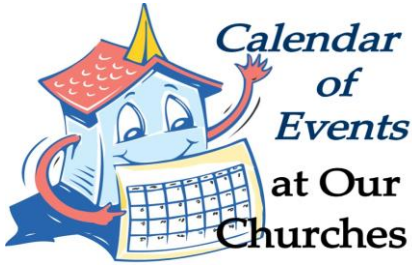
AUGUST CALENDAR

Note in your summer
calendar

Tuesday, August 13
6:30 p.m.

DUAL PARISH MEETING
at St. John’s





CHURCH CALENDAR
ST. JOHN'S and FAITH

Sunday, April 28

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

10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Class at Faith

11:15 a.m. VBS Meeting at Faith

Monday, April 29

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith

6:30 p.m. Worship at Faith

Wednesday, May 1

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

7:00 p.m. Youth Group at Faith

Thursday, May 2

6:30 p.m. Mary Martha Guild

Sunday, May 5

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

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

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

11:15 a.m. Bible Class at Faith

Monday, May 6

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith

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

Tuesday May 7

6:30 p.m. Women of Faith

Wednesday, May 8

10:00 a.m. AbleLight Volunteers

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

Friday, May 10 – Saturday, May 11

7:00 p.m. Friday – 7:15 p.m. Saturday

YOUTH EVENT – 30 Hour Famine

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday: Leviticus 20:1-16, 22-37; Luke 11:37-54

Monday: Leviticus 21:1-24;

Luke 12:1-12

Tuesday: Leviticus 23:1-22;

Luke 12:13-34

Wednesday: Leviticus 23:23-44;

Luke 12:35-53

Thursday: Leviticus 24:1-23;

Leviticus 25: 1-55;

Luke 12:54 – 13:17

Friday: Leviticus 26:1-20; Luke 13:18-35

Saturday: Leviticus 26:21-33, 39-44;

Numbers 1:1 – 2:34; Luke 14:1-24



FAITH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Please remember the

following in your prayers:

Gary Baumann Levi Blum

Cindy Braatz Rev. David Bray

Bob Burish Beth Czech

Dave Czech Cheryl Dahlke

Doris Dahlke Steve Dahlke

Dean Duncan Alice Fromm

Lydia Goetsch

Brian Grueneberg David Hinz Wallace Emmerich

Jeff Fox Angie Harkner Emma Hein Andy Jacobson

Dale Janisch Cecilia Elizabeth & Lucille Alexandria Klade

Emily Klug Bruce Krenz Jeremy Lee Cindy Luedtke

Debbie Olson Mark Pester Marge Radenz

Karen Rajek Rev. Wm. & LuAnn Ruhbusch

Jo Schedler Carl Uttech Susie and Ellie Zastrow

Zulliger family



IRON
SHARPENS
IRON

PROVERBS 27:17

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Coming Up: Iron Sharpens Iron (ISI)

Sunday, May 19 4:30 p.m.

Pine Ridge Restaurant, Merrill

2024 Church Softball League

Begins on Sunday, May 12

Check the May newsletter for the full schedule

Any questions or for more information, contact Shawn Henrichs or Mark Porath



YOUTH MEETINGS



Wednesdays, May 1
and May 15
at 7:00 p.m. at
Faith Lutheran
Church

30-HOUR FAMINE

May 10-11

Start at St. John - Merrill at 7 p.m, Friday

End at St Paul - Irma at 7:15 p.m. Saturday

Join us Friday evening through Saturday evening for group building, hunger-beating, community-serving fun!

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

Road K

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/>

