An open book with yellowed pages is the central focus, resting on a dark, textured surface. It is surrounded by vibrant pink flowers and green leaves, creating a lush, natural setting. The entire scene is framed by a soft, white glow.

"The grass withers  
and the flowers  
fall, but the  
word of our God  
endures forever."

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - HAMBURG  
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday, September 22 and  
Monday, September 23, 2024**

**Mark 9:32 – “But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.”** The disciples really do hold up a mirror to our faces and force us to see ourselves: misunderstanding, afraid, confused. But the Word of God is clear if only we will listen with open ears. What was blocking the disciples’ ears? The Gospels tell us time and again: they did not expect a suffering Christ, and so when Jesus spoke of suffering, they plugged their ears and didn’t listen, so they ended up confused and scared. What about us? What’s in the Word of God that we find hard to hear and contrary to our desires and expectations? That might just be exactly what we need to hear!



**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 I**  
LSB page 154

**OPENING HYMN**

***“All Depends on Our Possessing”***

**LSB #732**

**INVOCATION**

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism*

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- 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.**

*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 54

- P** <sup>1</sup>O God, save me, by your name,  
and vindicate me by your might.



**C** <sup>2</sup>O God, hear my prayer;  
give ear to the words of my mouth.

**P** <sup>3</sup>For strangers have risen against me;  
ruthless men seek my life;  
they do not set God before themselves.

**C** <sup>4</sup>Behold, God is my helper;  
the Lord is the upholder of my life.

**P** <sup>5</sup>He will return the evil to my enemies;  
in your faithfulness put an end to them.

**C** <sup>6</sup>With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you  
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.

**P** <sup>7</sup>For he has delivered me from every trouble,  
and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

**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.

O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## CATECHISM REVIEW

### The Conclusion to the Lord's Prayer

**P** *For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.*

**C** **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.**

**P** *What does this mean?*

**C** **This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.”**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Jeremiah 11:18–20*

<sup>18</sup>The LORD made it known to me and I knew;  
then you showed me their deeds.

<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb  
led to the slaughter.

But, O Lord of Hosts, You who judge  
righteously, testing the mind and the  
heart, let me see Your vengeance on  
them, for to You I have revealed my cause.

I did not know it was  
against me  
they devised  
schemes, saying,  
“Let us destroy the tree  
with its fruit,  
let us cut him off  
from the land of the  
living,

that his name be remembered no more.”

<sup>20</sup>But, O LORD of hosts, who judges righteously,  
who tests the heart and the mind,  
let me see your vengeance upon them,  
for to you have I committed my cause.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**



## EPISTLE

**James 3:13—4:10**

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup>For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

<sup>1</sup>What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. <sup>4</sup>You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup>Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? <sup>6</sup>But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup>Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup>Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.



**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL

*Psalm 34:9, 19.*

**P** Fear the LORD, you his saints,  
for those who fear him lack nothing!  
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*LSB 156*

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Mark 9:30–37*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

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

<sup>30</sup>[The disciples] went on from there and passed through Galilee. And [Jesus] did not want anyone to know, <sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.” <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you discussing on the way?” <sup>34</sup>But they kept silent, for on the way they had

argued with one another about who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.” <sup>36</sup>And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”



**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

### 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 REPONSE

*“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

*“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”*

LSB #702

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**Sunday:** Nehemiah 7:1-4; 8:1-18;  
Ezra 1:1 – 10:19; 1 Timothy 5:1-16  
**Monday:** Nehemiah 9:1-21;  
1 Timothy 5:17 – 6:2

**Tuesday:** Nehemiah 9:22-38; 10:1 – 13:31;  
1 Timothy 6:3-21

**Wednesday:** Malachi 1:1-14; Matthew 3:1-17

**Thursday:** Malachi 2:1 – 3:5; Matthew 4:1-11

**Friday:** Malachi 3:6 – 4:6; Matthew 4:12-25

**Saturday:** Deuteronomy 1:1-18; Matthew 5:1-20

Teacher  
Needed



**ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CARE-Hamburg** is looking for a part time teacher willing to work afternoons who will work around schedule and must be

flexible, fun loving and must love working with children Experience and education a must. If not, person must be willing to take classes. Call Patti at 715 539-8120 or text at 715-432-4858 for more information.

## FAITH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Please remember the following  
in your prayers:



Gary Baumann    Bob Burish  
Cheryl Dahlke    Doris Dahlke  
Rodney Dahlke    Steve Dahlke  
Alice Fromm    Wallace Emmerich  
Angie Harkner    Emma Hein  
Dale Janisch  
Cecelia & Lucille Klade Emily Klug  
Rob Koebe    Bruce Krenz  
Ron Lang    Debbie Olson  
Mark Pester    Edgar Pfaff

Marge Radenz    Karen Rajek    Jo Schedler  
Audrey Steckling    Lorraine Steckling    Carl Uttech  
Philip Vogel    Deb Wiederhoeft    Susie and Ellie Zastrow



### CHURCH CALENDAR

### ST. JOHN'S and FAITH

#### Sunday, September 22

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

*Sunday School during Sermon at St. John's*

10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

#### Monday, September 23

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith

6:30 p.m. Worship at Faith

#### Wednesday, September 25

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

#### Sunday, September 29

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

*Chili Dinner following worship*

**Monday, September 30**

5:30 p.m. Choir at Faith

**6:30 p.m. Worship at Faith**

**Tuesday, October 1**

6:30 p.m. Women of Faith

**Wednesday, October 2**

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

**Thursday, October 3**

6:30 p.m. Mary Martha Guild

**Saturday, October 12**

LWML Zone Rally at St. John's. Watch for upcoming information

**Sunday, October 20**

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Pancake Dinner at Faith



**FIFTH SUNDAY OFFERING**

**Sunday, September 29**

Polka Service/Chili Dinner

*Offering will go to the Klade family to help with medical costs for their twins, Lucille and Cecelia*



If anyone has EYE GLASSES AND/OR CASES that are no longer used, there is a Lion's Eye Glass Bucket in the coat room. All glasses and cases can be put in the bucket. Any questions, contact Beth (715-574-0190) or Leon Bartelt (715-574-1261) of the Maine Lion's Club.

**CHOIR AT FAITH** has resumed on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. *New members are always welcome.*





**SIGN UP SHEETS** are in the back of church for help with the Chili Dinner on September 29 and for help with the Pancake Dinner and Bake Sale on October 20.



**ADULT INFORMATION CLASS** starting Thursday, October 10 at 7:30 p.m. at St. John's. For more information talk with Pastor Love. All are welcome to join the class.

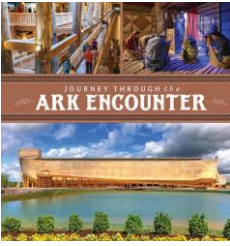
**NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT ADULT GATHERING.** Make plans now to attend the NWD Adult Gathering on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Weston. Registration & morning refreshments begin at 9:30



a.m. with the program from 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. A catered lunch will be served at noon. Devotions will be led by District President Rev. Dr. Dwayne Lueck. Keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing, will share a message based on his book "Overcoming Life's Sorrows: Learning from Jeremiah" which is included with each registration. The \$40 registration fee includes morning refreshments, program, lunch and Dr. Lessing's book. Registration deadline is October 1st. A freewill offering will be collected to support Peru missions.

Registration forms are available in the narthex and on the NWD homepage at [www.nwdlcms.org](http://www.nwdlcms.org) under 'Events and Info'.





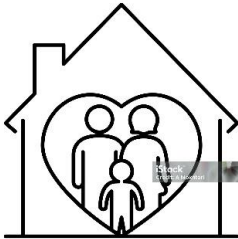
**CIRCUIT 6  
ARK ENCOUNTER TOUR  
NOVEMBER 1-3, 2024**

Contact Bonnie Grueneberg at 1-715 613-0003 or Jeremy Lee at 715-536-2477 for more information or to reserve your seat - \$150.00 deposit is due within 10 days of making your reservation. Final payment is due October 1st.

**SPECIAL THANK**

*YOU! Deep gratitude to all who helped with the three funerals that we had two weeks*

*ago. All your work and help was certainly appreciated. Pastor Love*



**FAMILY IN NEED**

**LOOKING TO RENT**

Troy and Susan Kromholz are looking to rent a house while traveling for treatments for a pancreatic illness. They would like to rent in the Maine or Hamburg area. They have 2 young boys - 8 & 10 years old - and no pets. If you

have a place for them to rent, please call:  
Troy at 865-207-8342 or Susan at 865-440-7026.

Or Email at [contacttroyk@gmail.com](mailto:contacttroyk@gmail.com)

And please keep them in your prayers.

## FALL IS HERE! HARVEST SEASON IS IN FULL SWING!

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!



**REFORMATION SERVICE**

### **REFORMATION DAY 2024 Circuit Reformation Service**

October 30 at 6:00 p.m.

St. John – Merrill

If interested in joining the Circuit Vocal Choir, contact Sharon Voight at Faith or Miriam Lipke at St. John – Merrill.

### **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/>**



Fall  
FOR  
Jesus  
HE NEVER LEAVES