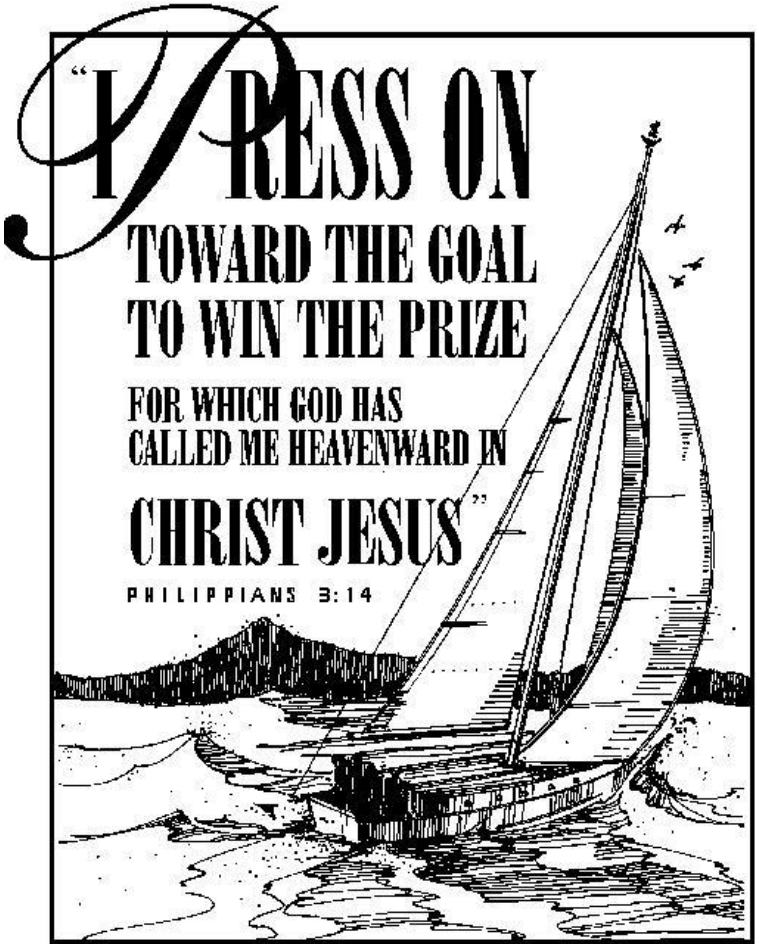


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAMBURG
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, October 4, 2026
Monday, October 5, 2026

Matthew 21:43 – ***"Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits."*** The Pharisees were not bearing fruit. Though they were faithful to the letter of the Law in keeping the Sabbath, tithing and all the rest, they neglected the heart of God's will. The grace of God belongs at the center. Our giving and all our other good works flow forth from receiving God's grace and living in that grace on a daily basis.



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 IV page 203

OPENING HYMN
"Chief of Sinners Though I Be" **LSB #611**

INVOCATION

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

℗ In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

℃ Amen.

℗ Our help is in the name of the Lord,

℃ who made heaven and earth.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

℗ If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

℃ But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

℗ Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

℃ Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

℗ 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.,

℃ Amen.

Service of the Word

PSALM 80:7-19

℗ [7]Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved!

C [8]**You brought a vine out of Egypt;**
you drove out the nations and planted it.
P [9]You cleared the ground for it;
it took deep root and filled the land.
C [10]**The mountains were covered with its shade,**
the mighty cedars with its branches.
P [11]It sent out its branches to the sea
and its shoots to the River.
C [12]**Why then have you broken down its walls,**
so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?
P [13]The boar from the forest ravages it,
and all that move in the field feed on it.
C [14]**Turn again, O God of hosts!**
Look down from heaven, and see;
have regard for this vine,
P [15]the stock that your right hand planted,
and for the son whom you made strong for yourself.
C [16]**They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down;**
may they perish at the rebuke of your face!
P [17]But let your hand be on the man of your right hand,
the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself!
C [18]**Then we shall not turn back from you;**
give us life, and we will call upon your name!
P [19]Restore us, O LORD God of hosts!
Let your face shine, that we may be saved!



KYRIE *LSB 204*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *LSB 204*

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; 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

P The First Commandment

C You shall have no other gods.

P *What does this mean?*

C We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

OLD TESTAMENT READING ***Isaiah 5:1–7***



[1]Let me sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
[2]He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
and he looked for it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.
[3]And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.

4What more was there to do for my vineyard,
that I have not done in it?
When I looked for it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?
5And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
6I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and briers and thorns shall grow up;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
7For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the men of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
and he looked for justice,
but behold, bloodshed;
for righteousness,
but behold, an outcry!

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

EPISTLE ***Philippians 3:4b–14***

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; 6as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. 7But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9and be found in him,

not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— [10]that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, [11]that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.



[12]Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. [13]Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, [14]I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**
These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL ***Matthew 21:33–46***

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

[33][Jesus said:] "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. [34]When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. [35]And the tenants took his servants and beat one,

killed another, and stoned another. [36]Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. [37]Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' [38]But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' [39]And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. [40]When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" [41]They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons."



[42]Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:

"'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes'?

[43]Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. [44]And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him."

[45]When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. [46]And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

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.

SERMON HYMN

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" **LSB #575**

SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE
"We Give Thee But Thine Own" **LSB #781** *sts. 1–2*

Service of the Sacrament

PREFACE *LSB 208*

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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 208*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.**

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 T 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 T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI *LSB 210*

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"The Lamb"	**LSB #547**
"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"	**LSB #637**
"Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing"	**LSB #691**

NUNC DIMITTIS *LSB 211*

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P 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.**

BENEDICAMUS *LSB 212*

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

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 T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN
"Sent Forth by God's Blessing" **LSB #643**

Acknowledgments
Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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DAILY BIBLE READINGS



Sunday: Deuteronomy 4:21-40; Matthew 8:1-17
Monday: Deuteronomy 5:1-21; Matthew 8:18-34
Tuesday: Deuteronomy 5:22 – 6:9; Matthew 9:1-17
Wednesday: Deuteronomy 6:10-25; Matthew 9:18-38
Thursday: Deuteronomy 7:1-19; Matthew 10:1-23
Friday: Deuteronomy 8:1-20; Matthew 10:24-42
Saturday: Deuteronomy 9:1-22; Matthew 11:1-19

CHURCH CALENDAR
ST. JOHN'S and FAITH



Sunday, October 4
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

Monday, October 5
6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith

Tuesday, October 6
1:00 p.m. Women of Faith

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

Thursday, October 8
10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's

Sunday, October 11
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
12:15 a.m. Inspired Singles at Faith
Monday, October 12
6:30 p.m. Worship at Faith
7:30 p.m. Church Council at Faith
Tuesday, October 13
6:00 p.m. Church Council at St. John's
7:15 p.m. Elders' Meeting at St. John's
Wednesday, October 14
10:00 a.m. AbleLight
5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith
Thursday, October 15
10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's
Friday, October 15
1:00 p.m. Inspired Singles Tour of Woodson Art Museum



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 WILL BE ON SALE TODAY
AT THE SCRIP TABLE IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH
Adults $12 Children 6-12 $5
Children 5 and under Free



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

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.



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.

SINGLES MINISTRY

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ALL CONGREGATION MEMBERS ARE INVITED

For more information, contact Joy Marquardt at 715-536-5195

INSPIRED SINGLES

Meeting on Sunday, October 11 at 12:15 p.m. at Faith

Rachel Waldburger will be the guest speaker. Her topic will be an "Introduction to AI"

INSPIRED SINGLES

Friday, October 16 at 1 p.m. Group will be touring the Woodson Art Museum in Wausau focusing on the "Birds in Art" exhibit.

Lutheran Hour Ministries

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

North and South Wisconsin LLL Joint District Convention

"Faith Formation in the Household"

Saturday, October 10

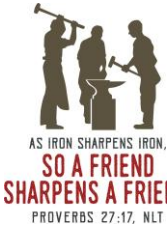
Rib Mountain Lutheran Church, Wausau

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-lll***

Registration deadline, Monday, October 5



IRON SHARPENS IRON (ISI)

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

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.



A ROUND OF APPLAUSE to everyone who helped in any way for the Dual Parish Polka Service. The day of praise and fellowship was indeed a great success. Also special thanks to Carl Uttech, John Uttech, Jim Mijal and Andrew Grawien for their musical talents.

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 earlier in the morning.
When does daylight saving time end in 2026?
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.


Jesus
never leaves – even when the
leaves fall.