

A large American flag is shown waving against a clear blue sky. The flag is positioned diagonally, with the top left corner near the top left of the frame and the bottom right corner near the bottom right. The stars and stripes are clearly visible.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:17

**“NOW THE LORD IS
THE SPIRIT, AND
WHERE THE SPIRIT
OF THE LORD IS,
THERE IS FREEDOM.”**

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - HAMBURG
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 6 and Monday, July 7, 2025**

Luke 10:20b – “But rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” No one can snatch us out of the nail-marked hands of Jesus. He has redeemed us and claimed us as His own. As those whose names are written in heaven, we seek to live heavenly lives here on earth. This is the foundation of all our good works, including the good work of faithfully supporting the work of the church. It's our joy in having been redeemed by the Lord through the activity of the church that motivates us to support it.



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."*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN
“America, The Beautiful”

- 1 O beautiful, for spacious skies,
 For amber waves of grain,
 For purple mountain majesties
 Above the fruited plain!



Chorus

America, America! God shed
His grace on thee;
And crowned thy good with
brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

- 2 O beautiful, for pilgrim feet,
 Whose stern impassioned stress
 A thoroughfare for freedom beat
 Across the wilderness! ***Chorus***
- 3 O beautiful, for heroes proved
 In liberating strife,
 Who more than self their country loved
 And mercy more than life; ***Chorus***

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Spirit

C Amen!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS
--

P “God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all.

C If we claim to have fellowship with Him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.

P But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.

C If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

- P If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
- C If we claim we have not sinned, we make Him out to be a liar and His word has no place in our lives.” (1 John 1:5b-10)**
- P Let us then confess our sins:

(A moment for silence for personal confession)

C Gracious Father, we come before You as a rebellious and sinful people. We have disobeyed Your commandments; we have worshipped ourselves and the things we have made. We have rejected Your will for our lives; we have preferred our way to that of Christ. Forgive us, O Lord, for straying away from that which You intended us to be, and for failing to follow the example of Christ.

HYMN OF CONFESSION

(Tune of “America, The Beautiful”)

- 1 Almighty God, to You we fly
For mercy and for grace.
Oh, hear our penitential cry
And do not hide Your face.
Arise, arise, O Lord of hosts;
Be jealous for Your name;
Oh, come, and drive from out our coasts
The sins that put to shame.
- 2 The pow’r, O Lord, ordained by You
With Heav’nly wisdom bless
Make them Your servants just and true,
Who rule in righteousness.
The Church of Your beloved Son
Inflame with love’s pure fire;
Unite Your people, Lord, as one,
And life and truth inspire.

P “Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.” *(based on Ps 32:1,2)* 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 you, and by the command and in the stead of the Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 18:18; John 20:23) “Be of Good Cheer; your sins are forgiven you.” *(Matt. 9:2 KJV)* Now, go live a life worthy of your calling in Christ Jesus, and produce fruit in keeping with true repentance. *(Eph 4:1)*

C Amen! By God’s Grace in Jesus Christ I am saved. By grace I am forgiven. By Grace I am set free.

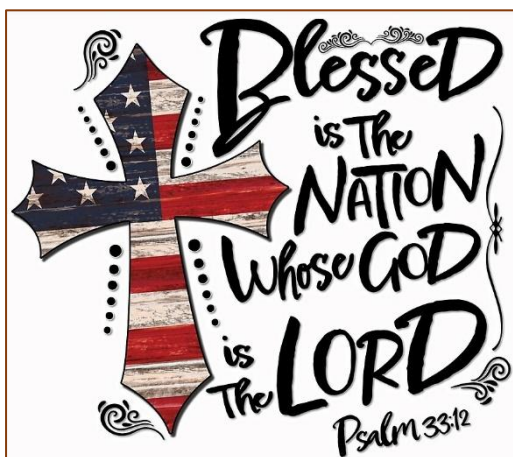
PSALM 33

The Steadfast Love of the Lord

P Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.

C make melody to Him with the harp of ten strings!

P Sing to Him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.



C For the word of the Lord is upright, and all His work is done in faithfulness.

P He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

C By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host.

P He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; He puts the deeps in storehouses.

C Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him!

P For He spoke, and it came to be; He commanded, and it stood firm.

C The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He frustrates the plans of the peoples.

P The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations.

C the people whom He has chosen as His heritage!

P The Lord looks down from heaven; He sees all the children of man;

C on all the inhabitants of the earth,

P He who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.

C The king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

P The war horse is a false hope for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue.

C Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His steadfast love,

P that He may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

C Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and our shield.

P For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name.

C Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

<p>GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES US THROUGH HIS HOLY WORD</p>
--

P Jesus replied to Satan "Man does not live on bread alone

C But on every word that comes from the mouth of God."
(Matthew 4:4)

The First Lesson

Proverbs 14:34 ESV

“Righteousness exalts a nation,
but sin is a reproach to any people.”

Ecclesiastes 10:2 ESV

“A wise man's heart inclines him to the right,
but a fool's heart to the left.”

P “and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures,
which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith
in Christ Jesus.

**C All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching,
rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so
that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for
every good work.”**

(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

The Second Lesson

Act 5:27-42

²⁷ And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, “We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us.” ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰ The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

³³ When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴ But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵ And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶ For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed



him were dispersed and came to nothing.

³⁷ After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away

some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸ So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹ but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, ⁴⁰ and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹ Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴² And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

P "Your Word is a Lamp unto our feet.

C "And a light our to my path" (Psalm 119:105)

The Gospel Lesson

John 14:15-31

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will

manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?" ²³ Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

²⁵ "These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. ³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this



world is coming. He has no claim on me, ³¹ but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.

P "Blessed rather are those who read the word of God
C And Keep it." (Luke 11:28)

THE SERMON HYMNS

"God Bless Our Native Land"

LSB #965

- 1 God bless our native land;
Firm may she ever stand
Through storm and night.
When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave,
Do Thou our country save
By Thy great might.

2 So shall our prayers arise
 To God above the skies;
 On Him we wait.
 Thou who art ever nigh,
 Guarding with watchful eye,
 To Thee aloud we cry:
 God save the state!

Text: Public domain

“My Country ‘Tis Of Thee

1 My country ‘tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing.
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims’ pride,
From ev’ry mountainside,
Let freedom ring.



2 Our fathers’ God to Thee,
 Author of liberty, To Thee we sing.
 Long may our land be bright,
 With freedom’s holy light;
 Protect us by Thy might,
 Great God our King!

Public Domain

THE SERMON

THE 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 T of the world to come. Amen.

We Bring Our First Fruits of Thanksgiving to the Lord
--

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

LSB #781 vs, 1-2

- 1 We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

- 2 May we Thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,
To Thee our firstfruits give!

Text: Public domain

The Family of God Prays Together

(Following each petition, the Pastor will say, “Lord, in Your mercy,” and the congregation is to respond:

C Hear our prayer

The Holy Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH & ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 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. 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.

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."

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord " **LSB #637**

- 1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;
Offered was He for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

- 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
To all believers life eternal yields;
With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.
- 3 Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Text: Public domain

The Church's One Foundation

LSB #644

- 1 The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the Word.
From heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation:
One Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses
With ev'ry grace endued.
- 3 Though with a scornful wonder
The world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder,
By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song.

4 Through toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth has union
With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us,
May see You face to face.

Text: Public domain

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

LSB #643

1 Sent forth by God’s blessing,
Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended. O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us
To work for God’s kingdom and answer His call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving
To God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev’ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us,
With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: © 1964 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005696

CLOSING PRAYER

BENEDICTION

P “The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (*Number 6:24*) Let us do what Christ has commanded us to do to “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (*Matthew 28:19-20*)

C Amen!

CLOSING HYMN

“The Star-Spangled Banner”

O say can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hail’d at the twilight’s last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous
fight
O’er the ramparts we watch’d were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket’s red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?



“God Bless America”

God Bless America, Land that I
love.
Stand beside her, and guide her
Through the night with a light from
above.
From the mountains, to the
prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam
God bless America, My home
sweet home.

"God Bless America" by Irving Berlin (c) Copyright 1938, 1939 by Irving Berlin (c)
Copyright Renewed 1965, 1966 by Irving Berlin (c) Copyright Assigned the Trustees of the
God Bless America Fund. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday: Joshua 24:1-31; Judges 1:1-36; Acts 13:1-12

Monday: Judges 2:6-23; Acts 13:13-41

Tuesday: Judges 3:7-31; Acts 13:42-52

Wednesday: Judges 4:1-24; Judges 5:1-31; Acts 14:1-18

Thursday: Judges 6:1-24; Acts 14:19 – 15:5

Friday: Judges 6:25-40; Acts 15:6-21

Saturday: Judges 7:1-23; Judges 7:24 – 12:15;
Galatians 1 :1-24

CHURCH CALENDAR ST. **JOHN'S and FAITH**

Sunday, July 6

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

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

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

Monday, July 7

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

Tuesday, July 8

3:00 p.m. Trustees' Meeting at Faith

6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting at St. John's

7:00 p.m. Elders' Meeting at St. John's

Wednesday, July 9

10 a.m. Ablelight Volunteers

Sunday, July 13

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

10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

12:15 p.m. Evangelism and Stewardship Meeting at Faith

Monday, July 14

6:30 p.m. Worship at Faith

7:30 p.m. Elders' Meeting at Faith

Friday, July 18

6:00 p.m. Pickin' and Grinnin' at St. John's



**Check Your
Calendar**



Looking for this year's graduates from both high school and colleges and technical schools from both Faith and St. John's congregations. Please call the church office at 715-536-5443 or leave a message in the office.



**FAITH and ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCHES**

*Please remember the following
in your prayers:*

Gary Baumann Joe Calmes
Rodney Dahlke Alice Fromm
Christopher Emmerich
Wallace Emmerich

Gerhard Hannemann Angie Harkner Dale Janisch
Cecelia & Lucille Klade Rob Koebe Barry Krenz
Kim Love Bob Meyer Debbie Olson Mark Pester
Edgar Pfaff Bob Porath Marge Radenz Karen Rajek
Jo Schedler Audrey Steckling Lorraine Steckling
Carl Uttech Deb Wiederhoeft Susie and Ellie Zastrow



UPCOMING DATES

Sunday, August 10

**DUAL PARISH
OUTDOOR
WORSHIP**

at St. John's
10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, August 12
6:30 p.m.

DUAL PARISH MEETING
at St. John's

Sunday, September 28
10:00 a.m.

POLKA SERVICE
at Faith



Camping, Summer Vacations, Summer Fun! 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!



Sunday, July 27
Semi-Annual Church Meeting
at Faith
Following morning worship

Please have committee reports and any other pertinent information to the church office by Tuesday, July 22.

2025 Church Softball League

Today, Sunday, July 6
Community Classic at 1:30 p.m. at
Immanuel
Next Sunday, July 13
at St. John's at 1:30 p.m.





The Stewardship & Evangelism will be collecting items from June 29 – July 13 that will be sent along with the Youth Group heading to New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering.

Items donated will be divided between the **Desoto County Dream Center in Horn Lake, MS** where we will be stopping to participate in a Servant Event and the **Food Bank at the Concordia Seminary in St. Louis** where we will be stopping for a tour of the campus.

Items that are being requested for the Desoto County Dream Center are: Non-perishable Foods, Personal Hygiene Items, Feminine Products, Individual Snack Items and paper products.

Items that are being requested for the Concordia Seminary are: Non-perishable Foods, Juices, Pasta, Canned Vegetables, Canned Meats, diapers and paper products.

(Seminary students may shop twice a month during the academic year and once a month during the summer free of charge. The amount of food each student is eligible for is based on family size.)

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/>



Join Us For



Pickin' and Grinnin'



**Around the
Campfire**

at St. John's Lutheran Church

July 18, 2025

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Bring your talents you want to share
(CLEAN jokes, storytelling, singing).**

Hot Dogs, Chips, Smores Will be Provided

(Bring Your Lawn Chairs)

