

Sunday, May 17, 2026

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Ascension of Our Lord

Serving us in worship today: **Pastor:** Jeremy Pedersen;

Music: Kate Oehlke, Hand Bell Choir, Joyful Noise;

Lay Reader: Emma Jean Becker; **Children's Church:**

Kim Kautzsch; **Ushers:** Bill Ermel, Alan Bonds, Bill Keller,

Cheryl Bonds, Stefan Hilbert; **Greeters:** Sharon Stollewerk, Joanne Shanafelt;

Communion Helpers: Doris Engelhardt; **Communion Aid:** Avis Herrick;

AV: Matthew Fransen, Betty Moltz; **Count:** Brian Baker, Bill Ermel;

Acolyte: Kaitlyn Poole



Welcome to Worship!

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church, a people who love and follow Jesus Christ, our Lord! Our guests are encouraged to sign the red guestbook located at the Welcome Table in the narthex. A nursery (with a staffed attendant) is located down the education wing and is available during worship and Sunday School hours for your convenience.

Children are invited to come forward for a special blessing before meeting for Children's Church. (Ages Pre-K through 3rd grade)

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

Please stand.

Lutheran Book of Worship Liturgy Setting One

INVOCATION, CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

OPENING HYMN: "Lead On, O King Eternal" Green LBW #495

PASTORAL GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE LBW pp. 57-58.

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **♪ Lord, have mercy. ♪**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **♪ Lord, have mercy. ♪**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **♪ Lord, have mercy. ♪**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: 🎵 Lord, have mercy. 🎵

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: 🎵 A-men. 🎵

HYMN OF PRAISE: "This is Feast..." LBW pp. 60-61.

PRAYER OF THE DAY LBW p. 62

P: The Lord be with you.

C: 🎵 And also with you. 🎵

P: Let us pray,

You may be seated.

SPECIAL MUSIC: Joyful Noise: "Rocka My Soul"

CHILDREN'S BLESSING ("Praise Him, Praise Him") / CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11 (ESV)

SPECIAL MUSIC: Hand Bell Choir "'Tis a Gift to be Simple"

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23 (ESV)

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks" WOV #671 Vs. 2

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

2) Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain*

GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53 (ESV)

C: 🎵 Glory to you, O Lord. 🎵 LBW p. 63

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: 🎵 Praise to you, O Christ. 🎵

You may be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jeremy

HYMN OF THE DAY: "I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry" Blue WOV #770

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

OFFERING

Visitors, feel free to pass the offering plate down the pew to your neighbor. To those who give via online, you may place the online contribution card located on the back of the pew in front of you in the offering plate if you desire.

Please stand as the gifts are presented.

OFFERTORY: "Let the vineyards...." LBW p. 66

OFFERTORY PRAYER LBW p. 67

P: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C: We offer...

You may be seated.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Please stand.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **♪ And also with you. ♪**

P: Lift up your hearts.

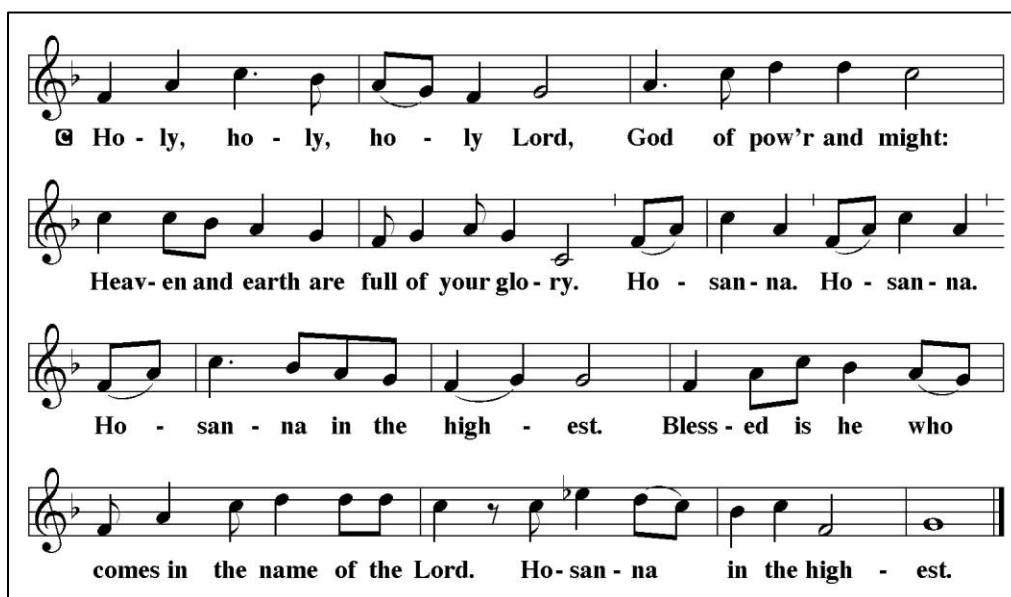
C: **♪ We lift them to the Lord. ♪**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **♪ It is right to give him thanks and praise. ♪**

P: It is indeed right and salutary.... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

"Holy, Holy..." Green LBW p. 69



♩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and THE LORD'S PRAYER

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Holy Communion is open to all who believe that Jesus Christ is present in the bread and wine and who are baptized. You may commune with either wine or white grape juice. Both are available in serving trays. Gluten free wafers are also available upon request from your server. If you prefer to communion from your pew, our ushers will relay your requests for service after all tables have been served.

COMMUNION HYMNS:

Lamb of God LBW p. 72

"Sanctuary"

"Let Us Break Bread Together" LBW #212

"One Bread, One Body" WOV #710

"Earth and All Stars" (Vs. 1, 3, 5, 6) LBW #558

"Be Thou My Vision" WOV #776

"I Love to Tell the Story" LBW #390

Please stand.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER LBW p. 74

P: Let us pray,

C: We give you thanks,...

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: "Go My Children, with My Blessing" Blue WOY #721

DISMISSAL

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT FAITH

Worship Service - 9:00 AM

Fellowship on patio following worship

Sunday school - 10:15-11:15 AM

Pre K- in Educational Wing

K-2nd Grade Preschool Building

3rd -5th Grade in Education Wing

6th -12th grade in the LEC Loft

Adult Sunday School- in Activity Center and in Small Kitchen

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

Have been sponsored to the glory of God today by Paul and Jan Quello with grateful hearts for their many blessings.

"WORDS OF FAITH" Broadcast on KWED

Has been sponsored to the glory of God today by two grateful Faith members.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS:

Attendance on May 10: 165; Month to Date May **\$16,070.70** YTD Offerings and Misc. (2026) **\$167,035.30** 2026 budgeted offerings is **\$572,657**

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD

Thank you to those of you who have donated to the Christian Cupboard in April. Our May item is CEREAL, any brand or style. The total number of items collected as of May 12 is 20.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Carolyn Sagebiel	Doris Rinn	Steve Foerster	Annette Stout
Clara Fischer	Patti Jahns	Paul Quello	Dale Nauert
Georgie Dittrich	Don Hilbert	Gail Herbold	Ellen Looff
Clem & Jan Howe	Wally Braun	Brian Dahl	Albert Zipp
Bertha Marie Keller	Mary Barnes	Candi Andrews	Sue Blumberg
Diane Gwyther	Ted Engelhardt	Cecil Schulze	

WORKERS FOR NEXT WEEK

Sunday, May 24- Ushers: Brian Baker, Terry Freeman, Ben Weise, Joan Vanbeek; Lay Reader: Georgie Dittrich; Greeters: David Moltz, Kim Kautzsch; AV: Tim Bogisch, Jesus Garcia; Count: Emma Jean Becker, Wally Braun; Lock Up: _____; Security: David Moltz; Communion set up: NA; Communion clean up: NA; Communion Servers: NA; Communion Aide: NA; Acolyte: _____.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

For the family of Donald Jackson. Donald passed through death into eternal life on Sunday, May 10, here in Seguin. A memorial service will be held here at Faith Lutheran on Thursday, May 21, at 10:30 am. You may view his complete obituary at treshewell.com. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers in the days and weeks to come.

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Monday, May 18	Staff Mtg.	9:00 AM
Monday, May 18	Charity Circle	7:00 PM (AC)
Tuesday, May 19	Men's Bible Study	7:30 AM (AC)
Tuesday, May 19	Preschool Outdoor Fun Day	
Wednesday, May 20	Quilters	9:00 AM (AC)
Wednesday, May 20	FLY	6:00 PM
Wednesday, May 20	Chancel Singers	7:00 PM
Thursday, May 21	Hope Circle	2:00 PM (AC)
Thursday, May 21	Last Day of PreSchool	
Thursday, May 21	Bible Study	7:00 PM (AC)
Friday, May 22	SHS Graduation	Social Concerns / Camp Kids parking cars fundraiser
Saturday, May 23	Member Rental	LEC

A NEW WAY TO SIGN IN AT CHURCH!

You'll notice a QR code in your bulletin or on the screens today. Simply scan it with your phone, and it will take you right to a page where you can enter the same information you usually write in the black book—no pen required! It's especially handy just in case the book didn't make its way down your row... or took a little detour along the way. Thanks for helping us stay connected!



POTLUCK BRUNCH



You're invited to our next 5th Sunday Potluck Brunch, hosted by the Social Concerns Ministry Team! Join us on **Sunday, May 31**, right after worship in the Life Enrichment Center. Bring a favorite dish to share, and enjoy fellowship, great food, and meaningful connection. We look forward to gathering as a faith family—everyone is welcome!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026: JUNE 22-26 REGISTRATION IS NOW UNDERWAY!

Scan the QR code to register online or stop by the Welcome Table in the church narthex to pick up a paper form. Deadline for Faith kids, grandkids, and Preschool families is May 8. Space is limited and fills quickly. If openings remain, registration will extend to special guests—but early registration is strongly encouraged!



TODAY'S HANDBELL ANTHEM: "SIMPLE GIFTS" / "LORD OF THE DANCE"

The melody for today's ANTHEM, "Simple Gifts," or " 'Tis a Gift To Be Simple" was written in 1848 by Joseph Brackett of the Shaker community in Maine. The Shakers worshiped through song and simple, rhythmic movement, and this tune would have originally been sung as part of a sacred dance, reflecting their values of humility, simplicity, and spiritual freedom.

*'Tis a gift to be simple, 'tis a gift to be free;
'Tis a gift to come down where we all ought to be;
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
Twill be in the valley of Love and Delight.*

*When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend we shall not be ashamed;
To turn and to turn shall be our delight,
Till we turn and in turning we come around right."*

In 1963, English songwriter Sydney Carter paired this traditional Shaker melody with new lyrics to create "Lord of the Dance." It follows the idea of a traditional English carol, "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day" which tells the gospel story in the first-person voice of Jesus with the device of portraying Jesus' life and mission as a dance.

*I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,
At Bethlehem I had my birth.*

Refrain

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

*I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
But they would not dance and they would not follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
They came to me and the dance went on. (R)*

*I danced on the Sabbath when I cured the lame,
The ho-ly peo-ple said it was a shame;
They whipped and they stripped
and they hung me high;
And they left me there on a cross to die. (R)*

*I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black;
It's hard to dance with the dev-il on your back;
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
But I am the dance and I still go on. (R)*

*They cut me down and I leapt up high,
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. (R)*

LCMC Texas Annual Gathering: July 24-25

We come together for great food and fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ to learn about ministry opportunities, receive powerful teaching, and worship the Most Awesome God!

You are CALLED. I am CALLED. We all are CALLED. If you call on Jesus Christ as your Lord and savior, then Jesus is calling you, too! As Lutheran Christians, it is important to ask, "What does this mean?" The fact that we are CALLED as followers of Jesus Christ has wide-ranging implications for each of us as individuals and for each of our individual communities of faith. How do we understand what we are CALLED to? How do we help others discover how they are CALLED and encourage their pursuit of it? Join us as we unpack our theme CALLED based on 2 Timothy 1:9, "He has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began."

Please see lcmctexas.org/annual-gathering/ for more information and to register!