

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

1187 C.R. 128 & U.S. Rt. 20 Fremont, Ohio 43420 Pastor Tim Miller 93.1FM

Church: 419-332-6820 faithchurch@amplex.net www.faithfremont.org

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

June 22, 2025

Setting 3 with Holy Communion \*Congregation please stand as you are able.

## **Introduction**

This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you."

**Prelude:** Amazing Grace Miranda Wong

Welcome & Announcements: Joys and Concerns Signing of the Pew Register by all present.

# \*Invitation to Worship

- P: Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
- C: and also with you.
- P: This is the day that the Lord has made
- C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- P: We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.
- C: Amen.
- P: Blessed is the Lord
- C: for he has heard the voice of our prayer.
- P: Therefore, our hearts dance for joy
- C: and in our song will we praise our God.

- P: Blessed are you, Lord our God, creator and redeemer of all;
  To you be glory and praise forever. From the waters of chaos, you drew forth the world and in your great love fashioned us in your image. Now, through the deep waters of death, you have brought your people to new birth by raising your Son to life in triumph. May Christ your light ever dawn in our hearts as we offer you our sacrifice of thanks and praise. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- C: Blessed be God forever.
- P: As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Above liturgy from "Unfolding The Living Work" by Jim Cotter)

\*Gathering Song:

Shine, Jesus, Shine

**TBOB 204** 

#### **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

# \*Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: you free us to love others,

but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.

You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,

but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,

but we grow weary in doing what is right.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Do not give up on us.

Heal us, break our bonds,

and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **C: Amen.** 

# \*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

# First Reading: Isaiah 65:1-9

The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self-absorption is idolatry, and images of practices that displease God fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.

R: A reading from Isaiah, the 65<sup>th</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup> I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am,"

to a nation that did not call on my name.

<sup>2</sup> I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people,

who walk in a way that is not good,

following their own devices;

<sup>3</sup> a people who provoke me to my face continually,

sacrificing in gardens

and offering incense on bricks;

<sup>4</sup> who sit inside tombs,

and spend the night in secret places;

who eat swine's flesh,

with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

<sup>5</sup> who say, "Keep to yourself,

do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,

a fire that burns all day long.

<sup>6</sup> See, it is written before me:

I will not keep silent, but I will repay;

I will indeed repay into their laps

<sup>7</sup> their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,

says the LORD;

because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills,

I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions.

<sup>8</sup> Thus says the LORD:

As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, "Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,"

so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all.

<sup>9</sup> I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

The word of the Lord.

#### C: Thanks be to God.

# **Responsive Reading:**

Psalm 22:19-28

<sup>19</sup> But you, O LORD, be not far away;

O my help, hasten to my aid.

Deliver me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.

<sup>21</sup> Save me from the lion's mouth! From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

<sup>22</sup> I will declare your name to my people; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.

<sup>23</sup> You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

<sup>24</sup> For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

<sup>25</sup> From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

- The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!
- <sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.
- <sup>28</sup> For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.

#### **Second Reading:**

**Galatians 3:23-29** 

For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

R: A reading from Galatians, the third chapter.

<sup>23</sup> Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup> Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith.

<sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup> As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

\*Gospel Acclamation: Lord, Be Glorified
In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

\*Gospel Luke 8:26-39

Jesus' mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God's mercy and power.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 8th chapter.

# C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: <sup>26</sup> Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup> As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—<sup>29</sup> for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) <sup>30</sup> Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup> They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

<sup>32</sup> Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup> When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup> Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. <sup>37</sup> Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup> The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him. The Gospel of the Lord.

# C: Praise to you, O Christ.

## **Children's Sermon**

#### Sermon

\*Sermon Hymn: In Christ There Is No East or West ELW 650

#### \*Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

# \*Prayers of Intercession

R: Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

#### A brief silence.

R: We pray for the church. Clothe us in Christ, shower us in mercy, send us in love. Strengthen the faith and witness of Christians across the planet and Christians in our community. God of grace,

## C: hear our prayer.

R: We pray for creation. Deliver the earth from disaster, bring forth life amid uncertainty, inspire wonder at all you have made. Sustain all people who delight in the well-being of your creation: farmers, agricultural workers, gardeners, birdwatchers, conservationists, scientists, advocates, and policy makers. God of grace,

# C: hear our prayer.

R: We pray for the nations. Pave a way to justice, drown the forces of oppression, bring peace on earth. Give leaders the will to turn from war and violence. When people must flee their homes, guide them to safety. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: We pray for people in need. Satisfy all who are poor, soothe those in pain, accompany all who are sick, *especially those we name at this time* (*Pause for people to be named*). Give perseverance to each of us living with mental illness, and shield us from discrimination due to race, class, gender, or any other human distinction. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: We pray for this assembly. Listen to our cries, come to our aid, make us one. Weave among us the fabric of belonging so that we rejoice in each person gathered here and enliven our proclamation of how much you have done for us. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: We offer our thanksgiving for all people who have died in faith. Keep them in your peace, comfort us in sorrow, raise us to new life. As we remember their faith and witness, may we trust your promise that we are yours forever. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

# **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

# \*Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

# \*Offertory We Are an Offering

We lift our voices,
We lift our hands.
We lift our lives up to You,
We are an offering.

Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands, Lord use our lives, they are yours, We are an offering.

# \*Offering Prayer

P: Creator God,

in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor,

that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

# \*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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

# \*Thanksgiving at the Table

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

- P: Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.
- P: Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

#### \*Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

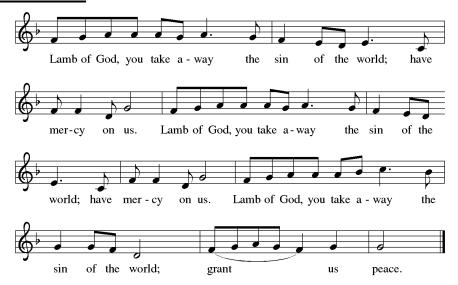
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

# \*Invitation to Communion

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

#### Lamb of God



## **Distribution of Communion**

Communion will be continuous. The ushers will invite you to come forward by the center aisle. You will be handed the bread with the words, "The Body of Christ given for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!". Step to the Communion Assistant and take the cup. They will speak the words, "The Blood of Christ shed for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!" Empty cups may be placed in the basket as you return to your seat by the side aisle.

If you prefer gluten-free bread, please let the Pastor know. If you prefer grape juice, please let the Communion Assistant know. If you prefer not to receive or have children who have not yet received, please let the Pastor know and he will offer a blessing.

# Special Music: Borning Cry Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

# \*Post Communion Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

# \*Prayer After Communion

P: Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

## **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## \*Blessing

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit

+ bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

\*Sending Song: This Little Light of Mine ELW 677

#### \*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

\*Postlude: This Little Light of Mine arr. Horace C. Boyer

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<u>FAMILY OF GOD, SIBLINGS OF CHRIST:</u> Welcome to this time of worship and prayer, listening and singing, confession and forgiveness, giving and receiving. We are glad you're here!

<u>AFTER 22 YEARS</u> as the Sunday School teacher for grades Pre-K – Kindergarten, I am retiring. Please consider a teaching position for this age group, as it is needed. Thank you. Peggy Koch.

THE NEXT WOMEN'S OUTING IS THIS SATURDAY, JUNE 28TH! We will be visiting the Historic Lyme Village, 5001 St Rt 4, Bellevue for an exciting guided tour of an 1880's Victorian Home, an 1830's home used as a stop on the Underground Railroad, as well as 14 other historic buildings! The cost is adults \$15, Seniors \$13 and ages 5-12, \$6. Group rates apply if more than 12. Lunch will be at the Twin Lakes Golf Course Restaurant in Bellevue. We will meet at church at 10 am and leave by 10:15 am. Thank you.



SUMMER WORSHIP: BEGINNING JUNE 1ST THROUGH AUGUST 31<sup>ST</sup>: Worship will be at 9 a.m. only with Sunday School and Fellowship time to follow.



SUMMER MUSIC: Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Please consider sharing your gifts of worshipful song through vocal or instrumental music at our 9 am worship service beginning June 1st. You may contact Darla Brown at 419-680-6717 or Parm Boyer at 419-307-1332 if an accompanist is needed. There is a sign-up sheet on the board in the coat room area.

## MISSION AND OUTREACH PROJECT TO BENEFIT THE LIBERTY CENTER

During the month of July, the Mission and Outreach Committee will be holding a drive to help provide the Liberty Center with some needed supplies. A white board containing sticky notes, listing some of the products needed, will be set up in the narthex by the end of June. The committee is asking the congregation members to take a note or two, purchase those items, and place them in the cart located in the narthex by the end of July. The supplies will then be delivered to the center here in Fremont.

Supplies needed include paper towels, toilet paper, bags of sugar, Ziploc bags (gallon size), trash bags (13-gallon size), canned tuna in water, paper plates, and liquid dish soap.

Thank you for your consideration and participation in this project. Randy J. Brown (Committee Chairperson) and Yvonne Vogel (Project Leader)

<u>LIFT OUTDOOR WORSHIP</u> Mark your calendar! LIFT Outdoor Worship Sunday, <u>June 29th at 10am at the Fremont Community Amphitheater</u>, 209 S. Arch Street, Downtown Fremont. LIFT (Living in Faith Together) is a team of churches who strive to grow in faith and the love of Christ together.

<u>LIFT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</u> – will take place this week, June 23-26, 2025 at Hayes Memorial United Methodist Church, 1441 Fangboner Rd., Fremont. Dinner at 5:30 p.m. and VBS at 6 p.m. myvbs.org/LIFTFremont

# SUMMER OF FUN RETURNS TO FREMONT PARKS!

From June 9th - August 20th there will be FREE events and activities throughout our local parks for all ages. LIFT will be there numerous days along with numerous local businesses, nonprofits, and community leaders. Check out the Fremont Rec department for the full calendar of events.

#### **ASSISTING TODAY**

**Pastor:** Rev. Tim Miller **Pianist:** Becky Fox

Flautist: Marilyn Ring Special Music: Miranda Garlock

9:00 a.m.

**Greeter:** Dave & Marilyn Ring

**Lector:** Marie Reiselt **Acolyte:** Karly Paeth

<u>Communion:</u> Carol Trick & Marie Reiselt Counters: Dave Kocsis\* & Judi Neill

Fellowship Time Host: Marie Reiselt & Margie Roach

Altar Guild: Cheryl Durnwald & Carol Trick

## **ASSISTING NEXT WEEK**

**Pastor:** Rev. Tim Miller **Preaching:** Richard Ponton

**Organist:** Parm Boyer

9:00 a.m.

Greeter: Den & Deb Fahle Lector: Jackie Seibert Acolyte: Evan McBride

<u>Communion:</u> Deb Fahle & Jackie Seibert <u>Counters:</u> Marie Reiselt\* & Nicole Weiker

Fellowship Time Host:

Altar Guild: Cheryl Durnwald & Carol Trick

# **PRAYING DAILY**



For healing and hope: Paul Antesberger, Joan Bolen, Mary Ann Diekman, Millie Fetterman, Della Humbarger, Denny Krumnow, Bill Leutenegger, Dean May, Stan Moyer, Nancy Mylander, Gary Overmyer, Ken & Gloria Root, Letty Rusch, Bob Schneider, Bill Seibert, Janet Tressler, Linda Woessner. Kathy Gerber-

Rogers, Marie Reynolds, Lori Swartz, John Triplett, Laura Walby.

<u>For our Military</u>: Noah Egbert, Troy Halfhill, Jade Kayser, Daniel Linder, Tony Rozzi, Christopher Templeton, & Joshua Tooman.

For our Bishops: Bishop Christian Ndossa, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, and

NWOS Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and Staff

For our partner congregation in Bumila, Tanzania

And its pastor: Pastor Peter Magasi

# FAITH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF – June 22 to June 29

| <u>Sunday</u><br>June 229 a.m.<br>10 a.m. | Worship with Holy Communion<br>Sunday School & Fellowship Time   |
|---|--|
|   | Men's Group in Fellowship Hall<br>Valley View Tea Time with God  |
| <u>Tuesday</u><br>June 247 p.m.           | Esther Circle – Sermon on Mount #8   |
| Wednesday June 25                         |  |
| Thursday June 263 p.m.                    | Christ Care  |
| <u>Friday</u> June 27                     |  |
| Saturday June 28                          |  |
| 10 a.m.                                   | Worship with Holy Communion<br>Sunday School & Fellowship Time<br>Hall Reserved – 4-H – Brianne Harder |

Sunday, June 15, 2025: Attendance: 134 – Offering: \$3,951.52 Noisy Offering, Sunday, June 15, 2025: \$135.22