Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
1187 C.R. 128 & U.S. Rt. 20 **Church: 419-332-6820**
Fremont, Ohio 43420 **faithchurch@amplex.net**
Pastor Tim Miller **www.faithfremont.org**

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost **October 11, 2026**

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

Introduction
In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

(8:00) Prelude: ***The Homecoming*** **H. Hardy**
(10:30) Prelude: ***I Need Thee Every Hour*** **Franklin Ashdown**

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

Gathering Song:** ***All Are Welcome **ELW 641**

GATHERING

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

***Invitation to Worship**
P: Grace and peace to you in Jesus –
who reminds us that we are deeply loved.
C: And also with you.

P: We gather to remember and never forget,
C: That God is with us. God's compassion and hope surround us!

P: We gather to remember and never forget,
C: That God has no favorites. God loves everyone equally.

P: We gather to remember and never forget,
C: That we are human beings – all of us are beautiful to behold.

P: We gather to remember and never forget,
C: That we are one family – no matter our nationality, language, or religion.

P: We gather to remember and never forget,
C: That God enlightens what is dark in me, strengthens what is weak in me, mends what is broken in me, binds what is bruised in me, heals what is sick in me, and revives whatever peace and love has died in me.

P: We gather to praise God.
C: To praise God – for today is the day that the Lord has made.

P: Come, let us worship and bow down to the Lord, our God**.**
C: Amen.

Song: ***Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down*** **See Insert**

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.
C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,
C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

P: Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ✢ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

***Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

C: Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9

After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

R: A reading from Isaiah, the 25th chapter.

1 O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
2 For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of foreigners is a city no more;
it will never be rebuilt.
3 Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
4 For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
[5] the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.
[6] On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
[7] And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;
[8] he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.
[9] It will be said on that day,
"See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."
The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 23

[1] The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
[2] **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures**
and leads me beside still waters.
[3] You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
[4] **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**
[5] You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
[6] **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

R: A reading from Philippians, the 4th chapter.

[1] My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

[2] I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. [3] Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

[4] Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. [5] Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. [6] Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. [7] And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

[8] Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. [9] As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

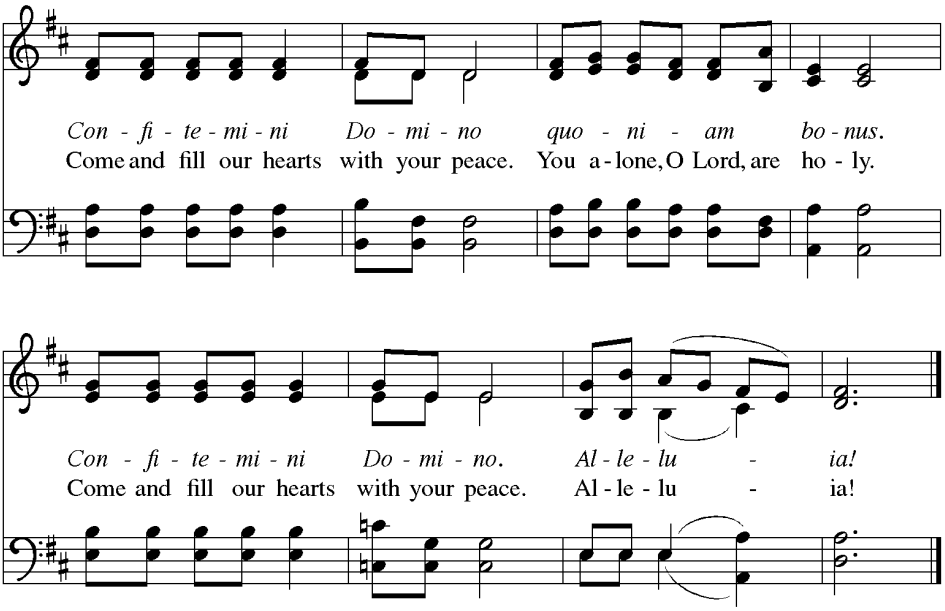
The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:** ***Come and Fill Our Hearts **ELW 528**

Come and Fill Our Hearts

Confitemini Domino



***Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14**

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [1] Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: [2] "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. [3] He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. [4] Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' [5] But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, [6] while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. [7] The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. [8] Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. [9] Go therefore

into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' [10] Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

[11] "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, [12] and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. [13] Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' [14] For many are called, but few are chosen."

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Sermon Hymn:** ***As We Gather at Your Table **ELW 522**

***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: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

R: Holy God, we remember your promise of unity on your holy mountain. Empower the World Council of Churches and all those working across religious difference, that the world may know your undivided love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

R: We remember your promise of green pastures and quiet waters. Preserve all places of natural beauty and restore our relationship with the land. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

R: We remember your promise to not abandon us amid storm and disaster. Renew all communities facing disasters and give your courage to those leading relief efforts. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

R: We remember your promise to wipe away every tear. Heal and console all who are sick or suffering, *especially those we name at this time (Pause for 10 seconds for people to be named)*. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

R: We remember your promise of a banquet open to all people. Challenge this congregation to open wide our doors and welcome everyone to the table. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

R: We remember your promise to swallow up death forever. We give thanks for those who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

R: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

(10:30) Sr. Choir: ***The King of Love My Shepherd Is*** **D. Paxton**

Offertory** ***Give Thanks **TBOB 65**

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say "I am rich."
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say "I am rich."
Because of what the Lord has done for us.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ His Son. Give thanks.

***Offering Prayer**

P: God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and
in love to our neighbors, today and always.
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**

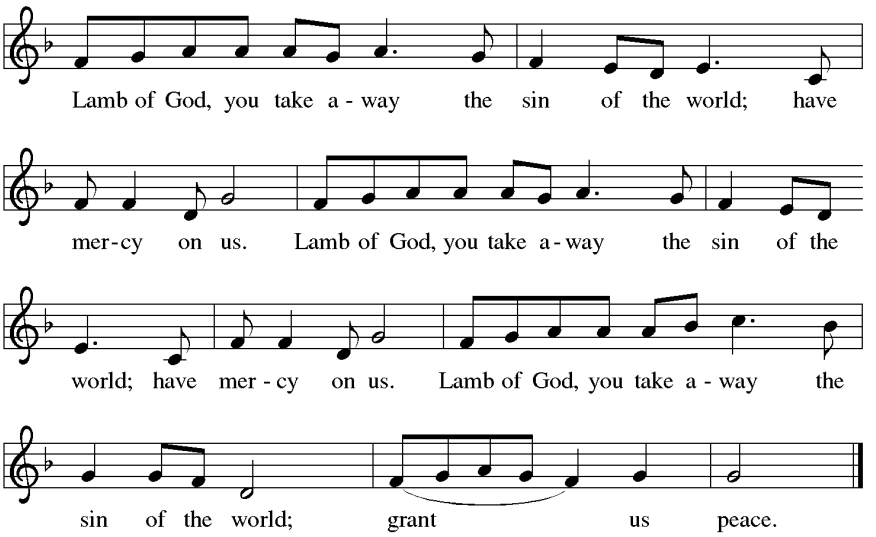
P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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: Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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.

(8:00) Flute Solo: ***Just As I Am***
William B. Bradbury, Arr. James Michael Stevens

(10:30) Communion Hymns:
ELW 502 ***The King of Love My Shepherd Is***
ELW 778 ***The Lord's My Shepherd***

***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: Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

SENDING

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

***Blessing**

P: The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of grace
✢ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

(8:00) Sending Song:** ***I Will Call Upon the Lord

1. **I will call upon the Lord**
   who is worthy to be praised.
   So shall I be saved from my enemies.
   I will call upon the Lord. ***Chorus***

Chorus:

The Lord liveth and blessed be the rock,
And let the God of my salvation be exalted.
The Lord liveth and blessed be the rock,
And let the God of my salvation be exalted.

2. **Blessed be the Lord on high.**
   Blessed be the son of Christ.
   We shall praise our God for eternity.
   We will call upon the Lord. ***Chorus***

3. **I will call upon the Lord**
   who is worthy to be praised.
   So shall I be saved from my enemies.
   I will call upon the Lord. ***Chorus***

Chorus:

The Lord liveth and blessed be the rock,
And let the God of my salvation be exalted.
The Lord liveth and blessed be the rock,
And let the God of my salvation be exalted.

(10:30) Sending Song:** ***Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart! **ELW 873**

***Dismissal**

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C: Thanks be to God.

(8:00) Postlude:** ***I Will Call Upon the Lord **Michael O'Shields**
(10:30) Postlude:** ***In Green Pastures **Lefebure Wely**

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB150404.
New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Song *Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down,* 1980 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.). Song *As We Gather at Your Table,* Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. Song *Give Thanks,* 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music). Song *The Lord's My Shepherd,* Words: Public Domain. Music: 2020 The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.). Arr. © Oxford University Press. Song *I Will Call Upon the Lord,* 1981 MCA Music Publ., A.D.O. Universal Studio (Admin. by Universal Music Publishing Group) Sound III, Inc. (Admin. by Universal Music Publishing Group). Permission was gained thru CCLI License #1176607 for streaming and recording. Song *All Are Welcome,* Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. Song *Come and Fill Our Hearts,* Text and music © 1982, 1991 Les Presses de Taizé. GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. Permission was gained thru One License #A-739669 for streaming and recording. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

WELCOME TO ALL WHO HAVE GATHERED TO PRAISE GOD TODAY. May we worship with grateful hearts and reach out to one another in the love and fellowship of Christ. Keep our minds and spirits focused on you, O Lord, that we may not miss your message to us. Amen.

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given in honor of a Happy 23rd Wedding Anniversary by Matthew and Miranda Garlock.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is scheduled for **TODAY, Sunday, October 11th**, between services in the Fellowship Hall.

FLC Women's Thank Offering Sunday will be **November 8th, 2026**. We welcome Annie Gazdecki to share the message. We will also recognize our Veterans at this Service. **Please pick up your Thank Offering envelopes in the Narthex.** Thank you.

A SWISS STEAK DINNER will be hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church, 450 N. Rocky Ridge Rd., on Sunday, October 18th, serving Drive-Thru only from 11:30 am until sold out. Dinner cost is $15 and includes 2 Swiss Steak Patties with sides and Homemade Pie!

THE WOMEN OF ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH, ROCKY RIDGE, would like to invite the ladies of your congregation to their 29th Annual Advent Brunch on Saturday, December 5, 2026, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Special music will be provided by the Oak & Catawba Players in this year's quilt-themed program. Brunch and fellowship will be enjoyed after the program, along with the raffle for a handmade Christmas quilt sewn by Kathy Fox and her mother, Pat Weidner.
Reservation forms for the Advent Brunch are available in your church office and are due by November 22, 2026. The cost for the brunch is $10. You may reserve your Brunch ticket by mailing the form, plus payment, to: Ann Schimming, 12351 W. State Route 105, Oak Harbor, OH 43449
Quilt raffle tickets may be purchased at Community Markets on November 7 and 14, or prior to the program on December 5th. Cost is $5 for a single ticket, or $20 for 5 tickets.
Proceeds from the Brunch and from the Quilt Raffle will benefit Habitat for Humanity of Ottawa County.

50TH ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL AT HOPEWOOD PINES (LMC), will be held **TODAY, Sunday, October 11, 2026** from 12-4 p.m. at 2790 St. Rte. 61, Marengo, Ohio 43334. The 2026 Fall Festival will have all your favorite apple butter goodies and adds the Oktoberfest vibes of pumpkin patch, inflatable bounce activities, food trucks, live music, and a local beer tent! There will be activities for every age to enjoy. Take a hayride through camp property and try fresh apple butter made on site. When you get hungry, taste the homemade bean soup cooked over the fire, fresh baked goods, and a variety of food truck offerings. Hang around for some music while the kids play in the children's area.

For our 50th celebration, we are featuring partnerships with ODNR, 4H Morrow County Extension with OSU, and ELCA Truth and Healing Movement. You'll experience new things like an Archery trailer, Gravity fed basketball, and a presentation called A day of Remembrance: An untold story of Native American boarding schools from 1-3pm.

There is no need to register; food and activities are set at a reasonable price. Your support of this festival will help us provide camperships at HopeWood Pines. We hope to see you there!

THE TOLEDO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA will be welcomed once again at Grace Lutheran Church, 705 W. State St., Fremont on **Thursday, December 3, 2026**. Their music helps to bring the spirit of Christmas alive! It is our prayer that you would once again consider sponsoring our efforts to welcome them back to Fremont. There are various sponsorship levels from $50 up to $2,000 or more. The chart with the maximum complimentary ticket request for your level of sponsorship is on the bulletin board in the coat room area along with copies of the sponsorship form. This form needs to accompany your check made out to Grace Lutheran Church with Toledo Symphony Sponsor written on the memo line and mailed to Grace Lutheran at the above address. The deadline to sponsor this event is Tuesday, November 10, 2026. Your tickets will be mailed out three weeks prior to the concert. Please note: Sponsors receive reserved seating and these tickets are not transferable to General Admission seating. We thank you for your consideration, The Toledo Symphony Committee.

LARGER PRINT BULLETINS – Please let the church office know if you would like a larger print bulletin in the future, 11 x 17 inch. We will print some for those requesting them. Call Barb at 419-332-6820.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY is November 1st, 2026. We will be remembering all the Saints who have entered the church triumphant since our last All Saints Sunday last year. If you would like to add a loved one's name to those we recognize on this day, **please call the office at 419-332-6820 by Tuesday, October 27th**.

PRAYING DAILY

For healing and hope: Joan Bolen, Mary Ann Diekman, Millie Fetterman, Della Humbarger, Denny & Sue Krumnow, Laurie Krynock, Bill Leutenegger, Dean May, Stan Moyer, Nancy Mylander, Betty Nielsen, Gary Overmyer, Sharon Peńa, Sandie Reed, Ken & Gloria Root, Bob Schneider, Jackie Seibert, Janet Tressler, Minnie Weber, Jerie Young, Paula Zimmerman, Cindy Zorn. Vicki Bowser, Camden Hanchett, Jackie Mowry, Eric Paul, Amy Vogel, Leha Young.
For the Family of: Beth Perry, Joyce King, Inez May Hall
For our Military: Robbie Collins, Noah Egbert, Jade Kayser, Daniel Linder, Tony Rozzi, Christopher Templeton, & Joshua Tooman.
For our Bishops: Bishop Christian Ndossa, Bishop Yehiel Curry, and NWOS Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and Staff
For our partner congregation in Bumila, Tanzania
And its pastor: Pastor Peter Magasi

USHERS NEEDED ON SUNDAY MORNINGS –
I would like to appeal to those of you interested in being ushers to please sign up on the clipboards in the coat room area. Thank you very much! Mike Fought, Deacon.

ASSISTING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Tim Miller **Organist:** Parm Boyer **Pianist:** Becky Fox
Sr. Choir Director: Darla Brown **Choir Accompanist:** Amy Wagner
Flautist: Marilyn Ring

	8:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Greeter:	Marg Schwartz	Deb Fahle
Lector:	Karly Paeth	Braelyn Weiker
Acolyte:		Brielle Weiker
Communion:	B. Dymond / K. Paeth	Y. Vogel / A. Wagner

Counters: Marie Reiselt* & Randy Brown
Fellowship Time Host: Church Council
Altar Guild: Brianne & Lillian Harder and Ginger Walker
Ushers: (8:00) Jackson Fought

ASSISTING NEXT WEEK

Pastor: Rev. Tim Miller **Organist:** Parm Boyer
Sr. Choir Director: Darla Brown **Choir Accompanist:** Amy Wagner

	8:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Greeter:	Brianne & Lillian Harder	McKenna Johnson
Lector:	McKenna Johnson	Laurie Krynock
Acolyte:	McKenna Johnson	Rachel Wasserman
Communion:	Karly & Cheryl Paeth	Deb Fahle / Amy Wagner

Counters: Becky Dymond* & Niki Wasserman
Fellowship Time Host: Schneiders
Altar Guild: Brianne & Lillian Harder and Ginger Walker
Ushers: (8:00) Steve & Mason Harder

FAITH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF – Oct. 11 – Oct. 18

Sunday
Oct. 11--------8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
9:15 a.m. Congregational Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Monday OFFICE OPEN
Oct. 12----------7 a.m. Report for bus trip
8 a.m. Men's Group in Fellowship Hall
10 a.m. Valley View Tea Time with God
11:30 a.m. FLCW Visitation at Bob Evans

Tuesday
Oct. 13----------

Wednesday OFFICE CLOSED
Oct. 14----------7:30 p.m. Praise Choir

Thursday OFFICE CLOSED
Oct. 15----------3 p.m. Christ Care

Friday
Oct. 16----------

Saturday
Oct. 17----------9:15 a.m. Christ Care
10:30 a.m. Sr. Choir Practice

Sunday NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE
Oct. 18--------8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time

SUNDAY, OCT. 4, 2026: ATTENDANCE: 137 – OFFERING: $6,040.85

GOSPEL MESSAGE

October 11, 2026
20th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcomed In

A crowd gathered in the church basement like they did every third Thursday of the month. They walked past the kitchen window. They grabbed their plates. They filled up cups of ice water and coffee and swung by the dessert table on their way to folding chairs situated around circular folding tables throughout the room. Conversations bubbled up as old friends greeted each other around the free meal provided, as it was every month. Everyone was welcome, no questions asked.

This image of a free meal in the church basement, attended by any and all comers, is reminiscent of the wedding feast the king gives in today's parable. When those who are invited fail to show up, the king sends his servants out into the entire surrounding countryside to bring to the meal any and all who will attend. The king doesn't check credentials; the king doesn't ask questions. The joy of the wedding feast is open to all.

The parable tells us of one guest without a wedding robe, who winds up outside the joy of the feast. This can cause us to worry or despair. Do we have a wedding robe fit for the kingdom of heaven? What happens to us if we do not? Our baptism in Jesus, however, reminds us that we have no need to fear. We have been clothed not with a robe but with the grace of Jesus, which assures us that we, who have been gathered into the feast of the reign of God, have a place and an inheritance among God's people. Gathered around that table of grace, we too are sent to share the good news and welcome others into the reality of God's reign.