

DIVINE TURNAROUND: GOD'S SURPRISING COMEBACK PLAN

4-0



*Zero
Control?*

WELCOME TO FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Inviting all People to Faith ... Come and Worship – Go and Work

Pastor – Ben Unseth | Ministers – All

Phone: 712-580-4316 | 2912 Highway Blvd, P.O. Box 1322, Spencer, Iowa 51301

October 22, 2023 | 21st Sunday in Pentecost

Prelude

Welcome

Prayer

Opening Song – “Standing on the Promises”

*Invocation

We meet in the strong name of our God;
We praise You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Litany

(Taken from Psalm 107:8-9, Psalm 116:5, Psalm 16:11, John 10:10, Psalm 126:3, and Romans 15:13)

Let us give thanks to the LORD for His unfailing love,
For He satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

The LORD is gracious and righteous;
Our God is full of compassion.

You, LORD, make known to us the path of life;
You will fill us with joy in Your presence.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy;
You have come that we may have life, and have it to the full.

The LORD has done great things for us,
And we are filled with joy.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace as we trust in Him,
So that we may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Prayer of the Day

Dear God, we pray for those people sitting to our left and to our right. We ask with Naomi: Show them kindness; grant them rest. Teach us to trust You as Ruth did, when we cannot yet see the outcome. Renew our hearts as we hear Your holy Word. Comfort us and fill us, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Song – “Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor”

Old Testament Lesson – Ruth 3:1-13

New Testament Lesson - 1 Peter 1:3-7

Children's Message

Song – “I Surrender All”

*Gospel – Luke 16:19-26

Sermon – “Zero Control?”

Song – “Know You Will”

Prayers of the Church

Sharing of the Peace

*Lord’s Prayer

*Blessing

*Closing Song – “My Lighthouse”

Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Please stand if you are able.

Welcome to Faith Lutheran!

Live Stream: youtube.com/@flcspencer | Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Office hours: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Monday - Friday | 712-580-4316 | office@flcspencer.org

www.flcspencer.org | Facebook: Faith Lutheran Church LCMC | Instagram: [@flcspencer](https://www.instagram.com/flcspencer)

Watch us on SMU: Monday @ 8:30 p.m. and Tuesday @ 11:00 a.m.

Text your giving to Faith at 712-214-4317

Old Testament Lesson – Ruth 3:1-13

¹ One day Ruth’s mother-in-law Naomi said to her, “My daughter, I must find a home for you, where you will be well provided for. ² Now Boaz, with whose women you have worked, is a relative of ours. Tonight he will be winnowing barley on the threshing floor. ³ Wash, put on perfume, and get dressed in your best clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor, but don’t let him know you are there until he has finished eating and drinking. ⁴ When he lies down, note the place where he is lying. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down. He will tell you what to do.”

⁵ “I will do whatever you say,” Ruth answered. ⁶ So she went down to the threshing floor and did everything her mother-in-law told her to do. ⁷ When Boaz had finished eating and drinking and was in good spirits, he went over to lie down at the far end of the grain pile. Ruth approached quietly, uncovered his feet and lay down. ⁸ In the middle of the night something startled the man; he turned – and there was a woman lying at his feet! ⁹ “Who are you?” he asked. “I am your servant Ruth,” she said.

“Spread the corner of your garment over me, since you are a guardian-redeemer of our family.”

¹⁰ “The LORD bless you, my daughter,” he replied. “This kindness is greater than that which you showed earlier: You have not run after the younger men, whether rich or poor. ¹¹ And now, my daughter, don’t be afraid. I will do for you all you ask. All the people of my town know that you are a woman of noble character. ¹² Although it is true that I am a guardian-redeemer of our family, there is another who is more closely related than I. ¹³ Stay here for the night, and in the morning if he wants to do his duty as your guardian-redeemer, good; let him redeem you. But if he is not willing, as surely as the LORD lives I will do it. Lie here until morning.”

New Testament Lesson – 1 Peter 1:3-7

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Gospel – Luke 16:19-26

¹⁹ There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰ At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹ and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores. ²² The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ So he called to him, “Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.” ²⁵ But Abraham replied, “Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.”

NEW WEBSITE AND EMAILS!!

Visit our new website at www.flcspencer.org

New Staff email addresses: (for a complete listing see page 7)

Pastor Ben Unseth - pastor@flcspencer.org | Eric Patten - eric@flcspencer.org
Becky Fear-Hatting - admin@flcspencer.org | Carolyn Dundas - finance@flcspencer.org

Support LifeKids and Feed the Family!

LifeKids is selling Pasquale's pizzas!
Proceeds from this fundraiser pay for field trips, snacks and supplies for craft projects.



These pizzas are NOT available in the stores.

All pizzas are 12-inch & \$12 each.
Choose your favorite topping!

Sausage | Special | Pepperoni | All Meat | 3-Cheese | Breakfast

Order forms are on the Fellowship tables or see Bill Neiderheiser at the Welcome Center. Please give the order form and check or cash to Bill.

If you need to order Monday thru Friday, Oct. 23-27,
contact Cheryl Stueven in the Church Office at 712-580-4316.

Orders must be placed before Sunday, Oct. 29, at 7:00 p.m.

**Pick up your pizzas on from at McCreary's Creative Catering,
1900 Grand Ave. (Northgate Mall-Use outside entry #4-south side of building)
Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 20-21, from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

If this time does not work, please make arrangements with Cheryl Jackson,
LifeKids Director, by calling 712-580-4316 or email her at
director@lifekidsspencer.com.

Help LifeKids grow young witnesses for Jesus!

October Reminders!

♥ ***October is Pastor Appreciation Month!***

Thank you Pastor Ben for leading the flock at Faith!

♥ ***Meal Train for Dean Vos and parents, Jake & Tanya Vos.***
<https://mealtrain.com/ekgdel> gives ways you can help!

♥ ***Cherish House's October Baby Bottle Campaign***

Pick up a baby bottle from the table by the front doors. Fill it with spare change, cash or a check. Return to Faith Lutheran by Sunday, Oct. 29.

♥ ***Stewardship's October Video Ministry Fair***

We are having a Video Ministry Fair so everyone knows what each team does at Faith! As you watch, be thinking about how you would like to be involved!

If you miss a Sunday or would like to hear the video again, check out church's Facebook or Instagram accounts to watch past videos.

Thank you to today's worship partners ...

Altar Prep: Lora Johnson, Denise Lovitt

Children's Message: Alice Nielsen

Counters: Larry Wigen, Jolynne Eilts

Fellowship & Set Up: Denise Lovitt,
Pam Harris

Greeters/Ushers:

Lee & Nancy Ketcham

Instrumentalists: Elliana Antoine,

Gloria McKenney, Evan Storley,

Anna Quanbeck

Message: Pastor Ben Unseth

Prayers of the Church: Kevin Swancutt

Scripture Reader: Dennis DeWitt

Camera: Paul Wire

Computer: Becky Simons

Sound: Brett Eilts

Lead Tech: Jacob Weeks

Vocalists: Brittany & Ellie Spieker,

Emily Quanbeck, Lisa Buchan

Worship Leader: Matt Essick

Worship partners for Sunday, October 29

Altar Prep: Lora Johnson, Denise Lovitt

Children's Message: Jalyce Storley

Counters: Greg Lear, Larry Wigen

Fellowship: Lee & Nancy Ketcham

Set up: Linda Susie

Greeters/Ushers:

Joe & Rachel Simington

Instrumentalists: Jolynne Eilts,

Gloria McKenney, Jared Hansen,

Kevin Skadeland

Message: Gloria McKenney

Prayers of the Church: Linda Susie

Scripture Reader: Barb Enge

Camera: Cindy Tigges

Computer: Kent Heazlett

Sound: Cheryl Stueven

Lead Tech: Jacob Weeks

Vocalists: Brett Eilts, Lacey Johnson

Worship Leader: Dennis Larson



Prayer Chain



Please send your
prayer request to Linda & Dave Susie
at 712-262-6621 or djslrs74@yahoo.com
or to **Doreen Scribner** at 712-262-3488
or doreenscribner@outlook.com

To be placed on the Sunday morning
Prayers of the Church, please contact
the church office at 712-580-4316.

Item of the Month ~

Bath-sized Bars of Soap



Personal care kits are
specifically designed to help
people coping with poverty,
disaster, conflict and more.

Upper Des Moines Opportunity (UDMO)

Food Pantry is in need of the
following items for our community:

Oatmeal, soup, egg noodles

Soap & UDMO food items can be
put in the yellow Missions box
near the front doors.



NETWORK
FAITH_Guest

PASSWORD
7125804316



meet **our** STAFF

Pastor Ben Unseth **pastor@flcspencer.org**

Church Administrator: Becky Fear-Hatting
admin@flcspencer.org

Finance Coordinator: Carolyn Dundas
finance@flcspencer.org

Worship & Communications Director:
Gloria McKenney
worship@flcspencer.org
media@flcspencer.org

Custodian: Rich Stueven
custodian@flcspencer.org

Stephen Ministry and Visitation Director &
Lay Pastor at Zion Lutheran Church,
Ruthven: Eric Patten, eric@flcspencer.org

Office Assistant: Cheryl Stueven
office@flcspencer.org

LifeKids Director: Cheryl Jackson
director@lifekidsspencer.com

Technology Coordinator: Jacob Weeks
tech@flcspencer.org

Guest Connection Card

Dear Visitors,

We are glad you are worshiping with us today! We'd love to connect with you. Please share your contact information, and a member of Faith will be in touch with you soon.

Please put this form in the offering kiosk at the back of the church. – Thank you!

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

I'd like to ...

- Visit with the Pastor.
- Learn about becoming a member.
- Hear more about opportunities at Faith.
- Hear about joining a small group.

Thanks for worshiping with us!

2023 GENERAL OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

BUDGET: \$413,959.25

	FELLOWSHIP*	GENERAL GIVING	YEAR TO DATE**	ATTENDANCE
SEPTEMBER	\$254.50	\$22,679.14	\$256,122.89	129
OCT. 1	\$110.00	\$ 9,145.00	\$264,022.89	152
OCT. 2-8	\$ 38.00	\$ 5,462.00	\$268,755.87	167
OCT. 9-15	\$ 51.00	\$ 5,483.00	\$275,036.89	195

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15: YOUTUBE LIVE-STREAMING COMPUTERS – 21

*INCLUDED IN THE YEAR-TO-DATE TOTAL. EACH SUNDAY, HY-VEE CHARGES \$90.00 FOR DONUTS.

** YEAR TO DATE TOTAL INCLUDES ALL UNDESIGNATED GIVING.

Thank you for generously supporting Faith Lutheran in 2023!

This Week at Faith!

Today – Sunday, October 22

- 8:00 a.m. Worship Musician Rehearsal
- 9:00 a.m. Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Fellowship
- 10:20 a.m. Children's Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study

Monday, October 23

- 12:00 p.m. (Noon) *Faith Life Together* newsletter deadline
- 3:30-5:30 p.m. LifeKids After School Program

Tuesday, October 24

- 3:30-5:30 p.m. LifeKids After School Program
- 5:00-8:00 p.m. Team Restoration Christian Counseling – 515-238-9010

Wednesday, October 25

- 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 3:30-5:30 p.m. LifeKids After School Program
- 6:00 p.m. Worship Vocalist Rehearsal
Supper for the Confirmation Students
- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation – Mentor Night
- 7:00 p.m. High School Youth Group

Thursday, October 26

- 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Team Restoration Christian Counseling – 515-238-9010
- 9:00 a.m. Thursday Morning Coffee Fellowship
- 3:30-5:30 p.m. LifeKids After School Program

Friday, October 27

- 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Team Restoration Christian Counseling – 515-238-9010
- 3:30-5:30 p.m. LifeKids After School Program

Saturday, October 28

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study

Anniversary wishes to ...

Oct. 22	<i>Dave & Barb Solberg, Justin & Brittany Spieker</i>
Oct. 24	<i>Steve & Lora Johnson</i>
Oct. 28	<i>Dale & Karen Brandt</i>

Birthday blessings to ...

Oct. 22	<i>Shirley Lowe</i>
Oct. 24	<i>Stephanie Hines</i>
Oct. 25	<i>Erin Krei</i>
Oct. 26	<i>Grayson Cooke</i>
Oct. 27	<i>Baylie Stykel</i>
Oct. 28	<i>Jodene Jongma, Emily Quanbeck</i>

Upcoming Events!

October 29 – Reformation Sunday with Gloria McKenney and Children's Christmas program rehearsals begin.