

On the shoulders of
GIANTS

*God
Reveals
Your
Calling*

Learning from Elijah, Hosea, Ezra, and Josiah

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

November 19, 2023 | 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Welcome

Prayer

Opening Song – “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

*Invocation

We meet in the strong name of our God;

We praise You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Confession and Forgiveness

I have lived as if God did not matter and I matter most. I plead “guilty” before God of all my sins. My worship and prayers have faltered. I have not honored my Lord’s name as I should. I have not let His love have its way in me, and so my love for others has failed. There are those whom I have hurt, and those whom I have failed to help. My thoughts and desires have been spoiled with sin. I am sorry for all of this and ask for grace. I want to do better.

God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. Believe God’s promise from 1 John 1:9, “If we confess our sins, God is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to purify us from all unrighteousness.”

*Prayer of the Day

God, come among us, and restore us to worship You. Tune our hearts to sing Your praise. Open our eyes to see Your majesty. Unplug our ears to hear Your Word. Bend our wills to follow You. Remake us to live a life worthy of Your calling. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Song – “Make Me a Servant”

Old Testament Lesson – Ezra 1:1-6

Children’s Message

Song – “Here I Am, Lord”

*Gospel – John 6:5-13

Sermon – “God Reveals Your Calling”

Song – “We Are an Offering”

*Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father, Who loved me enough to let me go, but never stopped waiting and watching for my return.

I believe in Jesus the Son, Who became a man, died on a cross, and rose from the dead, so that we might be adopted as God's daughters and sons, so that our true inheritance might be restored forever.

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, Who never abandoned me no matter how far I ran, Who turned my heart toward home and brought me back to my Father, Who calls me now to live out my true destiny as God's beloved child.

I believe in God's holy church – my forever family, my friends, and my coworkers in witness and service. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Sharing of the Peace

Holy Communion

*Words of Institution for Holy Communion

*Lord's Prayer

Distribution Songs

“Jesus Thank You”

“Freely Freely”

*Blessing

*Closing Song – “Go Light Your World”

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](https://www.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

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 – Ezra 1:1-6

¹ In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing: ² “This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and He has appointed me to build a temple for Him at Jerusalem in Judah. ³ Any of His people among you may go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build the temple of the LORD, the God of Israel, the God who is in Jerusalem, and may their God be with them. ⁴ And in any locality where survivors may now be living, the people are to provide them with silver and gold, with goods and livestock, and with freewill offerings for the temple of God in Jerusalem.” ⁵ Then the family heads of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and Levites – everyone whose heart God had moved – prepared to go up and build the house of the LORD in Jerusalem. ⁶ All their neighbors assisted them with articles of silver and gold, with goods and livestock, and with valuable gifts, in addition to all the freewill offerings.

Gospel – John 6:5-13

⁵ When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward Him, He said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?” ⁶ He asked this only to test him, for He already had in mind what He was going to do. ⁷ Philip answered him, “It would take more than half a year’s wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!” ⁸ Another of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up, ⁹ “Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?” ¹⁰ Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). ¹¹ Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. ¹² When they had all had enough to eat, He said to His disciples, “Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted.” ¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

The Smiths Are Back!

Josh, Whitney, Jordyn, Jayda and Jonah Smith are in the United States now until January 22, 2024! While here, Josh is wondering if there would be a family (or 2 or 3) that could house them for a week, or perhaps 2 families could split a week? If you are able to host the Smiths, contact Pam Harris at 712-540-3439 or missions@flcspencer.org

The youth are selling 2024 God’s Creation Wall Calendars in the back of the church for only \$10.00!



Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran and earmark them “Youth Calendars.”

Poinsettias for Christmas!

If you would like to help decorate the altar with poinsettias, and then enjoy them at home, please fill out the order form below!

Leave the order form – with payment – in the red Christmas box on the Welcome Center. Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church and earmark them “Poinsettia.”

Orders need to be turned in to the church office TODAY, Sunday, Nov. 19.

Choices are: Red, Pink & Speckled.

Each 6-inch green covered pot is \$22.00.



Name: _____

Phone: _____

Red _____ **# Pink:** _____ **# Speckled:** _____

Total \$ _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Thanks for Giving Sunday!

Today is Thanks for Giving Sunday! Thank you to each one of you who generously give to Faith with your time, talents, and finances. As you process up the aisle to Communion this morning, there will be a table with baskets to receive your financial pledge card and Time & Talent sheets if you have not already turned them in. After the service, the Stewardship Team invites you to enjoy in the meal they have prepared as a 'thank you' for all you do!



Kitchen Clean-out!

Faith has accumulated several extra kitchen items – if one of them is yours, or if you might be able to use one of them at home, feel free to take it with you! Items will be donated to Many Hands after November 29.

On the other hand, we seem to be missing a roaster. If you borrowed it or may know more information about its location, please let us know.



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.

Items can be put in the yellow Missions box by the front doors.

Thank you to today's worship partners ...

Altar Prep: Shirley Nelson,
Susie Brinkley

Children's Message: Nancy Ketcham

Communion Servers:
Gary & Connie Jenkins

Counters: Greg Lear, Larry Wigen

Fellowship & Set-up:
Troy & Anne Rosendahl

Greeters/Ushers: Pam Harris,
Denise Lovitt

Instrumentalists: Leah Kreutner,
Gloria McKenney, Evan Storley,
Anna Quanbeck

Message: Pastor Ben Unseth

Prayer Intercessors:
Dave & Linda Susie

Dennis & Sara DeWitt

Prayers of the Church: Lisa Buchan

Scripture Reader: Carol Heazlett

Camera: Becky Simons

Computer: Paul Wire

Sound: Cheryl Stueven

Lead Tech: Jacob Weeks

Vocalists: Cassie & Riley Simcox,
Rachel & Annabelle Simington

Worship Leader: Eric Tigges

*Worship partners for
Wednesday, November 22*

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

Altar Prep:

Shirley Nelson, Susie Brinkley

Children's Message: Laura Hamann

Counters: Jolynne Eilts, Barb Solberg

Greeters/Ushers: Jim & Joan Unrau

Instrumentalists: Leah Kreutner,
Gloria McKenney, Jared Hansen,
Anna Quanbeck

Prayers of the Church:
Pastor Ben Unseth

Scripture Reader: Laura Heikens

Camera: Brittany Spieker

Computer: Cindy Tigges

Sound: Cheryl Stueven

Lead Tech: Jacob Weeks

Vocalists: Brett & Jolynne Eilts,
Lacey Johnson

Worship Leader: Justin Spieker

*Worship partners for
Sunday, November 26*

Altar Prep: Shirley Nelson, Susie Brinkley

Children's Message: Donna Johnson

Counters: Shanna Kooker, Becky Simons

Fellowship & Set up: Cindy Essick,
Larry Peterson

Greeters/Ushers: Rod & Cryss Quanbeck

Instrumentalists: Carolyn Dundas,
Gloria McKenney, Evan Storley,
Anna Quanbeck

Message: Eric Patten

Prayers of the Church: Brett Eilts

Scripture Reader: Emily Hoppe

Camera: Paul Wire

Computer: Kent Heazlett

Sound: Brett Eilts

Lead Tech: Jacob Weeks

Vocalists: Lisa Buchan, Emily Quanbeck,
Brittany & Ellie Spieker

Worship Leader: Jalyce Storley



meet **our** STAFF

Pastor Ben Unseth
pastor@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

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

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

To meet our 2023 budget and fulfill our financial commitments, Faith needs to receive \$118,494.93 by the end of the year, which amounts to \$16,927.82 each week.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

2023	Attendance	Live Stream Computers	General Giving	Year to Date	Needed to Make Budget
October	158	21	\$25,025.00	\$282,486.33	\$131,472.92
Nov. 1-5	186	24	\$ 7,211.00	\$289,420.32	\$124,538.93
Nov. 6-12	175	24	\$ 5,646.00	\$295,464.32	\$118,494.93

NETWORK
FAITH_Guest
WIFI PASSWORD
7125804316

Upper Des Moines Opportunity (UDMO) Food Pantry is in need of **peanut butter and jelly.**
Bars of soap & UDMO food items can be put in the yellow Missions box near the front doors.



This Week at Faith!

Today - November 19 -

Thanks for Giving Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Worship Musician Rehearsal
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Stewardship's Thanks for Giving meal
10:20 a.m. Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study

Monday, November 20

12:30-5:30 p.m. LifeKids

Tuesday, November 21

- 12:30-5:30 p.m. LifeKids
5:00-8:00 p.m. Team Restoration Christian Counseling

Wednesday, November 22

- 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
5:30 p.m. Vocalist Rehearsal for 6:30 p.m. service
6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Worship service
7:30 p.m. Vocalist Rehearsal for Sunday's 9:00 a.m. service

Thursday, November 23 - Thanksgiving Day - Church Office closed.

Friday, November 24 - Church Office Closed.

Saturday, November 25

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

Upcoming Events!

November 22 Thanksgiving Eve Worship, 6:30 p.m.

Please contact the church office (712-580-4316) for a current calendar of events.
Or, check the online calendar at www.flcspencer.org/our-calendar/

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 or office@flcspencer.org

Birthday blessings to ...

Nov. 19	<i>Gayle Simons</i>
Nov. 20	<i>Roger Hanson</i>
Nov. 23	<i>Kris Behrens</i>
Nov. 24	<i>Norah Hansen, Rich Stueven, Brooke Erdman, Chad Johnson</i>

Anniversary wishes to ...

Nov. 22	<i>Del & Lois Christman</i>
Nov. 24	<i>Doug & Courtney Schwartz, Keith & Diane Van Kleek</i>