



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Highland, Michigan 48356

(248)887-2550

August 10, 2025

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to welcome and unite God's people to nurture faith through the Gospel, and provide opportunities and commitment to serve Christ through our Ministry within the congregation and the community.

Faith Lutheran Church
(248-887-5550)

Church E-mail—office@faithhighland.com Website—faithhighland.com
Find us on Facebook at Faith Lutheran Church - Highland, MI or by following this
link: <https://www.facebook.com/HighlandFLC/>

If you are in need of prayer or pastoral care, please contact your assigned elder.

Office Business hours: Tuesday—Friday 9:00am —1:00pm

Those serving in our Worship today

Rev. Galen Grulke	Preacher
Mrs. Jacqueline Rhodes	Director of Music Ministries
Patricia Hartsell	Church Secretary
Carl Lemke	Elder
Michelle Krusinski/Laura Hornbacher	Altar
Steve Tino	Trustee
Dean Rhodes	Reader

Prayer Request Cards

are available through the Elder as you enter the sanctuary.

AS WE GATHER – Today is the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost as we journey through the Gospel of St. Luke. We welcome you to our worship service this weekend. What a privilege it is to gather with fellow Christians to praise & worship our God and thank Him for His many blessings. As we huddle around God’s Word today, Jesus comes to us in Luke 12:22-34 with His words of promise – “Do not be anxious...do not worry about your life...Fear not, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” God bless our worship and our meditation on our message today -- **“When FEAR Knocks, Let FAITH Answer!”**

WELCOME

(People stand)

INVITING GOD’S PRESENCE AMONG US

P: God is here waiting for us with a tender heart and a searching question. God is ready for us with truth and wisdom from His well of salvation and desires to bless us with springs of living water and to send us to sing, pray, and witness every day.

C: God is here Let our worship begin in the name of the Father and of † the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

OPENING HYMN *“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”* LSB 352

**Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has truly kept His Word,
And at last to us did send, Christ, the sinner’s help and friend.**

**Welcome, O my Savior, now! Joyful, Lord, to you I bow.
Come into my heart, I pray; Oh, prepare yourself a way!**

(People kneel/sit)

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

P: As people of God we come into the presence of our heavenly Father confessing our sins and pleading for mercy before His throne of grace.

C: Gracious Father, we confess that we are afraid of many things. Our past misdeeds haunt us; we fear Your judgment against them. fear often replaces our faith as we hear the news of the day or encounter new challenges in our lives. At times we fear what the future holds for us rather than trusting in Your promises. Father, forgive our sins, calm our fears and replace them with a firm and abiding faith in You and Your Son, Jesus. In His name, and in faith, we pray. Amen.

(Sung) LSB 352 vv.5 &6

**Bruise for me the serpent's head, that set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to You in faith, safely kept through life and death.**

**Then when you will come again as the glorious king to reign,
I with joy will see Your face, freely ransomed by Your Grace**

P: Our God speaks to us today from His Word, "Do not be afraid...I am your shield, your great reward." He also speaks through His Son, Jesus, "Do not be anxious...do not worry about your life...Fear not, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." And He speaks through me, as a called and ordained servant of the word and announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. For Your gift of forgiveness and grace gift of faith we thank and praise You, O God.

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye Heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

(People stand and sing)
Hym of Praise LSB 805

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray: Lord Jesus, our Savior from sin, help us not to put hope in the things of this life, but to keep our eyes fixed firmly on the goal of eternal life with You in heaven.

C: In the midst of our anxiety, fears, and worries in life, send Your Holy Spirit to strengthen our faith and to trust You and never doubt that You will make it all work for our good. In Your most precious name we pray. Amen.

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

(People are seated)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING – Genesis 15:1-6 Like Abraham, some might feel like they're "as good as dead," but remember, our Great God is in the business of making all things new...making us alive by faith!

God's Covenant with Abram *After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." ⁴ And behold the word of the Lord came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir." ⁵ And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." ⁶ And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness. Genesis 15:1-6*

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

THE NEW TESTAMENT EPISTLE READING - Hebrews 11:1-16 Faith is defined and exemplified in the life of Abraham and others.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² For by it the people of old received their commendation. ³ By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. ⁴ By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. ⁵ By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken, he was commended as having pleased God. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. ⁷ By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith. ⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. ¹⁴ For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

(People stand)

VERSE

A: Alleluia. "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,

C: the conviction of things not seen." Alleluia. Hebrews 11:1

HOLY GOSPEL - Luke 12:22-34 Jesus describes the practical application of our faith in the day-to-day details of Christian living as it prepares us for the hour of His return and the coming of His kingdom.

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

And he [Jesus] said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? ²⁷ Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. ³⁰ For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you. ³² "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions, and give them to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(People are seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens

LSB 589

MESSAGE “When FEAR Knocks, Let FAITH Answer!”

Pastor Galen Grulke

(People stand)

A STATEMENT OF FAITH (Martin Luther's explanations to the three articles of the Apostles' Creed serve as the substance for this Statement of Faith.)

I have faith in a living God who formed the universe by the command of His Word.

I believe that God created me and all creatures and still preserves His world...

I have faith in His Son, Jesus, God from eternity, yet conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary. I believe He lived a perfect life for me, died on a cross for my sins, and rose to life again so that I might have eternal life in His name...

I have faith in the Holy Spirit, who called me by the Gospel to believe in Jesus as my Savior. I believe that He will keep me in the true faith until my life ends or until my Lord Jesus returns again to claim me as His own...

My faith rests solidly on the promises of God and His grace, not on my merits or worth. This I believe and confess before my God and you, my brothers and sisters in Christ. Amen.

(People are seated)

WE WORSHIP GOD WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY SONG

We Give Thee But Thine Own

LSB 781

(People stand)

OUR TIME OF PRAYER

P: Let us approach the throne of our God in faith and confidence, bringing before our heavenly Father the needs of the Church and all people. (Moment of silent prayer) Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we come before You not in fear and trembling, but in faith. Having been baptized into Christ and cleansed with His blood, we stand before You in honor and praise of all Your wonderful deeds, none the least of which is our salvation.

C: Strengthen our faith so that we like Abraham might believe Your promises even when we don't see the reality of them.

P: O Lord, because we are weak and powerless apart from You, defend us against all our enemies and bless our nation and those who lead us.

C: Make them wise and bless them with a godly heart, that they may seek justice and show mercy, especially on behalf of the unborn and those least able to defend themselves.

P: Lord Jesus, increase our faith in Your wise ways and gracious will. Preserve us from reliance on our own plans and natural powers, that we would ever trust in You. Help us always to be ready for Your coming or Your call for us to enter the heavenly kingdom prepared for us.

C: Help us to look forward with anticipation to that day when we will join You and all the saints in the glories of our heavenly home.

P: Grant us, O Lord, a steadfast faith in Jesus Christ, a cheerful hope in Your mercy, and a sincere love for You and our neighbors. Although we are not worthy of Your benefits...

C: Accept our sacrifice of thanks, together with the offerings that we return to You in faith, ever grateful for all Your God-given gracious gifts and blessings.

P: Merciful Lord, You know our needs before we ask, yet You invite us to pray for health and healing, comfort and peace, so we bring before Your throne of grace these special needs of Your people [especially _____]. Lord, You are the Great Physician and...

C: We place those for whom we pray into Your miraculous, healing hands and their loved ones into Your daily comfort and care.

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, You worked the salvation of the world through the death of Your dear Son, and You work out Your holy purposes through the deaths of Your saints.

C: Make us faithful unto death, and so receive the fulfillment of all Your promises; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, in Whose name we pray: 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.

BLESSING

P: May the Lord who spoke to Abraham be your Shield and Great Reward in the coming days. May our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and shepherd you in the days ahead. May the Spirit of our eternal God – Father, Son, † and Holy Spirit, be with you and keep you in the true faith unto eternal life.

C: Amen...So shall it be, Lord. Amen

THE SENDING SONG

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

LSB 922

