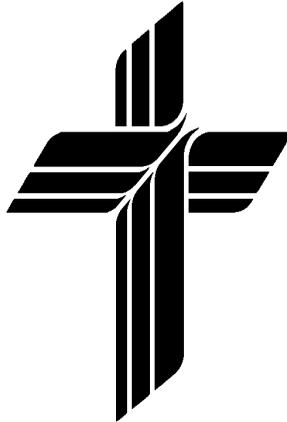


# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

La Crosse, Wisconsin  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost  
November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020



***Our purpose:*** Faith Lutheran Church exists to share with all, God's love through Christ and His promise of salvation!

***As We Gather...*** Philip Nicolai is a man for our times. The man who authored the hymn of the day "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying" wrote this hymn in the midst of an epidemic which killed more than 1,400 of the town's 2,500 inhabitants. He remarked that at times he was burying more than thirty people per day. Yet in the midst of this epidemic he completed his work "Mirror of the Joys of Eternal Life" which contains the hymn "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying." This hymn is based off of Matthew 25:1–13, the parable of the ten virgins which is our Gospel text for today. We don't know when the bridegroom is coming, but like Philip Nicolai, we can wait with joy, even in the midst of adverse circumstances.

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## 516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing," The watch - men on the  
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, And all her heart with  
 3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"  
 joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.  
 sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing  
 For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in  
 Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?  
 truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.  
 choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!  
 Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,  
 No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare  
 Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall  
 Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly



To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."  
 To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.  
 Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

Text and tune: Public domain

**Common Versicles**

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
- C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- C** make haste to help me, O Lord.
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.  
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.

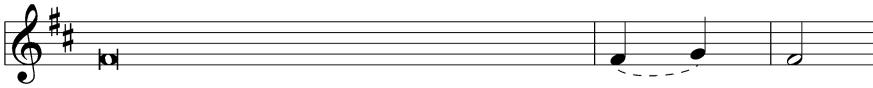
**Antiphon (Common)**

LSB 220

- L** Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C** O come, let us worship Him.

**Venite**

LSB 220



- C** 1 O come, let us sing . . . . . to the Lord,
- 2 For the Lord is a . . . . . great God
- 3 The sea is His, for He . . . . . made it,
  
- 5 Glory be to the Father and . . . . . to the Son



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
- 2 and a great . . . . . king a - bove all gods.
- 3 and His hand . . . . . formed the dry land.
  
- 5 and to the . . . . . Ho - ly Spir - it;



- 1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
- 2 The deep places of the earth are . . . . . in His hand;
- 3 O come, let us worship and . . . . . bow down,
- 4 For He . . . . . is our God,
- 5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to . . . . . Him with songs of praise.
- 2 the strength of the hills is . . . . . His al - so.
- 3 let us kneel before the . . . . . Lord, our mak - er.
- 4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
- 5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

## Antiphon (Common)

LSB 221

- L** Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C** O come, let us worship Him.

### Introit

*Psalm 84:1, 9–12; antiphon: v. 3*

- P** Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- C** How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
- P** Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed!
- C** For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.
- P** For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.
- C** O Lord of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- P** Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

### Luther's Small Catechism

- P** The Fourth Petition.
- C** Give us today our daily bread.
- P** What does this mean?
- C** God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.
- P** What is meant by daily bread?
- C** Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

### Old Testament

*Amos 5:18–24*

- <sup>18</sup>Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! Why would you have the day of the LORD? It is darkness, and not light, <sup>19</sup>as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him.
- <sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

<sup>21</sup>“I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. <sup>22</sup>Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. <sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. <sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle Reading

*1 Thessalonians 4:13–18*

<sup>13</sup>But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Reading

*Matthew 25:1–13*

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

- L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**
- L** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**
- L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

sts. 1-2



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;  
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride - groom near;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.  
 Go forth as He ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.  
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.  
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride - groom is at hand.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Installation of New Church Officers

Apostles' Creed

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

## Kyrie

227



**C** Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

## Lord's Prayer

**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.

## Introduction to Collects

LSB 227

- L** O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C** And let my cry come to You.

## Prayer of the Church

**P** Lord, You are our help and deliverer and to You we bring the prayers and petitions of Your people,

*[Various petitions are offered, when the Pastor says, "Let us pray to the Lord" The congregation replies "Lord, have mercy."]*

**P** ... grant us all that we need and all that will profit our salvation, let us pray in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Collect of the Day

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Collect for the Word

**L** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Collect for Grace

**L** O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Benedicamus

LSB 228

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

228

**P** The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** Amen.

## 515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

sts. 3–4



3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f'ring's bore,  
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.  
A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



In tri - umph cast be - fore Him Their di - a - dems of gold.  
The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets Your peo - ple free!

Text and tune: Public domain

## Verse to Ponder

Acts 2:38

<sup>38</sup>And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

## Acknowledgments

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**VISITORS:** Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church. We're glad to have you join us today and hope you find your worship here to be fulfilling and joyful! Please fill out the Record of Fellowship in the pew books, sign our Guest Book in the Narthex, and be sure to speak with an usher for a Welcome packet. We hope to see you again soon!

**PLEASE NOTE...** Faith Lutheran Church is pleased to be able to offer a loop hearing assistance system. To access this system, simply activate the T-coil setting on your hearing aid. If you don't have a hearing aid or your hearing aid lacks a T-coil switch, we have headsets available which will provide sound amplification throughout the worship service. Please see an usher if you have any questions.

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are given to the Honor and Glory of God by Lyle and Karen Bernau.

**LUTHERAN HOUR RADIO** is broadcast on WKTY 580 AM Sundays at 7:30 AM. On **Sunday Nov 15<sup>th</sup>** Guest Speaker Pastor Gerhard Bolling shares his message titled "**Bigger.**" Big problems call for faith in an even bigger God. Pastor Gerard Bolling tells how the God Who is bigger than our problems works through us to bring bigger blessings to the people around us.

**LUTHERANS FOR LIFE November 8<sup>th</sup>** "Maybe you enjoy showing hospitality to others, whether at home or as part of a joint effort at church. Perhaps you invite people who are lonely or people who are hungry or homeless or far away from home. Perhaps you are reaching out to refugees or to international students. Perhaps you take a casserole to a family with a new baby or buy toothpaste and toilet paper for the local homeless shelter. If so, you are showing hospitality to Jesus. What an honor to be able to do so!" *Dr. Kari Vo, Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* ♥ [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)

### **BIBLE STUDIES THIS WEEK**

College Study: Cross: Topical Study: Christmas and Magic

Men's Study: Promise: God is For Us – Thursday at 9:00 AM

Women's Study: Women of the Bible – Thursday at Noon

Sunday Study: Today: Pentecost

Next Week: Stephen's Stoning

**SPREAD THE WARMTH:** Winter is coming and we are looking for handmade hats. We are also looking for donations of money to buy hats and socks. If interested in helping, contact Sandy Kirchner at [kirchners@centurytel.net](mailto:kirchners@centurytel.net).

**MIDWEEK VESPERS** Evening prayer services are held on Wednesdays, 6:30 pm, to augment your home devotions. The readings follow the green sheet, and the message is different than Sunday. We livestream the service so you may follow along from home. *NB: We consistently encourage everyone to follow our county health department's guidance on physical distancing and our governor's emergency order mandating masks, we are admitting to this Wednesday night service, those who, for medical reasons, cannot wear masks (see emergency order section 3.b.). Please keep this in mind as you make choices on attending this service in person as not everyone will be wearing a mask. Please note that we still require masks to be worn at the Sunday services and all Bible studies regardless of the status of the governor's mask mandate.*

**THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE** Wednesday November 25th at 6:30—Online

**ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES** 6:30 p.m. Wednesday nights in December—ONLINE In the courtroom dramas, a common trope is the prosecutor asking the witness, "Where were you on the night of [insert date here]?" Join us as we attempt to put God in the witness stand and ask Him where He was in the year 2020. This question, known formally as theodicy, asks how a perfect, almighty God can allow evil. This is a question that the faithful have been asking for centuries. One such faithful believer is Habakkuk who writes concerning the impending doom of Jerusalem. On the evenings of December 2nd, 9th, and 16th, tune in to God as my Witness: Wrestling with God in Habakkuk. Each night follows a theme that starts with a W: "Why, God?", "Wait." — God, and Worship God.

**A WORD ON ONLINE SERVICES** Due to the increased risk of in-person gathering, we encourage Faith members to watch the live stream of the Thanksgiving and Advent midweek services. However, we do need some volunteers to lend their voices to the recording of the service. Email [pastor@faithonmain.com](mailto:pastor@faithonmain.com) if you are interested in attending in person.

**NEW MEMBER CLASS** We will be starting a new member class Sunday, November 22nd after the second service. We will be going through the book *I Have Good News for You*. There is a purchase fee associated with the book. Everyone is welcome to join, whether you are a new member or someone who just wants to review. Email [pastor@faithonmain.com](mailto:pastor@faithonmain.com) for more details.

**LA CROSSE WARMING CENTER** The Warming Center is open and will accept donations of milk, bread and coffee at any time. Faith Lutheran Church will be providing the main course of an evening meal for the Warming Center on Monday November 30, serving around 40 people. Mark your calendars – as it gets closer we will be asking for volunteers to help prepare the meal, here at Church, in the late afternoon. We do not have to serve the meal, only prepare and transport.

**Text: Matthew 25:1–13**

**Title: Wake, Awake!**

In 1597, an epidemic swept through the town of Unna and it killed \_\_\_\_\_ of the 2,500 residents of the town.

THE \_\_\_\_\_ WELL SUPPLIES US FOR HIS JOYOUS ARRIVAL.

I. Life makes us weary to wait for the \_\_\_\_\_ arrival.

As Christians we are called to be vigilant and watch for the \_\_\_\_\_ to come again.

II. The \_\_\_\_\_ supplies us with everything we need.

What supplies us also supplied Philipp Nicolai, and it is simple—three things: the Word of God, the Sacraments, and \_\_\_\_\_.

III. The Joys of the \_\_\_\_\_ will make the wait worth it.

“During the entire time of the plague I put all disputes in the back of my mind with \_\_\_\_\_ and with the praiseworthy reflection upon \_\_\_\_\_.”