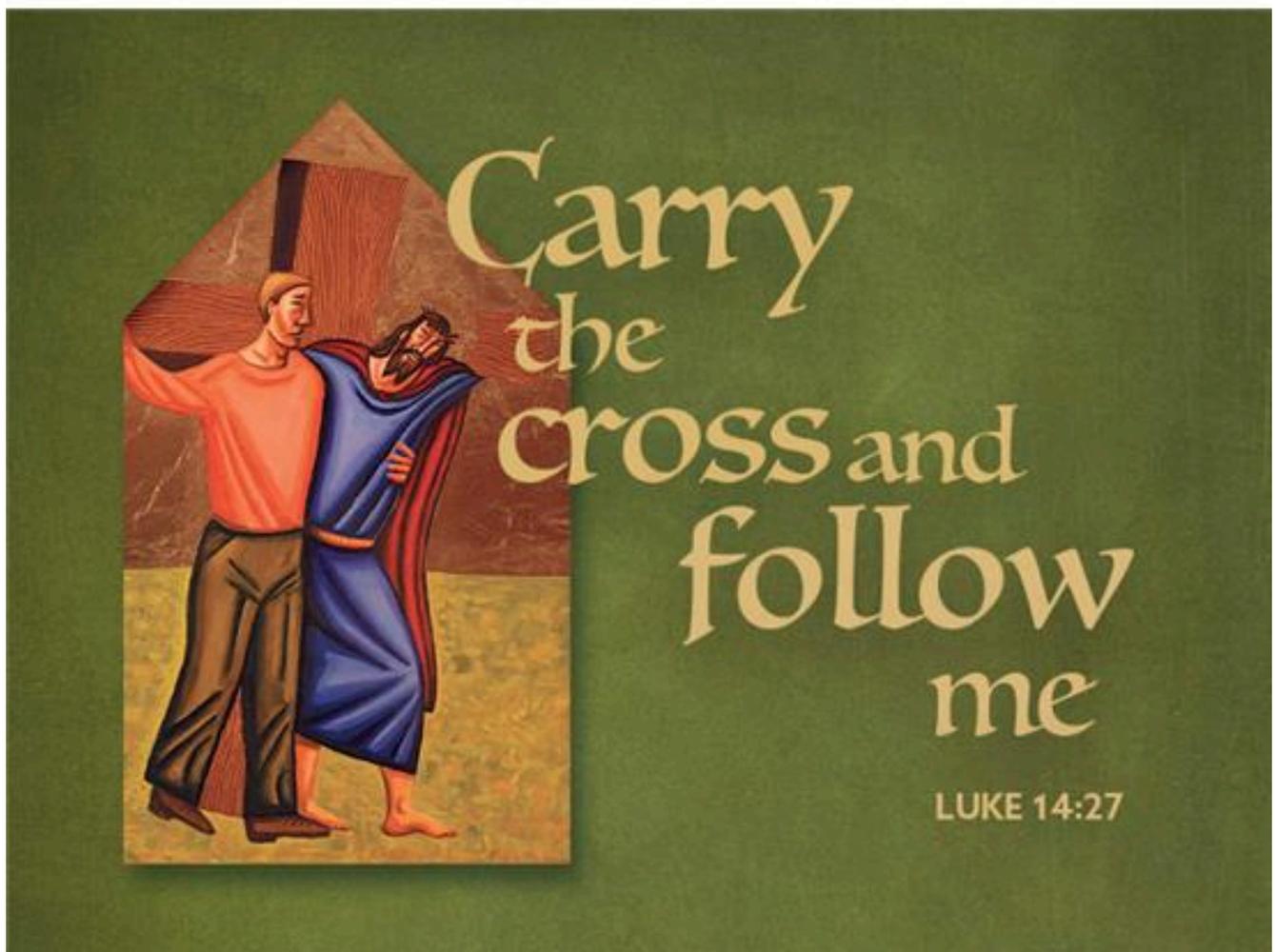


Faith Lutheran Church - Worship and Communion  
September 7, 2025 at 9:30 AM

*13th Sunday after Pentecost*



**Welcome!** We are a family of faith and so glad you are here! Most of the liturgy is printed within or in the ELW Hymnal, Setting 8; Congregational responses are shown in **bold** in the bulletin.

**Children's Bulletins** with activities are found in the narthex (entrance). Please enjoy!

God is present in **Holy Communion** and welcomes all who are hungry. You are welcome to the table. Non-communing children and adults may come forward for a blessing. Let an usher know if you would like communion at your seat.

Our **Candle Lighting station** is available during worship if you are moved to light a candle as a part of your prayer for someone or something, or in the thanksgiving or sorrows of your heart. You're most welcome during communion as we sing and pray.

**In Worship on the 13th Sunday after Pentecost:** Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

**Serving Today: Greeter:** Debbie H. **Reader:** Jean C. **Asst Minister:** Cole P.

**Cantor:** Dan P. **Usher:** Tommy K. **Altar Guild:** Eileen W. & Kathy W.

**Tech Support:** Alex K. **Counters:** Linda Z & Theresa W. **Musicians:** Heinz D. & Olivia K.

**Coffee Host:** Bob & Sharon Scott **Pastor:** Shaun O'Reilly

## -GATHERING-

### PRELUDE

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*moment of centering*

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

*please rise in body and/or Spirit*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful and loving God,  
**we are your stiff-necked people.**  
**We trample on the needy.**  
**We grumble about your grace to others.**  
**We turn away from the poor.**  
**Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.**  
**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost**  
**and have been found. Amen.**

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.  
 Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found.  
 In the name of † Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

***O God Beyond All Praising***

**ELW #880**

- 1 *O God beyond all praising, we worship you today  
 and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;  
 for we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send,  
 at blessings without number and mercies without end:  
 we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,  
 we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.*
- 2 *The flow'r of earthly splendor in time must surely die,  
 its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;  
 but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown—  
 though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown:  
 for Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free,  
 and we through him are given the final victory.*
- 3 *Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,  
 that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;  
 and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,  
 we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:  
 to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,  
 and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.*

**GREETING**

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

## KYRIE

*Refrain*



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the  
 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the  
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for  
 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for  
 hun - gry and the poor; that  
 friends and fam - i - ly; for  
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
 we may live out . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
 life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

*Refrain*



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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-WORD-

### FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

*Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the LORD; or choose death by following other gods.*

“See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess.

But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses.

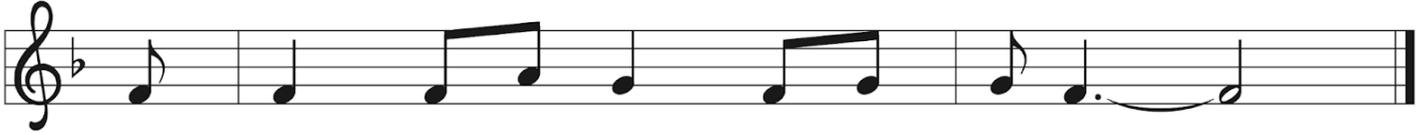
Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

Word of God; word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**



## PSALMODY: Psalm 1

### Refrain



The LORD knows the way of the righ - teous.

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!

**Their delight is in the law | of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God's teaching | day and night.     *Refrain***

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with  
leaves that | do not wither; everything they | do shall prosper.

**It is not so | with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.**

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.

**For the LORD knows the way | of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed.     *Refrain***

## SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21

*Onesimus, a new Christian and a man enslaved by Philemon, has helped Paul, who is in prison. Paul writes this letter to his friend Philemon to encourage him to receive Onesimus, upon his return, as a sibling in Christ.*

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,  
To our beloved coworker Philemon, to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in

Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

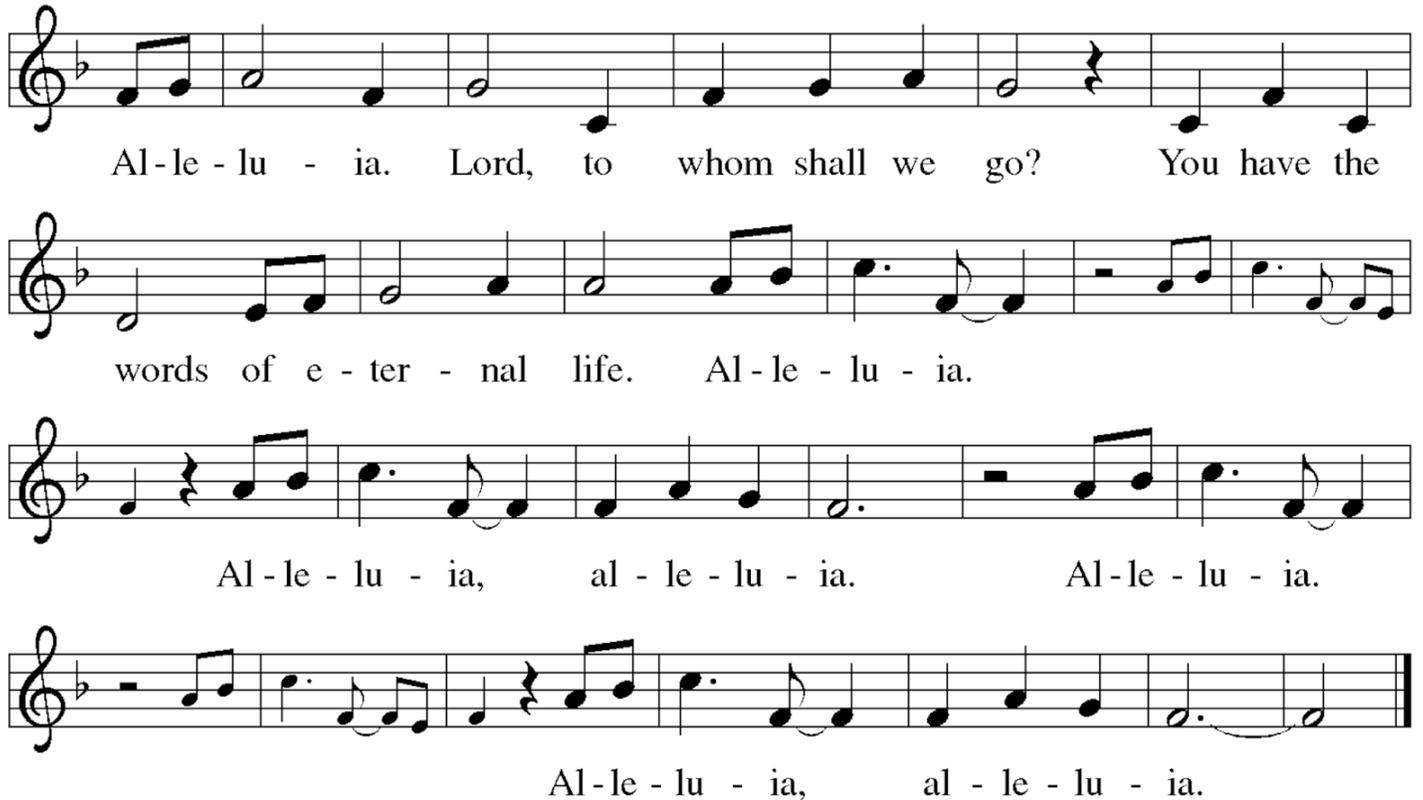
For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced.

Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

Word of God; word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**



**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***please rise in body and/or spirit*


Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke in the fourteenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33**

Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?

Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and

consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Rev. Shaun O'Reilly**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

***Will You Come and Follow Me\****

**ELW #798**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1</b> "Will you come and follow me<br/>if I but call your name?<br/>Will you go where you don't know<br/>and never be the same?<br/>Will you let my love be shown,<br/>will you let my name be known,<br/>will you let my life be grown<br/>in you and you in me?"</p> <p><b>2</b> "Will you leave yourself behind<br/>if I but call your name?<br/>Will you care for cruel and kind<br/>and never be the same?<br/>Will you risk the hostile stare,<br/>should your life attract or scare?<br/>Will you let me answer pray'r<br/>in you and you in me?"</p> <p><b>3</b> "Will you let the blinded see<br/>if I but call your name?<br/>Will you set the pris'ners free<br/>and never be the same?<br/>Will you kiss the leper clean,</p> | <p>and do such as this unseen,<br/>and admit to what I mean<br/>in you and you in me?"</p> <p><b>4</b> "Will you love the you you hide<br/>if I but call your name?<br/>Will you quell the fear inside<br/>and never be the same?<br/>Will you use the faith you've found<br/>to reshape the world around,<br/>through my sight and touch and<br/>sound in you and you in me?"</p> <p><b>5</b> Lord, your summons echoes true<br/>when you but call my name.<br/>Let me turn and follow you<br/>and never be the same.<br/>In your company I'll go<br/>where your love and footsteps<br/>show. Thus I'll move and live and<br/>grow in you and you in me.</p> |
|---|---|

**RESPONSE OF FAITH**

**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**

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

**PEACE**

**The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.**

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**- MEAL -**

**OFFERING**

*Salut d'Amour by Elgar*

**OFFERING PRAYER****GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**The Lord be with you. And also with you.**

**Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.**

**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**SANCTUS**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**  
**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**COMMUNION & HYMNS****AGNUS DEI**

pg. 191

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.***Just as I Am, Without One Plea\***

ELW #592

1 Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that thy blood was shed for  
me, and that thou bidd'st me  
come to thee, O Lamb of God, I  
come, I come.

3 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse,  
relieve; because thy promise I  
believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I  
come,

2 Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many a conflict, many a  
doubt, fightings and fears within,  
without, O Lamb of God, I come, I  
come.

4 Just as I am; thy love unknown  
has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

**Take, O Take Me as I Am\***

ELW #814

*Take, oh, take me as I am;  
summon out what I shall be;  
set your seal upon my heart  
and live in me.*

**Breathe on Us**

Ruthanne Svendsen

*Breathe on us Holy Spirit, Breathe in us breath of God,  
to do justice, and love mercy, and walk humbly with our God,  
to do justice, and love mercy, and walk humbly with our God.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**


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**- SENDING -**

**BLESSING**

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;  
and the life of the Spirit ✚ bless you and give you peace. **Amen**

**SENDING HYMN*****Lift High the Cross\******ELW #660****Refrain**

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.**

- 1** Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,  
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. **Refrain**
- 2** All newborn servants of the Crucified  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died. **Refrain**
- 3** O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. **Refrain**
- 4** So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
praise to the Crucified for victory! **Refrain**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE****We are Grateful for the Flowers in our Worship Space**

*Today's flowers are provided by the Powell Family in  
Remembrance of Richard Powell.*



**\* denotes a favorite hymn of the congregation**

**Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses:**

When you become aware that you are perceiving and experiencing your self and not God, be filled with sincere sorrow, and long with all your heart to be entirely absorbed in the experience of God alone. Long to flee from self as from poison. Forget and disregard your self as ruthlessly as the Lord demands. Yet do not misunderstand my words. I did not say that you must desire to un-be, for that is madness and blasphemy against God. I said that you must desire to love the knowledge and experience of God if you are to experience God's love as fully as possible in this life. For you are to realize how heavy and painful is the burden of self. See how necessary it is to bear this painful burden, the cross of self.

—*The Book of Privy Counseling*

[*The Book of Privy Counseling*, ed. William Johnston (Garden City, NY: Image Books 1973), 172-73.]

<b>September Worship Schedule</b>				
<b>Task</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Greeter</b>	Debbie H	Richard S	Betty T	Debbie H
<b>Reader</b>	Jean C	Erica W	Pam S	Linda Z
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Cole P	Sharon S	Todd M	Matthew R
<b>Cantor</b>	Dan P	Sharon S	Todd M	Wes G
<b>Usher</b>	Tommy K	Zack W	Eileen W	Tom L
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Eileen W Kathy W	Betty T Annette W	Sharon S Sophia G	Annette W Betty T
<b>Tech Support</b>	Alex K	Eric W	Alex K	Eric W
<b>Musicians</b>	Heinz D Olivia K	Heinz D Olivia K	Heinz D Olivia K	Heinz D Olivia K
<b>Counters</b>	Linda Z Theresa W	Theresa W Davyann S	Davyann S Sigrun C	Linda Z Sigrun C
<b>Coffee after Worship</b>	Bob & Sharon Scott	Open	Open	Mark Herman

## Activities At Faith

~ **Adult Forum** is off until Sept 21st and returns, along with **Kid's Place**, with **an Enrichment Time for All Ages!** Our groups return with an Art Activity to go with the movement of the Fall Equinox and the season of change approaching this fall. All Ages meet in the back of the sanctuary for expressive art-making for the next few weeks together.

~ **Altar Guild - Saturday, September 13th 12 pm.** For existing, returning, and new volunteers who desire to serve our Lord in the ancient practice of preparing the altar and worship space for Sunday service. See Sharon Scagliotti, worship chair.

~ There are openings available in September for Coffee after Worship. Please share in hospitality, even as simply as you might be able. Paring/grouping up works too!

~**Fellowship Dinner** - September 25th 4:30 pm at The Stonehouse Cafe`, Reno NV. You can sign up in the Narthex. We've had wonderful turnouts for our recent dinners with delicious food and lively conversation. If you're new to these gatherings, we'd love to have you join us!

~ **Lunch Bunch** - Join us October 1st for a Potluck at Faith at 12pm. Bring something to share!

~ **Oktoberfest October 4th** - Please see the details in the September Newsletter.

Come to Worship. Go to Serve. Embrace the Community.

**[www.faithlutheranreno.org](http://www.faithlutheranreno.org)**

2027 W. 7th St. Reno NV 89503  
Church Office Phone: 775-747-3246