

Septuagesima

February 16, 2025



**“Am I not allowed to do what I
choose with what belongs to me?
Or do you begrudge my
generosity?”**

(Matthew 20:15 ESV)

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Welcome to the Divine Service where the risen Christ comes into our midst to bring us the peace of His cross and empty tomb. We pray that the Lord would grant us His Holy Spirit that His Word would bear the fruits of faith in Christ and works of love toward our neighbor.

The Lord's Supper is a confession that we are united in holding to all the doctrines of God's Word. Those who do not know and hold to the doctrinal commitment of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are requested to attend the Adult Instruction Class for membership before communing at Faith Lutheran Church.

Grace Alone

The people of Israel contended with the Lord in the wilderness (Ex. 17:1–7). They were dissatisfied with His provision. In the same way, the first laborers in the vineyard complained against the landowner for the wage he provided them (Matt. 20:1–16). They charged him with being unfair, but in reality he was being generous. For the Lord does not wish to deal with us on the basis of what we deserve but on the basis of His abounding grace in Christ. The first—those who rely on their own merits—will be last. “For they were overthrown in the wilderness” (1 Cor. 10:5). But the last, those who rely on Christ, will be first. For Christ is the Rock (1 Cor. 9:24–10:5). He is the One who was struck and from whose side blood and water flowed that we may be cleansed of our sin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please remember to silence your cell phones during the Divine Service.)

Planning Meeting! This coming Saturday, February 22, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.: All are invited and encouraged to attend as we discuss activities and projects for the upcoming year. Boards and committees are to bring their proposed activities and projects for consideration and discussion. Suggestions can also be given to elders or council members.

Fellowship Lunch today after the Divine Service.

The new edition of the Lutheran Witness has arrived. Be sure and pick up a copy today.

Mite Sunday today. The mighty mite is used for multiple missions including fortifying faith in those with vision impairment through Lutheran Braille Workers and mental health outreach through LCMS Life Ministry to name just two out of the 30 plus missions LWML supports through mites. Your spare change does make a difference!

Faith Plano has extended an invitation to Faith Wylie youth to join in the next FLAG event on Sunday, February 23rd from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. The group will meet at the church (Faith Plano) and travel to a local nursing home to sing to the residents, and then will return to the church for pizza and fellowship. Please RSVP so they know how much pizza to order, and bring \$3.00 to help cover the cost of the pizza.

Women of Faith, mark your calendars to join us on March 7 & 8 for our Women's Retreat at Springhill Retreat Center in Richardson. We will be considering the topic of "Prayer in our Vocations". More information will be coming soon.

If you have moved or have a new telephone number or email address, please contact the church office so we have your most recent contact information. An update to the October 2023 directory is planned sometime during the late summer.

Zelle has recently added features that now allow us to view what is on the MEMO line of the transaction. This will allow us to expand and include

Restricted Fund giving via Zelle. A full list of all current restricted fund accounts is posted on the bulletin board next to the water coolers. Going forward, please specify the account name in the memo line on all Zelle contributions. This will ensure that your offerings are placed in the proper fund. Failure to do so will result in the donation defaulting to the General Fund.

Karaoke for Christian hymns... You can sing hymns like “Now Thank We All Our God,” “O Lord, Look Down from Heaven Behold,” “Now Rest Beneath Night’s Shadow,” “O Little Town of Bethlehem,” “The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done,” “O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe,” and more. Lutheran Public Radio has produced YouTube videos of more than 50 hymns featuring the Lutheran Public Radio Choir. Sing along at lutheranpublicradio.org/karaoke.

OUR LIFE AS CHRISTIAN STEWARDS

Matthew 20:9 – “And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius.” That’s not what they were expecting! The generosity of God is surprising because we are often so tightfisted. But the Lord gives out of His grace, better than we could deserve or even hope for. Living a godly life means living in imitation of God — and surely one of the foundations of God’s being is His surprising generosity. How is the Lord calling you to generous living in His image?

UPCOMING WEEK’S EVENTS

SUNDAY	<i>Septuagesima</i>
<i>02/16/25</i>	9:30 AM – Divine Service 11:15 AM – Sunday School / Bible Class 12:30 PM – Fellowship Lunch
TUESDAY	9:00 AM – Women’s Bible Study 11:00 AM – Circuit Winkle (Pastor) 3:00 PM – Adult Catechesis
WEDNESDAY	6:15 PM – Youth Catechesis
THURSDAY	10:30 AM – Men’s Bible Study
FRIDAY	9:30 AM – Matins 10:15 AM – Confession and Absolution

SATURDAY 9:00 AM – Planning Meeting (9a-12p)
 6:00 PM – February Fling (Faith Lutheran School, Plano)

SUNDAY
Sexagesima
02/23/25 9:30 AM – Divine Service
 11:15 AM – Sunday School / Bible Class

PRAYERS

- Those in our congregation who are homebound: Judy Michels, Melanie Obenhaus, Vicky Cantrell, Dony Reaves, Connie Kimber, Tula Sheehan.
- Baptismal birthdays celebrated this week: Tori Thibodeaux.
- Birthdays celebrated this week: Kristin Hackbart, Dony Reaves.
- Peace and healing for the Schwiesow family as they are all suffering from various stages of the flu.
- Samuel and Rachel Preuss, in thanksgiving for the early birth of their sixth child who is doing well in the neonatal ICU. Rachel, who was diagnosed with breast cancer during pregnancy, is now able to undergo treatment.
- Sherry Burke in thanksgiving for a return home and for improving health as she continues to recover from her recent serious illness and hospitalization.
- Jenny Long, daughter-in-law of James Long, who underwent surgery this past week.
- JE Purcell, Alissa Ulmer’s grandfather, who is suffering from ongoing mini-strokes.
- Gaye (Sandra Traugott’s cousin) as she begins the first round of 16 treatments of chemotherapy.
- Chris Purcell, Alissa Ulmer’s father, who is suffering from COVID.

- Cristy, Gail Seller's daughter, as she recovers from a surgical procedure.
- Emma Casanova, Susan Dickson, and Brianna Mallon for protection of mother and child in pregnancy (Psalm 139:13).
- Those struggling with ongoing health issues:
Dony Reaves, Connie Kimber, Tula Sheehan, Devin Jackson, Doug Drawe, Gary Sakko, Deanna, Dana Evans, Greg McClure, Georgette Walter, Dan Kostoff, Jill, Rush, Ninette DeYoung, Kristina Wishmeyer, Brandon Rhodes, Renee, Todd Hauth.
- Those struggling with other ongoing needs:
Frank and Antonia, Matt, Michael.

Assisting in the Divine Service Today:

Elder – Brian Hendon

Altar: Aimee Hendon/Robin Hauth

Organist – Rebekah Roundey

2/9/25 General Fund Offerings received: \$4,605.00

Restricted Fund Offerings received: \$13.00

Weekly budget needed: \$4,642.80;

Budget year to date: **deficit: -\$4,216.18**

Calendar year to date: **deficit: -\$3,758.05**