

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Order of Service

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 23, 2026

Divine Service 3

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Hymn 728 How Firm a Foundation

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

Hymn 728 How Firm a Foundation

- 2 Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to
stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

Hymn 728 How Firm a Foundation

- 3 The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
 I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;
 That soul, though all hell should endeavor to
 shake,
 I'll never, no never, no never forsake!

Hymn 728 How Firm a Foundation

- 4 When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
 My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you; I only design
 Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

Hymn 728 How Firm a Foundation

5 Throughout all their lifetime My people will
prove

My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And then, when gray hairs will their temples
adorn,

Like lambs they will still in My bosom be
borne.

Confession and Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a
true heart and confess our sins unto God our
Father, beseeching Him in the name of our
Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Confession and Absolution

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto
the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Confession and Absolution

P Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed.

Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins;**

Confession and Absolution

and by your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins.

Confession and Absolution

To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved, Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C Amen.

Psalmody (based on Psalm 138)

P My salvation will be forever, and My righteousness will never be dismayed.

C **I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods. I sing Your praise; I bow down toward Your holy Temple and give thanks to Your name for Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness, or You have exalted above all things Your name and Your Word.**

P On the day I called, You answered me; my strength of soul, You increased.

Psalmody (based on Psalm 138)

C All the kings of the Earth shall give You thanks, O Lord, for they have heard the words of Your mouth, and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

P For, though the Lord is high, He regards the lowly, but the haughty He knows from afar.

C Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You preserve my life; you stretch out Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your right hand delivers me.

Psalmody (based on Psalm 138)

P The Lord will fulfill His purpose for me; Your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of Your hands.

C [sung] **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Kyrie (sung)

**C Lord, have mercy upon us.
 Christ, have mercy upon us.
 Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Gloria in Excelsis (sung)

P Glory be to God on high:

C and on earth peace, good-will toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship
Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to
Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God,
heav'nly King. God the Father Almighty.
Oh Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus
Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of
the Father, that takest away the sin of the
world, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

**Thou that takest away the sin of world,
receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the
right hand of God the Father, have mercy
upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou
only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost, Art most high in the
glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be the way, the truth and the life, so that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C [sung] **Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson – Isaiah 51: 1-6

Listen to Me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham, your father, and to Sarah, who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him. For the Lord comforts Zion; He comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. “Give attention to Me, My

Old Testament Lesson – Isaiah 51: 1-6

people, and give ear to Me, My nation; for a law will go out from Me, and I will set My justice for a light to the peoples. My righteousness draws near, My salvation has gone out, and My arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for Me, and for My arm they wait. My salvation will be forever, and My righteousness will never be dismayed.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

P Oh, the depth of the riches and the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgements and how inscrutable His ways!

C **For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.**

Epistle Reading – Romans 11:33 – 12:8

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways! For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been His Counselor? Or who has given a gift to Him that He might be repaid? For from Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen. I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind that, by

Epistle Reading – Romans 11:33 – 12:8

testing, you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. For, by the grace given to me, I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For, as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if

Epistle Reading – Romans 11:33 – 12:8

service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia & Verse

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

**P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the
16th chapter.**

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Holy Gospel Matthew 16: 13-20

Now, when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in Heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this

Holy Gospel Matthew 16: 13-20

rock I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and whatever you bind on Earth shall be bound in Heaven, and whatever you loose on Earth shall be loosed in Heaven.”

Then Jesus strictly charged the Disciples to tell no one that He was the Christ.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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.**

Apostles' Creed

C 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.**

Hymn 720 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

- 1 We walk by faith and not by sight,
No gracious words we hear
From Him who spoke as none e'er spoke,
But we believe Him near.

Hymn 720 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

2 We may not touch His hands and side,
 Nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice
 And cry “My Lord and God!”

Hymn 720 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
And may our faith abound
To call on You when You are near
And seek where You are found.

Hymn 720 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

4 For You, O resurrected Lord,
Are found in means divine:
Beneath the water and the Word,
Beneath the bread and wine.

Hymn 720 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

5 Lord, when our life of faith is done,
 In realms of clearer light
We may behold You as You are,
 With full and endless sight.

Sermon

Offertory and Offering

**C Create in me a clean heart, O God,
 and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence,
 and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
 and uphold me with thy free spirit.
Amen.**

The Prayers

P Eternal God and Father, we give You thanks for the blessings we share as members of Your holy Church; for Your gracious Word and Sacraments; for opportunities to worship, and to grow in faith and knowledge; for occasions to serve and be served; for fellowship with believers in our congregation and in our Synod.

C **Help us to rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and to use them faithfully.**

The Prayers

- P Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, You give grace to Your people by calling us to be Your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see Your face, O Jesus and to serve others as we would serve You.
- C **Awaken us to the opportunities You give to proclaim Your message of love.**

The Prayers

- P Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and Sacrament, bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to witness clearly and to act boldly. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.
- C Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.**

The Prayers

P Hear us, Lord as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbour, or a friend who does not believe in You or whose faith is weak or troubled. (*a time for silent prayer*) Bless the Church with men and women who are missionaries, willing to proclaim Your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in Your care, and let nothing hinder their work. By the power of the Gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.

C **Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.**

The Prayers

P Wherever Your word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let Your Kingdom come to us and others, so that many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing Your praise forever. Saviour of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. Amen.

C **We bring these petitions to You, O Father in the name of Your Son, who taught us to pray: Our Father, who art in Heaven.....**

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.**

The Blessing

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the
Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
bless us and keep us.

C **Amen.**

Hymn 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home:

Hymn 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

2 Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Hymn 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

3 Before the hills in order stood
 Or earth received her frame,
 From everlasting Thou art God,
 To endless years the same.

Hymn 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

4 A thousand ages in Thy sight
 Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
 Before the rising sun.

Hymn 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.

Hymn 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last
And our eternal home!