

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Order of Service

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 27, 2026

Divine Service 3

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Hymn 803 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

Hymn 803 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

2 All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Hymn 803 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
 Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
 Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 Fountainhead of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit!
 Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

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 25: 1-10)

P So, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

C To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

P Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Psalmody (based on Psalm 25: 1-10)

**C Make me to know Your ways, O Lord; teach me
Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me,
for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait
all the day long.**

**P Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast
love, for they have been from of old. Remember not
the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according
to Your steadfast love remember me, or the sake of
Your goodness, O Lord!**

**C Good and upright is the Lord; therefore, He
instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble
in what is right, and teaches the humble His way.**

Psalmody (based on Psalm 25: 1-10)

- P** All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His Covenant and His testimonies.
- 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 also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honour and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit, that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C [sung] **Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson – Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-32

The Word of the Lord came to me: “What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel.

Behold, all souls are Mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is Mine: the soul who sins shall die. Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is My way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he

Old Testament Lesson – Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-32

shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are My ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? Therefore, I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your

Old Testament Lesson – Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-32

transgressions lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

P He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

C **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name.**

Epistle Reading – Philippians 2: 1-4, 14-18

So, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit but, in humility, count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted

Epistle Reading – Philippians 2: 1-4, 14-18

generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the Word of Life, so that, in the day of Christ, I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labour in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

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
21st chapter.**

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Holy Gospel Matthew 21: 23-27

And, when Jesus entered the Temple, the Chief Priests and the Elders of the people came up to Him as He was teaching, and said, “By what authority are You doing these things, and who gave You this authority?” He answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell Me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From Heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From Heaven,’ He will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are

Holy Gospel Matthew 21: 23-27

afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And He said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

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 819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

1 Sing praise to God, the highest good,
The author of creation.
The God of love who understood
Our need for His salvation.
With healing balm our souls He fills
And ev'ry faithless murmur stills:
To God all praise and glory!

Hymn 819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

2 What God's almighty pow'r has made,
 In mercy He is keeping.
By morning glow or evening shade
 His eye is never sleeping.
Within the kingdom of His might
 All things are just and good and right:
To God all praise and glory!

Hymn 819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

3 We sought the Lord in our distress;
O God, in mercy hear us.
Our Savior saw our helplessness
And came with peace to cheer us.
For this we thank and praise the Lord,
Who is by one and all adored:
To God all praise and glory!

Hymn 819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

4 He never shall forsake His flock,
 His chosen generation;
He is their refuge and their rock,
 Their peace and their salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand,
 He leads His own, His chosen band:
To God all praise and glory!

Hymn 819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

5 All who confess Christ's holy name,
Give God the praise and glory.
Let all who know His pow'r proclaim
Aloud the wondrous story.
Cast ev'ry idol from its throne,
For God is God, and He alone:
To God all praise and glory!

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

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 Benediction

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Bless we the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon
 you and be gracious unto you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance
 upon you and † give you peace.

C **Amen, amen, amen.**

Hymn 558 Not Unto Us

- 1 Not unto us, not unto us be glory Lord;
Not unto us but to Your name be praise;
Not unto us but to Your name all honor be giv'n
For match-less mercy, forgiveness, and grace.

Hymn 558 Not Unto Us

2 Amazing grace that chose us ere the worlds were made;

Amazing grace that sent Your Son to save;
Amazing grace that robed us in Your
righteousness

And taught our lips to sing glory and praise.

Hymn 558 Not Unto Us

3 O faithful love that shepherded through faithless years;

Forgiving love that led us to Your truth;
Unyielding love that would not let us turn from
You

But sent us forth to speak pardon and peace.

Hymn 558 Not Unto Us

- 4 Not unto us but to Your name be glory, Lord,
For grace so rich, so wide, so high, so free.
Abide with us till trav'ling days are over and
done,
And pilgrim feet lead us home, Lord, to You.