

THE KINGDOM PATH

— WALKING WITH JESUS —

The Great Confession



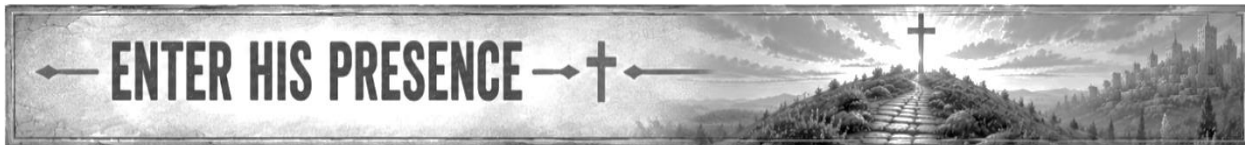
Organist: Sharron Royalty

Pastor Patrick Galligar | Cell: (812) 350-7820 | pastor.galligar@faithlecanto.org

935 S. Crystal Glen Drive
Lecanto, FL 34461
(352) 527-3325

faithlecanto.org
connect@faithlecanto.org

Facebook
Instagram
Youtube
[@faithlecanto](https://www.facebook.com/faithlecanto)



“But who do you say that I am?” (Matthew 16:15)

Jesus’ question to His disciples is also a question for each of us. Peter answered with a bold confession of faith: *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.* Through the Gospel, our Father in heaven reveals His Son to us and gives us faith to believe and confess Him as Lord.

Jesus is the Christ who became flesh, suffered and died for our salvation, and was raised for our justification. Through Him, our sins are forgiven and we are gathered into His Church—a Church against which **“the gates of hell shall not prevail.”** His salvation is forever, and His promises remain sure.

Knowing who Jesus is changes how we live. Because of His mercy, we offer ourselves to God as living sacrifices, using the gifts He has given us to serve Him and others. Our confession is more than words—it shapes the way we live, serve and share Christ with the world around us.

As we enter His presence today, may we hear His Word with open hearts and join Peter and the Church throughout the ages in confidently declaring: Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

Praying Beyond Our Walls

Following worship, you are invited to join us outside as we pray for the growing neighborhood surrounding Faith Lutheran and for the greater community God has placed around us.

As new homes are built and new families become our neighbors, we pray that God will bless our community, open doors for ministry and give us opportunities to share the hope and love of Jesus with those around us.

Jesus said, **“I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”** As His Church in this place, may we faithfully pray for our neighbors, serve our community and share Christ with those God brings into our path.

Join us following worship as we pray together for the people and community right outside our doors.

✠ Worship Divine Service One ✠

Opening Hymn
(please stand)

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LSB 657

Invocation & Confession

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pause for a time of Silent Confession and Reflection

P: Let us then confess our sins to God, our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

✠ Hearing His Word ✠

Introit

Psalm 2:6-7; 117; antiphon: Psalm 115:18

P: But we will bless the Lord

C: from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!

P: *As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.*

C: **I will tell of the decree:**

P: *The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."*

C: **Praise the Lord, all nations!**

P: *Extol him, all peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us,*

C: **and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!**

A: **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: *But we will bless the Lord*

C: **from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!**

Kyrie

P: *In peace let us pray to the Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P: *For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P: *For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P: *For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy.



P: *Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.*

5

Salutation And Collect Of The Day

P: *The Lord be with you*



C And al - so with you.

P: ***Let us pray.*** Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life 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, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

(please be seated)

First Reading

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 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. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.”

L: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God.

Second 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 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 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.

L: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God.

(please stand)

Sharing God's Peace

** Children exit for Sunday School*

Alleluia And Verse

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). It contains a series of eighth and quarter notes. Below the staff, the lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the" are written. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values. Below it, the lyrics "words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." are written.

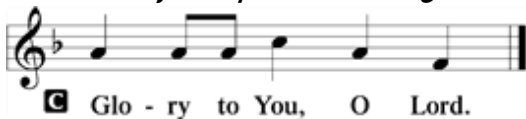
Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

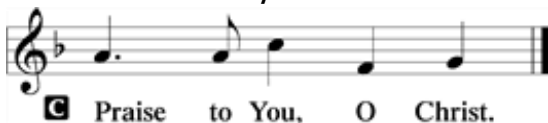
Matthew 16:13-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.



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 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 he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Apostle's Creed

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.

(please be seated)

Hymn Of Praise

Built on the Rock

LSB 645

Sermon

The Kingdom Path: Walking with Jesus The Great Confession

Gathering Of The Offerings

(please stand)

Offertory Hymn *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

LSB 805

Prayers Of The Church

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.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you, and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor † and give you peace.



(please be seated)

Announcements

Closing Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

LSB 803

Silent Prayer

Community Prayer Time *Please remain after the closing hymn.*

Following worship, we will gather outside for a brief time of prayer, followed by refreshments and fellowship. All encouraged to stay.

Prayers Of The Church

† Lord Jesus, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. We acknowledge You O Lord before God and men. We have been brought into this belief through the gift of Your own Holy Spirit who has given each of us the gift of faith. And in this gift of faith, we proclaim

the truth with Simon Peter, You are the Messiah who has come. Strengthen our faith O Lord. Let it be the rock upon which our lives are built. Let it be the root from which all our lives are lived. Let it be the light that shines forth from all of our interactions with others. O Lord, let it be no secret to all those around us that You are the One we love, and You are the One who has saved us because of Your great love for each of us.

- ✠ Father God, we bring You our prayers and petitions for all those we know and love who are in need of Your healing, comfort and peace. Hear us now as we name these aloud, and lift up all the others in the silence of our hearts.
- ✠ Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, hear our prayers for our brothers and sisters in worship at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Beverly Hills, and her leader, Rev Patrick Rebel. Send Your Holy Spirit to fill the hearts of Your faithful as they seek a closer walk with You O Lord, Jesus.
- ✠ O God, You bring perfect healing when You take us home to be with You in heaven. We thank you for the victory won for Joyce Balazs, friend of Carol Clayton. And we pray for Carol and all the family of Joyce that You would bring them the comfort that only You can.
- ✠ Father God, each week of this school year, encourage us to be in prayer for all those who grace the halls and homes where teaching and learning takes place. Here in worship at Faith Lutheran Church, let our hearts and voices ring with prayers and petitions to You, Holy Father, Almighty God, for each of the schools in our community. Today we lift up to Your throne of grace, prayers for those learning at the Central Ridge Elementary and Bright Beginnings Learning Academy and Pre-School. Bless the students, the teachers, the staff and the parents at these two schools with wisdom, discernment, and joy in You O Lord our God.

In Our Prayers

- ✠ *For healing and restoration:* Malinda Claffey (Kidney stone), Carla Nicklas, Amanda (niece of June Isselhardt), Hope Peter, Amanda Holthaus, Carolyn Arias, Deb Schmidt, Leigh Fulford, Dee Bright, Ray Bangel, Louie Lott, Bob Holthaus, Dean & Sally Moore, Muriel Hanny, Cindy Rockwell, Henry Striegl, Lois Schick, Jerry Marquette, Bill Engelbrecht, Gina Galligar
- ✠ *For those who worship at home:* Carol Clayton, Harry & Rose Detlefs, Phyllis Jodis, Lois Schick, Dean & Deb Schmidt

Prayer & Care No one was created to walk through life alone. Whether you're celebrating a blessing, facing a difficult season or carrying a burden too heavy to bear by yourself, your church family is here for you. At Faith Lutheran Church, we are committed to praying with you, encouraging you and bearing one another's burdens as the family of Christ.

If you have a prayer request, we'd be honored to pray with you. Requests may be submitted using the yellow prayer cards in the pews, online at faithlecanto.org/prayer, or by emailing prayer@faithlecanto.org. Prayer requests may be shared with the congregation or kept confidential—whatever is most comfortable for you.

Pastor Galligar and our Elders are also available to visit those who are homebound, hospitalized, recovering from illness or facing difficult circumstances. Whether you need prayer, encouragement or simply someone to walk alongside you, we are here to serve you with Christ's love and care.

To request a visit or speak with someone, please contact Pastor Galligar at (812) 350-7820 or the church office at (352) 527-3325.

Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday| 9:00 AM–1:00 PM

Fill the Pews Bible Project *A Bible in every pew. A Bible in every home. The Word in every heart!*

Faith Lutheran is working toward a special goal—placing a Bible in every pew pocket in our Sanctuary and making sure God's Word is available in the homes of our Faith family.

We're already making wonderful progress! \$1,000 has been given toward purchasing Bibles, and every contribution allows us to place more copies of God's Word into pews, hands and homes.

Prayerfully consider being part of the Fill the Pews Bible Project. Every gift, large or small, helps make Scripture available to be read, studied, shared and treasured.

Together, let's put a Bible in every pew, a Bible in every home and the Word in every heart!

Opportunities To Serve There are many ways to serve here at Faith Lutheran—whether welcoming others, supporting worship, caring for our church, serving behind the scenes or lifting others up in prayer. Current opportunities include:

*Ushers • Trustees • Elders • Prayer Team • Sound Room Team • Children's Ministries
Offering Counters • Finance Team • Office Volunteers*

If you feel called to serve, we invite you to take the next step. Speak with Pastor Galligar or a member of the Church Council to learn more about where your gifts can be used. Together, we serve as God's hands and feet in this place.

Second-Mile Giving: Thank You, Faith! *Together, we gave \$839 to The Path Rescue Mission!*

Thank you for your generous response to last weekend's *Second-Mile Giving*. Your gifts will help The Path provide shelter, meals, recovery programs, biblical teaching and hope to individuals and families in our community.

Through your generosity, Faith Lutheran continues to be A Beacon of God's Love, Expanding His Kingdom and sharing the love of Christ beyond our walls. Thank you for going the *Second Mile!*

If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. — Matthew 5:41

Citrus United Basket Ministry Reaches 300 Pounds! What a milestone! Our CUB Ministry has collected 300 pounds this year! Thank you to everyone who faithfully supports this ministry. Pantry Manager Karen Hartzig sent a special thank-you card, now posted on the Narthex bulletin board for you to enjoy. *Thank you for continuing to make a difference!*

Card Ministry Needs Your Help! Our Ladies of Faith Card Ministry is critically low on birthday and anniversary cards. Please consider donating a box of greeting cards—or perhaps you have some unused cards at home to share. Donations are greatly appreciated! Questions? Contact Vicki Mueller at (810) 434-1975.

Life Together at Faith



Gathered in Worship

Saturday	37
Sunday	78
Total Worship	115

*I was glad when they said
to me, 'Let us go to the
house of the Lord!'
Psalm 122:1*

Giving at Faith

31	5,917	7,000	(1,083)
32	6,475	6,000	475
33	3,259	5,000	(1,741)

Scan QR code to give
online. Questions?
Mike Feltner
mike@faithlecanto.org
(812) 371-2352



Celebrating Together



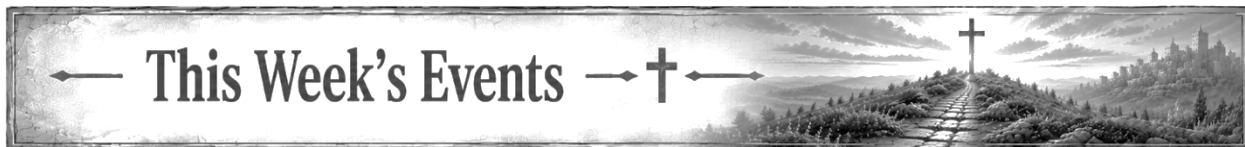
Happy Birthday
August 24th Bob Robinson
August 30th Walter Lukitsch

Wedding Anniversary
August 23rd Dennis & Sue Schmidt
August 28th Bob & Linda Holthaus
August 29th Bill & Joyce Engelbrecht

Flowers Given Today

Dennis & Sue Schmidt – 51st Anniversary
Phil & Karis Geistfeld – Hannah Jane's 4th Birthday





August 24th through August 30th

Monday	5:00 PM	Red Letter Challenge Bible Study – FH
Thursday	10:00 AM	Ladies Bible Study – FH Classroom
	12:00 PM	LOF Luncheon – Three Sisters Restaurant
	1:00 PM	Ukulele Group – Narthex
Friday	9:00 AM	Stitch N' Tie – FH
Saturday	5:00 PM	Worship – Sanctuary (fellowship time to follow)
Sunday	9:30 AM	Worship – Sanctuary (fellowship time to follow)
	11:00 AM	Red Letter Challenge Bible Study – FH

Red Letter Challenge Bible Study Two opportunities on Monday at 5:00 PM and Sunday at 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Pastor Galligar (812) 350-7820.

Ladies Bible Study Join us Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Delores at (515) 729-1501.

Ladies' Summer Luncheon The Ladies of Faith will gather for their final summer luncheon Tuesday at Noon at Three Sisters Restaurant in Crystal River. Sign up in the Narthex! Questions? Carla Nicklas: (352) 257-1480.

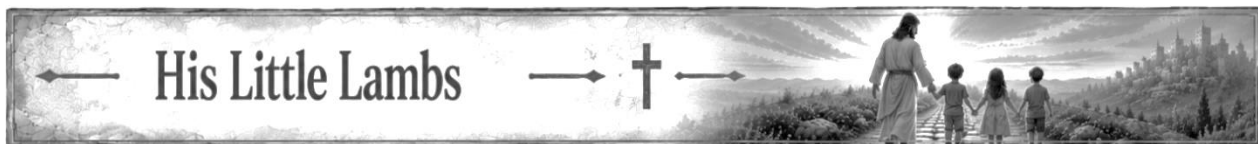
Ukulele Group – New Time! *Please note our new meeting time: 1:00 PM!* Join us for an afternoon of music, fellowship and fun. New participants are always welcome! Contact Joy Wilson at (352) 726-0406.

Stitch N' Tie 2nd & 4th Fridays. Come sew, craft and enjoy great company! All skill levels welcome. Contact: Ann Panas (262) 993-4068.

Looking Ahead

Flu Shots Coming to Faith Save the dates! G&R Pharmacy will offer flu shots at Faith Lutheran on Saturday, September 26th from 4:15–5:00 PM and Sunday, September 27th from 10:30–11:00 AM. More details coming soon!

Planning Together for Fall Planning a ministry event this fall or Christmas season? Please submit your dates soon! Questions or scheduling needs? Contact Event Coordinator Vicki Mueller at (810) 434-1975.



Let's Walk with Jesus One day, Jesus was talking with His disciples and asked them an important question: **"Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"**

The disciples gave several answers. Then Jesus made the question personal: **"But who do you say that I am?"**

Peter knew the answer! He said, *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.* Peter understood something very important. Jesus isn't just a teacher or someone who did amazing miracles. Jesus is the Christ—our Savior and the Son of God!

Jesus told Peter that God the Father had revealed this truth to him. Then Jesus made an amazing promise: **"I will build My church."** His Church would belong to Him, and nothing would be able to overcome it.

Jesus asks us the same important question today: **"Who do you say that I am?"** Like Peter, we can boldly say that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is our Savior who loves us, forgives us and gives us eternal life.

Who Is Jesus? The Bible gives us many names that help us know who Jesus is:

- ✝ The Christ — He is the promised Savior.
- 👑 Son of God — He is truly God.
- 🐑 Good Shepherd — He loves, leads and cares for us.
- 💡 Light of the World — He brings light into our darkness.
- 🍞 Bread of Life — He gives us what we truly need.
- ❤ Savior — He came to save us from our sins.

All of these names point us to one wonderful truth: *Jesus loves us, saves us and calls us to follow Him!*

Built on the Rock! Peter boldly confessed, *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.* He knew who Jesus was! Jesus was not simply a teacher, a prophet or someone who performed miracles. He is the promised Savior—the Son of the living God.

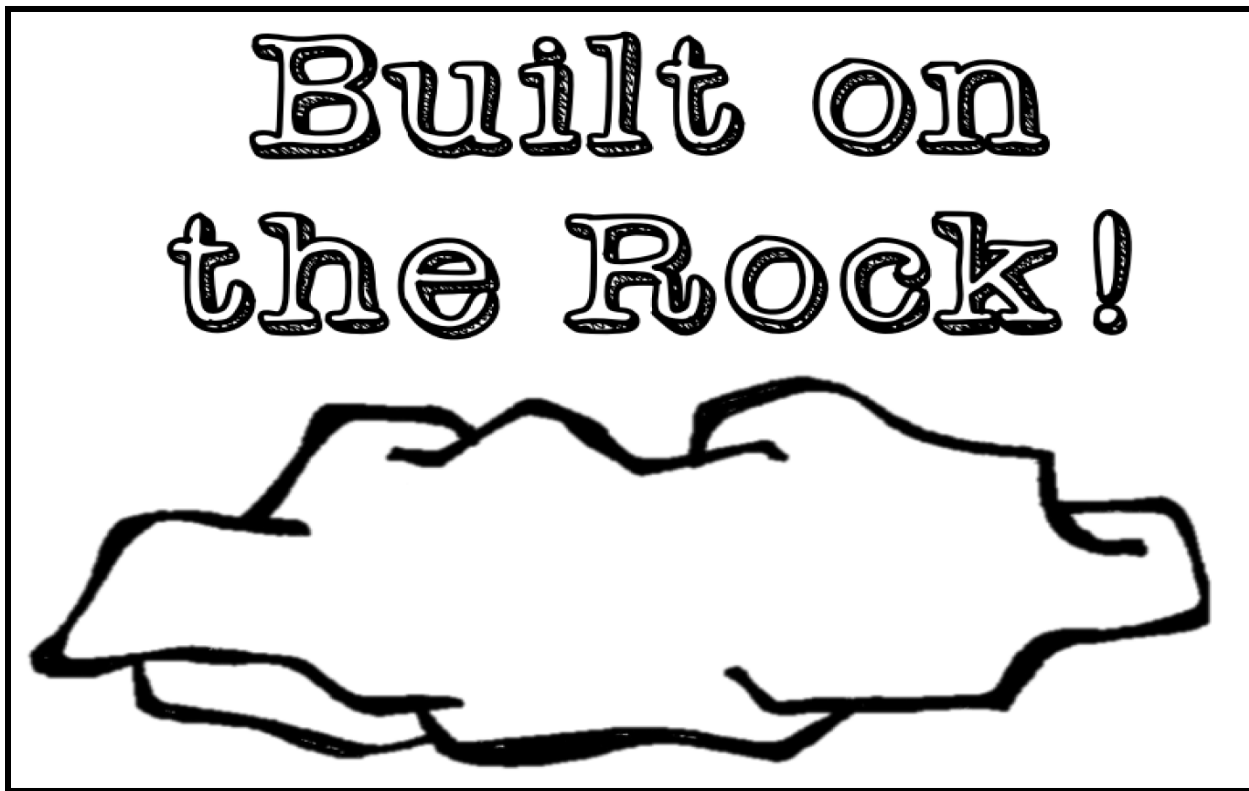
Jesus then made an incredible promise: **"I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."**

When we hear the word *church*, we might picture the building where we worship on Sunday. But Jesus was talking about something much bigger! His Church is His people—people who know Him, trust Him and gather around His Word. Around the world and throughout every generation, God's people continue to confess the same truth Peter did: Jesus is the Christ!

Buildings may change and the world around us may change, but Jesus does not. His promises are strong and sure. We can trust Him, follow Him and confidently tell others who He is.

Who Do You Say Jesus Is? Jesus asked His disciples this question, and now you can think about your own answer.

As you color the picture, use the big rock to write words or draw pictures that show what you know about Jesus.



Is He your Savior? Good Shepherd? King? Friend? Light?

Whatever you choose, remember the most important truth Peter confessed:

Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God!

Family Faith Challenge At home this week, ask everyone in your family the same question Jesus asked His disciples: "But who do you say that I am?"

Take turns sharing your answers. Then read Matthew 16:15–16 together and say Peter's answer as a family: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Pray Together Dear Jesus, thank You for being our Savior. Help us to know You, trust You and tell others who You are. Keep our family close to You and Your Word as we follow You each day. Amen.



Red Letter Challenge Bible Study: Putting Jesus' Words into Practice The journey continues! We're underway in our 40-day Red Letter Challenge, taking the words of Jesus beyond the pages of Scripture and putting them into practice in our everyday lives.

Each week challenges us to look more closely at how we follow Jesus—not simply by knowing what He said, but by allowing His words to shape the way we live, love and serve others. It's not too late to join us! Whether you've been with us from the beginning or are just getting started, there's a place for you.

🕒 Sunday • 11:00 AM | Fellowship Hall

🕒 Monday • 5:00 PM | Fellowship Hall *(includes a potluck meal)*

Bring your book and study guide and come ready to grow together as we continue putting Jesus' words into practice!

A Special Opportunity for Faith's Leaders

FUELING WHAT MATTERS MOST

Advancing the Work God Has Called Us to Do

An LCMS Stewardship Ministry Event for Pastors & Lay Leaders

This September, Faith Lutheran has the special opportunity to host pastors and congregational leaders from throughout our Circuit for an LCMS Stewardship Ministry Event at Citrus Hills Country Club.

God has called His Church to share the Gospel, teach His Word, serve His people and reach our communities. Carrying out that work requires faithful leadership—and faithful stewardship of the resources He provides.

Fueling What Matters Most will bring pastors and lay leaders together for a Scripture-centered conversation about the important connection between stewardship and ministry. Together, we'll explore how a healthy, biblical understanding of stewardship can help our churches faithfully support and advance the work God has called us to do.

Thursday, September 24th at Citrus Hills Country Club

3:00 PM – Circuit Pastors' Workshop

5:30 PM – Dinner for All Attendees

6:30 PM – Pastors & Lay Leaders Session

Cost: \$20 per person, including dinner

Faith Lutheran's pastors and lay leaders are encouraged to mark their calendars and consider being part of this special evening alongside leaders from congregations throughout our Circuit.

Registration information will be available soon!