



This
son of mine **was dead**
and **is alive** again

LUKE 15:24

FAITHFUL LUTHERANS SENT BY CHRIST TO SERVE GOD'S CHILDREN

March. 14, 2010

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Distribution	by Intinction
(grape juice is in ceramic chalice, wine is in the silver chalice)	
Communion Hymn	Hymn # 608
Prayer	Pastor
Blessing	Pastor
Sending Song	Hymn # 624
Dismissal	Assistant

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.flcjeff.org
2014 Allison Lane
Jeffersonville, Indiana
Rev. Scott Meier, Pastor
282-6993 (Office) ♦ 260-273-1250 (Pastor)

WELCOME!

All are welcome at Faith Lutheran Church today as we continue our journey of faith. Join with us as we offer our praises to God. We offer Holy Communion each Sunday. All baptized persons who believe that Christ is truly present in this meal are welcome to receive the Lord's Supper. There is a nursery available for those who need it. A red Fellowship Pad is at the end of each pew, please pass it down the pew so everyone can sign for the day, this helps us know visitors and have vital information

The Flowers today were given to the glory of God by the Rife's in celebration of Veronica's 50th birthday.

LAST WEEK AT FAITH:

OFFERINGS:

Current	\$ 3789.85
Other	\$ <u>100.00</u>
Total	\$ 3889.85

ATTENDANCE:

Worship	105
Nursery	<u>0</u>
	105

We need at least \$3236.00 in **current** each week to continue the missions of our church. How did we do last week? Thanks to all who worship, work, give, and pray at Faith in thanks to God for His many blessings.

SERVING THIS WEEK AT FAITH:

Pastor ... Scott Meier	Acolyte.. Marissa Sigler
Assistant... Bev Haire	Crucifer.. Jack Hayes
Organist... Barb Brewster	Greeters.. D & V Smith
Fin. Asst... Nicole Parish	Social.. Klemens
NurseryLisa Peter	Audio.. Jim Hegenbarth
Altar Guild..Arllys Johnson & Vivian Smith	
Ushers... Fred & Tami Czerwonka, Mike Vescelus, Dave Lindemann	

Next week: Assistant; L. Gernand , Crucifer; W. Hayes Acolyte; C. Peter Greeters; Klemens Social; Baugh, Audio; J. Hegenbarth

Events & Activities This Week Around Faith:

Today, Mar. 14	9:15 am	Sunday Church School
	10:30 am	Worship After; Coffee Fellowship Council Meets, Choir Rehearsal
Mon., Mar 15	10:00 am	Faithful Quilters
Tues., Mar. 16	9:00 am	Weekday Church School
Wed., Mar. 17	6:00 pm	Lenten Dinner
	7:00 pm	Lenten Service
	7:30 pm	Confirmation
Thurs., Mar.18	9:00 am	Weekday Church School
	2:00 pm	Bible Study
Fri., Mar. 19	6:00 pm	Youth 30 Hour Famine
Sat., Mar 20	8:30 am	Inside Spring Cleaning
Sun., Mar. 21	9:15 am	Sunday Church School
	10:30 am	Worship After; Coffee Fellowship

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Betty McLaughlin Billie Williams Dorothy Clerici Barbara
Sorenson Edwina Andregg

Our Service Men & women and all those in need of our thoughts and prayers
in our Faith Family and beyond.

Announcements

EASTER LILIES: Orders for Lilies will be taken through next Sunday, March 21. Please place your order from in the offering plate. Remember to designate in memory/honor if you wish.

PROPERTY TEAM: The Inside Clean-Up is scheduled for Sat., March 20 beginning at 8:30 am, everyone is invited to come and help. For questions see Jim Hegenbarth.

LENTEN DINNERS: WELCA is once again sponsoring a dinner prior to the Wednesday Lenten Services. Please watch for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex so our ladies know how many to prepare for.

VISITATION TEAM: This team met and is beginning their visits. There is a calendar on the bulletin board to help track our visits. Please mark your visit on the appropriate date. This team will work in conjunction with Pastor and Council in making visits to those needed.

BIBLE STUDY: Pastor is leading the Bible Study once again on Thursday afternoon at 2:00. See Pastor for more information

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12 [not printed]

Psalm 32

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ^{11b}"There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

continued

Joining the Party

No fair!" Parents the world over hear this every day. Somewhere, some child is getting to do something some other child is not allowed to do. The unfairness of it all is only magnified when it is an "undeserving" sibling who gets the privilege. It is not fair when you have played by the rules, you have done what you were supposed to do, and then along comes that no-good so-and-so who gets it all.

That is, of course, assuming that you really have always played by all the rules. That is assuming you do not stand in need of a little grace and mercy and compassion in your life, too. It is so tempting for church people to stand in judgment of those outside the church. It is so easy to feel superior by virtue of church attendance or some assumption of our own merit to place ourselves above those others. In the church we call that attitude sin.

We *all* stand in need of grace. We all need the Father's loving arms wrapped around us, welcoming us back, restoring us to the community and resurrecting our lives. Grace means we do not get what we deserve. Jesus did not get what he deserved, either. He chose to take on our sin, to become our sin, so that we might become like him: holy and righteous before God.

Being holy does not mean being perfect. Being holy means being set aside for God's purposes. That is the life you are called to. Sometimes this almost seems easy. Other days this means giving one more chance to that wayward younger brother and celebrating with everyone else, because the one who was lost has been found. Remember that some days it is *your* return they celebrate.

Gospel, continued

²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8.

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Tracks 1, 2, and 3
ELCA-F