



1656 Lincoln Way, McKeesport, PA 15131 + (412) 673-2296 + [faithwhiteoak.com](http://faithwhiteoak.com)

## Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2026

### Revealing God



Jesus came to earth as God *incarnate*, meaning “in or having bodily form.” This was no accident. The prophets of the past had used their bodies and their words so people could understand God. In Christ, God was revealed in flesh and blood, allowing us to know who God is and what God’s priorities are for creation.

Peter points this out to us, saying that Christ is “the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16). As a *living* God, moving among us as Jesus Christ, God reveals Godself directly. God reveals the divine nature and priorities through Jesus’ earthly life. Jesus lives without possessions, sharing in the suffering of people who are poor and oppressed. On the Galilean coast, he feeds thousands of people before teaching them. He befriends outcasts like Zacchaeus the tax collector and the Canaanite woman. He calls out the greed and misplaced priorities of the wealthy by flipping tables. Instead of merely telling us, Christ incarnate shows us that God has a serious concern for all people on the margins of society.

As the church is formed into the body of Christ, we too now reveal to the world who God is and what God’s priorities are. How does our ministry show God’s concern for those who are poor and marginalized today? Do we seek out and walk alongside people cast out by dominant society? Do we not only preach the word but make sure people are fed as well?

By accompanying our neighbors in their struggles for dignity, justice, and the right to flourish, we do the good work of followers of Jesus, striving with God for the end of all oppression and death, for a world made whole.

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**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Wendy S. Farone  
**Assisting Minister:** Chuck Schaller  
**Lector:** Denise Price  
**Organist:** Drew Pogyor  
**Altar Care:** Loran Bohman  
**Altar Flowers:** are given to the glory of God.  
**The Sanctuary Light:** is given to the glory of God.  
**The Columbarium Light:** is given to the glory of God.

**Hymns**

**Entrance Hymn**      **ELW 645**   **Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation**

**Hymn of the day**      **ELW 652**   **Built on a Rock**

**Communion Hymns** **ELW 692**   **We Are an Offering**  
                                 **ELW 576**   **We All Are One in Mission**

**Sending Hymn**      **ELW 623**   **Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me**

**Communion-** If you need assistance or are unable to come to the communion rail, stay in your pew, and the Pastor will come to you. If you are unable to receive either the consecrated bread or wine, receiving either one is a complete and valid reception.

**Membership-** There are many ways to be connected with our congregation. Everyone is welcome to participate in any congregation activities, and anyone baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is welcome to Holy Communion. We welcome your membership request.

**August 16, 2026 Attendance: 29**  
**Bible Study: 22**

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| <b>Offerings:</b>          |                    |
| <b>Monthly Need:</b>       | <b>\$11,095.00</b> |
| <b>July Offerings:</b>     | <b>\$6965.00</b>   |
| <b>Thrivent Dividends:</b> | <b>\$2966.29</b>   |
| <b>Total:</b>              | <b>\$9,931.29</b>  |

## **Faith Announcements:**

**We need volunteers to help finish Spring cleaning the church**, which must be completed by the end of August. Volunteers, please refer to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the back hall for the remaining items on the list. See Pam for further instruction and details.

### **Seeking Ad Hoc Stewardship Committee Members**

As our Refresh and Renew projects continue, unexpected discoveries have increased costs beyond the original bids. To stay on track and complete all three phases, we are forming a short-term Ad Hoc Stewardship Committee to grow the Property Improvement Fund. If you have a heart for stewardship and would like to help raise the funds needed through creative ideas, please join us!

No prior experience required — just a willingness to serve for a limited time.

*If you are interested in serving in this important work, please text or email Judy Haliko at 412-298-7258 or judyhaliko01@gmail.com*

Thank you for helping strengthen our church home!

**Altar Guild training will be held after worship for anyone interested in attending.**

### **Road Trip! New Date: Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, leaving at 7:45 am sharp**

Are you interested in taking a short day trip to Akron, Ohio, to see two mansions: The Stan Hywet Mansion and the Hower House, which include gorgeous gardens, a gift shop, and more. We intend to charter a small bus if there is enough interest. **Friday, September 18, leaving at 7:45 am sharp.** There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those who are interested. The trip itinerary and pricing are now available on the bulletin board in the narthex. **Deadline for payment is Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please make the checks out to Faith Lutheran Church and place them in the bin on Jessica's desk.**

### **Flea Market on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 2 pm.**

Drop-off will be Monday through Thursday, September 21-24, 10 am-2 pm and 6 pm-8 pm. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex to help sort and price, bake sale, work the day of the flea market, clean up, etc.

## **New Wooden Flower arrangement or cross-making class!**

**On Sunday, November 1st at 11:30 am, we will have a wooden flower class to decorate** items of our choice! Lunch will be provided. There is a sign-up sheet and pictures of the crafts in the narthex for those interested.

## **NEW on the bookshelf complete with Pastor Wendy's notes!**

And Look! We Live!: Being Church in Difficult Times by [Rev. Kurt F. Kusserow](#)

What does it mean to be Church when familiar structures are faltering and long-trusted measures of success no longer hold? Rather than offering strategies for survival or prescriptions for renewal, And Look! We Live! invites readers into an act of discovery. Drawing on the Church's most enduring images, this book listens closely for what these metaphors still have to teach us in a difficult time.

Bishop Kusserow does not deny the grief, anxiety, or uncertainty many feel about the Church's future. Instead, he asks a quieter, more hopeful question: what if these images were never meant to measure our strength, but to reveal our purpose? Written for those who love the Church and worry about her, And Look! We Live! offers neither nostalgia nor despair, but a steady assurance that even now—especially now—the Church is still being called, still being sent, still living.

## **Bible Study Updates!**

On August 25<sup>th</sup>, we will continue to study the book of Ephesians.

**Ambassador Committee Meeting: Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 6:30 pm.**

**Council Meeting: August 20, 2026, at 12:30 pm.**

## **Pastor's Podcast- New episode!**

**Understanding Church: What is the Kingdom of God?**

<https://www.belc.org/podcast/> or wherever you listen to podcasts.

**Welcome, Visitors and Guests,**

**We are glad you are here! We welcome you to participate fully in worship and to engage in all church activities.** If you are considering joining as a member or have any questions, please get in touch with Pastor Wendy Farone at (412) 443-9122 (c), the Church Office at (412) 673-2296, or email [flcpastorwendy@gmail.com](mailto:flcpastorwendy@gmail.com). We look forward to speaking with you soon. Everyone needs a church home and family. We hope to be yours!  
Pastor Wendy

### **Considering Membership at Faith Lutheran?**

We're grateful you've been worshipping with us, and we'd love to walk with you as you explore becoming part of our Faith Lutheran family. Membership is a way of rooting yourself in a community of prayer, service, and shared discipleship. It's also a chance to learn more about our Lutheran tradition, our mission in White Oak, and the many ways you can use your given gifts to serve God and neighbor.

**Synod Announcements: (further information at [swpasynod.org](http://swpasynod.org))**

### **Authentic Diversity & Justice Newsletter**

The August newsletter from our synod's Authentic Diversity & Justice Working Group is now online.

### **Design for Belonging: Summer Book Study Thursdays, now through August 27 7 PM on Zoom:**

We all want our churches to feel like spaces where everyone is welcomed and included, but just how do we do that? Join the Authentic Diversity & Justice Working Group as we read [\*Design for Belonging\*](#) and have conversations about how we can each live into our call to fully include our neighbors. We will meet over three Zoom sessions for this quick read with lots of pictures.

**Christian Associates Honors  
Bishop Kusserow  
Sunday, August 30: 3 PM  
Shadyside Presbyterian Church  
5121 Westminster Place  
Pittsburgh, PA 15232**

John 17 Awards Afternoon Tea will recognize Bishop Emeritus Kurt Kusserow and Bishop Emeritus David Zubik (Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh) for outstanding achievement in Christian unity, judicatory leadership, and interfaith engagement. RSVP at [CASP.ORG/TEA](https://CASP.ORG/TEA)

**Community Announcements:**

**White Oak Senior Activities: held at White Oak Community Center-  
1798 Lower Heckman Rd**

**Every Monday and Wednesday at 11:00 am- Yoga Class  
Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am- Coffee Hour**

**Prayer List June - August 2026**

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| <b><u>All Military &amp; Families</u></b><br><b><u>Nikki</u></b> Amhurst<br><b><u>Katie</u></b> Bachinger<br><b><u>Jeanne</u></b> Baird<br><b><u>Bill</u></b> Benninghoff<br><b><u>Becky</u></b> Ball<br><b><u>Beth</u></b> Brucker<br><b><u>Jean</u></b> Bickerstaff<br><b><u>Jean</u></b> Bodenlos<br><b><u>Dennis</u></b><br><b><u>Cindy</u></b> Caiarelli<br><b><u>Don</u></b> Cain<br><b><u>Jan</u></b> Cassol<br><b><u>Barry</u></b> D<br><b><u>Brad</u></b> D<br><b><u>Mike</u></b> Doyle<br><b><u>Kara</u></b> Eaton<br><b><u>Rose</u></b> Gombas | <b><u>Bill</u></b> Grimm<br><b><u>Jerry</u></b> Groves<br><b><u>Eric</u></b> Harshman<br><b><u>Rhoda</u></b> Jones<br><b><u>Renee</u></b> K<br><b><u>Ken</u></b> K<br><b><u>Nancy</u></b> Kimling<br><b><u>Tom</u></b> Lauffenburger<br><b><u>Timothy</u></b> Matthews<br><b><u>Becky</u></b> McCandless<br><b><u>Berty</u></b> McMillen<br><b><u>Georgina</u></b> McMarlin<br><b><u>Marlene</u></b> Newman<br><b><u>Julie</u></b> Ortiz<br><b><u>Eric</u></b> Ortiz<br><b><u>Hanna</u></b> Pitchford<br><b><u>Lisa</u></b> Pitchford<br><b><u>Helen</u></b> Pula<br><b><u>Chris</u></b> Ragsdale | <b><u>Tracy</u></b> Scott<br><b><u>Sandy</u></b> Seitz<br><b><u>Doug</u></b> Sivak<br><b><u>Greg</u></b> Sivak<br><b><u>Maxine</u></b> Smith<br><b><u>Ronnie</u></b> Stewart<br><b><u>Casey</u></b> Stickel<br><b><u>Steven</u></b> T<br><b><u>Joanne</u></b> Tomco<br><b><u>Erin</u></b> Tyler<br><b><u>Patty</u></b> Warnick<br><b><u>Linda</u></b> Weese<br><b><u>Theresa</u></b> Zell<br><b><u>Jim</u></b> Zink<br><b><u>Nick</u></b><br><b><u>Doyle Family</u></b><br><b><u>Moody Family</u></b><br><b><u>Slobodnyak Family</u></b><br><b><u>Trapletti Family</u></b> |
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**\*Please email [flcwhiteoak@gmail.com](mailto:flcwhiteoak@gmail.com) for any additions or removals from this list.**

## **Upcoming Commemorations**

### **Bartholomew, Apostle**

**Monday, August 24, 2026**

Mentioned as one of Jesus' disciples in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Bartholomew's name is replaced in John's gospel by Nathanael, leading many to believe that the two are different names for the same person. Little is known about his work, though some traditions place him later in India or Armenia.

### **Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, died 430**

**Friday, August 28, 2026**

Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of the Western church. A native of North Africa, he recovered from a debauched young adulthood through the influence of his mother, Monica, and Bishop Ambrose of Milan. Besides writing influential theological books, he served as bishop of Hippo, in present-day Algeria.

### **Moses the Black, monk, martyr, died around 400**

**Friday, August 28, 2026**

Converted from life as a thief and a robber to Christianity, Moses was an Ethiopian who became a desert monk at Skete. The change in his heart and life had a profound impact on his native country. He was murdered when Berber bandits attacked his monastery.