

## LWML SUNDAY

October 2, 2022

Saving Grace Lutheran Church

440 W. Palomino Road

P. O. Box 721

Chino Valley, AZ 86323

[savinggracelutherancvaz.org](http://savinggracelutherancvaz.org).

Facebook: Saving Grace Lutheran Church Chino Valley

Greetings! I'm Pastor Mike. WELCOME to the online worship of Saving Grace Lutheran in Chino Valley, AZ! We believe God brought you here on purpose and we're very glad you have chosen to be with us so that we can worship together. We pray that God will bless you so that what He gives you here, you will be able to take with you into your life experiences and connections in the week ahead.

For your in-home participation, the service order, as well as, the sermon is provided on our website. Click on "Today's Service" and "Today's Sermon" to receive copies of both.

LET US KNOW THAT YOU WORSHIPED WITH US by e-mailing [SGLcvaz@gmail.com](mailto:SGLcvaz@gmail.com) stating worship attendance in the Subject Line . . . then, who worshiped and any prayer concerns you might have in the body of the e-mail.

### For Us and With Us

#### 912 Christ Is Our Cornerstone



1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build;  
2 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im - plore,  
△ 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall ring;



With His true saints a - lone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His  
And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us ev - er - more Un - til  
Our voic - es we will raise The Three in One to sing And thus



great love Our hopes we place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.  
that day When all the blest To end - less rest Are called a - way.  
pro - claim In joy - ful song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

### Introit Psalm 100

**P**<sup>1</sup> Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

**C**<sup>2</sup> Serve the LORD with gladness!

**Come into his presence with singing!**

**P**<sup>3</sup> Know that the LORD, he is God!  
It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

**C**<sup>4</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!  
**Give thanks to him; bless his name!**

**P**<sup>5</sup> For the LORD is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

## Kyrie *LSB 204*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## 803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,  
△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.  
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.  
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.  
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.  
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text and tune: Public domain

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

**C** O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, by Your grace hear the

**prayers of Your Church. Grant that those things which we ask in faith we may receive through Your bountiful mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading** *Isaiah 6:1–8*

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said. “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!” <sup>4</sup>And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!” <sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. <sup>7</sup>And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.” <sup>8</sup>And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

**A** This is the Word of the **L**ord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Psalm** *Psalm 90:1–12; antiphon: v. 17*

<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have been our dwelling place

**in all generations.**

<sup>2</sup>Before the mountains were brought forth,

**or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

<sup>3</sup>You return man to dust

**and say, “Return, O children of man!”**

<sup>4</sup>For a thousand years in your sight

**are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.**

<sup>5</sup>You sweep them away as with a flood;

**they are like a dream,  
like grass that is renewed in the morning:**

<sup>6</sup>in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;

**in the evening it fades and withers.**

<sup>7</sup>For we are brought to an end by your anger;

**by your wrath we are dismayed.**

<sup>8</sup>You have set our iniquities before you,

**our secret sins in the light of your presence.**

<sup>9</sup>For all our days pass away under your wrath;

**we bring our years to an end like a sigh.**

<sup>10</sup>The years of our life are seventy,

**or even by reason of strength eighty;**

yet their span is but toil and trouble;

**they are soon gone, and we fly away.**

<sup>11</sup>Who considers the power of your anger,

**and your wrath according to the fear of you?**

<sup>12</sup>So teach us to number our days

**that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

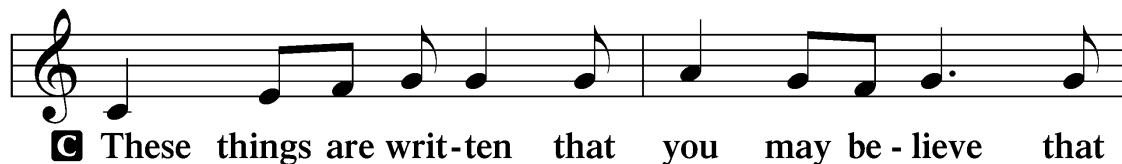
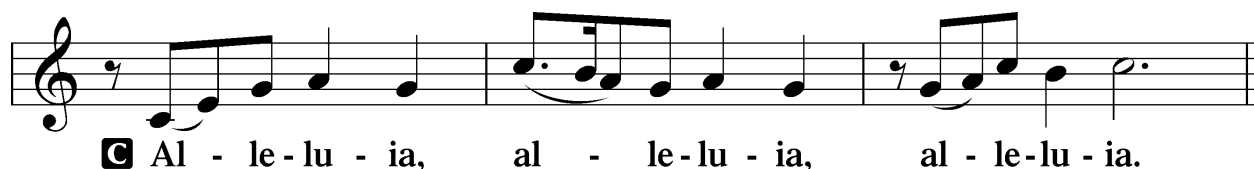
**Epistle     *Romans 8:31–39***

<sup>31</sup>What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup>Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. <sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." <sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Alleluia and Verse**



### Holy Gospel *Luke 12:35–40*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

**35**[Jesus said:] “Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, **36**and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. **37**Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. **38**If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! **39**But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. **40**You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### 594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It



1 God's own child, I glad - ly say it: I am bap - tized  
 2 Sin, dis - turb my soul no long - er: I am bap - tized  
 3 Sa - tan, hear this proc - la - ma - tion: I am bap - tized  
 4 Death, you can - not end my glad - ness: I am bap - tized  
 5 There is noth - ing worth com - par - ing To this life - long



in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it,  
 in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong - er:  
 in - to Christ! Drop your ug - ly ac - cu - sa - tion,  
 in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness  
 com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:



Gave my full re - demp - tion price. Do I need earth's  
 Je - sus' cleans - ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y  
 I am not so soon en - ticed. Now that to the  
 To in - her - it par - a - dise! Though I lie in  
 E - ven there I'll sleep se - cure. Though my flesh a -

trea - sures man - y? I have one worth  
 con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism  
 font I've trav - eled, All your might has  
 dust and ash - es Faith's as - sur - ance  
 waits its rais - ing, Still my soul con -

more than an - y That brought me sal -  
 did re - lease me In a dear for -  
 come un - rav - eled, And, a - gainst your  
 bright - ly flash - es: Bap - tism has the  
 tin - ues prais - ing: I am bap - tized

va - tion free Last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!  
 giv - ing flood, Sprin - kling me with Je - sus' blood?  
 tyr - an - ny, God, my Lord, u - nites with me!  
 strength di - vine To make life im - mor - tal mine.  
 in - to Christ; I'm a child of par - a - dise!

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## Today's Sermon Message

2022 LWML SUNDAY — SERMON

### For Us and With Us

Romans 8:31-39

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Amen.

There is something powerful and nearly sacred about holding someone else's hand. Picture these scenarios in your mind: a new parent holding the tiny hand of their newborn son or daughter; a teacher holding the hand of a timid kindergarten student as they cross the parking lot; a brave teenager reaching out their hand to help someone who has fallen or been hurt in competition; a young but nervous couple holding hands for the first time on a date; an excited husband and wife standing before a pastor on their wedding day, hand in hand; an elderly but tired man holding the hand of his beloved wife of many decades; a family holding the hand of their loved one as he or she passes from this life to eternal life.



Today is LWML Sunday. As you may be aware, “LWML” stands for “Lutheran Women’s Missionary League.” It is an auxiliary organization of our Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and has members throughout North America. Truly, they are a missionary organization, sponsoring mission efforts reaching people around the world. They do that with their mites, small offerings that together help more people hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For decades, the LWML has given a strong witness to how God’s love holds each of us.

Our text for this LWML Sunday is the epistle lesson chosen for today. I’d like us to consider the two questions raised by the apostle Paul in Romans 8:31: “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”

Notice the main person, the subject. It is God. You’ll see this clearly in our text from Romans 8. Sometimes it is tempting to think that our success depends on our grip, our hold, or our heroism. It may be subtle, but it’s a slippery slope in our lives. Thoughts of self-dependence or “thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought” can open the door to believing we are the main people in God’s narrative. But the apostle Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, gives a different perspective. He makes it quite clear that God’s everlasting love holds us. When we are insufficient, He is all-sufficient.

Our outline for today’s sermon on this LWML Sunday is simple but significant: Because Jesus is for us and with us, we have no fear of condemnation. Because Jesus is for us and with us, we have no fear of separation. Because Jesus is for us and with us, we have certainty of victory.

Because Jesus is for us and with us, we have no fear of condemnation.

Paul writes: “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?” (Romans 8:31-32).

What things? Paul has just acknowledged that God has done everything for our salvation. Therefore, how should we respond? God IS for us. Since God is for us, how should we respond? Paul continues with these words:

“Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died – more than that, who was raised – who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.” (Romans 8:33-34)

Why did Jesus die? To pay for our sins! Why was he raised? Because the Father accepted this payment; in other words, the check has cleared! It didn’t bounce and it was not found to have insufficient funds. He died so we might live.

And now, Jesus is interceding for us, fully engaged in the battle for us. I love the way that Corrie ten Boom said it: “There is no pit so deep, that God’s love is not deeper still.” Think about this personally, in your own life. Who of us in the past week has been perfect? On the other hand, how many of us have said things we would later regret? Or, have you spoken to a loved one in a tone you wish you could take back? In these past couple of years, have you been divisive in any way? Yes, me too. Yes, to all of the above. The law is convicting because the law shows us exactly where we have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. The pit is pretty deep...but God’s love is deeper still. His arm is long and able to rescue us; indeed, his stretched-out arms on the cross of Calvary DID rescue us. Those same arms were made alive again as Jesus was raised from the dead. Jesus is for us and with us. Even though Satan wants to accuse and condemn you, the action of Jesus is evident – and the result is clear: we have no fear of condemnation.

The important mission of LWML shares this life-saving and life-giving truth with the world. For many decades, through LWML, Gospel seeds have been sown. The Holy Spirit is at work! That leads us to the next major point in our text:

Because Jesus is for us and with us, we have no fear of separation. In your mind picture again, hands joined together. God will not let go of your hand!

Paul continues in chapter 8: “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”  
lwml.org | 2

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:35-39)

Notice what Paul does not say in this text. He does not say that life will be free of challenges and difficult circumstances. He does not say that distress or danger will not happen. In fact, he writes in great detail elsewhere (including 2 Corinthians) about his own experience in facing these challenges.

We know this from our own experiences as well. Each of us could make a list of our own struggles of daily living. What would your list look like? What would you include? Who would you include? In many ways, you might feel like so much is stacked against you right now. But God declares you righteous (Romans 8:33) and loved in Jesus (Romans 8:39). Our assurance comes from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Our Lutheran Women in Mission have served many people for many years, whose lives seem out of control. But God is always in control, and by His Holy Spirit, has chosen to use them and all of us to serve others in love. God is love.

With no fear of condemnation or separation, we come to our third point:

Because Jesus is for us and with us, we have certainty of victory. That victory is made yours personally through the gift of baptism. St. Paul says in Romans 6:4: “We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.” Baptism equals victory: victory over sin, death, and the power of the devil. We are more than conquerors; we are super-victorious! One of my favorite hymns – and maybe one of yours – says this well:

“No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, rejected. But now a champion comes to fight, Whom God Himself elected. You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is He, Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God’s only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.” (LSB 657, v. 2)

Our victory is not secure because of our hold on Christ, but by His hold on us. We are more than conquerors because He holds tightly to us. Therefore, we may live each day, including today, confidently trusting in Jesus. As a baptized child of God, remain in His Word. Be reminded of your identity as a victorious one in Christ. Rely on His grace. How have you been saved? By

grace through faith. And respond to His call. Like Isaiah the prophet, may we enthusiastically say: “Here am I! Send me.” (Isaiah 6:8b).

Lutheran Women in Mission, thank you for your hearts and hands that have shared the Gospel with many around the world. Thank you for responding to the call of Jesus. Thank you for your example and encouragement to each of us. May our God continue to hold us in His love, the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

### **We respond to God’s Word with thanksgiving in our offerings . . .**

*Now is the time in our service where an offering is given. If you are a guest with us today, it is not expected that you give, however, if you feel blessed by God and led to do so, you certainly can by sending it to: Saving Grace Lutheran, PO Box 721, Chino Valley, AZ 86323. Thank you to everyone for supporting this ministry!*

### **Prayers of the People**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**P:** Let us pray. Almighty God, we give you thanks for your goodness and love in Christ that

sustains us each day. We praise you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is for us and with us in all things. We thank you for the Holy Spirit, our Comforter and sustainer of faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**P:** Guide, we pray, our congregation in our life together and witness in the world. Grant us your grace and strengthen your people through the Word and Sacraments. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**P:** For the mission of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League in this congregation and throughout the world, that each person involved would see opportunities to be salt and light to their neighbors and through various opportunities for mission. Through the faithful gathering of mites, may Lutheran Women in Mission continue to encourage us to put all You have given us into the mission of reaching the lost. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**P:** Sanctify our homes with Your presence, reminding us that nothing can separate us from Your love. Unite the members of all families in love toward you and each other. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**P:** For ... (additional intercessions of the congregation). Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**P:** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

### **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.**

### **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.

**C Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn Serve The Lord With Gladness**

Tune: Onward Christian Soldiers #662

“Serve the Lord with gladness!” It is He alone

Who redeemed us sinners, Guides us as His own

To enjoy the blessings Of His love and grace,

Will at last in glory Meet us face to face.

Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:

“Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name.

“Serve the Lord with gladness!” He gave us command

To proclaim His Gospel Now in every land

So that fellow sinners May, like us, be blest.

Leading them to Jesus, We can serve Him best.

Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:

“Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name!

“Serve the Lord with gladness!” There’s no greater joy

Than to serve the Master, Work in His employ.  
As we build His kingdom Angels, too, rejoice  
Over every sinner Brought to hear His voice.

Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:

“Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name!

--Written by Prof. Ernest Lewerenz

## **Postlude Acknowledgments**

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**Monday, October 3, 9:00 a.m. Council Meeting regarding Job Descriptions.**

**Tuesdays 4:00 p.m. Journey Through God’s Word: Acts. Sunday, October 2 LWML Sunday.**

**Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. Women’s Fellowship and Bible Study. October 5th Topic: Lord, Teach Us To Pray Part 2**

**Monday, October 17 9:00 a.m. regular monthly council meeting.**

**Sunday, October 30 REFORMATION SUNDAY OKTOBERFEST 2022 Faith Lutheran Church, 2021 E. Fir St., Cottonwood, AZ 86326. EVERYONE is invited to celebrate the Reformation Service and Oktoberfest 2022. The dinner includes brats, hotdogs, sauerkraut, potato dishes, green salad, veggie trays, macaroni and cheese and dessert. Please RSVP by Friday, October 21, 2022. Service: 3:00 p.m. Dinner: 4:30 p.m. TICKET PRICES: 12 and up \$10.00. Children 6-11 \$5.00. Children 5 and under - Free. Please purchase your tickets in advance. 928.634.7876 Faith Lutheran Church office.**