

Ministry Celebration

May 22, 2022



Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church

(Wisconsin Synod)

1332 Arrowhead Rd.

Grafton, Wisconsin 53024

Church: 262-377-6363 School: 262-377-7780

"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Isaiah 52:7

MINISTRY CELEBRATION - 40th Anniversary

WORSHIP NOTES

WELCOME! We are pleased that you are here in God's house this morning to celebrate His daily love for the lambs of his flock. As we listen to the promises of Hebrews today, Pastor Wagner describe the crying need for people to share the love of Christ among our youth today, let us praise God for calling us out of darkness into His marvelous light. Our songs today came from Teacher Annette Favorite's favorites (see page 6 for explanation). Our readings form a confession of faith to celebrate the triple grace of the Trinity. We are compelled by God's gift of life to share His message near and far and to celebrate one who's done that for a long time.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Dear Heavenly Father, as we gather in Your house this special day, open our ears to hear Your Word, open our hearts to love You and all people, and open our lips to praise and worship Your holy name. Give us eyes to see the multitude of blessings You bring to Your Church public preachers and teachers, and move us to respond with lives of thanks-living. Bless our worship, for Jesus sake. Amen.

WE SING "The Church's One Foundation"

CW, #538:1-4

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

- P:** We trust in our Father's love and protection, our Savior's perfect life and innocent death in our place, and the Spirit's power to create and sustain faith through the Gospel.
- P:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C:** **Amen.**
- P:** Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us but to Your name be the glory because of Your love and faithfulness. Continue to send and raise up servants as tools of Your Holy Spirit.
- C:** **Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us but to Your name be the glory.**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

- P:** As we come before the Holy Lord, we join in confessing our sins and receiving the assurance of His forgiveness.
- C:** **O Lord, most holy and righteous God, we humbly acknowledge before You that we do not respect You as we should, and that we do not love You above all else. We do not love others as You desire, and we are much too interested in ourselves. We fail to live up to our responsibilities as Your people at home, at work, at church, and in the**

community. We bring our imperfect selves before You, God, and confess our sins. Forgive us, cleanse us, and clothe us with newness of life through Jesus Christ our risen and ascended Lord. Amen.

P: God's Word assures us that, by His will, "we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once, for all." [Heb. 10:10] Therefore, as a called servant of God, I have the privilege to proclaim forgiveness to you through the saving work of Jesus. Your sin is gone. Your guilt removed. In the peace of forgiveness, we thank and praise the Lord.

BAPTISM

10:30 am Service

THE PRAYER

P: Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us but to Your name be the glory

C: **because of Your love and faithfulness.**

P: Gracious Lord, Giver of everything that is good, we praise You for blessing the ministry of our teacher, Mrs. Annette Favorite, over the past 40 years as she has carried out Your mission by proclaiming Your holy name daily in the classroom and through visits, devotions and personal application of Your Word.

C: **To You we give thanks and praise.**

P: Continue to use her as a tool of Your Holy Spirit.

C: **Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us but to Your name be the glory.**

SONG

"Jesus Loves Me"

(Sunday services)

OSLS Grades 3-8

DECLARATION OF FAITH IN THE GOD OF PEACE

(Congregation remains seated)

Praise to the FATHER Scripture Reading: Hebrews 6:13-20

When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, saying, "I will surely bless you and give you many descendants." And so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised. Men swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath confirms what is said and puts an end to all argument. Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.

P: We believe in God our Lord and Father in heaven.

C: **He made us the crown of his creation, and he preserves us by providing every good thing that we may live before Him in peace and joy al our days.**

SONG "I Leave All Things to God's Direction"

CW, #414:1-2

Praise to the SON Scripture Reading: Romans 8:35-39

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P: We believe in the Lord, Jesus Christ, God's only Son from eternity.

C: **He became a man for us sinners, redeeming us from Satan's power with his holy, precious blood, rising from the grip of death to take his throne on high and rule our hearts and minds and souls through his love.**

SONG "I Leave All Things to God's Direction"

CW, #414:3-4

Praise to the HOLY SPIRIT Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not put out the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil. May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

P: We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life.

C: **He draws us to our Savior by the gospel, keeping us united in the one true faith, forgiving our sin and rebellion, giving us his grace to grow in love toward God and one another. He will raise us from the grave at the end of time, to live forever with him.**

P: We believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

C: **To whom be praise and thanks, glory and wisdom, honor, power and strength, from everlasting to everlasting. Amen.**

WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH

We believe in God the Father almighty, creator of all things, the source of all goodness and love. He is our God and we are His people.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God the Son, true God and true man. He was crucified, died and was buried for our sin, that we might be free. He rose again on the third day that we might enjoy life with God now and for eternity. He ascended into heaven and will come again in power and glory to judge both the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life; He has made us members of the people of God through Word and Sacrament, and sustains and strengthens us in the one true Christian faith through those same means of grace. We believe that our sins have been forgiven and that we will live together with God and all believers now and throughout all eternity.

WE SING “What God Ordains is Always Good”

CW, #429

WE MEDITATE Hebrews 6:18-20 “ANCHORED IN HEAVEN, OUR HOPE HOLDS ON”

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

While the offerings are being collected, members are reminded to fill in the Friendship Register and pass the entire pad to the next person. Visitors, please include your email and phone number, so we can thank you for worshipping with us.

WE PRAY (special prayers)

All: Most merciful God, our heavenly Father, we praise you for all your gracious gifts to us. We give you thanks for establishing and maintaining the holy ministry to nourish the congregation of believers with your precious Word. You have done great things for us, and we are glad.

P: In particular, dear Lord, we thank You today for the faithful, consistent service of ministry You have given the Church through Annette Favorite during the past 40 years. Continue to bless her efforts to share the good news with Your lambs with the truth which we have learned through our true Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

Children: We thank You Jesus, for faithful teachers and leaders like Mrs. Favorite who shine like stars as they hold out the word of life.

Adults: We also praise You Spirit, that You offer a strong and vibrant training process within our church body to bring us such skilled and dedicated workers.

Celebrant: I thank You Lord, for the opportunity to return the love which I have received from You by sharing it with others. As part of your called staff here at Our Savior, I ask for Your constant presence and guidance as we press on, along with all whom we serve, to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of us, namely eternal life.

P: For this abounding love and favor toward your servants, we thank and praise you. In your goodness grant them continued guidance and sustain them with your tender care. Give them joy in serving you and your people and fill their hearts with your peace.

All: Abide with all who confess your holy name, keeping us steadfast in faith and sound doctrine. Help each of us to serve you with gladness and faithfulness. Bring us and all your saints at last into eternal joy. Graciously hear us, O God of our salvation, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: (Special Prayers)

WE PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER TOGETHER

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

WE RECEIVE HIS BLESSING

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by His grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word. Amen (2 Thessalonians 2:17)

WE CLOSE WITH SONG "The Church's One Foundation"

CW, #538:5

SILENT PRAYER & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BAPTISM - We welcome Logan Paul Liesener into the family of God through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Logan's godparents are Ashley Rathsack & Renee Eide and his parents are Jordan & Emily Liesener.

CONGRATULATIONS and THANK YOU for 40 years in the teaching ministry!

A Celebration of Ministry

Annette M. Favorite

Annette Marie (Oswald, Diener) Favorite graduated from Dr. Martin Luther College in June 1980 with her soon to be husband, Richard Diener. He was assigned to Salem Lutheran in Stillwater, MN. A year later her first call was also to teach at Salem where she taught for her first ten years. There she taught Kindergarten, Departmental Grades 3-8 Reading, English, Math and Art, and for one year even a K & 3rd grade combination until there was a job change for Dick to SE Wisconsin. Starting in July 1992, she became the Pre-Kindergarten teacher here at Our Savior for four years (and started the 3K which had to be held in her home for several months until the new church and additional classroom space was ready for occupancy); the Early Childhood Coordinator for the next 13 years; Grades K-2 for six years; and Kindergarten teacher all through the past 26 years. She served in VBS, and many other areas as needed throughout the changes and staffing needs in our school.



She was born in New London, WI to Rev. Robert and Janet (Huebner) Oswald then serving at St Peter's in Weyauwega, where her Grandpa Oswald and Great-aunt Irma Otto had also served at one time. Growing up in a called worker family entailed moves (and new opportunities to meet new friends) through the early years of her life to Milwaukee, Crandon, Peshtigo and then to Mequon when her dad took a position at the Seminary Library. She was confirmed at Christ Alone (then Calvary in Thiensville) and graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran High School.

Dick and Annette were blessed with two living children, Jacob and Anna. Jacob is married to Renae and they live in Madison, Wisconsin. Anna is married to Seth Kampa. They and their two children, Ezra and Eleanor, live in Saukville. On August 13, 2013, God allowed Dick to leave this earth and be taken into the loving arms of Jesus for eternity.

During June of the famous pandemic (2020) Annette was blessed to marry her favorite Bill, and now she's a Favorite too! One can never imagine the wonderful plans and timing for God's blessings in our lives!

Mrs. Favorite referenced Romans 8:35-39, Hebrews 6:19 and 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 as some of her favorite portions of Scripture. All are included in our service today. Her most dearly loved songs - 234- Praise to the Lord the Almighty; 752 - In Christ Alone; 429- What God Ordains is Always Good; 414- I Leave All Things to God's Direction; 538- The Church's One Foundation.

She loves to see the different talents and abilities which God gives to his children and to have a part in encouraging them to use their gifts to their fullest. Teaching little ones gives and takes "a lot of love." But there are some incredible moments of faith, of growth as they catch or retain a concept or they erupt with one of those special insights. She observed, "While teaching Christ Light and referring to Simon and his brother Andrew casting 'a net' into the sea, a student yelled out, 'Hey, that's your name, too, ...Annette... and you gather us, like the disciples gathered fish and people with a net!'" I guess my parents chose a great name for me! I was blessed to have both of my parents volunteer as helpers in my classroom for over 15 years. One day as I was describing to them how they were going to be helping our class that day and how they should go about carrying out those tasks working with the students, one little boy leaned over to me, put his hand on my arm and asked me rather sternly (and loud enough for my parents to overhear), 'I don't you think you should be bossing your parents around, do you?!?!?' Ahhhh... from the mouths of babes... such perspective!

Thanks, Mrs. Favorite, for your humble loving service to the Lord and to our congregation. We praise God for your caring, Christ-like heart which our Lord uses to lead people to the cross of Christ and into the sure hope of resurrection through the empty tomb!

THIS WEEK AT OUR SAVIOR

Sunday (5/22) **8:00 am** **Worship Service**
9:15 am Anniversary Celebration for Mrs. Favorite
10:30 am **Worship Service**
Wednesday 6:30 pm Men's Softball Game
Thursday **8:30 am** **Children's Chapel**
7:00 pm **Ascension/Graduation Worship Service**
Sunday (5/29) **8:00 am** **Worship Service**
9:15 am Adult Bible Study
10:30 am **Worship Service**

NEXT WEEK'S BIBLE READINGS

1st Lesson Acts 16:6-10
2nd Lesson Romans 15:14-20
Gospel John 17:20-26
Psalms Psalm 14

*LiveStream on Youtube Channel at 10:30am every Sunday
This service is also recorded for review after livestream.
Link on our website (see below).*

OUR SAVIOR EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

(Wisconsin Synod)

1332 Arrowhead Rd., Grafton, Wisconsin 53024

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THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP SERVICE

**"HOPE HOLDS
ONTO HIS PROMISES"
SERVICE THEME**

PASTOR:

Mark C. Wagner

ORGANIST:

Ann Peterman

HYMNS: 538:1-4, 414:1-
2, 414:3-4, 429, 538:5

FIRST LESSON:

Hebrews 6:13-20

SECOND LESSON:

Romans 8:35-39

THIRD LESSON:

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

SERMON:

Hebrews 6:13-20

**"ANCHORED IN HEAVEN,
OUR HOPE HOLDS ON"**
