

GOD'S PLAN

> *our plan*

A sermon series in Genesis

WELCOME TO FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Inviting all People to Faith ... Come and Worship - Go and Work

Pastor - Ben Unseth | Ministers - All

September 13, 2026 | 17th Sunday after Pentecost

www.flcspencer.org | 712-580-4316

2912 Highway Blvd, P.O. Box 1322, Spencer, IA 51301

Office Hours: 9am-1pm Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays; 9am-5pm Wednesdays

Watch us on SMU: Monday @ 8:30 p.m. and Tuesday @ 11:00 a.m.

Welcome & Prayer

Sharing of Peace

*Opening Song – “Cornerstone”

*Invocation:

We meet in the strong name of our God;

We praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Litany:

We look to you, God, Father, Son and Spirit, to teach us Your ways to impact others to know You better.

You are the one and only God for all generations.

We learn from You, our heavenly Father, and the Bible You inspired, the biblical truths and the values that sustain us in life.

You give us timeless messages of wisdom to honor and respect.

We ask you, Lord Jesus, to use us, as parents and grandparents, to bless and influence our children and grandchildren, guiding them to You.

We reflect the promises You have given us, to draw us closer to Your grace and love.

We pray, Holy Spirit, to strengthen our families with Your restorative power and safely lead us to holiness and Your plan for our salvation.

Be with us always and keep us and our families faithful to You.

*Prayer of the Day

We thank You, God, for our parents, grandparents, and other influential people throughout our lives, who have directed us to You. We thank You for being our constant source of support, comfort, and strength. Equip and guide us all to live and share our Christian beliefs and values, especially with the children, youth, and young adults we know. By Your will, protect us, forgive us, and fortify us as we move closer to You and to eternal life in Your heavenly kingdom. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Song – “I'll Belong to You”

Baptism of Jackson James Vanderberg

Song – “I'll Belong to You”

First Lesson: Genesis 16:1-10, 13, 15-16

Gospel: Luke 12:6-7

Children's Message

Song – “I Need Thee Every Hour”

Second Lesson: Genesis 21:8-20

Sermon – “Life as a Pawn”

Song – “The God Who Stays”

Prayers of the Church

*The Lord’s Prayer

*Blessing

*Closing Song – “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**Please stand if you are able*

First Lesson: Genesis 16:1-10, 13, 15-16

¹ Now Sarai, Abram’s wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian slave named Hagar; ² so she said to Abram, “The Lord has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my slave; perhaps I can build a family through her.” Abram agreed to what Sarai said. ³ So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian slave Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife. ⁴ He slept with Hagar, and she conceived. When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress. ⁵ Then Sarai said to Abram, “You are responsible for the wrong I am suffering. I put my slave in your arms, and now that she knows she is pregnant, she despises me. May the Lord judge between you and me.” ⁶ “Your slave is in your hands,” Abram said. “Do with her whatever you think best.” Then Sarai mistreated Hagar; so she fled from her. ⁷ The angel of the Lord found Hagar near a spring in the desert; it was the spring that is beside the road to Shur. ⁸ And he said, “Hagar, slave of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?” “I’m running away from my mistress Sarai,” she answered. ⁹ Then the angel of the Lord told her, “Go back to your mistress and submit to her.” ¹⁰ The angel added, “I will increase your descendants so much that they will be too numerous to count.” ¹³ She gave this name to the Lord who spoke to her: “You are the God who sees me,” for she said, “I have now seen the One who sees me.” ¹⁵ So Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram gave the name Ishmael to the son she had borne. ¹⁶ Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael.

Gospel: Luke 12:6-7

⁶ Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. ⁷ Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Second Lesson: Genesis 21:8-20

⁸The child grew and was weaned, and on the day Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast. ⁹But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking, ¹⁰and she said to Abraham, “Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that woman’s son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac.” ¹¹The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son. ¹²But God said to him, “Do not be so distressed about the boy and your slave woman. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. ¹³I will make the son of the slave into a nation also, because he is your offspring.” ¹⁴Early the next morning Abraham took some food and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar. He set them on her shoulders and then sent her off with the boy. She went on her way and wandered in the Desert of Beersheba. ¹⁵When the water in the skin was gone, she put the boy under one of the bushes. ¹⁶Then she went off and sat down about a bowshot away, for she thought, “I cannot watch the boy die.” And as she sat there, she began to sob. ¹⁷God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, “What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. ¹⁸Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation.” ¹⁹Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink. ²⁰God was with the boy as he grew up. He lived in the desert and became an archer.

Thank You to today's Worship Partners

Altar Prep: Lora Johnson, Vicki Egland

Children's Message: Dodo & Emu

Fellowship: Dave & Linda Susie

Greeters: Kevin Swancutt, Trisha Rohmiller

Instrumentalists: Elliana Antoine, Gloria McKenney, Anna Quanbeck, Joshua Antoine

Message: Pastor Ben Unseth

Prayers of the Church: Jim Paulsen

Scripture Reader: Carol Heazlett

Tech Booth: Eilts Crew

Vocalists: Allison and Amara Antoine, Kirby Fueston

Worship Leader: Kent Heazlett

Worship Partners for September 20

Altar Prep: Lora Johnson, Vicki Egland

Communion Servers: Peggy Olson, Tom Hanson

Fellowship: Paul & Kris Behrends

Greeters: Nick & Harrison Garst

Instrumentalists: Leah Kreutner, Gloria McKenney, Kevin Skadeland

Message: Pastor Ben Unseth

Prayer Intercessors: Dennis Larson, Diane Van Kleek, Jake & Karen Jacobson

Prayers of the Church: Bill Kersting

Scripture Reader: Carol Heazlett

Tech Booth: Nathan McKenney, (Lead, Sound), Kirby Fueston (Computer), Kent Heazlett (Video)

Vocalists: Brett & Jolynne Eilts, Jim & Joan Unrau

Worship Leader: Matt Essick