



# St Petri

## music team

September/October 2017

### FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

#### Who serves who?

I am not sure all that many of us think about what actually happens in worship and why we do things the way we do? Most of us just rock up and play or sing or be a part of the community and enjoy the spiritual input, prayer and time together. That's pretty good in itself!

But as people called to support the people of God in public worship or *Divine Service* as it is called, maybe it is pretty helpful to go a bit deeper and get a bit more detail about what this public gathering is and does.

It is a strange name for a gathering – *Divine Service*. It is what Christians have named what happens in the public worship service in the past. Many Christians still do. The name begs the question who is serving who? Is the *Divine* serving us or us serving the *Divine*? Of course, it is both. That is the genius of the name. It describes a two-way conversation and relationship of loving service: Father, Son and Spirit serving us and us serving him.

But who starts this? Who makes it all happen? Whose 'serving' takes primary place? Well, unlike various other Christian traditions of worship, we say that God's serving of us is the thing that makes worship actually happen and be good for us. If the Holy Spirit did not begin this relationship and empower this conversation between a holy God and an unholy people, we would remain dead in our sin and self-serving.

But it is the Holy Spirit who "calls, gathers and enlightens" us (Small Catechism) and makes us Jesus' body where we live. So the parts of the *Divine Service* that are primary are the parts where God does stuff – speaking to us, giving us himself, blessing us, re-affirming us in our baptism. Our parts of praying, seeking, listening and offering are also really important, but it is the Triune God and his active word that really gets the job done.

So we thank the Lord for turning up! We thank him for guaranteeing that even there is only a few of us gathered in his name, he is right there with us speaking, giving, doing – still serving us despite our weakness, wrong doing, misunderstanding or whatever other human flaws we bring to the gathering.

What a gracious God we have; one who continues to speak to us, love us, give us his gifts of the Spirit and speak of his saving love that redefines us and re-shapes us for the good things he has already prepared in advance for us to do. He is why we sing and play!

Blessings, Ps. Adrian

#### WHAT'S HAPPENING:

- By now you should all have received your summary pack of resources from the All In, via email. If, for any reason, you didn't please let Robyn know so she can get it to you.
- Congratulations to Matthew Liersch and Tom Krahling who have been elected School Captains at Faith Lutheran College for 2018. We wish you well as you prepare to take on this wonderful opportunity, knowing that you will each bring your own personality and special gifts to the position.
- It's been a hot couple of months for birthdays in the Youth Band but two in particular are worth special mention. Sonia and Sarah both turned 18 and we wish them every blessing as they travel life's highway (and all the other roads inbetween!).

#### BIRTHDAYS:

- 1<sup>st</sup> September - Adrian Kitson
- 12<sup>th</sup> September - Sharon Bartsch
- 26<sup>th</sup> September - Oriel Gallasch
- 22<sup>nd</sup> October - Sharon Green