



Faith Lutheran Church

**We warmly greet members
and visitors in Jesus' name!**

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 5, 2023, 8:00 a.m.



Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we lose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

Welcome to worship at Faith Lutheran Church
Gathered faithfully to love and serve God and all others

All the baptized are invited to the celebration of Holy Communion, trusting that Christ is present in this sacrament for the forgiveness of our sin and the strengthening of our faith.



The flowers on the altar today are given by:



The Bolon family
in honor of Katie Bolon's 93rd birthday!

Presiding Ministers:

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen, Pastor
Rev. Larry Wright, Assistant Pastor

Lector:

Linda Fewell

Director of Music/Organist:

David V. Patrick

Greeters & Ushers:

Thomas & Amanda Bright, Jerry Cooper, Eloise Dettmer, Dottie Gustavson, Grace Kaarre, Alf Kirkeeng, Gail Lidinsky, Judy Millard, Jan Phillips, Scott Rice, Joan Searles, Dave Wardach

Videography:

Andrea & Sergio Gamboa, Mark Greenwood
Kevin Fewell

Altar Guild:

Carole Inkrott, Judy Millard, Janet Phillips,
Steve & Peggy Ragan

Congregation Council:

Ann Greenwood (President), Scott Rice (Vice + President), Peggy Ragan (Secretary), Janet Petersen (Congregation Treasurer), Amanda Bright, Sandra Brinker, Eloise Dettmer, Grace Kaarre, Gail Lidinsky, Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen, Joan Searles, Anita Wooton

Retired Pastors in Residence:

Rev. Marianne Powrie
Rev. John Spittal

Office Administrator:

Cate Teague

Sunday Sexton:

Thomas Bright

Lead Cantor/Music Librarian:

Tom Tryon

Artist in Residence:

Dr. Joseph Holt

Noted throughout the service - P: Presiding Minister L: Lector **C: Congregation**

Faith has a T-Coil-enabled hearing loop for those whose hearing aid(s) also are enabled. NOTE: This service is being live-streamed. While we try to avoid filming congregants, it may happen at times.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

C: we confess that we are wrapped up in sin and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

P: Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

God, Whose Almighty Word
Verses 1 & 4

ELW 673

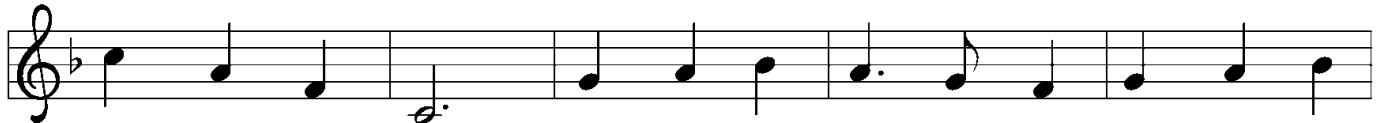
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God, Whose Almighty Word



1 God, whose al - mighty - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.
lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

WE STAND

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-12

L: A READING FROM ISAIAH

¹Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.

³"Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,

a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.
If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The Lord will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.

¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 112: 4 (SPOKEN)



Psalm 112:4

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress

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Psalm: Psalm 112: 1-10

¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in God's commandments!

²Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

³Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

Refrain

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

⁸Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish.

Refrain

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

L: A READING FROM 1 CORINTHIANS

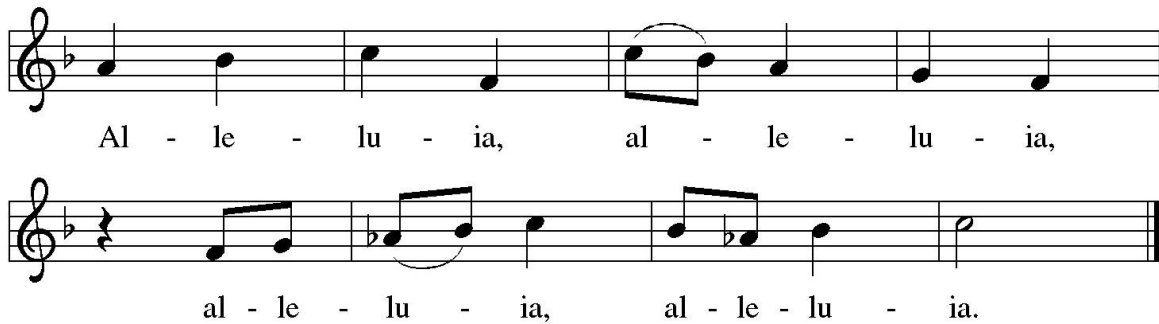
- ¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom.
- ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.
- ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling.
- ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
- ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.
- ⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish.
- ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.
- ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
- ⁹But, as it is written,
"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—
- ¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.
- ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God.
- ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.
- ¹³And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.
- ¹⁴Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.
- ¹⁵Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.
- ¹⁶"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"
But we have the mind of Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.

¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.

¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.

¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.

¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service
Verses 1 & 4

ELW 712

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



1 Lord, whose love in hum - ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home - less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light
4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great - ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © Oxford University Press

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
He came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day He rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

L: Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Inspire our wonder at creation, from the light of dawn to the beauty of the dark night. Sustain the unseen depths of the ocean to the plants and animals we know well. Bring healing to lands and communities experiencing natural disasters, especially Hurricane Ian. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Instruct the powerful in your ways. Provide upright leadership in business and industry, that workers are not oppressed. Throughout the world, inspire voters and raise up politicians to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness. We pray for a just end to the war in Ukraine and for an end of Russian aggression. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Loosen the bonds of injustice in our midst. Grant peace to endless quarrels, put an end to hunger, and break every yoke of oppression. Shelter all who flee abuse in their homes or violence in their communities. Satisfy those afflicted in any way. Bless the work of SPARC and our support of those in crisis. Bless our partnership with All Faith's Food Bank and our ongoing work with refugees with Lutheran Services. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth. Give us delight in your commandments, that we are generous with those in need. Make us steadfast in our trust in you, ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: The cross and resurrection bring redemption from sin and death. We praise you for all whose unshaken faith in Christ shines forth in their witness. Keep them in our remembrance and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven. We give thanks for the lives of Marlene Weist and Marlene Falconer. May they enjoy eternal rest with you. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: We pray especially for those on our prayer list and those we name before you now silently or aloud. [PAUSE FOR RESPONSES]. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

C: Amen.

WE STAND

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Feel free to greet your neighbor with a word of peace.

WE SIT

OFFERTORY

The offering is collected at this time. Online giving also is available at www.faithlutheransrq.com. We sincerely appreciate your generosity in support of Faith Lutheran's ministries. When the offering plates are brought forward, the congregation stands and sings.



WE STAND

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Song

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first system of the musical score consists of a treble and bass staff in B-flat major (two flats). The treble staff features a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment of chords and single notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a melodic line with some ties, and the bass staff continues with chordal support. The lyrics are aligned with the notes.

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

The third system shows the continuation of the musical piece. The treble staff includes a melodic phrase that ends with a half note, and the bass staff provides a steady accompaniment. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

The fourth system continues the musical notation. The treble staff features a melodic line with a final note on a half note, and the bass staff provides a harmonic base. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

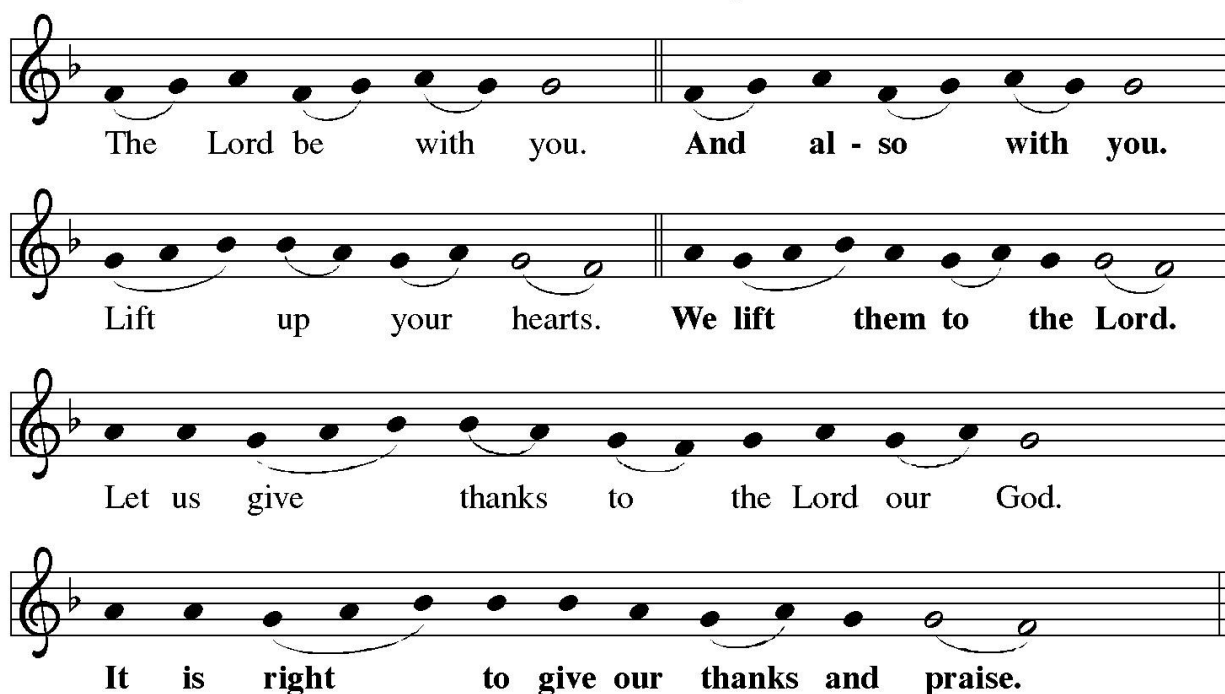
The fifth and final system of the score. The treble staff concludes with a melodic phrase, and the bass staff provides a final accompaniment. The lyrics are aligned with the notes, ending with a double bar line.

OFFERING PRAYER

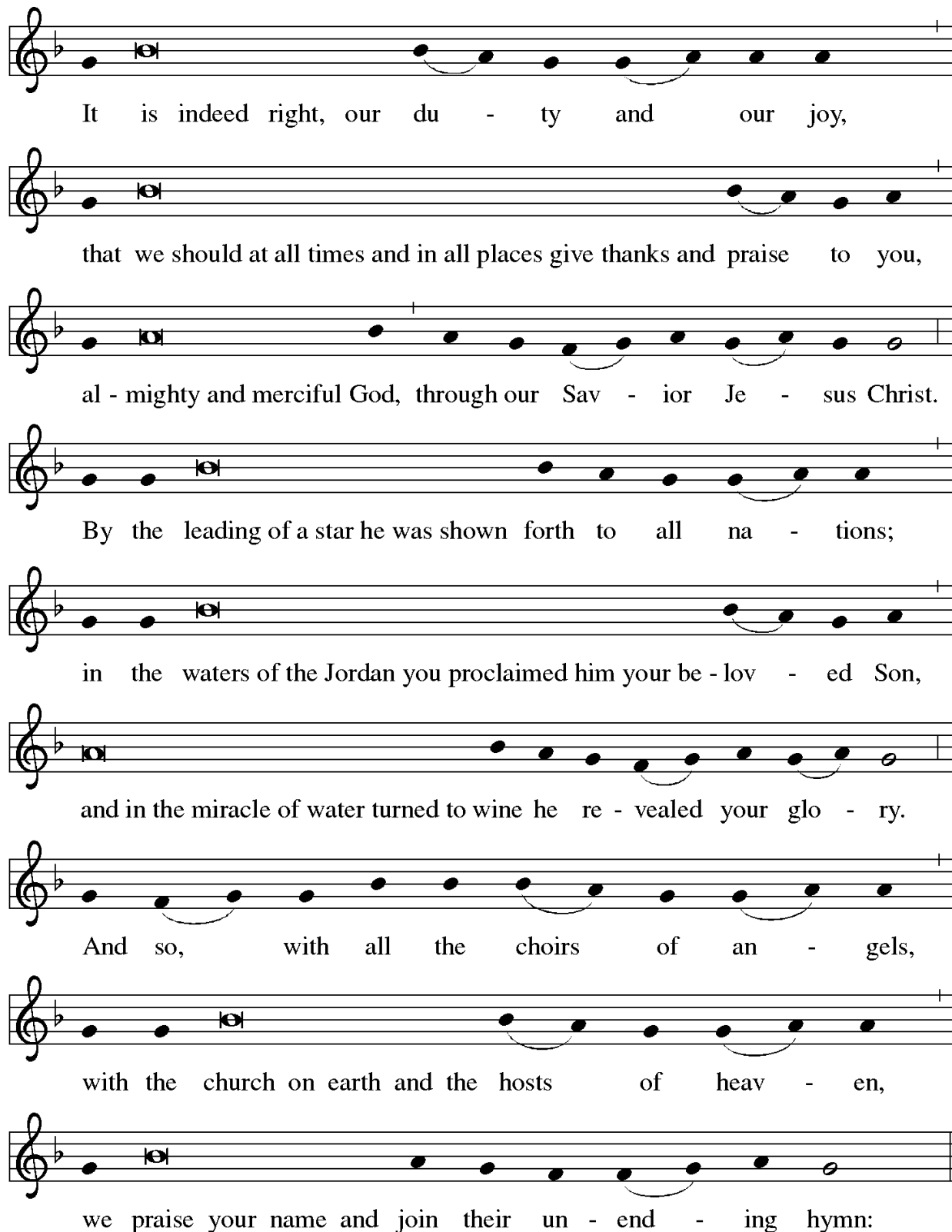
P: Let us pray.

**C: Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (SPOKEN)

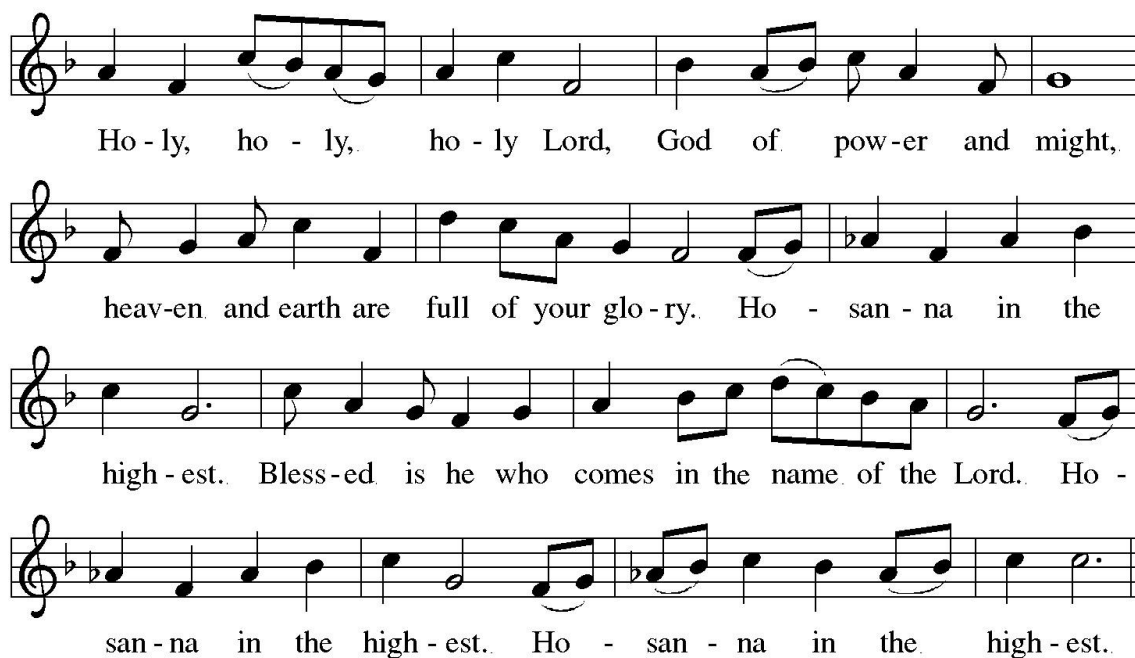


PREFACE



It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.
By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all na - tions;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your be - lov - ed Son,
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he re - vealed your glo - ry.
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come and taste the joy of God!

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

WE STAND

TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's Grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray.

**C: Holy One,
we thank you for the healing
that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice,
love kindness,
and journey humbly with you.
Amen.**

BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod
✝ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Lord of Light
Verses 1 & 4

ELW 688

See Next Page

Lord of Light



1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and
2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -
3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may
4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom
ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance
low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,
day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing



as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -
of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -
with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions
peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that



fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.
ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:
from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:
pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

Refrain



Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

Text © Union of Welsh Independents

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DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Voluntary on "Hymn to Joy"

Michael Burkhardt

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FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Services

Sundays at 8 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.*
In-Person & *Live-Streamed at
www.faithlutheransrq.com/live-service

Sunday, Jan. 22, Online views: 40

Sunday, Jan. 22, Attendance: 188

Next: Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany Lectionary 6, Year A

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Choose life

Psalms 119:1-8

Happy are they who follow the
teaching of the Lord. (Ps. 119:1)

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

God gives the growth

Matthew 5:21-37

The teaching of Christ: forgiveness



This Week at Faith

Monday, Feb. 6

Tuesday, Feb. 7

8:30 a.m. Men of Faith,
Breakfast at Skillet's
9:30 a.m. G.I.F.T.S. (Ladies of Faith)
Bible Study, conference room
4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class, library
6:00 p.m. Rehearsal: Diversity: Voices of
Sarasota Choir, sanctuary

Wednesday, Feb. 8

9:30 a.m. Bible Study: Signs and Wonders
10:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting & Communion,
chapel
1:00 p.m. Bereavement Group,
Chapel

Thursday, Feb. 9

1 p.m. Stitch 'n' Chatter
6 p.m. Jazzercise, gym

Friday, Feb. 10

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

Saturday, Feb. 11

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym
9:00 a.m. Diakonia,
conference room

Sunday, Feb. 12

9:10 a.m. Adult Forum,
conference room
9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal,
choir room
2:00 p.m. German Congregation,
Sanctuary

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are so glad you have joined us for worship. **Please let us know that you visited by filling out a Visitor Card**, located on the table near the entrance. Kindly give the card to an usher or place it in the offering plate.

Let Us Pray

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Budget Forum TODAY & Annual Meeting on Feb. 12



We are approaching the time of year for our Annual Meeting. Please Save the Date of **February 12, 2023**, and join us **after the 10:15 service**. We will try to begin the meeting by **11:45 a.m.** Your Church Council and Committee Chairs look forward to sharing our Congregation update with you at that time. We will also be presenting a slate of members to join our Church Council for your vote.

Please also note that a Budget Forum will take place **TODAY, February 5, between the services at 9:00 a.m.** Please join us for any questions you may have about our upcoming budget and planning. Our goal is to be transparent with our finances, so come and join us for a Q & A. Please note: Budget information will be sent out prior to the Budget Forum. Thank you for your involvement!

Men of Faith –Breakfast at Skillets



Join us for a hearty breakfast, prayer, and fellowship at Skillets, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail on **Tuesday, 2/7 at 8:30 a.m.**

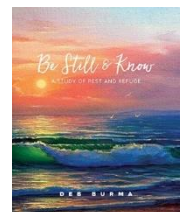
All are welcome! Please RSVP by emailing Pastor Eric at pastor@faithlutheransrq.com or call the church office!

G.I.F.T.S. meeting on Feb. 7

G.I.F.T.S. (Growing In Faith Through Scripture) will continue studying "Be Still and Know" by Deb Burma at **9:30 a.m.** on **Tuesdays**, in the conference room.

We look forward to continuing our exploration of Psalm 46.

Please join us.



Adult Forum meets February 12th

Adult Forum will not meet this coming Sunday, February 5th but will meet again on February 12th Volume 4 Lesson 9 "Power to the People" of "That the World May Know" video series. We will meet in the conference room between the two morning worship services from 9:10 – 9:50am. Instead this Sunday we are invited to attend a Q&A session concerning the 2023/2024 budget in the Fellowship Hall. Pack your bags! We're going on a journey with Ray Vander Laan, a Biblical scholar. A quest to uncover Scripture and its meaning across history. Filmed on location in Israel and throughout the Middle East, the Faith Lessons Digital series is an adventure in biblical learning. You will discover why Jesus turned the world upside down with his compelling call to follow Him. The insights you gain will transform your reading of the Gospels and inspire a deeper faith commitment.



Mary Circle – RESCHEDULED!



Please consider joining us at our February Mary Circle meeting. We will meet on **Tuesday, February 21 at 12 p.m.** Please bring your own lunch: dessert will be provided. This month we are very pleased to offer a presentation by Joan Zabor. Joan is a very talented artist who uses shells as her medium of expression. Joan graciously gifted the church with the shell cross in the office entryway. Come out and hear Joan talk about where she gets her inspiration and how she actually creates her stunning pieces. For questions, contact Janet Petersen at luvstitches55@gmail.com

Readers Club

Readers Club meets at **2 p.m.** on the last Monday of the month in the church library. **Feb. 27.**

For more information, contact Kathy Schilio, schilmo@yahoo.com. **Please join!**



Altar Flowers



Please consider donating altar flowers in honor of a special occasion, in memory of a loved one or to glorify God. The price is \$30 for one vase or \$60 for two vases. The next available Sunday is **Mar. 19.**

After the second service on Sunday, you may take your flowers home or donate them to a person or place of your choice. Indicate your wish on the flower donation board in the fellowship hall or on our webpage.

Calling all Techs, Videographers, and Live Stream Aficionados

Tech savvy? We need your gifts!

We are looking to train several additional operators to join our team to run the live stream for our 10:15 a.m. service.

If you are comfortable with technology, we would welcome you to join us in providing this vital ministry.

Interested? Just curious? Contact Marianne Powrie, or leave a message with Cate in the office.



Quilt Workshop



Have you looked at a quilt and wondered at its beauty. Would you like to see how quilts are made? Pastor Eric has expressed an interest in forming a group to make quilts. We are looking for anyone interested in learning to quilt, sew or just to meet and get to know people better.

No sewing skills needed to join.

We will begin with very simple patterns and sew on machines rather than hand stitch. If you have a sewing machine but do not want to bring it to the church, we can find machines to be left at the church.

If you are an experienced quilter or seamstress, we would absolutely love to have you join. Please leave your name and contact information with the church office or call Jane Sanks (941) 923-4240.

Pastor's Discretionary Fund Needs Your Help

Pastor Eric often is in conversation with members of the congregation or the community about specific needs and aid they might require. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund provides him the means to help financially, when necessary.

Thank you for the strong congregational response thus far! If you are able, please consider a donation so vulnerable members of our community can continue to receive emergency assistance.



Let's Pray!



Looking for a time to pray with members of our Faith family? Join us at **10:30 a.m. Wednesdays** in the chapel.

We will pray for ourselves, loved ones, those in need, our church community, the larger community that we serve, our nation and the world. Bring your concerns and your desire to connect with our loving heavenly Father! We will conclude with Holy Communion. Can't attend in person? NOTE: If you need the sacrament brought to your house, please let us know or take consecrated elements home with you on Sunday if you are in town.

Please join us via Zoom. Join Zoom Meeting: **Meeting ID: 871 4720 3661, Passcode: 041291**

Bereavement Group



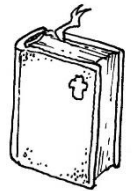
Join our Bereavement Group at **1 p.m. Wednesdays** in the chapel.

If you or a friend can use some help bearing the burden of grief, this group is for you. There is strength in community. Help spread the word of hope.

Adult Bible Study with Pastor Larry

"Signs and Wonders" - A study of Jesus' Miracles

Ever wonder about the stories of Jesus' miracles? Believers are very familiar with Jesus' feeding of the 5,000, and the stilling of the storm. What do we make of these accounts? Actual happenings? Metaphorical stories? Let's explore these questions together. Perhaps the big question is not "did this happen?" but "what does it mean?" Both questions deserve our faithful deliberation and interpretation!



Our theologian in residence, Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, by DVD lecture and student book, provides grist for our mill, featuring 6 selected miracle stories.

Pastor Larry leads this Six-Week study each Wednesday **through February 15th**. Each one-hour session begins at 9:30 a.m. and meets in the second-floor classroom in the Community Center across from the elevator. **Welcome all! Refreshments! Great discussion! Fellowship!**



Prayer List



Please remember in your prayers this week:

Jeff & Nancy Arntsen
Anna Bancroft, 6 years old,
friend of Alyene Weaver
Family & Friends of Kevin Beard
Sean Brett, son of Alyene Weaver
Tommy Bright
Charles Budreau
Dee Burlingame
Michael O. Cannon, father of Kay Cannon
Cheryl Cook
Joan Cotton
Eloise Dettmer
Family & Friends of Megan Fairlie
Family & Friends of Marlene Falconer
Elizabeth Farmer
Family & Friends of Stanforth Forbes
John Gallo, friend of April Shettler
Andrea Gamboa
Elaine Graham
Alyssa Hansen, cousin of Lisa Olsen
Jeff Hansen, nephew of Joan Searles
Christiana Holmes
Kevin Hooks, son-in-law of Anita and Jon Wooton
Mary Janice Holt

Jesus & Rita Jimenez
Paul & Debby Maresch
Kathryn McLaughlin
Judi Melander
Kristin Mohammed
Jeremy & Yvonne Mullins
Family & Friends of Dennis Pappalardo
Virginia Link-Pease, wife of James Pease
Doris Anne Prieur-Lucia
Fritz Rappold
Family & Friends of Deacon Sue Rice
Gabriel Rockwell
Beverly & Floyd Ryder
Family & Friends of Dick Sanks
Ken Schell, brother of Mike (Gwen) Schell
Shirley Schimke, friend of Karen & John White
Rev. John Spittal
Dieter Smirnow
Michael and Marie Smith, friends of Carole Inkrott
Cathy Stubenvoll
Michelle Terrell, niece of Kay Cannon
Colette Thornbloom
Marlene Wiest
Jon Wooton

Jeremiah 29:12 "Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you."

Contact the church office if:

- You or someone you know would like a **communion visit, hospital or home visit, or to be contacted.**
- You know of someone who would appreciate **receiving a card in the mail.**
- You would like to **serve as a Eucharistic Minister.**
- You have an addition to the Prayer List. Please send an email with the individual's name to officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com. Please send updates when prayers are answered

Welcome
To Our
Church

