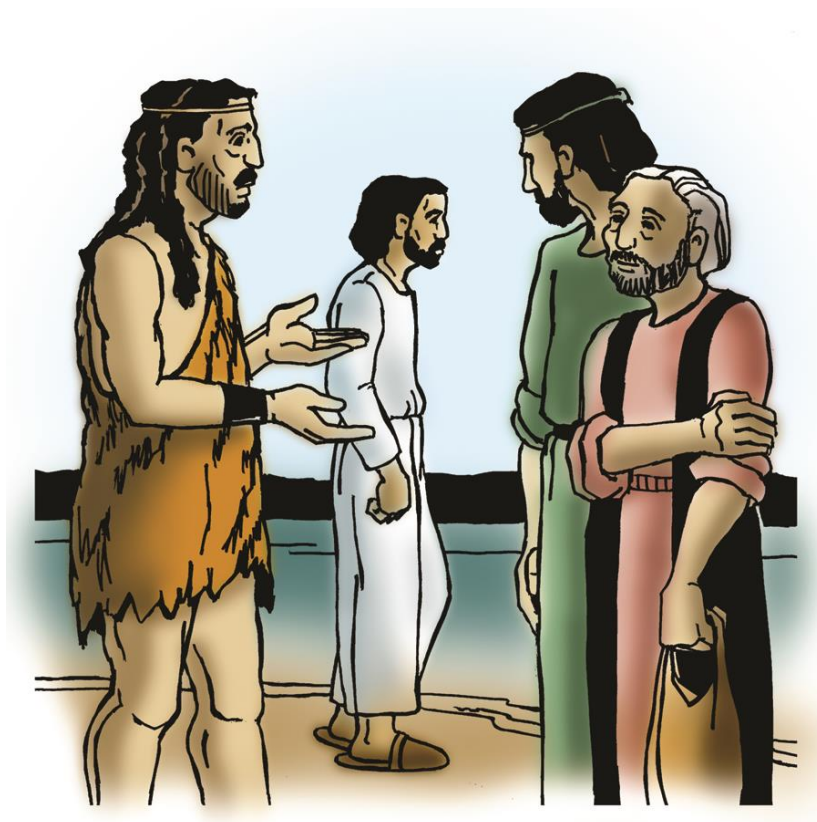




Faith Lutheran Church

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

Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 15, 2023, 8:00 a.m.



Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit.

In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

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:



Joan Searles
In honor of her granddaughters
Kaylin's and Ashlee's birthdays

Presiding Ministers:	Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen, Pastor Rev. Larry Wright, Assistant Pastor
Lector:	Mark Nelson
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
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.

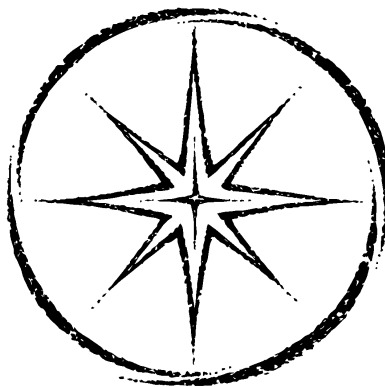
P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

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: Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

C: Amen.

**GATHERING HYMN**

Christ, Be Our Light
First and Last Verses
See next page

ELW 715

Christ, Be Our Light



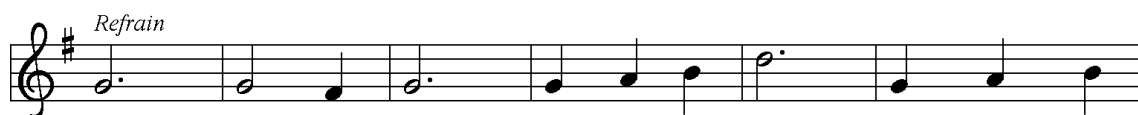
1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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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.

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:1-7

L: A READING FROM ISAIAH

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb
he named me.

²He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.

³And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and
vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God."

⁵And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to
bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am
honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—

⁶he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the
tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light
to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply
despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and
stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the
LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 40: 8

I love to do your will, O my God.

Psalm: Psalm 40: 1-11

- ¹I waited patiently up on the LORD,
who stooped to me and heard my cry.
- ²The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay,
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.
- ³The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.
- ⁴Happy are they who trust in the LORD!
They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.

Refrain

- ⁵Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us,
none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and
tell them! But they are more than I can count.
- ⁶Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt
offering and sin-offering you have not required.

Refrain

- ⁷And so I said, "Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me:
⁸'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within me.' "
- ⁹I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly; I have not restrained my lips,
O LORD, you know.
- ¹⁰I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your
faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast
love and truth from the great assembly.
- ¹¹You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me;
may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

Refrain

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

- ¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
and our brother Sosthenes,
- ²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ
Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call

on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus,

⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—

⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—

⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

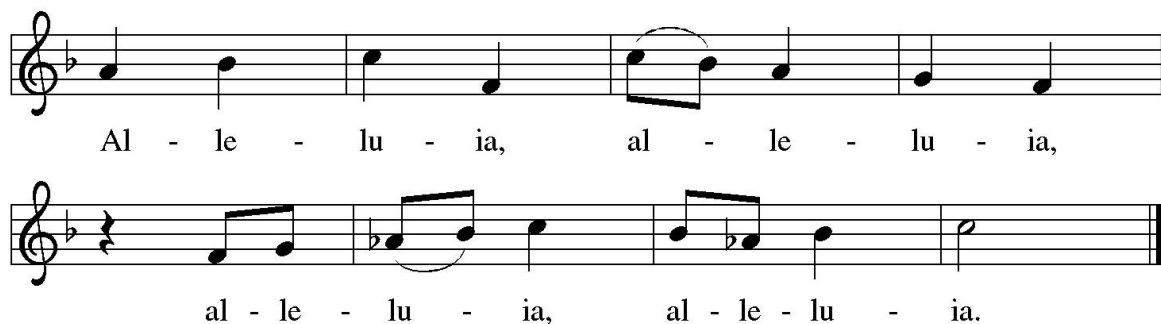
⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 1:29-42

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and declared,

“Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

³⁰This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’

³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason,

that he might be revealed to Israel.”

³²And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.

³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’

³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.”

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,

³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed,
“Look, here is the Lamb of God!”

³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher),
“where are you staying?”

³⁹He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon.

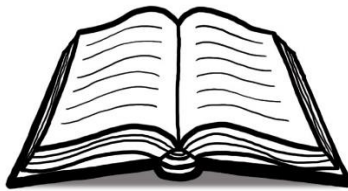
⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.

⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed).

⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.



WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

WE STAND

Hail to the Lord's Anointed



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.
 all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to
 Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,
 To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and
 light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are
 go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from
 cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



rule in eq - ui - ty.
 pre - cious in your sight.
 hill to val - ley flow.
 king - dom with out end.

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.

WE SIT

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

L: Put a new song in the mouth of your church. Inspire the baptized to tell of your faithfulness, sharing the good news of your salvation throughout the earth. Bless the witness of missionaries. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: The waters of baptism call us into life in the Spirit. Preserve the world's waters: protect them from pollution, support plants and animals who depend on them, and bring rain in places of drought. Guide us in protecting local waterways (especially Sarasota Bay) and in responding to devastating floods. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: In Jesus you are the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Show your mercy to all nations. Direct leaders to do your will; fill governing bodies with righteousness; equip judges with discernment and compassion. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: You incline your ear to all who cry to you. Draw near to individuals and communities suffering violence, injustice, illness, or poverty. Hide them in the shadow of your hand and make us signs of your faithfulness to all in need. 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.

L: You are glorified in the servants you have called. With Martin Luther King Jr., give us bold trust in you. Even when it feels like a sharp sword or polished arrow, give us courage to receive your call to repentance and racial justice. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: In every place and time, you have sanctified your people. We praise you for the testimony of those who have died in the faith. Strengthen us as we wait for the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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.

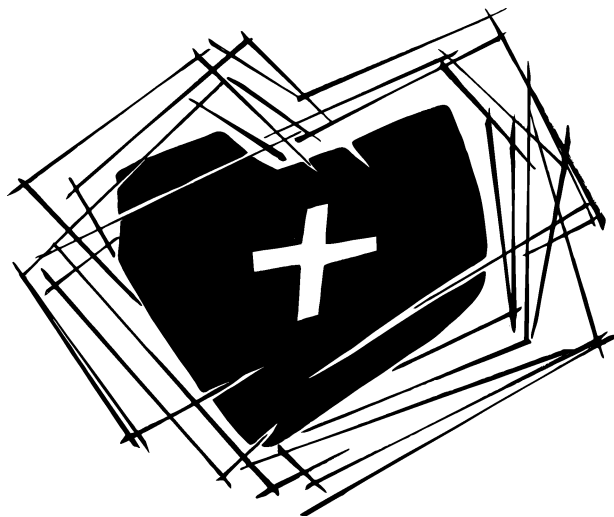
Feel free to greet your neighbor with a word of peace.

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 tie to the next system. The bass staff maintains the harmonic foundation.

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

The fourth system continues the musical progression. The treble staff features a melodic line with a final note tied to the next system. The bass staff provides accompaniment.

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

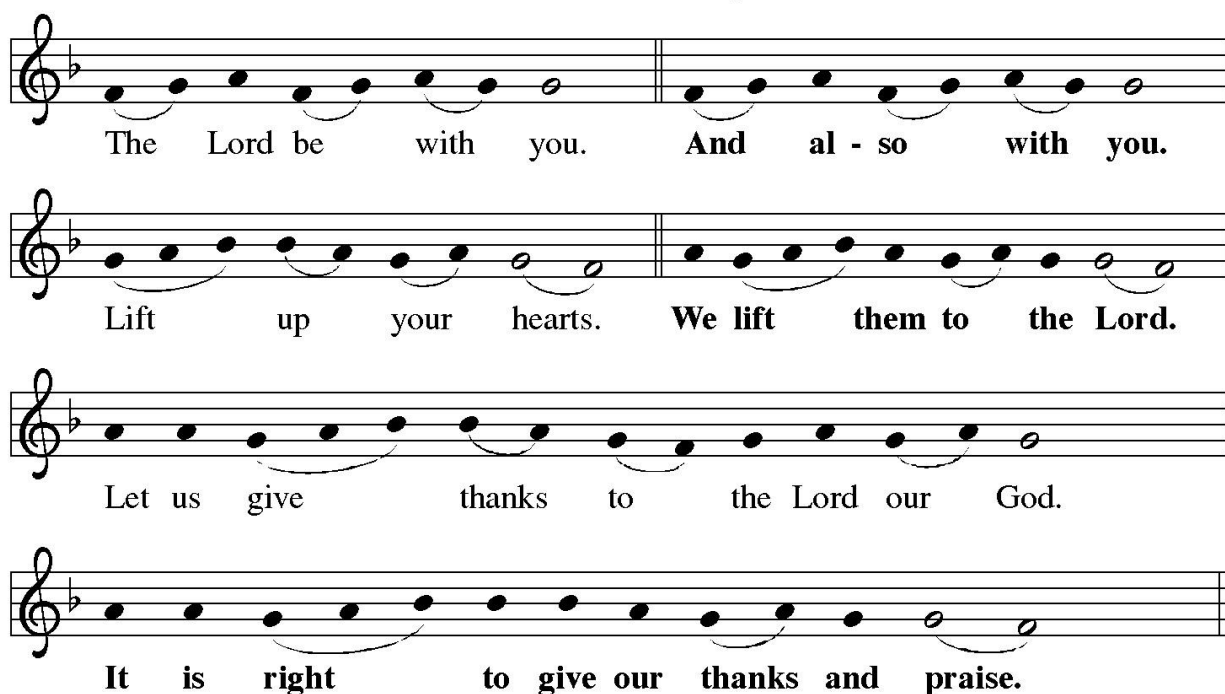
The fifth and final system of the score concludes the piece. The treble staff ends with a final chord, and the bass staff provides a concluding accompaniment. The lyrics are completed in this system.

OFFERING PRAYER

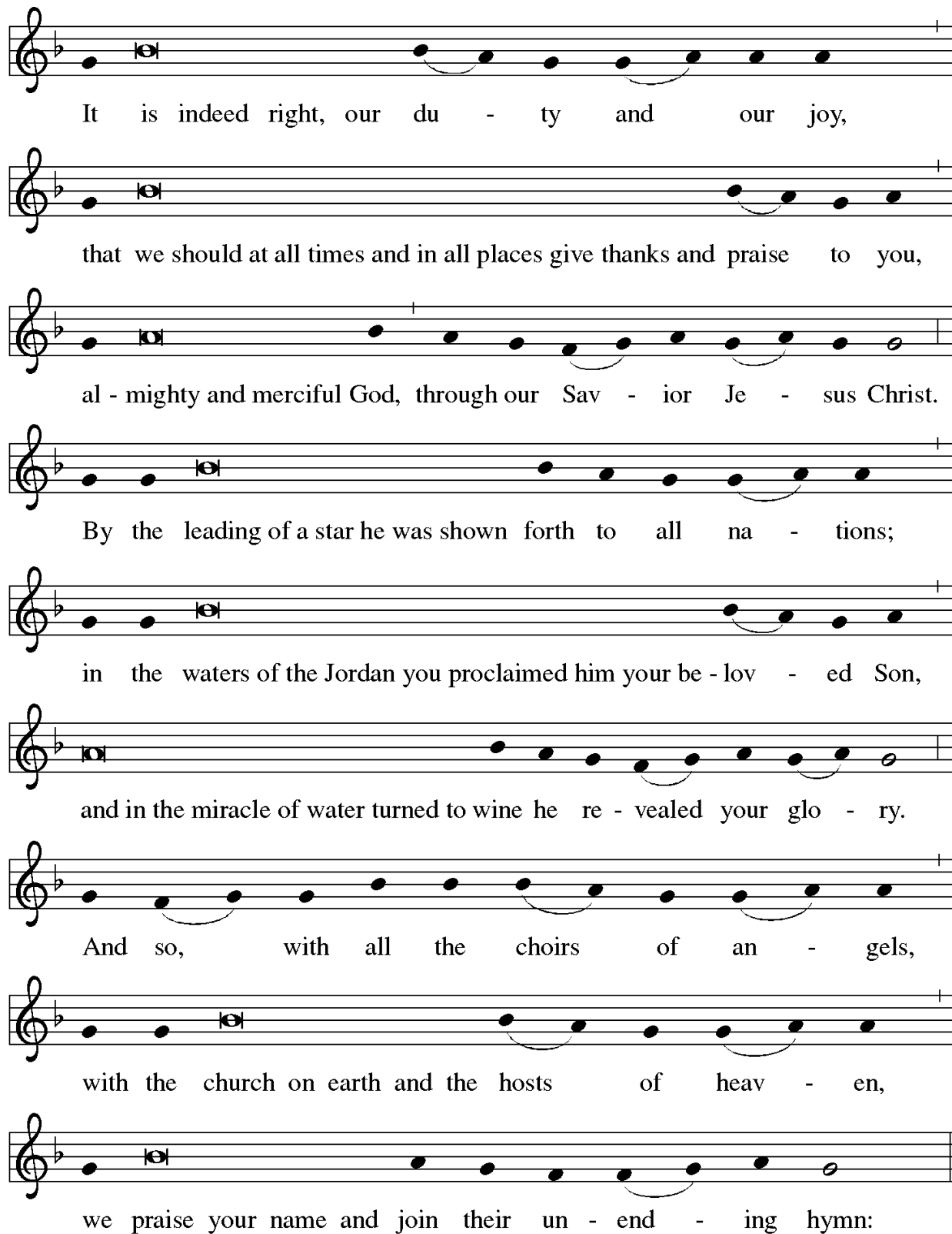
P: Let us pray.

**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)

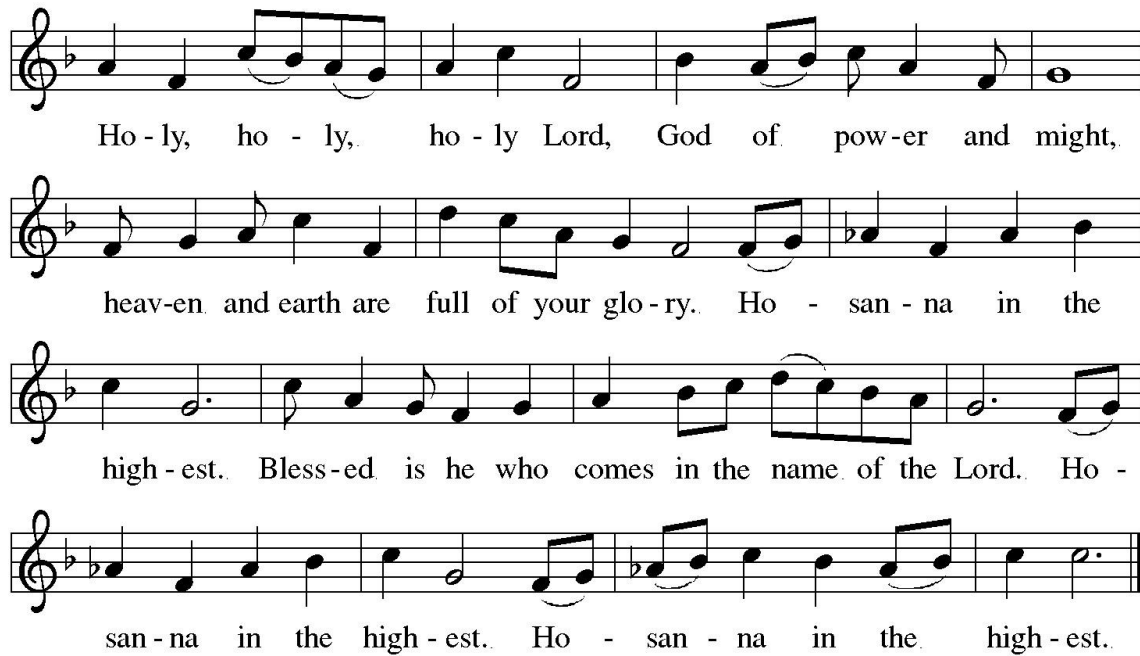


PREFACE



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 SONG (SUNG)

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

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

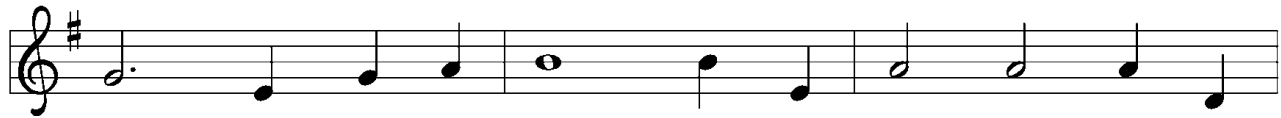
Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult
First and Last Verses
See Next Page

ELW 696

Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult



1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our
2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -



sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me:"
kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

DISMISSAL

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

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Voluntary

Henry Purcell

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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. 8, Online views: n/a

Sunday, Jan. 8, Attendance: 149

Next: Sunday, Jan. 22, 2023

Third Sunday after Epiphany Lectionary 3, Year A

Isaiah 9:1-4

Light shines for those in darkness

Psalms 27:1, 4-9

The Lord is my light and my salvation.
(Ps. 27:1)

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Appeal for unity in the gospel

Matthew 4:12-23

Revelation of Christ as a prophet



This Week at Faith

Monday, Jan. 16

11:00 a.m. Finance Committee

Tuesday, Jan. 17

10:00 a.m. Men of Faith Bible Study,
Chapel

9:30 a.m. G.I.F.T.S. Bible Study,
conference room

11:00 a.m. Food Pantry Training,
fellowship hall

12:00 p.m. Mary Circle,
conference room

4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class, library

6:00 p.m. Rehearsal: Diversity: Voices of
Sarasota Choir, sanctuary

Wednesday, Jan. 18

9:30 a.m. Bible Study: Signs and Wonders

10:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting & Communion,
chapel

12:30 p.m. Bereavement Group,
Lunch at Olive Garden

Thursday, Jan. 19

1 p.m. Stitch 'n' Chatter

1:30 p.m. Stewardship Meeting,
conference room

5:30 p.m. Council Meeting,
conference room

6 p.m. Jazzercise, gym

Friday, Jan. 20

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

Saturday, Jan. 21

Diakonia,
conference room

Sunday, Jan. 22

9:10 a.m. Adult Forum,
conference room

9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal,
choir room

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

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Adult Forum resumes meeting **TODAY, January 15th**

Adult Forum will meet today, **Sunday, January 15th** with Volume 4 Lesson 6 "The Lamb of GOD" 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.

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.



Confirmation Class

Confirmed in Christ



Our class time is **4:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays**. Our next class is **Jan. 17th**.

This comprehensive confirmation program is more than just a class. It seeks to provide experiences and opportunities in which the individual can grow in faith as a Christian (i.e., worship, relationships with peers and mentors, small group experiences, and ministry opportunities).

Men of Faith –Bible Study

Please join us on **Tuesday 1/17** for another exciting study of the book of Judges!

Don't let their size fool you, these short books pack a serious spiritual punch! Join us at 10 am in the Chapel. No prior bible study experience necessary! Consider inviting a friend or two as well!



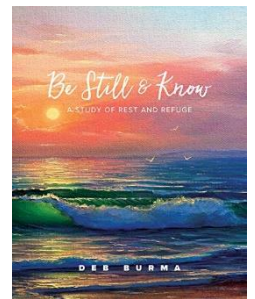
Ladies of Faith



Please consider joining us at our January Mary Circle meeting. We will meet on **Tuesday, January 17** at 12 pm. 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

G.I.F.T.S. Resumes meeting on Jan. 17

G.I.F.T.S. (Growing In Faith Through Scripture) will resume studying "Be Still and Know" by Deb Burma at **9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17**, in the conference room.



We look forward to continuing our exploration of Psalm 46.

Please join us.

Faith's Food Pantry Volunteer Training



Finally, all of our renovations and preparations are complete! We are ready to commence training and to begin our service as a partner with All Faith's Food Bank. If you are interested in volunteering in our Food Pantry, please join us on **Tuesday, January 17th** at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Hannah Mazkour from All Faith's Food Bank will be our instructor. Please contact the office with questions.

Bereavement Group Lunch at Olive Garden

Join our Bereavement Group for lunch at Olive Garden. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, then you are invited to join us as we break bread and share meaningful conversation. Please RSVP by calling the church office. We will meet at Olive Garden at 12:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, January 18th**.



You are also welcomed to join Faith's Bereavement Group during the regular weekly meetings at **1 p.m. Wednesdays** (except 1/18) 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.

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 **Jan. 22**.

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.

Next Faith Lutheran Blood Drive at Church!

Sunday, January 22, 2023, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Faith Lutheran is hosting a Blood Drive.

For more information, contact Patti McKee at (941) 921-3709 or the church office.



Walk-ins welcome!

Sign-up for an appointment:

https://donor.suncoastblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/35552

Readers Club



Readers Club meets at 2 p.m. on the last Monday of the month in the church library. **Jan. 30**, they will discuss *Haven Point* by Virginia Hume.

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

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**

Stewardship – A Living Faith: Fulfilling God's Purpose!



This week's theme is "Living as Servants." Just as Jesus came not to be served but to serve, we are to serve. Heartfelt service unto the Lord is an integral part of our stewardship. Paul exhorts us, "Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not others" (Ephesians 6:7). Peter wrote, "Each one should use whatever gift they have received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms" (1 Peter 4:10). We fulfill God's purpose as we use opportunities to serve. As our hearts and minds are enlightened through the hearing of the Word and participation in the Sacraments, the Holy Spirit transforms us into servants who willingly serve the Lord by serving others.

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.



Joan's Soup Freezer



The soup fridge is filling up! Please consider making a donation or simply taking one of the delicious soups found in the fridge labeled Joan's Soup in the kitchen. Please help us keep this Ministry, founded by Joan March, going. If making a contribution, please label with the type of soup and when it was made. Thanks so much!

Ukrainian Refugee Day at Faith!

Thank you to our many volunteers for helping make Saturday's Refugee Day a success! God's work, our hands!



Thank You!



I would like to thank the beloved members of our church family for the many cards, cookies, gifts and Christmas love. I am so thankful for all of you.

- Agape, Pastor Eric +

Faith Financial Corner



Thank you for your contributions to our Church and Faith Family. Each of you has allowed us to sustain our mission in making a difference in the community of Our Lord God and Savior! The financial status of Faith through your giving to the General Operating Fund, the special outreach causes such as the Refuge Support, the fabulous giving for Hurricane Ian Relief, and all the many improvements made to our beautiful building are just some examples of your love and commitment to our Lord and church family. Your goodness, gifts of time, talent, and money are deeply appreciated!

Giving Envelopes for 2023: If you didn't receive a packet and want one, please sign on the form on the narthex table. Indicate if you wish for a full packet or just special offering packet.

Year End Giving Statements: They will be sent out in bulk to all via email or USPS mail as you have indicated, AFTER January 11, but before January 23, 2023. However, requests for individual statements will be honored as received.

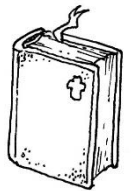
Speaking of Year End...Year End Giving: Have you considered Win-Win Ways to Give? That is, Giving Options that benefit not only the recipient, but also the donor in a Tax-Advantaged Way! Consult with your tax advisor to be fully informed. Wonder where you are regarding your 2022-23 Pledge to Faith? I can help!

Contact pattymckee15@gmail.com or 941-921-3709 home or 941-228-1192 cell; or the church office 941-924-4664.

Adult Bible Study to Resume Its Winter Session

"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, will by DVD lecture and student book provide grist for our mill, featuring 6 selected miracle stories. Our Faith Endowment Fund will provide a student book for each who registers for the class.

Pastor Larry will lead this Six-Week study **beginning Wednesday, January 11th**, and continuing 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.

**It's not too late to register for this class.
Welcome all! Refreshments! Great discussion! Fellowship!**



Prayer List



Please remember in your prayers this week:

Jeff & Nancy Arntsen
Kevin Beard, friend of Jim Winemiller
Tommy Bright
Charles Budreau
Dee Burlingame
Michael O. Cannon, father of Kay Cannon
Cheryl Cook
Joan Cotton
Eloise Dettmer
Megan Fairlie
Family & Friends of Marlene Falconer
Elizabeth Farmer
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
Family & Friends Howard King,
friend of Powrie's and others

Paul & Debby Maresch
Kathryn McLaughlin
Judi Melander
Ed Miller
Kristin Mohammed
Jeremy & Yvonne Mullins
Family & Friends of Dennis Pappalardo
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
Rev. John Spittal
Dieter Smirnow
Michael and Marie Smith, friends of Carole Inkrott
Cathy Stubenvoll
Michelle Terrell, niece of Kay Cannon
Colette Thornbloom
Evie Webb
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

ABOUT US

Gathered faithfully to love and serve God and all others.

OUR VISION

To be an ELCA congregation that displays the true, unending love of Christ. To promote peace, social justice and grace throughout all we do.

THE ELCA

Faith Lutheran Church is part of the greater Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). We are ecumenical, saved by grace and love Jesus.

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or email us at officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com.

