



Faith Lutheran Church

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter

8 a.m., May 11, 2025



The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

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

7750 Beneva Road, Sarasota, FL, 34238 | 941-924-4664 | www.faithlutheransrq.com

All who are 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 April Shettler in memory of her parents, William and Jane Shettler, on the occasion of their anniversary.

Ministers	Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen Rev. Marianne Powrie
Lector	Mark Nelson
Music Director	Andi Zdrava
Greeters & Ushers	Jerry Cooper, Eloise Dettmer, Dottie Gustavson, Grace Kaarre, Alf Kirkeeng, Gail Lidinsky, Judy Millard, Mark Nelson, Jan Phillips, Deacon Scott Rice, Jane Sanks, Joan Searles, Dave Wardach
Media Team	Kelly Ashlock, Greg Cooper, Kevin Fewell, Andrea & Sergio Gamboa, Deacon Mark Greenwood
Sunday School Teacher	Emily Holst
Altar Guild	Linda Fewell, Dottie Gustavson, Carole Inkrott, Judy Millard, Mark Nelson, Jan Phillips, Steve & Peggy Ragan
* * * * *	
Pastor	Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen
Assistant to the Pastor	Rev. Larry Wright
Retired Pastors in Residence	Rev. John Hilficker Rev. Marianne Powrie
Congregational Council	Ann Greenwood, president; Joan Searles, vice president; Lauren Wardach, secretary; Anita Wooton, treasurer; Jane Sanks, assistant treasurer; Jerry Cooper; Quyen Dang; Julianne Geyser; Mark Nelson; Peggy Ragan; Deacon Scott Rice
Executive Assistant	Carrie Christenson

- 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.
- Smile! Faith worship services are live-streamed and recorded.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

(pause for reflection)

Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and
by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you
with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In † Christ your sins are forgiven.
You have a place in God's house forever.

C: Amen.

*First and last verses**We sing together*

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,
 the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.
 all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
 and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.
 for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

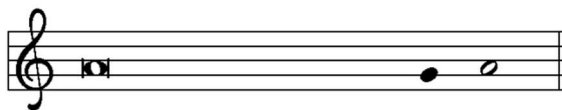
GREETING

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.

KYRIE

We sing responsively



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



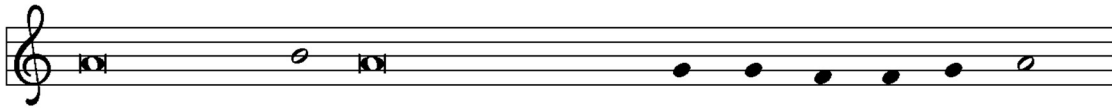
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

GLORIA

Minister sings



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

We sing together

All

Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.
For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

L: A reading from Acts.

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 23

L: We read Psalm 23 responsively.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

C: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

L: ¹The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

C: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

L: ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

C: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

L: A reading from Revelation.

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We sing together

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.

²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

²⁵ Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY The Lord's My Shepherd

ELW 778

First and last verses We sing together

See next page

The Lord's My Shepherd



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres - ence of my foes;
5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake;
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;
my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.
My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650
Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain

APOSTLES' CREED

P: Together, we confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

L: You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You lead all peoples along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. We pray especially for a just peace in Gaza, Israel, Ukraine, Russia and all places torn by unrest. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care, especially those on our prayer list and those we name before you now, aloud or in our hearts. *(pause)*. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children.

Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints, especially Pastor John Spittal, we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection made known to us in Jesus, your beloved child. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

WE STAND

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

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

WE SIT

OFFERTORY



The offering is collected at this time. You also can give online by scanning the QR Code printed here or via the Online Giving page at faithlutheransrq.com. We deeply appreciate your support of Faith Lutheran's ministries.

WE STAND

We sing together

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

Musical notation for the first line of the song, featuring a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The melody is in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are: "Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right".

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

Musical notation for the second line of the song, continuing the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your".

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

Musical notation for the third line of the song, concluding the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -".

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

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

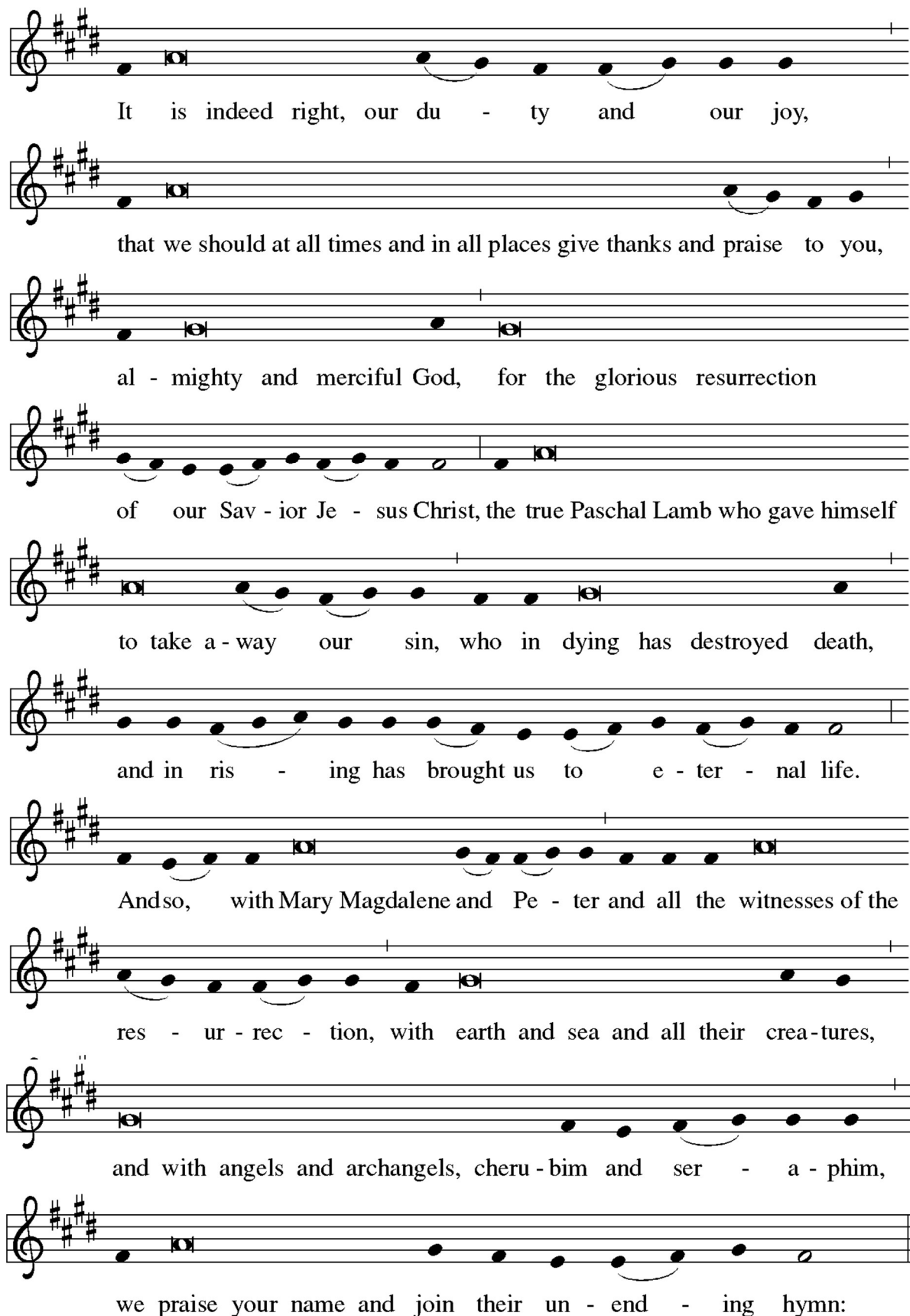
GREAT THANKSGIVING

We sing responsively

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

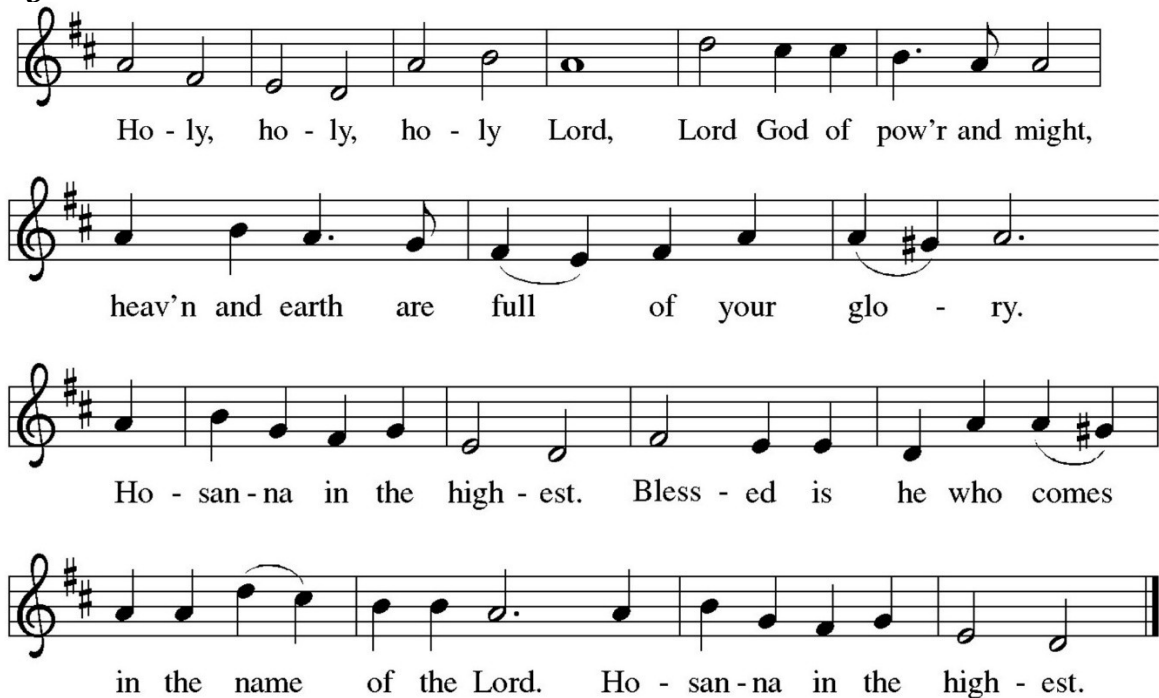
The presiding minister sings



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, for the glorious resurrection
of our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself
to take a - way our sin, who in dying has destroyed death,
and in ris - ing has brought us to e - ter - nal life.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Pe - ter and all the witnesses of the
res - ur - rec - tion, with earth and sea and all their crea - tures,
and with angels and archangels, cheru - bim and ser - a - phim,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

We sing together



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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: Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

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.

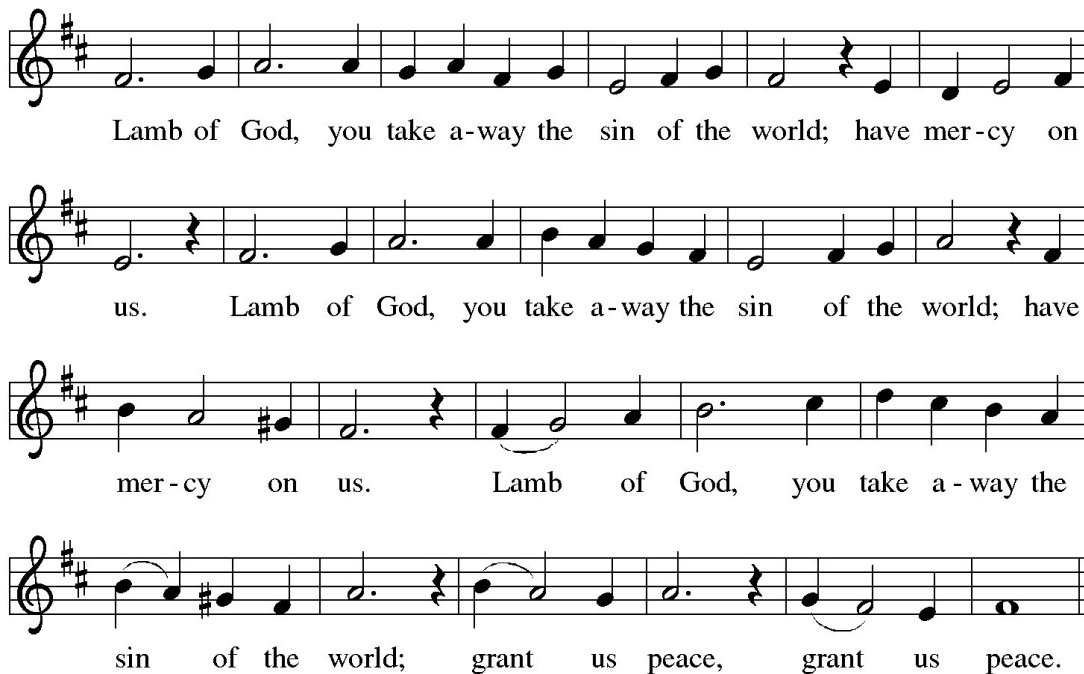
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

COMMUNION SONG

We sing together



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, grant us peace.

WE SIT

Everyone is welcome at the Lord's table.

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. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG**Love Divine, All Loves Excelling****ELW 631***First and last verses**We sing together*

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al-might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

DISMISSAL**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.**C:** Thanks be to God!**POSTLUDE****Andi Zdrava**

Welcome, Visitors!

We are so glad you have joined us for worship. Please let us know that you visited by signing our guestbook and/or 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.

Happy Mother's Day!

If you are a mother or someone who shares mothering love, please take one of the pink carnations in the narthex as a heartfelt thank you from your Faith Lutheran family.

Donate Blood Today

There always is a need for blood, but the need is critical after many of our neighbors return north for the summer. Your donation at Faith can save three lives and would be a wonderful way to honor your mother. Walk-ins will be accepted today 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Join in Prayer and Bible Study

- **Adult Forum** meets between the two morning worship services in the conference room. Today, the group will study lesson 2, *Engaging the Heart*, in the "Cultures in Conflict" series.
 - **Women of Faith** meet for breakfast, prayer and camaraderie at 8:30 a.m. Monday, May 12, at Skillet's, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail. Questions? See Pastor Marianne or email her, pastorp2.0@gmail.com.
 - **Men of Faith** meet for breakfast and prayer at 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays. **This week we will meet at Max's Table, 115 S. Tamiami Trail, Osprey.**
 - **G.I.F.T.S. (Growing in Faith Through Scripture) Women's Bible study** meets at 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays in the library to focus on "Leaning on Jesus: A Study of God's Strength." Can't attend in person? Join via Zoom, Meeting ID 867 2113 5300, Passcode 815433.
 - **The Prayer Support Group** meets at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the chapel to pray for all in need, our community, nation and world, and to share Holy Communion. Can't be there? Join via Zoom, Meeting ID 871 4720 3661, Passcode 041291.
 - **The Bereavement Group** meets at 3:15 p.m. Wednesdays in the chapel. If you or a friend can use help bearing the burden of grief, this group is for you.
 - **The Men's Study Group** will be taking a break for the month of May. Please stay tuned for information about June meetings.
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Worship to Go Needs You

Worship to Go needs additional helpers! You can participate at:

- **10:45 a.m., Tuesday, May 13**, at The Barclay (formerly Elancé), 3260 Lake Pointe Blvd. (next door to Faith), Tiffany Room.
- **1:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 20**, at Angels Senior Living, 5750 Honore Ave.
- **10:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 27**, at Aravilla Sarasota, 3251 Proctor Road.

Volunteers will meet in the chapel and can carpool to the facility (30 minutes prior). To join in, contact Pastor Eric directly, 716-352-0055, or show up at the chapel. No experience necessary!

Donate Altar Flowers in Honor or in Memory

Please consider donating altar flowers in honor of a special occasion, in memory of a loved one or to glorify God. The cost is \$30 for one vase or \$60 for two. Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church with "altar flowers" in the memo line. Check the altar flowers donation board in fellowship hall to see if your desired date is available. If not, choose an alternate date. **The next open date is May 18.** When you purchase altar flowers, your name and dedication appear in the bulletin on your selected Sunday.

To make a dedication:

- At church, complete an Altar Flowers envelope with payment, and place it in the offering plate. Indicate your wish to keep or donate the flowers on the donation board in fellowship hall.
- By mail, send payment with a note indicating your desired date and dedication, and if you want to keep the flowers or donate them.
- By email or phone, contact the church office with your desired date and dedication, and whether you want to keep or donate the flowers. Pay through the Altar Flowers option on the Online Giving page at faithlutheransrq.com.

Contact Joan Hirsch, 941-726-7885, with questions or specific requests about who or what organization should receive flowers that you purchased and choose to donate.

Consider Donating to Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Pastor Eric often speaks with people about aid they require. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund allows him to assist financially, when appropriate. The need currently is great so, if you can, please consider a donation to the fund so those in need can receive assistance. You can give online through the Online Giving page at faithlutheransrq.com, or via cash or check to Faith that is designated to Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Move to the Music During Zumba Class

Zumba begins at 6 p.m. Wednesdays – note the new day! -- in the Community Center (gym). All fitness levels are welcome! It is free for congregation members, and a voluntary donation from non-members is appreciated. Be there to move with the music and join in the fun!

Mary Circle Meets Tuesday, May 13

Mary Circle will meet for lunch and dessert at noon on Tuesday, May 13, in fellowship hall. Faith's Bold Woman 2025, Linda Burton, will be our featured speaker. Bring your lunch, dessert is provided.

Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith

What exactly do “we” profess to believe as ELCA Lutherans? How are we different and the same as other Lutherans, Roman Catholics, Greek Orthodox, Presbyterians, Baptists and Methodists? What beliefs do Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh and Bahá’i practitioners hold dear? What do we hold in common and where do we differ? Jesus calls us to love our neighbor and to do that to our fullest. We need to take time to understand the faith traditions of our neighbors. This 5-week course began this past Wednesday, May 7. Four weeks remain! Join us this Wednesday, May 14, 9:30- 10:30 a.m. in the upstairs classroom. Can’t be there? Join via Zoom, Meeting ID 830 7077 7013, Passcode 793244.

Remembering Rev. John Spittal

Rev. John Spittal, a faithful retired pastor in residence at Faith, joined the church triumphant on April 25. A Service of Resurrection and Life is planned for 10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 17, in the sanctuary, followed by a luncheon in fellowship hall. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers.

Watch for Your Year-to-Date Giving Summary

Year-to-date giving summaries for January-April 2025 were:

- Sent May 2-3 via email for those who have opted in to use email communication. Check your spam folder if you do not receive a report. If you want a paper copy, contact the church office.
- Mailed May 3 to those without email addresses or those who have opted out of email communication.

If you have questions or want to update or make changes to your contact information, contact the church office, officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com or 941-924-4664, or Patty McKee, financialsecretary@faithlutheransrq.com or 941-921-3709.

Faith Book Club Meets Tuesday, May 27

Faith Book Club will meet at 2pm on Tuesday, May 27 (note the different day due to the Memorial Day holiday) in the conference room. This month the group will read and discuss *The Last Year of the War* by Susan Meissner.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Offers Summer Garden Camp

Looking for a summer activity for a child aged 7-14? St. Paul Lutheran in downtown Sarasota will offer a weekday Summer Garden Camp June 2-July 25. A fee of \$250/week includes quality snacks, lunch, a journal and gloves. To learn more, contact Rachel Williamson, gardencamp.srq@gmail.com. Flyers are in the church office.

Contact officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com:

- If you or someone you know would appreciate a communion, hospital or home visit; to be contacted; or to receive a card in the mail.
- To add or remove a name from the Prayer List.

Prayer List

Lucy Abbott, sister-in-law of Judy Millard
Dick Allender, cousin of Gerri & Terry Copper
Billy Bajor
Gail Brown
Dee Burlingame
Rick Chauncey, son of Wess Chauncey
Jerry Clancy
Linda Craley, sister-in-law of
 Dick & Jetty Zarfos
Lindsey Dacey
Doug Dahlquist, father of Hannah Boyd
Nancy Dandino
Tyeann Dillon
Ken Dixon, online worshipper
Janet Dullard, friend of Bev Hungate
Mark Evan
Beth and Maggie Farmer, daughter & granddaughter
 of Lynn & Jerry Clancy
John Robert Flower, son of Bob & Catherine Flower
Travis Galyon, cousin of Bev Hungate
Anatoliy Gurov
Becky Hilton Heeps, friend of Lisa Olsen
Kevin Hooks, son-in-law of Jon & Anita Wooton
Pete Inkrott
Bruce Katz, friend of Nancy Flanagan
Leonard Kotwitz, brother of Janet Falk

Ruth Levy, sister of Joan Hirsch
Juli & Eli Maresch, niece and grand-nephew
 of Patty McKee
Dick Mejchar, brother-in-law of Patty McKee
Judy McMahon, friend of Kristine Ordman
Family & Friends of Judi Melander
Jay Millard, son of John & Judy Millard
John Millard
Bob Miller, friend of Bill Greenaway
Dulce Mogan, friend of Nancy Flanagan
Valerie Nicolls, mother of Pastor Ashley Nicolls
Kathy Ocker, friend of Lisa & Pastor Eric Olsen
Heather Schott, daughter-in-law of Les Lorenz
Kathy Schilio
Stephanie Sebastyn, friend of
 Carolyn Winemiller
Family & Friends of Rev. John Spittal
Norman Stoll, brother of Dottie Gustavson
Leigh Tarantino, friend of Marlene Radesk
Melissa Thompson, cousin of Lisa Olsen
Darren Thomsen, son of John & Tricia Thomsen
Jessica Uebel, cousin of Adele Smith
Carol Wambold
Dorothy Wolfe, cousin of Adele Smith
Jon Wooton
Rev. Melvin Younger, friend of Bill Greenaway

Worship and Service Calendar

Sunday Worship Services

8 a.m., 10:15 a.m. & 5 p.m. in person.

Morning services live streamed and recorded at
www.faithlutheransrq.com/live-service
and at facebook.com/faithlutheransrq.

Sunday, May 4

Online views	167
8 a.m. in person	28
10:15 a.m. in person	112
5 p.m.	13

Next Sunday, May 18

Acts 11:1-18

*Peter's vision: God give the Gentiles repentance
that leads to life.*

Psalm 148

*The splendor of the Lord is over earth and
heaven. (Ps. 148:13)*

Revelation 21:1-6

*New heaven, new earth: springs of living water
in the new Jerusalem.*

John 13:31-35

*Jesus gives a new commandment: Love one
another as I have loved you*

This Week at Faith

Monday, May 12

8:30 a.m. Women of Faith Breakfast,
Skillet's, 8635 S. Tamiami

Tuesday, May 13

8:30 a.m. Men of Faith Breakfast, Max's
Table, 115 S. Tamiami Trail, Osprey
9:30 a.m. G.I.F.T.S. Women's Bible Study,
library
10:15 a.m. Worship to Go Prep, chapel
10:45 a.m. Worship to Go, The Barclay, Tiffany
Room
12 p.m. Mary Circle, fellowship hall
6 p.m. Diversity Voices of Sarasota,
choir room and sanctuary

Wednesday, May 14

9:30 a.m. Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith,
upstairs classroom
10:30 a.m. Prayer Support Group, chapel
11:30 a.m. Property Committee, conf. room
3:15 p.m. Bereavement Group, chapel
6 p.m. Zumba, community center

Thursday, May 15

9 a.m. Food Pantry Prep, fellowship hall
9:30 a.m. Finance Committee, conf. room
10:30 a.m. Men's Study Group, conf. room
1:30 p.m. Stewardship Meeting, conf. room
4:30 p.m. Food Pantry Prep, fellowship hall
5 p.m. Food Pantry Distribution
6:30 p.m. Voices of Faith, choir room

Friday, May 16

8 a.m. Jazzercise, community center

Saturday, May 17

8 a.m. Jazzercise, community center
9 a.m. Diakonia, conference room
10:30 a.m. John Spittal: Service of
Resurrection and Life followed by
luncheon, sanctuary/fellowship hall

About Faith Lutheran

Our Mission

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 in 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.

Subscribe to Receive the Latest News and Updates

To receive the latest news and updates from Faith Lutheran, subscribe to our weekly Friday Update at www.faithlutheransrq.com or email officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com.

