



Faith Lutheran Church

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

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
January 29, 2023, 8:00 a.m.



Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

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:



Jere Stiglitz in memory of Mitzi Stiglitz
and
Marianne & Max Powrie in celebration of the birth
of Emmanuel, God with us!

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, 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.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Today we offer our pledges to the Lord. We ask for God to bless our intentions and to provide an abundance of resources for our ministry in Jesus' name. During the prelude or when you come forward for communion, you may place your pledge in the basket on the table before the altar. Thank you and God bless you.

PRELUDE

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

setting by Paul Manz

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEWARDSHIP TEMPLE TALK

Ann Greenwood, President

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

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!
First and Last Verses

ELW 873

See Next Page

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

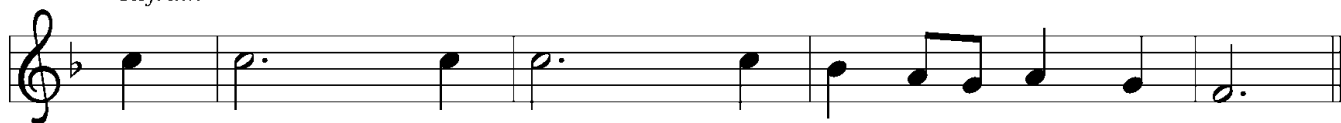


- 1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

- 5 At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*
- 6 Praise God who reigns on high,
the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.

Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

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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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

L: A READING FROM MICAH

¹Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³"O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

⁶"With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good;

and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 15: 1 (SPOKEN)



Psalm 15:1

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

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Psalm: Psalm 15

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;

Refrain

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against
the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Refrain

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

L: A READING FROM 1 CORINTHIANS

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of
this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom,
God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those
who believe.

²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,

²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness
to Gentiles,

²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of
God and the wisdom of God.

²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is
stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by
human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what
is weak in the world to shame the strong;

²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to
reduce to nothing things that are,

²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from
God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

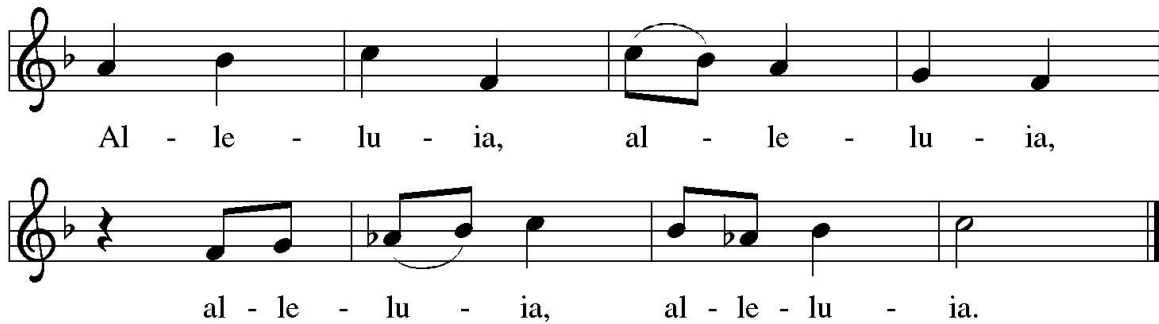
³¹in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

- ¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain;
and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.
- ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
- ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- ⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- ⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.
- ⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- ⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- ⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- ¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all
kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
- ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way
they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

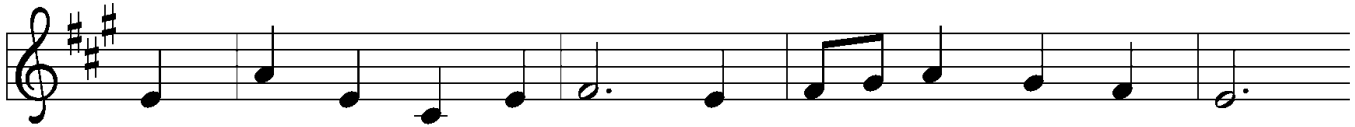
WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rise Up, O Saints of God!
First and Last Verses

ELW 669

Rise Up, O Saints of God!



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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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: Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: The foundations of the earth bear witness to your faithfulness; the mountains and hills echo with your holiness. When we mistreat your creation, show us the error of our ways. Inspire us with reverent awe to honor all you have made. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: You make foolish the wisdom of the world. Raise up honorable leaders who seek justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked, and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

L: Bless all whom the world rejects. Accompany those who are regarded as foolish, weak, low, and despised; reveal your power and presence at work where it is least expected. Give your life, strength, and wisdom 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: As with your people Israel, remind this congregation of your saving acts. Remind us how your faithfulness brought us through difficulties and sustained us despite our weaknesses. Establish the cross as the center of our life together. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

L: Praise to you for your blessed saints in every time and place. Trusting you accompanied them in poverty, persecution, and in every trial, we trust you abide with your people always. 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.

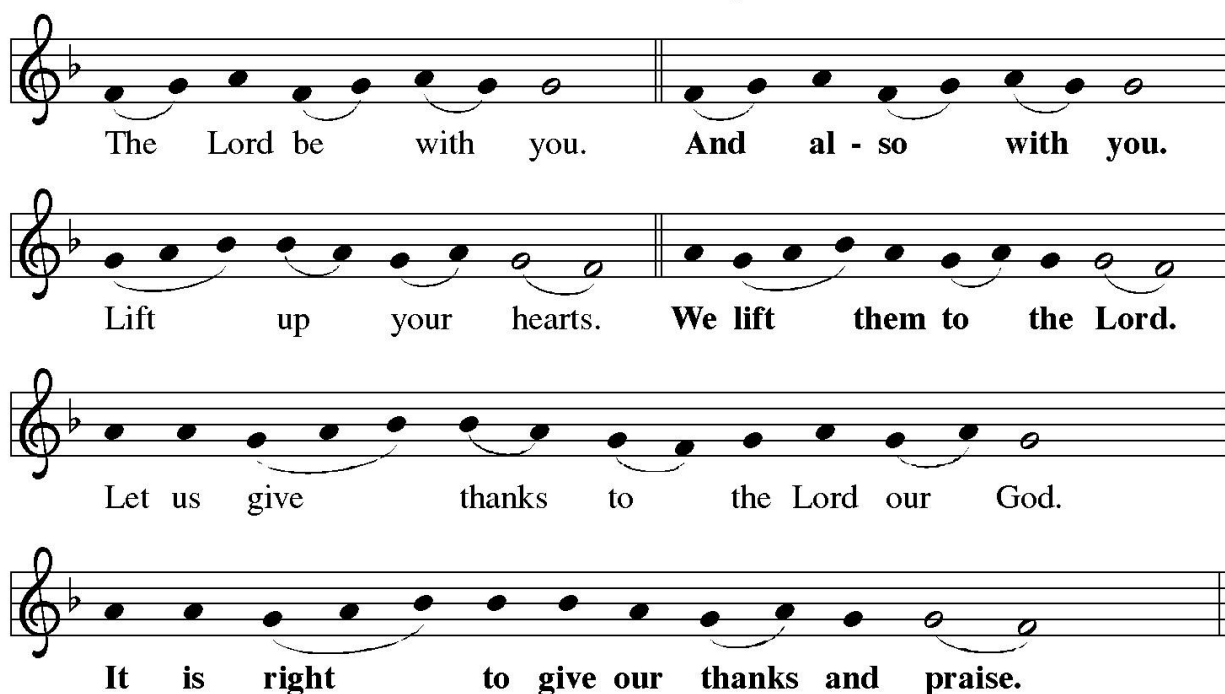
The fifth and final system of the score concludes the piece. The treble staff ends with a final chord, and the bass staff provides a concluding accompaniment. The lyrics are completed in this system.

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)



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

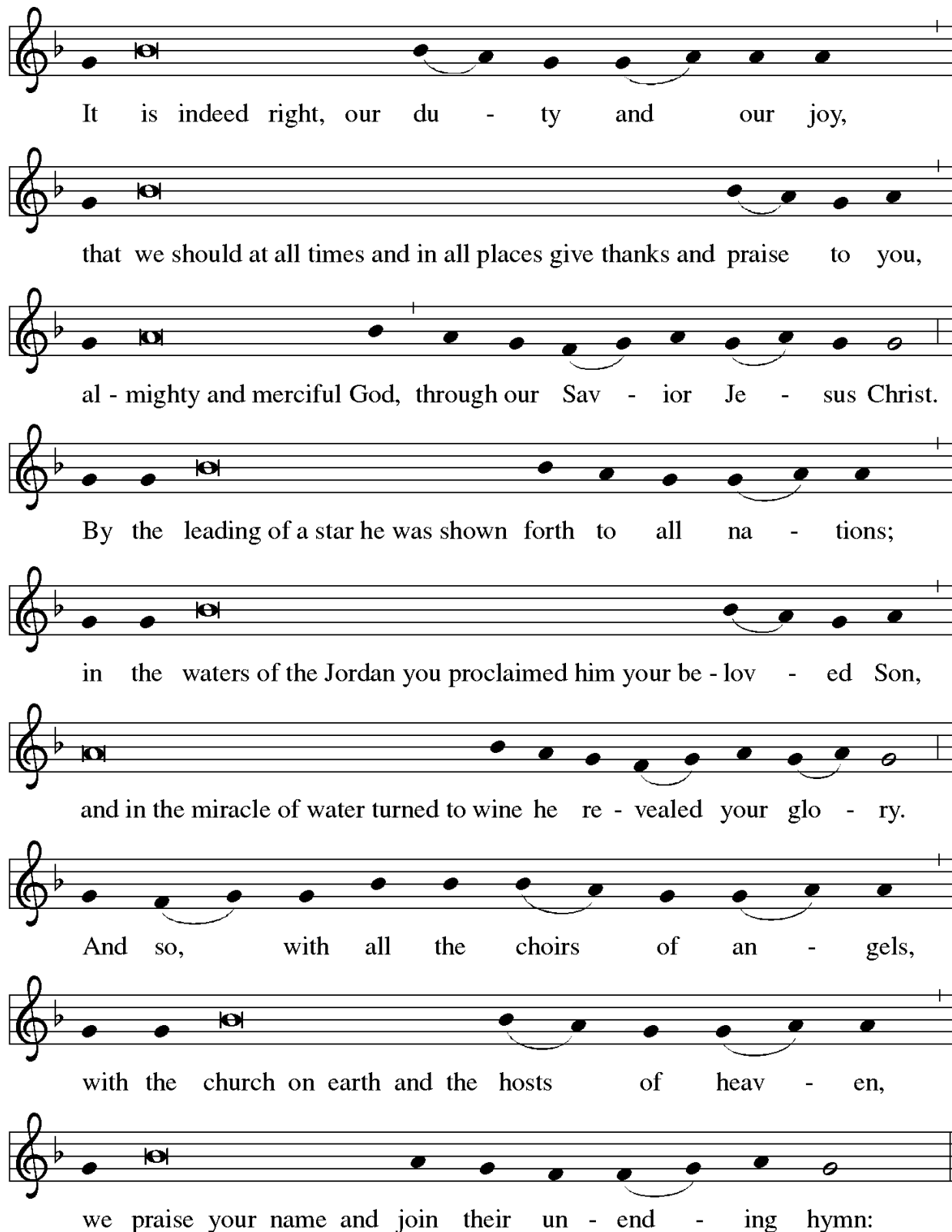
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

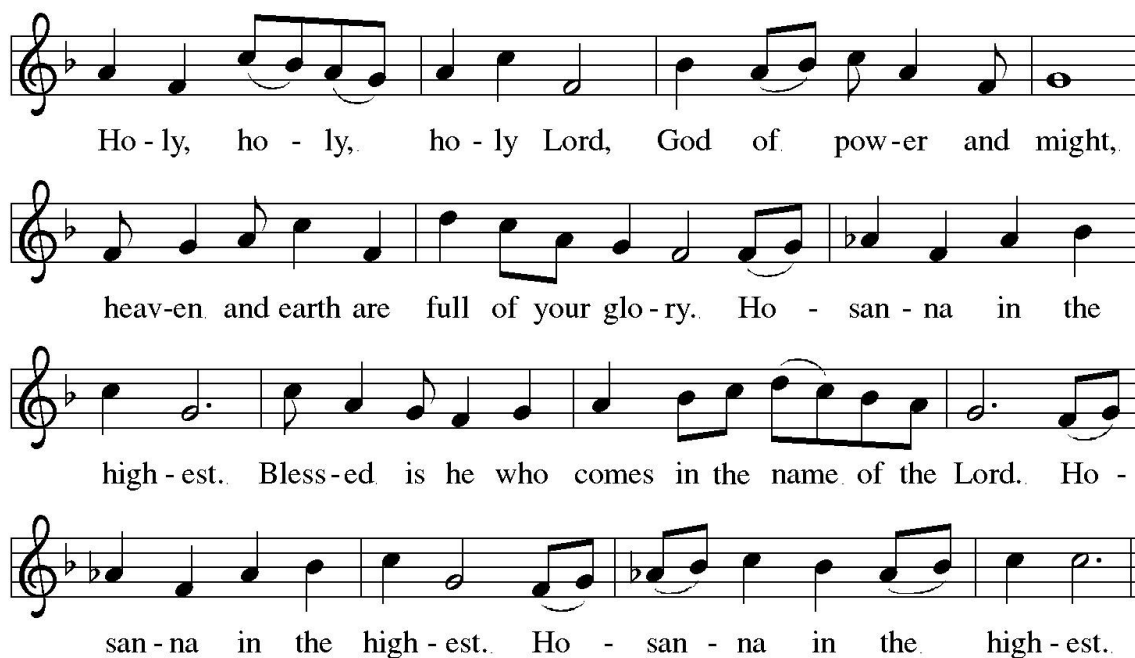


PREFACE



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

O Master, Let Me Walk with You
First and Last Verses

ELW 818

See Next Page

O Master, Let Me Walk with You



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.

Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

DISMISSAL

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

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Solemn March from Joshua

G. F. Handel

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: 55

Sunday, Jan. 22, Attendance: 175

Next: Sunday, Feb. 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Lectionary 5, Year A

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

The fast God chooses

Psalms 112:1-9 [10]

Light shines in the darkness for the upright. (Ps. 112:4)

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

God's wisdom revealed through the Spirit

Matthew 5:13-20

The teaching of Christ: salt and light



This Week at Faith

Monday, Jan. 30

2:00 p.m. Readers Club

Tuesday, Jan. 31

9:30 a.m. G.I.F.T.S. (Ladies of Faith)
Bible Study, conference room
9:30 a.m. Men of Faith,
Bible Study, chapel
4:30 p.m. No Confirmation Class,
Serving Community Meal at St.
Paul's Lutheran Church
6:00 p.m. Rehearsal: Diversity: Voices of
Sarasota Choir, sanctuary

Wednesday, Feb. 1

9:30 a.m. Bible Study: Signs and Wonders
10:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting & Communion,
chapel
1:00 p.m. Bereavement Group,
Chapel
6:30 p.m. Voices of Faith Choir
Rehearsal, choir room

Thursday, Feb. 2

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

Friday, Feb. 3

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

Saturday, Feb. 4

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

Sunday, Feb. 5

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, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Adult Forum meets **TODAY, January 29th**

Adult Forum will meet today, **Sunday, January 29th** with Volume 4 Lesson 8 "Roll Away the Stone" 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.

Help Feed the Hungry at St. Paul's Lutheran



The people of St. Paul's Lutheran have invited the people of Faith to assist with its Tuesday feeding ministry. The ministry, which feeds about 70 people each Tuesday, serves our food-insecure and homeless siblings in Christ.

Please join a group of Faith Lutheran volunteers who will cook and serve a meal at St. Paul's on the fifth Tuesday of each month (when there is a fifth Tuesday). From **3 to 6:30 p.m.**

Tuesday, January 31st will be our first solo meal. If you would like to join the cook and serve team in the future, please call the church office.

We thank Denise Kirkeeng and Peggy Ragan who are organizing and coordinating the meal this week!

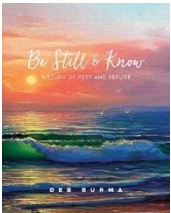
Men of Faith –Bible Study at a NEW TIME!

Please join us on **Tuesday, 1/31** for another session exciting study of the Book of Judges!

Join us at **9:30 a.m. in the Chapel**. No prior bible study experience necessary! Consider inviting a friend or two as well!



G.I.F.T.S. meeting on Jan. 31



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.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation Class is encouraged to join us for **cooking and serving community meal** at **St Paul's Lutheran Church** on the **fifth Tuesday of the month**.

Our regular class time is **4:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays**. Our next class is **Feb. 7th**.

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).



Annual Meeting & Budget Forum



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 on **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!

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 **Feb. 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.

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.



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



Giving expresses our gratitude and thanksgiving to God. King David wrote, "Now, our God, we give you thanks and praise your glorious name. But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you and we have given you only what comes from your hand" (1 Chronicles 29:13-15).

David understood God's awesome love and generosity. David saw the joy that his people had in responding to God's love and care by giving to the building of the temple. It was his prayer that their commitment and generous giving to the Lord would continue forever.

Sunday January 29th we will be bringing our pledge cards to the altar to honor our Lord. We thank GOD for all he has given us, including the ability to give back to the head of the Church, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. AMEN!

Pastor's Discretionary Fund Needs Your Help

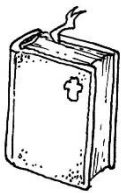
Pastor Eric often is in conversation with members of the congregation or the community about specific needs and aid they might require. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund provides him the means to help financially, when necessary.

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.



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, 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 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!**

Thank You to Faith's Blood Donors

On behalf of the many patients who will benefit from the blood donations made by church members, family and friends; the Blood Center thanks Faith Lutheran Church and especially the donors for giving the Gift of Life.



BLOOD DONOR HONOR ROLL:

MARLENE RADESK
DAVID HILLIARD
PATRICIA MCKEE
GWEN SCHELL
SUSAN LEHMANN
GAIL LIDINSKY
BARBARA WULF

ANITA WOOTON
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THOMAS BRIGHT
FREDERICK RHINES
MAX POWRIE
HELEN KOHLHAFFER
SOPHIA KORMAN

DEBORAH MASSER
INGRID VELKME
KARLA LEWIS
LISA OLSEN
GEORGE YOUNG
KEVIN FEWELL
LINDA FEWELL

We appreciate you and all you do in our community! Thank you!



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
Ed Miller
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

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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