



sFaith Lutheran Church

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

Third Sunday in Lent
March 12, 2023, 10:15 a.m.



In today's gospel, the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

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:
Marlene Radesk
In memory of Wally Radesk



Presiding Ministers:	Rev. Larry Wright, Assistant to the Pastor Rev. Marianne Powrie, Retired Pastor in Residence
Lector:	Skip Halsey
Director of Music/Organist:	David V. Patrick
Cantor:	Tom Tryon
Vocals:	Voices of Faith Choir
Acolytes:	Alma Dornemann, Jazmin Gamboa, Christian Jones
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, Greg Cooper
Altar Guild:	Carole Inkrott, Judy Millard, Janet Phillips, Steve & Peggy Ragan, Linda Fewell
Congregation Council:	Scott Rice (President), Ann Greenwood (Vice President) Peggy Ragan (Secretary), Anita Wooton (Treasurer), Amanda Bright, Jerry Cooper, Gail Lidinsky, Mark Nelson, Joan Searles, Lauren Wardach
Pastor	Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen
Assistant to the Pastor	Rev. Larry Wright
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

WE STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess to you our faults and failings.

Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;

we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;

we spoil rather than steward your creation;

we cause hurt though you call us to heal;

we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, ☩ forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Glories of Your Name Are Spoken

LBW 358

See next page

Glories of Your Name Are Spoken

1 Glo - ries of your name are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God;
 2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,
 3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov'ring, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
 4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a mem - ber am,

he whose word can - not be bro - ken formed you for his own a - bode.
 well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters, and all fear of want re - move.
 for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, show - ing that the Lord is near.
 let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will glo - ry in your name.

On the Rock of A - ges found - ed, what can shake your sure re - pose?
 Who can faint, while such a riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage?
 Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
 Fad - ing are the world - lings' plea - sures, all their boast - ed pomp and show;

With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, you may smile at all your foes.
 Grace which, like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.
 safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them on their way.
 sol - id joys and last - ing trea - sures none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.

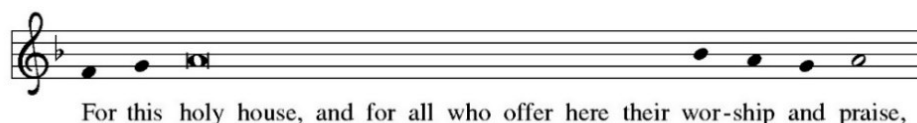
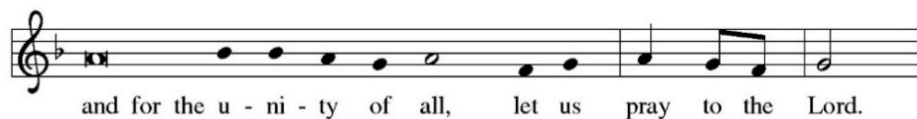
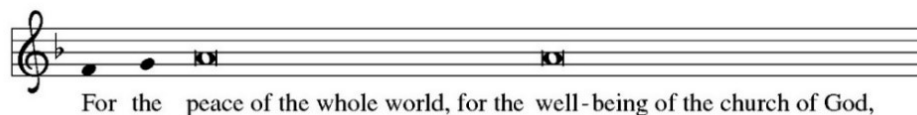
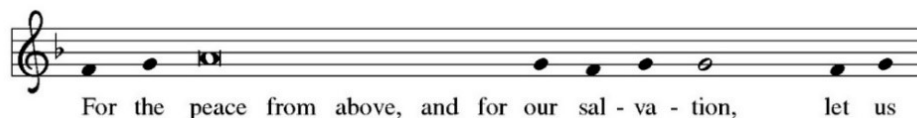
Music: AUSTRIA, Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732–1809

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



P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth 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: Exodus 17:1-7

L: A READING FROM EXODUS

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink.

²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?"

³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?"

⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go.

⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.

⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(when children are present)

PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 95:1



Psalm 95:1

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

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PSALMODY: Psalm 95

- Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
- ²Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.
- ³For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.
- ⁴In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.
- ⁵The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.
- ⁶Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

Refrains

- ⁷For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the
sheep of God's hand. Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!
- ⁸"Harden not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.
- ⁹There your ancestors tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.
- ¹⁰Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,
'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'
- ¹¹Indeed I swore in my anger,
'They shall never come to my rest.' "

Refrain

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11

L: A READING FROM ROMANS

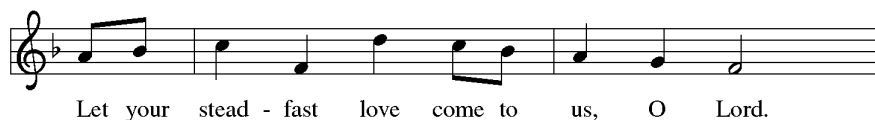
- ¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand;
and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.
³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,
⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,
⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.
⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.
⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.
⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.
⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.
¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life.
¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ⁵[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.

⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."

⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)

⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)

¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"

¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"

¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,

¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."

¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband';

¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"

¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet.

²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."

²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.

²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

- ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.
- ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."
- ²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."
- ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."
- ²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"
- ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,
- ²⁹"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"
- ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.
- ³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."
- ³²But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."
- ³³So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"
- ³⁴Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.
- ³⁵Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.
- ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.
- ³⁷For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.'
- ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."
- ³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done."
- ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days.
- ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word.
- ⁴²They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

WE SIT

WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

ELW 611

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889

Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

Apostle's 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.**

WE SIT

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

L: We pray for your church. Bless partnerships with other Christians and inter-religious dialogue. Guide the daily work of denominational and congregational leaders. Strengthen our combined witness for the sake of the gospel, that all may experience your life-giving love.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: We pray for the universe. All creation teems with life, from the depths of the earth and seas to the skies above. Fill us with awe and reverence for the diversity and preservation of life.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: We pray for the nations of the world. Especially, we pray for an end to the war in Ukraine and Russian aggression. Topple the dividing walls that separate us from our neighbors. Form us into your beloved community where diversity of gender, race, language, ability, and ethnic origin is celebrated and affirmed.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: We pray for those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit. Be present with all who are lonely, and give courage to all who are afraid. Comfort those who live with chronic illness or other sickness. Give them your living water always.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: We pray for this congregation, especially those preparing for baptism.

Nurture their faith and pour your love into their hearts. Inspire our community by their testimony to God's grace in their lives.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: You heal, and we pray for healing 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: We give thanks for the lives of all your saints, especially the life of Dieter Smirnow, whose hope in you sustained lives of faith and service. Encourage us with the hope that your saints shared in you.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our 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 neighbor with a word of peace.

WE SIT

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.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord
Voices of Faith Choir

Benjamin Harlan

Cast thy burden upon the Lord.

He will not fail you. He'll walk beside you. He'll even carry you and sustain you.

Cast thy burden upon the Lord.

O Lord, Thy mercy is great. It reaches to the highest star.

And far above the heavens, deeper than the sea, Thy mercy is great, O Lord.

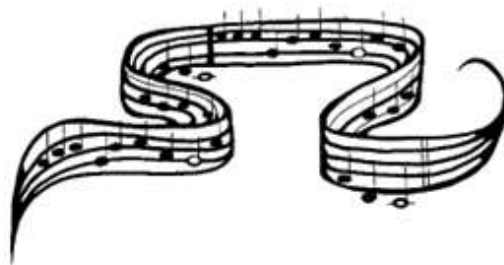
As far as the east is from the west, as many as the sands upon the shore,

Even greater is the bounty of His loving kindness and tender mercies.

Cast thy burden upon the Lord.

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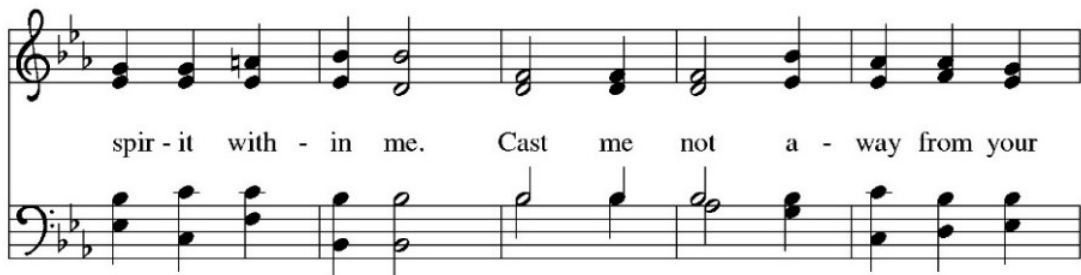


WE STAND

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*



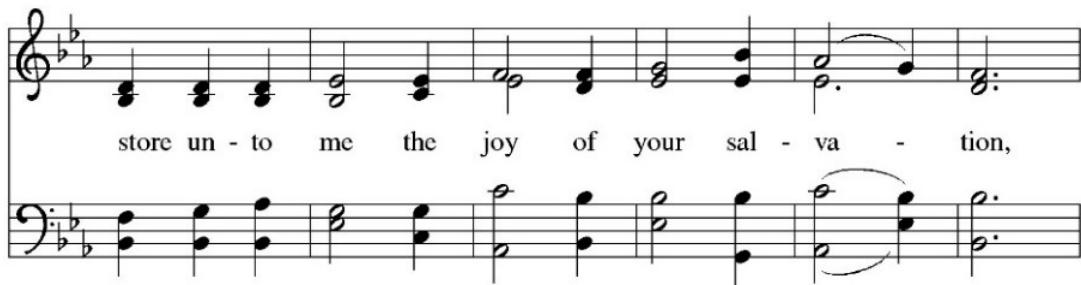
Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



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



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



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



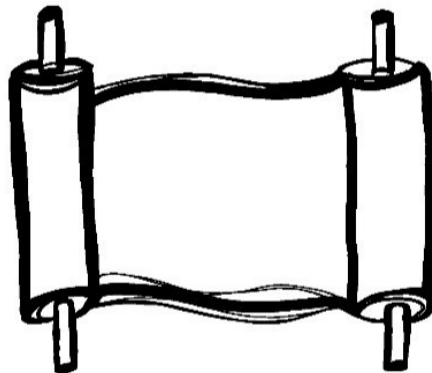
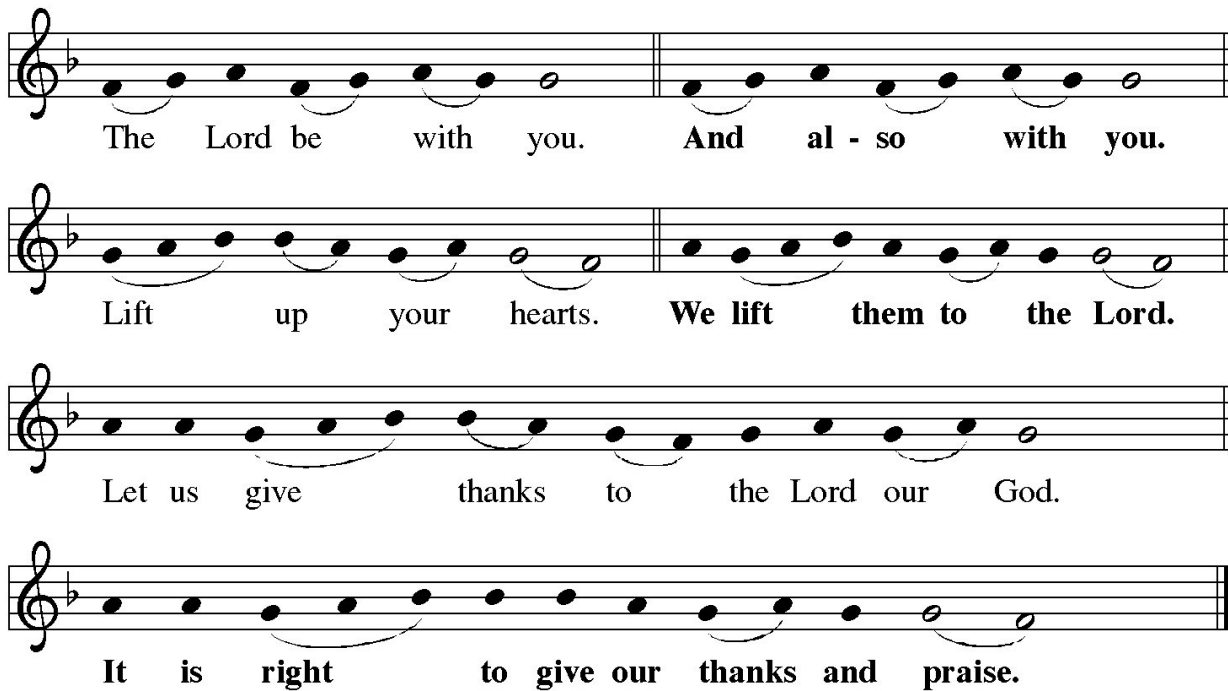
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

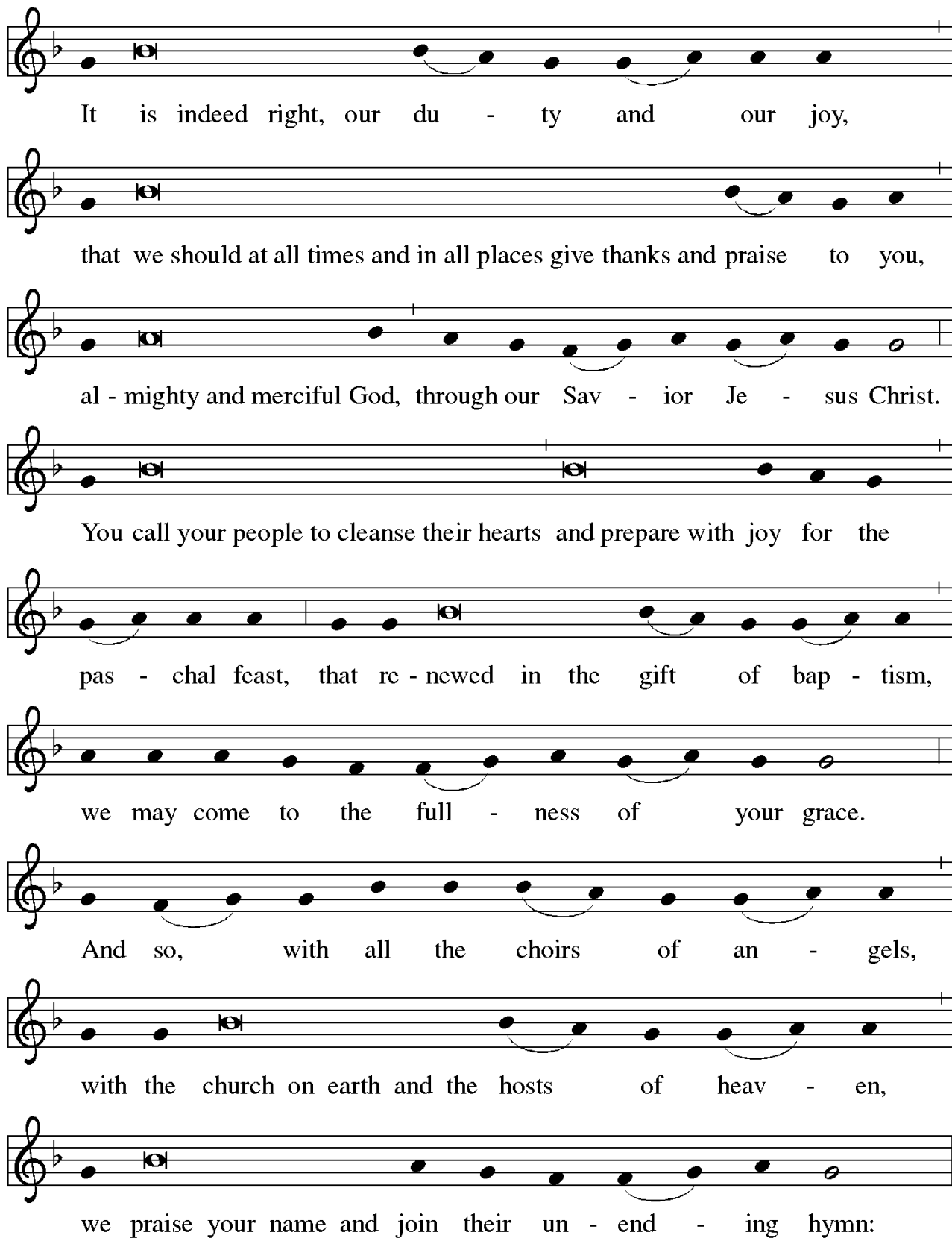
P: Let us pray.

C: God of good gifts,
receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service
for the sake of your gospel.
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
as you pour out your very presence
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

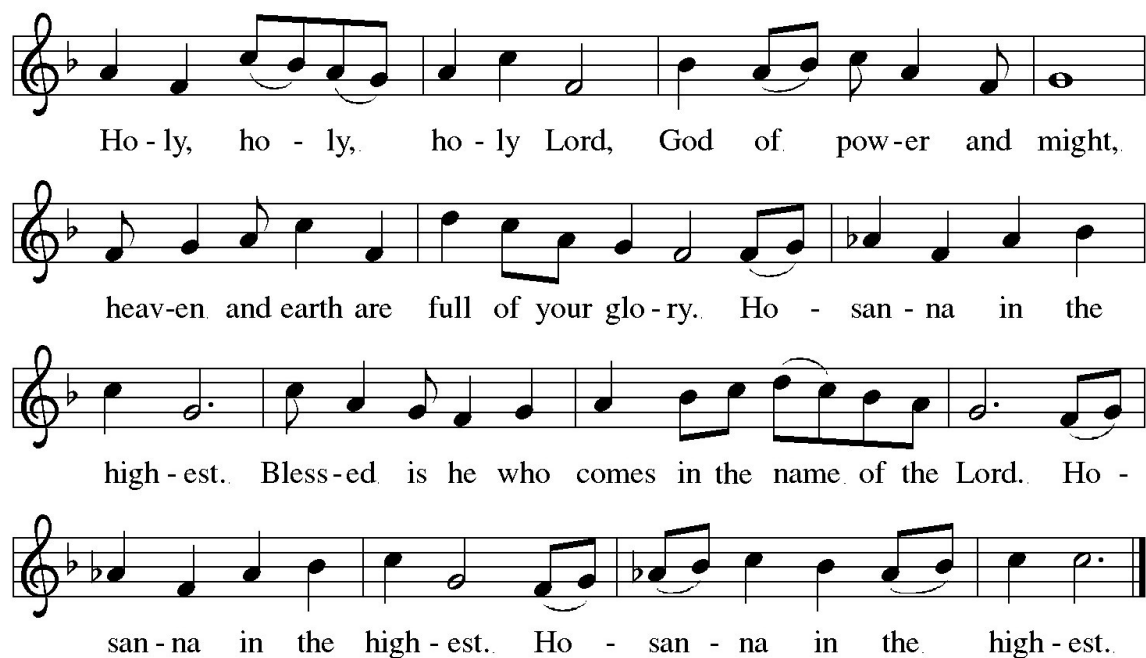


PREFACE



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.
You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the
pas - chal feast, that re - newed in the gift of bap - tism,
we may come to the full - ness of your grace.
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.

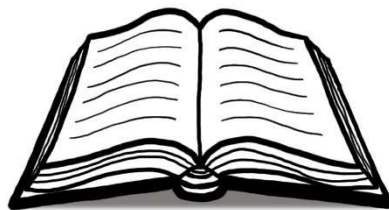
LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

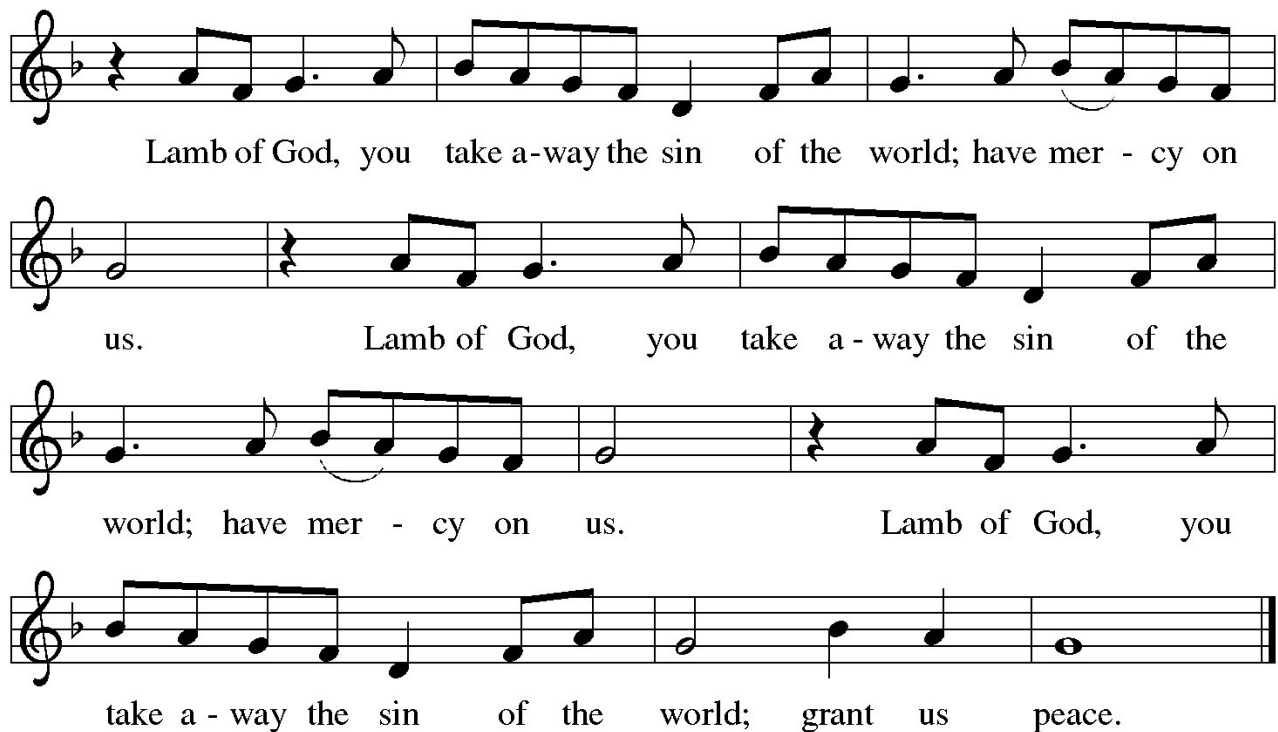
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.



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 ANTHEM

A Communion Contemplation
Mary Martin and Douglas Nolan

Voices of Faith Choir

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: Embodied God,
at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,
empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors
and touch the world with your love. Amen.

NUNC DIMITIS



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

BLESSING

God, the giver of love,
✙ Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth
bless you in this Lenten journey.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

ELW 618

See next page

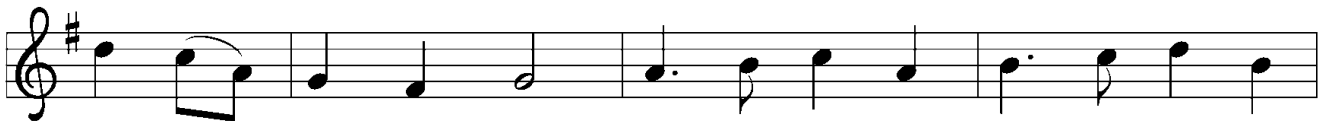
Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer



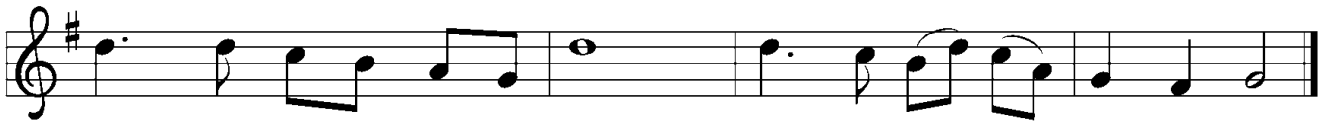
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Psalm 19

Benedetto Marcello

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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, March 5, Online views: 38

Sunday, March 5, Attendance:
8 a.m. 35
10:15 a.m. 160

Wednesday, March 8:
Noon 25
7 p.m. 42

Next: Sunday, March 19, 2023

First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13
David's chosen and anointed

Psalmody

Psalm 23
You anoint my head with oil
(Ps. 23:5)

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14
Awake from sleep, live as children of light

Gospel

John 9:1-41
Baptismal image: The man born blind

This Week at Faith

Monday, March 13

Tuesday, March 14

9:30 a.m. Property Committee,
conference room
6 p.m. Diversity Voices of Sarasota,
sanctuary

Wednesday, March 15

12 p.m. Lenten Prayer Service with
Communion, sanctuary
1 p.m. Bereavement Group,
conference room
5 p.m. Church Council,
conference room
6 p.m. Soup & Sandwich Supper
7 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer Service,
sanctuary

Thursday, March 16

9 a.m. Food Pantry,
Delivery Break-Down Crew
1 p.m. Stitch 'n' Chatter
1:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee,
conference room
2 p.m. Food Pantry,
Pre-Packing Crew
3:30 p.m. Food Pantry,
Check-In & Distribution Crew
5 p.m. Food Pantry open
6 p.m. Jazzercise, gym
6:30 p.m. Food Pantry Operations Crew

Friday, March 17

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

Saturday, March 18

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

Sunday, March 19

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

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us always this water that flows with your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



Consider Donating Altar Flowers

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 vases. For each week, we can have either one donor for both vases, or two donors for one vase each. Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church and indicate 'altar flowers' in the memo line.

Check the altar flowers donation board in fellowship hall to see if your desired date is available. If both vases for a date already are sponsored, please choose an alternate date. The next available Sundays are **May 14 and 21**.

When you purchase altar flowers, your name and dedication will be published in the bulletin on your selected Sunday. To make a dedication:

- At church, complete an Altar Flowers envelope with your payment, and place it in the offering plate. Indicate your wish to keep or donate the flowers on the donation board in fellowship hall. Include a note in the envelope with your donation or call the church office.
- 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 Faith website, www.faithlutheransrq.com.

After the 10:15 a.m. service, the flowers are yours to keep or donate to a person or place of your choice. **Please leave the liner pots at church. The florist picks these up every week to reuse them. If you have any of these, please return them.**

Thank you for adding beauty to Faith Lutheran's altar!



THE SEASON OF LENT & EASTER

Join us for Midweek & Holy Week Services

LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

12 p.m. Wednesdays on March 1, March 8, March 15, March 22, and March 29:

LENT SOUP & SANDWICH SUPPERS & SERVICES

Wednesdays on March 1, March 8, March 15, March 22, and March 29:

6 p.m. Soup & Sandwich Supper

7 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer Service

*Sign up to bring soup or sandwiches on one or more Wednesdays!
The signup sheet is in the narthex.*

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

April 2 – Palm Sunday:

8 a.m. and **10:15 a.m.** Worship Services

April 6 – Maundy Thursday:

7 p.m. Eucharist Service

April 7 – Good Friday:

2 p.m. Stations of the Cross Service

7 p.m. Tenebrae Service

April 8 – Easter Vigil Part One:

7:30 p.m. Meet at the fire in the parking lot near the church entrance

April 9 – Easter:

7 a.m. Easter Vigil Part Two in Memorial Garden

10:15 a.m. Worship Service in the sanctuary



Pastor Eric Takes Much-Deserved Vacation

Pastor Eric is on vacation through March 17. While he is away, you can reach him by contacting the church office.

Men of Faith Fellowship Resumes March 21



The Men of Faith prayer and fellowship group will not meet March 14. Gatherings resume **Tuesdays beginning March 21.**

Readers Club Meets March 27

Readers Club meets at **2 p.m.** on the last Monday of the month, **March 27**, in the church library. The group will discuss *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See. To learn more, contact Kathy Schilio, schilmo@yahoo.com. **Please join!**



G.I.F.T.S. On Hiatus March 14, Resumes March 21



G.I.F.T.S. (Growing In Faith Through Scripture) will not meet Tuesday, March 14. Fellowship and study of “Be Still and Know” by Deb Burma will resume at **9:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 21**, in the conference room. We look forward to continuing our exploration of Psalm 46. Please join us.

Bereavement Group Meets Wednesdays

The Bereavement Group meets at **1 p.m. Wednesdays** in the conference room. Pastor John Spittal will lead the March 15 discussion. If you or a friend can use help bearing the burden of grief, this group is for you. There is strength in community. Help spread the word of hope.



Tech Savvy? We Need Your Gifts!



We are looking to train additional operators to join our team that runs the live stream for our 10:15 a.m. service. If you are comfortable with technology, please consider this vital ministry. Interested? Curious? Contact Rev. Marianne Powrie or the church office.

Adult Forum Meets Today

Adult Forum continues exploring the “The Early Church” of the “That the World May Know” video series. The group will meet in the conference room between the two morning worship services, 9:10 – 9:50 a.m.

Pack your bags! We’re going on a journey with Ray Vander Laan, a Biblical scholar, in 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 Students Gather on Lenten Wednesday Evenings

During Lent, confirmation students are encouraged to attend Wednesday evening Soup & Sandwich Suppers and Holden Evening Prayer.

That fellowship is part of the comprehensive confirmation program, which involves much more than class time. 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).



Food Pantry

The Faith Food Pantry currently needs beans of all kinds. Place donations in the barrel in fellowship hall.

Help us spread the word that our Food Pantry distribution has officially begun! Faith volunteers welcome clients 5 -6:30 p.m. Thursdays.

Thank you to all who graciously give time, talents, and treasures. We appreciate you so very much!



Quilting Group Begins Stitching Soon

Faith's new quilting group is for anyone who would either (1) like to learn to quilt or (2) use their sewing/quilting skills to make quilts.

We will cut, sew, quilt and bind each quilt. If you do not know how to quilt, someone will be available to teach the skills you need. Questions? Contact Jane Sanks (941) 923-4240 or (941) 726-2849.

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.

If you are able, please consider a donation so vulnerable members of our community can continue to receive emergency assistance. Thank you!





Joan's Soup Freezer

The soup fridge is filling up! Please consider making a donation or taking one of the delicious soups found in the kitchen fridge labeled "Joan's Soup." If you contribute soup, please label the container with the type of soup and when it was made. Thanks!

Soap Up!

It's time for Faith to soap up! Mary Circle is collecting necessary items to create 65 personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. Please donate bath-sized soap, adult-sized toothbrushes, metal nail clippers, and combs. Place donations in the bin in the narthex.



Don't feel like going to the store? You can order supplies from Amazon or other online sources. Want someone to shop for you? Simply put a monetary donation in the collection plate labeled LWR – Personal Care Kits. Thank you!



Mary Circle Hosts Bold Woman of the Year

Mary Circle is happy to host Faith's 2023 Bold Woman of the Year, Amy Hubschman, during its March meeting at **noon, Tuesday, March 21**. Amy will talk about her 50 years plus in Sarasota and her personal faith journey. Please bring your lunch. Dessert will be provided.

Register Children for First Communion Instruction

If you have a child or grandchild who would like to receive First Communion on Palm Sunday, mark your calendars. The two-session First Communion Instruction led by Pastor Eric will take place after the 10:15 a.m. service Sunday, March 26, and during the 6 p.m. Lenten Soup & Sandwich Supper March 29.



To register a child to attend both sessions, contact the church office with the child's name and date of birth.

Donate Blood Sunday, March 26, at Faith



The Suncoast Blood Center bloodmobile will be in the parking lot at Faith **9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Sunday, March 26.**

Sign up for a donation time slot on the sheet in the narthex, or by contacting Patty McKee, 941-921-3709 or pattymckee15@gmail.com. Walk-ins also are welcome!

In addition to the knowledge that they have helped save lives, all blood donors will receive:

- A "Faith in Blood" t-shirt.
- A Chick-Fil-A "Be Our Guest" coupon

Platelet donors will receive a \$40 Amazon gift card. And if you bring a friend who also donates platelets, you will receive another \$50 Amazon gift card.

Thank you to all donors who made our past blood drive successful. Faith will host another drive in the coming months.

Thank You from Pastor Larry

The Adult Bible Study class that explored six of the miracles of Jesus has ended, and we look forward, following Easter, to begin a study of six of Jesus' parables.

My heart is truly grateful, not only for the opportunity to be one of the leaders of Bible Study at Faith, but to learn along with a loving bunch of people, and to enjoy this way of being church together.



Thank you for your many kind words and the gifts you have shared with me. I'm so very blessed.

Beginning **Wednesday, April 19**, we intend to apply textbook, lecture and discussion as we delve into a few of the stories of Jesus. Will you consider joining us as we seek in this way to grow in our faith together? Hope to see you around the table.



Prayer List



Please remember in your prayers this week:

Jeff & Nancy Arntsen
Anna Bancroft, 6 years old,
friend of Alyene Weave
Chuck Banta
Family & Friends of Kevin Beard
Sean Brett, son of Alyene Weaver
Tommy Bright
Sandra Brinker
Charles Budreau
Dee Burlingame
Michael O. Cannon, father of Kay Cannon
Ray Collins, friend of Joan Zabor
Cheryl Cook
Joan Cotton
Eloise Dettmer
Elizabeth Farmer
John Gallo, friend of April Shettler
Andrea Gamboa
Paula Haas, friend of Eloise Dettmer
Elaine Graham
Alyssa Hansen, cousin of Lisa Olsen
Jeff Hansen, nephew of Joan Searles
Christiana Holmes

Kevin Hooks, son-in-law of
Anita and Jon Wooton
Mary Janice Holt
Jesus & Rita Jimenez
Paul & Debby Maresch
Kathryn McLaughlin
Judi Melander
Kristin Mohammed
Jeremy & Yvonne Mullins
Virginia Link-Pease, wife of James Pease
Doris Anne Prieur-Lucia
Fritz Rappold
Gabriel Rockwell
Beverly & Floyd Ryder
Family & Friends of Dick Sanks
Ken Schell, brother of Mike (Gwen) Schell
Rev. John Spittal
Family & Friends of Dieter Smirnow
Cathy Stubenvoll
Michelle Terrell, niece of Kay Cannon
Colette Thornbloom
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. 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 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.

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