



Faith Lutheran Church

**We warmly greet members
and visitors in Jesus' name!
First Sunday of Advent**

Nov. 27, 2022, 8 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.



The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings, both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

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 Eloise Dettmer to the glory of God and in loving memory of her father.



Presiding Minister:	Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen
Lector:	8 a.m. Ron Walter 10:15 a.m. Joan Searles
Director of Music/Organist:	David V. Patrick
Cantor:	Tom Tryon
Vocals:	Voices of Faith Choir
Crucifer:	Christian Jones
Greeters & Ushers:	Thomas & Amanda Bright, Jerry Cooper, Eloise Dettmer, Grace Kaarre, Alf Kirkeeng, Gail Lidinsky, Judy Millard, Scott Rice, Joan Searles, Dave Wardach
Videography:	Andrea & Sergio Gamboa
Altar Guild:	Carole Inkrott, Judy Millard, Janet Phillips, Steve & Peggy Ragan
Congregation Council:	Ann Greenwood (President), Scott Rice (Vice President), Peggy Ragan (Secretary), Janet Petersen (Congregation Treasurer), Amanda Bright, Sandra Brinker, Eloise Dettmer, Grace Kaarre, Gail Lidinsky, Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen, Joan Searles, Anita Wooton
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****OPENING LITURGY**

P: We begin our worship in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

C: Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.

P: Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.

Let us confront our sins and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

(Silence for confession and self-examination)

P: God of new beginnings,

C: we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us.

Amen.

P: People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on  Christ, and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN**AWAKE! AWAKE, AND GREET THE NEW MORN****ELW 242**

Verses 1, 2 and 4

See next page

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: Marty Haugen

Text and music: © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc.

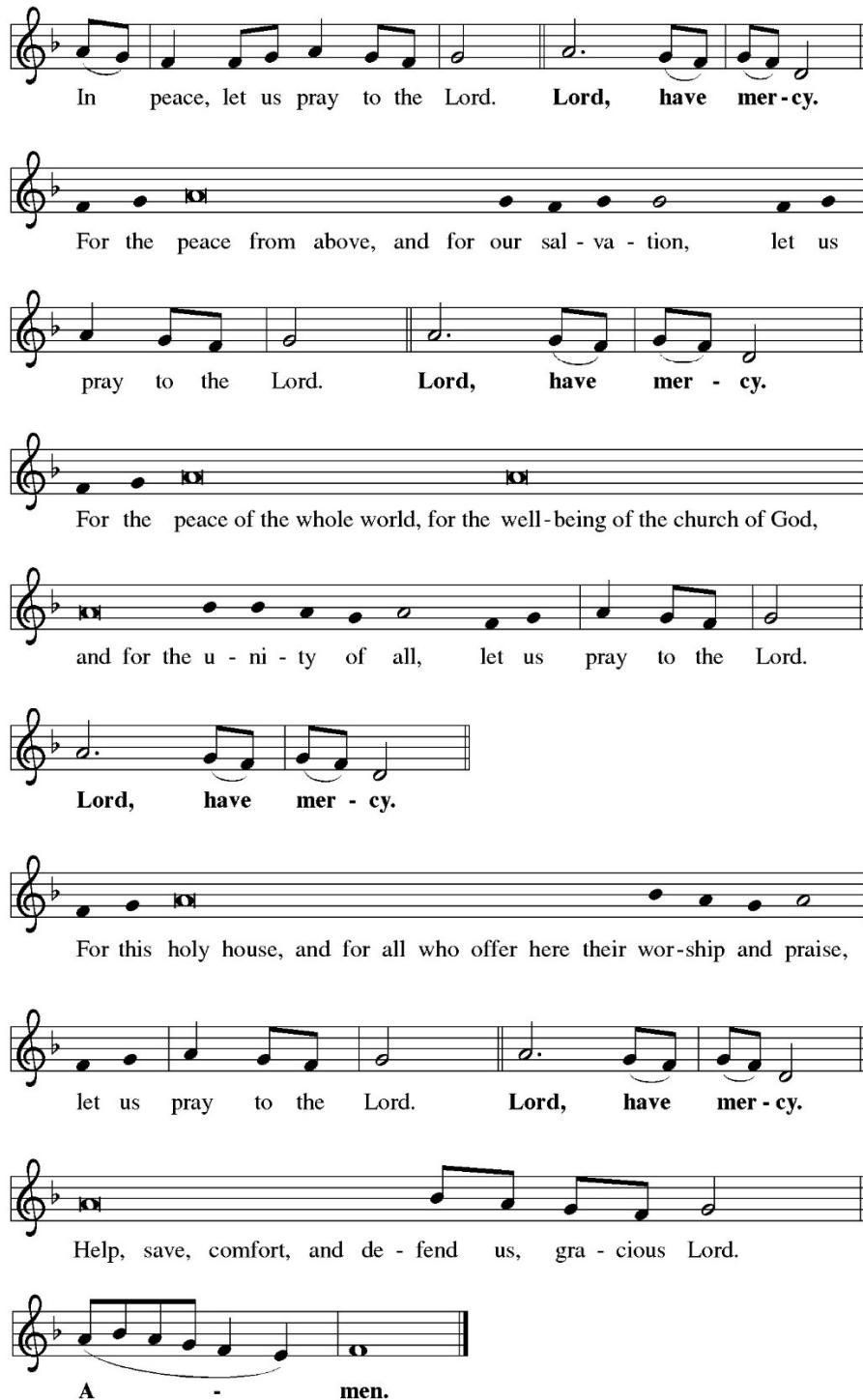
REJOICE, REJOICE
98 98 87 89

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



Music notation for the Kyrie, featuring ten staves of music with corresponding Latin text lyrics:

- In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.
- For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, 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 u - ni - ty 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



Refrain

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



Refrain

1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



Refrain

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Refrain

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



Refrain

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



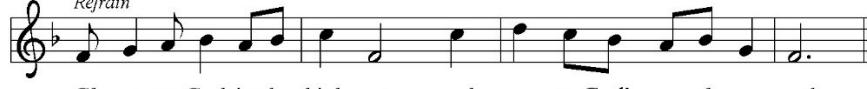
Refrain

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



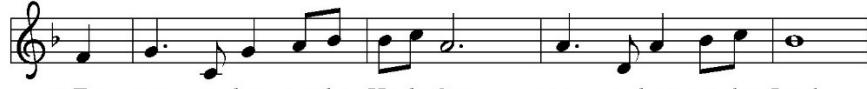
Refrain

seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Refrain

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



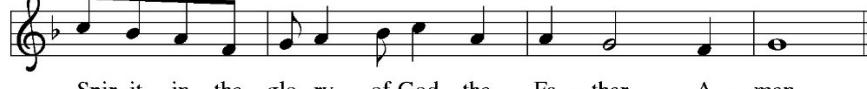
Refrain

3 For you a - lone are the Ho-ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



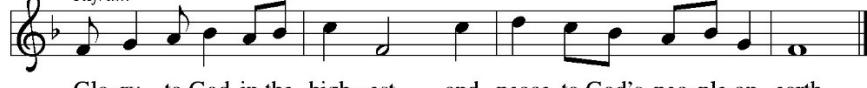
Refrain

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Refrain

Spir-it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Refrain

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

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

L: A READING FROM ISAIAH

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

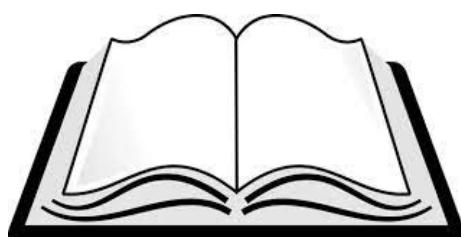
³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

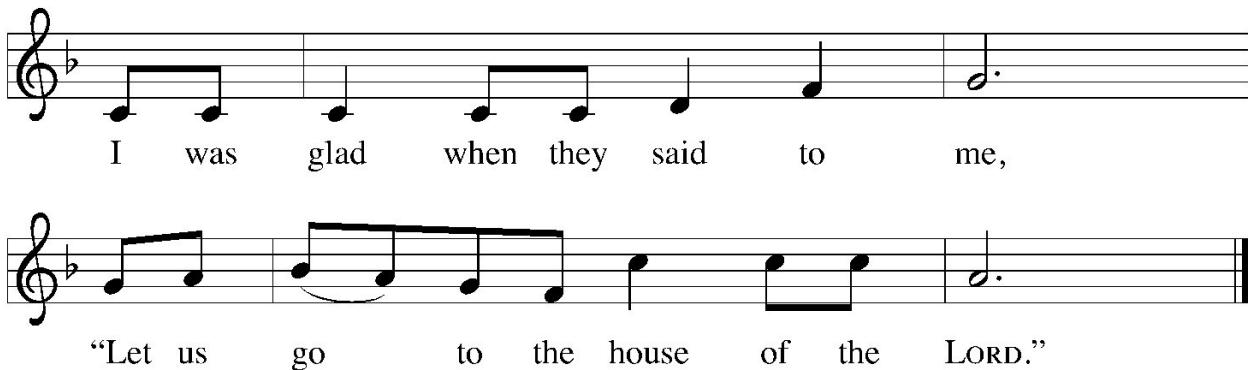
⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.



PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 122:1



I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

Psalm 122:1

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.
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Psalm 122

¹I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."
²Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
³Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;
⁴to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.

C: Refrain

⁵For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.
⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.
⁷Peace be with you in your walls
and quietness with you in your towers.
⁸For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for you prosperity.
⁹Because of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek to do you good."

C: Refrain

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(when children are present)

SECOND READING: ROMANS 13:11-14

L: A READING FROM ROMANS

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;

¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light;

¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy.

¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus said to the disciples,]

³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark,

³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man.

⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.

⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left.

⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.

⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

REJOICE, REJOICE, BELIEVERS
See next page

ELW 244

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch-ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride-groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night-ed sphere.

The bride-groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride-groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

NICENE CREED

P: Let us together confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the
Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the
Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

WE SIT

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

L: God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth, in Ukraine and in all places where unrest threatens your beloved children. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care, especially those on our prayer list, and those we name before you now, aloud or in silence. [Pause for responses] Bring about your righteousness and fill us all with your redeeming light. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations that are in transition or conflict. Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you, especially Howard King. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, join our prayers with those of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

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

LET THE CHRIST CHILD IN

Jay Althouse and Sally K. Albrecht

Voices of Faith Choir

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*

Music score for "Create in Me a Clean Heart" (Offering Song) in G minor, 4/4 time. The score consists of five staves of music with lyrics. The lyrics are as follows:

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
presence, 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: Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

Amen.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

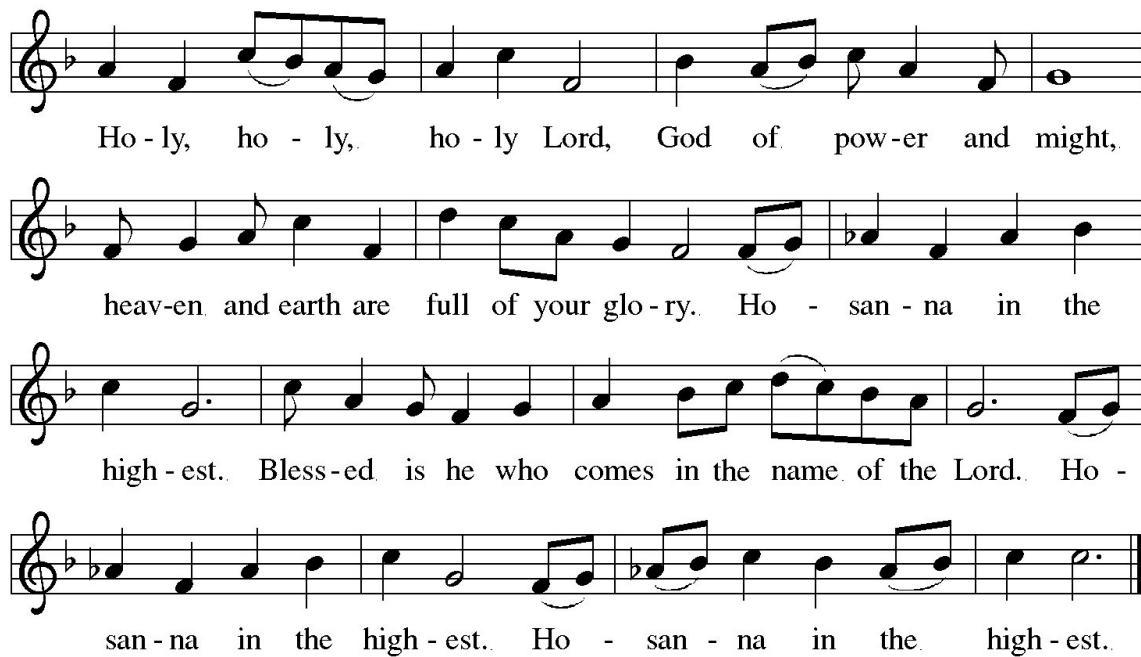
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

The musical notation consists of eight staves of music in common time, treble clef, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music is composed of quarter and eighth notes, with several grace notes indicated by small circles. The lyrics are integrated with the music, appearing below each staff. The lyrics are as follows:

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 comforted your people with the promise of the Re - deem - er,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righ - teous-ness.
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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav-en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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: Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.



COMMUNION SONG

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: Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy,
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.**

**As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.**

**Guide us toward your promised future,
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

BLESSING

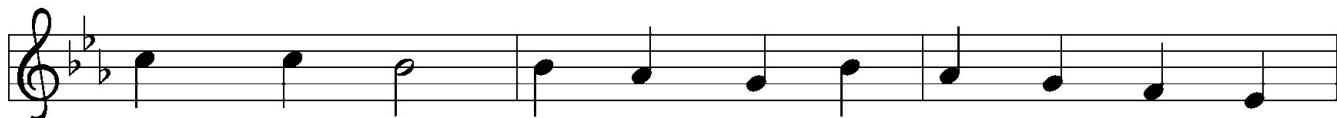
P: God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, **✚** bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is near,” we
 2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth’s bond - age
 3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don
 4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther



hear it say. “Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,
 let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling,
 down from heav’n. Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,
 wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mer - cy
 and the Son with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it



all you chil - dren of the the day!”
 shines up on the morn - ing skies.
 one and all, to be for - giv’n;
 and with words of love draw - near.
 while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

CHORAL SONG

Samuel S. Wesley



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, Nov. 20, Online views: 33

Sunday, Nov. 20, Attendance: 136

Next: Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022

The Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10

From David's line, a ruler brings justice and peace.

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

May the righteous flourish; may there be an abundance of peace. (Ps. 72:7)

Romans 15:4-13

Live in harmony, welcoming one another.

Matthew 3:1-12

A voice cries: Prepare the way of the Lord.

This Week at Faith

Monday, Nov. 28

2 p.m. Readers Group, church library

Tuesday, Nov. 29

10 a.m. Men of Faith, chapel
4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class, church library

Wednesday, Nov. 30

11 a.m. Midweek Advent Worship and Lunch, sanctuary and fellowship hall
1 p.m. Bereavement Group, chapel
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, choir room

Thursday, Dec. 1

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

Friday, Dec. 2

8:30 a.m. Jazercise, gym

Saturday, Dec. 3

8:30 a.m. Jazercise, gym

Sunday, Dec. 4

9:10 a.m. Adult Forum, conference room
9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, choir room
4 p.m. Hurricane Ian Fundraiser

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

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Adult Forum Resumes Dec. 4



Adult Forum does not meet today, Sunday, Nov. 27, but will resume Sunday, Dec. 4 with Lesson 2, "Piercing the Darkness," of the "That the World May Know" video series. Join the group 9:10-9:50 a.m. next week in the conference room between the two worship services.

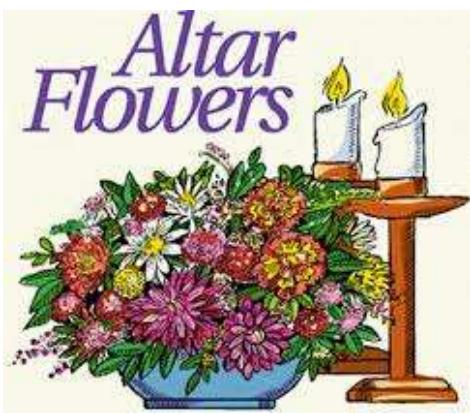
Participants will go on a journey with Biblical scholar Ray Vander Laan to uncover scripture and its meaning across history. Filmed throughout the Middle East, the Faith Lessons Digital series is an adventure in biblical learning. You will discover why Jesus turned the world upside down with his compelling call to follow Him. The insights you gain will transform your reading of the gospels and inspire a deeper faith commitment.

School Committee Continues Research

As the School Committee takes time off from formal meetings until January, its ad hoc committees continue research into marketing, budget, curriculum, general philosophy and all other areas needed to open a successful religious-based preschool.



Altar Flowers: A Beautiful Way to Honor People and Events



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 **Dec. 25**.

You can take your flowers home or donate them to a person or place of your choice after the second service on Sunday. Please indicate your wish either on the flower donation board in the fellowship hall or on our webpage.

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.

Following Hurricane Ian, requests for assistance have grown substantially.

Choir Rehearsals: There's a Place for You in the Voices of Faith

Choir rehearsals take place at **9:15 a.m. Sunday mornings** as well as at **6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 30**, in the choir room. All are welcome! Whether you are seasonal or full time; an experienced singer or a novice; a soloist or a shower-singer; a church member or a visitor, you are welcome to join the Voices of Faith Choir. We have a place for you!



Committee Seeks Four People for Council of Faith



It is time to prepare a slate of people who will serve on the Congregational Council of Faith for the next three years.

Four seats need to be filled at a time when there is excitement in the progress that the past year has brought to the renewal of our church. Under Pastor Eric's leadership, Faith again seeks new ways to serve God. In the hymn, "God, When Human Bonds

are Broken," we are encouraged to consider serving the church: "Send us, God of new beginnings, humbly hopeful into life. Use us as a means of blessing: make us stronger, give us faith."

Please give prayerful consideration to help Faith continue God's work by serving on the Congregational Council. It can be a blessing to many people, including yourself. If you feel called to serve, please inform one of the nomination committee members listed below. And if you are asked to serve, please say a little prayer before responding.

The members of the nomination committee look forward to presenting a slate of candidates to be voted on at the Annual Meeting in February.

Please feel free to contact any one of them:

Eloise Dettmer – eadettmer@aol.com – 941-021-7381

Sandy Brinker – sbrinker973@verizon.net – 941-966-3209

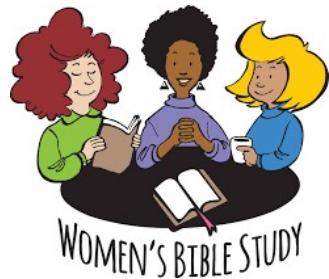
Grace Kaarre – graceret99@aol.com – 941-468-6850

No Confirmation Class This Week, Meet at St. Paul's Instead

There is no confirmation class this week. Instead, all confirmation students are encouraged to join other Faith volunteers to help feed members of our community from 3 to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 29, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in downtown Sarasota. (See the related announcement about that ministry opportunity.)

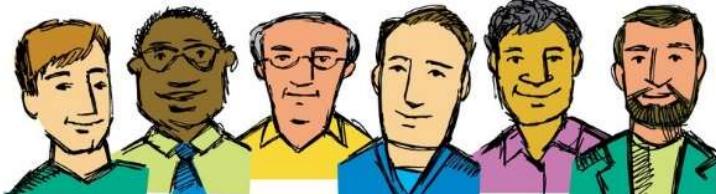


G.I.F.T.S. (Growing In Faith Through Scripture) **On Hiatus until Jan. 17**



With the holidays fast approaching, the G.I.F.T.S. (Growing In Faith Through Scripture) Women's Bible Study will not meet until Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023. The group will resume studying "Be Still and Know" by Deb Burma at 9:30 a.m. **Tuesday, Jan. 17**, in the conference room. We look forward to continuing our exploration of Psalm 46. May Christmas Joy fill your hearts.

Men of Faith Bible Study Meets Tuesday



Men, please join us at 10 a.m., **Tuesday, Nov. 30**, in the chapel for another exciting study of one of the shortest books of the Bible.

Don't let their size fool you. These short books pack a serious spiritual punch! No prior Bible study experience necessary.

Consider inviting a friend or two, as well.

Advent Midweek Services Return

Join us at 11 a.m. Wednesdays in Advent — Nov. 30, Dec. 7 and Dec. 14 — in the sanctuary for a meaningful and joy-filled worship service that centers on Mary's great song of praise, "The Magnificat." A light lunch will follow in fellowship hall. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.



Faith's Food Pantry Needs Ready-to-Eat Options

We continue to work with All Faiths Food Bank to begin food pantry operations. In the meantime, we still are collecting food for All Faiths. Please consider donating ready-to-eat canned foods such as tuna and canned fruit. However, you are welcome to bring in any nonperishables for others who may need them. A large barrel in the narthex is waiting for your donations. **Following the two recent hurricanes, many in our community are in need of donated food.**



Bereavement Group Shares Strength and Hope



Faith's Bereavement Group meets at 1 p.m. every Wednesday in the chapel. All are welcome. 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.

Readers Club - Ethel Rosenberg: An American Tragedy

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

During the next meeting, which is **tomorrow, Nov. 28**, the group will discuss *Ethel Rosenberg: An American Tragedy* by Anna Sebba. The readers will skip December due to Christmas. Jan. 30, they will discuss *Haven Point* by Virginia Hume.



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

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 the Tuesday its feeding ministry at St. Paul's in downtown Sarasota. 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. Nov. 29**, which is a fifth Tuesday, those who are interested are invited to join Pastor Olsen and his family to help a St. Paul's cook-and-serve team and learn from that experienced group in the process. Sign up on the sheet in the narthex or by contacting the church office.

Deepen Your Faith by Becoming a Church Deacon



Contact Pastor Eric if you are interested in delving deeper into your faith and becoming a church deacon. We already have three members who will join in study through Diakonia Florida-Bahamas Synod's School of Lay Ministry. The group likely will meet Saturday mornings beginning in January at Faith.

Questions? visit diakoniafl.org or contact Deborah Dornemann, 941-914-7553.

Save the Dates

During the 10:15 a.m. service, Sunday, Dec. 11, David Patrick, our director of music, and Tom Tryon, our lead cantor and music librarian, will be officially installed. A reception will follow.



Meet at 10 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 21, in the fellowship hall at Faith to join a happy throng of singers that will carol at the homes of less-mobile members to spread Christmas cheer.

Be There for a Hurricane Ian Relief Fundraiser Dec. 4



You don't want to miss the event of the year! Faith is hosting a Hurricane Ian Relief Fundraiser Dec. 4. Doors open at 3 p.m. The event starts at 4 p.m.

Entertainment by legendary singer/songwriter Karlus Trapp and Sarasota's king of comedy Al Ernst will highlight the evening. An original songwriter, a diverse troubadour, and a musical educator, Karlus views music as a healing gift from God. Al's calling from God is to make you laugh until you cry tears of joy! With more than 30 years of experience, including appearances on major networks and cable channels, he will tickle your funny bone.

Some amazing donors are providing awesome items for raffle baskets.

All proceeds from a free will offering will assist those affected by Hurricane Ian. Donations up to \$15,000 will be matched by an anonymous donor.

Holiday Decorations Available in the Gym



Faith Lutheran's surplus Christmas decorations are available on tables in the gym. Take what you want, and donate what you wish. Donations benefit Lutheran Disaster Response. Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran with Disaster Relief in the memo line.

Share the Bounty of Christmas with Someone in Need



Please consider adopting a Lutheran Services of Florida client for Christmas. Faith has the opportunity to help 60 people, each of whom has very modest needs and wants. Please take a name or two from the list in the narthex.

Wrap each gift, place the person's name on it, and leave it under the table in the narthex no later than Sunday, Dec. 11. Mary Circle thanks you for generously bringing Christmas cheer to others in our community.

Consider Sharing Soup for Joan's Soup Freezer



As the weather cools, who doesn't appreciate a great bowl of hot soup? Joan's Soup Freezer in the kitchen needs to be restocked. Please consider making a little extra soup to share, put it in a freezer-safe container marked with the type of soup and the date it was prepared, then place it in the kitchen freezer that is labeled "Joan's Soup." All are welcome to take soup from that freezer for yourself, friends or anyone who is struggling or not feeling well.

Women of Faith Gather to Celebrate the Birth of Jesus

Mary Circle invites all women of Faith Lutheran to celebrate the birth of Jesus during a holiday lunch beginning at noon, Tuesday, Dec. 13, at Mamma Leone's Italian Restaurant, 2300 N. Tamiami Trail in Nokomis. You will order off the menu, and separate checks will be issued.

If you plan to be there, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex or contact the church office.





Prayer List



Please remember in your prayers this week:

Jeff & Nancy Arntsen

Kevin Beard, friend of Jim Winemiller

Tommy Bright

Charles Budreau

Dee Burlingame

Michael O. Cannon, father of Kay Cannon

Cheryl Cook

Joan Cotton

Eloise Dettmer

Megan Fairlie

Family & Friends of Marlene Falconer

Elizabeth Farmer

John Gallo, friend of April Shettler

Andrea Gamboa

Elaine Graham

Dottie Gustafson, friend of Patricia Lawrence

Jon Hale

Alyssa Hansen, cousin of Lisa Olsen

Jeff Hansen, nephew of Joan Searles

Kevin Hooks, son-in-law of Anita and Jon Wooton

Mary Janice Holt

Jesus & Rita Jimenez

Family & Friends Howard King,
friend of Powrie's and others

Paul & Debby Maresch

Kathryn McLaughlin

Judi Melander

Ed Miller

Kristin Mohammed

Jeremy & Yvonne Mullins

Family & Friends of Dennis Pappalardo

Doris Anne Prieur-Lucia

Fritz Rappold

Family & Friends of Deacon Sue Rice

Gabriel Rockwell

Beverly & Floyd Ryder

Family & Friends of Dick Sanks

Ken Schell, brother of Mike (Gwen) Schell

Rev. John Spittal

Dieter Smirnow

Cathy Stubenvoll.

Michelle Terrell, niece of Kay Cannon

Colette Thornbloom

Evie Webb

Marlene Wiest

Jon Wooton

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

Contact the church office if:

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

ABOUT US

Gathered faithfully to love and serve God and all others.

OUR VISION

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

THE ELCA

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

7750 Beneva Road
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www.faithlutheransrq.com

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