



Faith Lutheran Church

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

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

8 a.m., June 16, 2024



The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

Welcome to Worship at Faith Lutheran Church

Gathered faithfully to love and serve God and all others

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

All 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 presented to the glory of God.

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| Presiding Minister | Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen |
| Lector | Sandy Gerber |
| Director of Music/Organist | David V. Patrick |
| Greeters & Ushers | Jerry Cooper, Eloise Dettmer, Ashley Garlitz, Dottie Gustavson, Grace Kaarre, Alf Kirkeeng, Gail Lidinsky, Judy Millard, Mark Nelson, Jan Phillips, Scott Rice, Joan Searles, Dave Wardach |
| Media Team | Kelly Ashlock, Greg Cooper, Kevin Fewell, Andrea & Sergio Gamboa, Mark Greenwood |
| Altar Guild | Linda Fewell, Dottie Gustavson, Carole Inkrott, Judy Millard, Mark Nelson, Jan Phillips, Steve & Peggy Ragan |
| Congregation Council | Scott Rice, president; Lauren Wardach, vice president; Mark Nelson, secretary; Anita Wooton, treasurer; Jane Sanks, assistant treasurer; Jerry Cooper; Quyen Dang; Ann Greenwood; Peggy Ragan; Joan Searles |

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| Pastor | Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen |
| Assistant to the Pastor | Rev. Larry Wright |
| Retired Pastors in Residence | Rev. John Hilficker Rev. Marianne Powrie Rev. John Spittal |
| Lead Cantor/Music Librarian | Tom Tryon |
| Interim Operations Administrator | Kelly Ashlock |
| Communications Administrator | Linda Fewell |

- Noted throughout the service - **P**: Presiding Minister **L**: Lector **C**: **Congregation**
- Faith has a T-Coil-enabled hearing loop for those whose hearing aid(s) also are enabled.
- Smile! Faith worship services are live-streamed and recorded.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS*WE STAND***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin. (*brief silence*)

Holy God,

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

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

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

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

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

Amen.

P: Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven
and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 533

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

First and last verses

We sing together



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant-ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick-en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
let my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick-en, may thy word still o'er me shine
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
as my guid-ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

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. O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world.
Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and
love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24

L: A Reading from Ezekiel.

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar.
Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest

winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

L: We read verses from Psalm 92 responsively.

The righteous shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

C: The righteous shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

L: ¹It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,

to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

²to herald your love in the morning

and your faithfulness at night;

³on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

⁴For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD;

and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

C: The righteous shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

L: ¹²The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,

and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

¹³Those who are planted in the house of the LORD

shall flourish in the courts of our God;

¹⁴they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

¹⁵that they may show how upright the LORD is,

my rock, in whom there is no injustice.

C: The righteous shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

L: A Reading from 2 Corinthians.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we

ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.] ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We sing together

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and contains the melody for the first two phrases: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,'. The second staff has a treble clef and contains the melody for the next two phrases: 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The lyrics are written below the notes.

GOSPEL: Mark: 4:26-34

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear

it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 856

First and last verses

How Great Thou Art

We sing together



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun - tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

APOSTLES' CREED

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

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

WE SIT

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Following each prayer petition, we respond:

P: ... Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

As the prayers conclude:

P: ... Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

WE STAND

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

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

WE SIT

OFFERTORY



The offering is collected at this time. Give online by scanning the QR Code printed here or at www.faithlutheransrq.com. We deeply appreciate your support of Faith Lutheran's ministries.

*WE STAND
We sing together*

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Song

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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of Life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...

... with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest!**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God ...

...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 ...

... 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: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

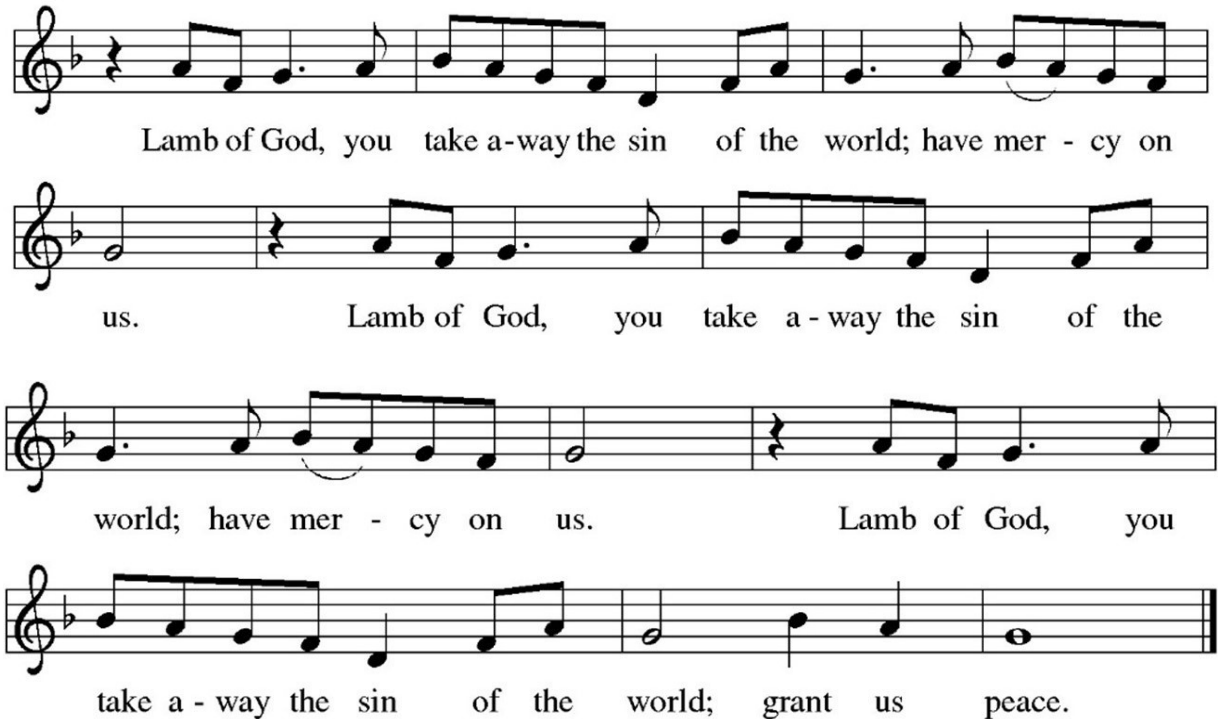
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

COMMUNION SONG

We sing together



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

WE SIT

Everyone is welcome at the Lord's table.

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. Jesus, Bread of Life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.

In your name we pray.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Now receive a blessing: The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen!

SENDING SONG

ELW 654

First and last verses

The Church's One Foundation

We sing together



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Lift Every Voice and Sing

J. Rosamond Johnson

Welcome, Visitors!

We are so glad you have joined us for worship. Please let us know that you visited by signing our guestbook and/or filling out a Visitor Card located on the table near the entrance. Kindly give the card to an usher or place it in the offering plate.

Join in Prayer

- **Men of Faith** meet for breakfast and prayer at **8:30 a.m., Tuesday, June 18, at Skillets, 8635 S. Tamiami.**
 - **The Prayer Support Group meets at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the chapel** to pray for all in need, our community, nation and world, and to share Holy Communion. Can't attend in person? Join via Zoom: **Meeting ID 871 4720 3661. Passcode 041291.**
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Experiencing the Joy of Generosity! The Joy of Receiving God's Blessings

Appreciating What We Have

Scripture: "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Prayer: Lord, thank you for your generosity to me. Help me to receive with a thankful heart. Amen.

Faith Food Pantry Needs You and Your Donations

Help care for our hungry neighbors by placing donations of food or paper products in the white food pantry barrel. And **please consider volunteering at the pantry** as friends help friends with both food and attention. Thank you!

Kids and Families: Register for VBS

Register now for **Vacation Bible School (VBS) Day Camp, July 22-26 at Faith.** It will run 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday of that week, concluding at noon Friday with a special program for families and friends. There is **no cost to attend, and lunch and snacks are included!** Taught by trained teachers from Camp Luther Springs, VBS will include Bible study, worship, games, arts and crafts, nature studies and more. Look for details, and the registration and health forms in the Faith Friday Update email. To ask questions or get hard copies of the forms, contact Pastor Eric, pastor@faithlutheransrq.com or 716-352-0055.

Bereavement Group Meets Wednesdays

The Bereavement Group meets at **1 p.m. Wednesdays in the chapel**. If you or a friend can use help bearing the burden of grief, this group is for you.

Donate Altar Flowers in Honor or in Memory

Please consider donating altar flowers in honor of a special occasion, in memory of a loved one or to glorify God. The cost is \$30 for one vase or \$60 for two. Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church with “altar flowers” in the memo line. Check the altar flowers donation board in fellowship hall to see if your desired date is available. If not, choose an alternate date. **The next open date is Sunday, July 28**. When you purchase altar flowers, your name and dedication appear in the bulletin on your selected Sunday. To make a dedication:

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

To add or reinstate someone to the Prayer List:

- Email communications@faithlutheransrq.com.
- Complete a Prayer Request Card found in the pews, on the tables at the back of the sanctuary and in the narthex. Place it in the offering plate. You are welcome to use the back of the card for additional names.

It is a privilege to pray for those in need, and all prayer requests are welcome. Names can remain on the list for as long as prayers are requested.

Readers Club Meets June 24

Readers Club meets **Monday, June 24, in the library** to discuss *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid. All are welcome. Please join!

Worship to Go is Growing, Needs Your Help

Worship to Go is growing and needs additional helpers! The next service at **Angels Senior Living, 5750 Honore, is set for 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 18. Volunteers will meet at 12:45 p.m. in the chapel** and will carpool to the facility. Participating is heartwarming and fun. To join in, contact Pastor Eric directly, 716-352-0055. No experience necessary!

Remembering Wally Pina

Wally Pina, Faith member and beloved child of God, joined the church triumphant June 8. We give thanks for his life among us, and pray that his family may feel God's peace. A celebration of resurrection and life for Wally will take place at a later date.

Prayer List

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| Alan Pastor Steve Anderson, friend of Jan Phillips Chuck & Tani Banta Family & Friends of Allan Boardman, friend of Kevin & Linda Fewell Arthur Brucato, friend of Karla Lewis & Michael Leonhardt Michael Burgess, friend of Janice Lorenz's son Dee Burlingame Evelyn Conlon Jeanine Davis (nee Molella), granddaughter of Karen and John White Eloise Dettmer Andrea Gamboa Jeff Hansen, nephew of Joan Searles Patricia Head, mother of Wayne Head Sonja Hickling, mother of Kelly Ashlock Becky Hilton Heeps, friend of Lisa Olsen Kevin Hooks, son-in-law of Anita and Jon Wooton | Cliff Hornsby Jesus & Rita Jimenez Lillian Lapenckas Diane Lewis, sister-in-law of Karla Lewis & Michael Leonhardt Judi Melander Alison Nommay, friend of Karla Lewis & Michael Leonhardt Meghan Ortega, niece of Lisa and Pastor Eric Olsen Judy Osborn, sister of Peggy Ragan Family & Friends of Wally Pina Cindy Press, friend of Kevin & Linda Fewell Robin Ryder, daughter of Floyd Ryder and sister of Gail Murphy Rev. John Spittal Mark Stengel Family & Friends of Pastor David Wagner Brittany Wanko and her premature newborn infants, Olivia Mae and Emmet Walter Jon Wooton |
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- **Contact officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com** if you or someone you know would appreciate a **communion, hospital or home visit, to be contacted or to receive a card in the mail.**
- **Contact communications@faithlutheransrq.com** if you have an **addition to the Prayer List.** Please send updates when prayers are answered.

Worship and Service Calendar

Worship Services

Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Live-streamed and recorded at:

www.faithlutheransrq.com/live-service.

Sunday, June 9

Online views 211

8 a.m. in person 25

10:15 a.m. in person 97

Next Sunday, June 23

First Reading

Job 38:1-11

The creator of earth and sea.

Psalmody

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32

You stilled the storm and silenced the waves of the sea (*Ps. 107:29*).

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Paul's defense of his ministry.

Gospel

Mark 4:35-41

Christ calming the sea.

This Week at Faith

Monday, June 17

Tuesday, June 18

8:30 a.m. Men of Faith Prayer Breakfast, Skilletts, 8635 S. Tamiami

10 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

12:45 a.m. Worship to Go Prep, chapel

1:30 p.m. Worship to Go, Angels Senior Living, 5750 Honores

7 p.m. Diversity Voices of Sarasota, sanctuary

Wednesday, June 19

10:30 a.m. Prayer Support Group, chapel

1 p.m. Bereavement Group, chapel

Thursday, June 20

9 a.m. Receive and Prep Food Delivery

9:30 a.m. Finance Committee, conf. room

10 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

1 p.m. Stitch 'n' Chatter, room 212

4:30 p.m. Food Pantry Prep

5 p.m. Food Pantry Open

Friday, June 21

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

Saturday, June 22

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

9 a.m. Diakonia, conf. room

Sunday, June 23

9:30 a.m. Voices of Faith, choir room