



Faith Lutheran Church

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

The Holy Trinity

10:15 a.m., May 26, 2024



When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before and after the universe: that there is community within God. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

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 given by Marlene Radesk in honor and memory of her mother's birthday.

Presiding Ministers

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen
Rev. Larry Wright

Lector

Tom Tryon

Director of Music/Organist

David V. Patrick

Cantor

Hannah Boyd

Vocals

Voices of Faith Choir

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

* * * * *

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

Director of Family and Child Ministry

Deborah Dornemann

Lead Cantor/Music Librarian

Tom Tryon

Operations Administrator

Jennifer Shaffer

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 in the presence of God and of one another. (*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 408

Come, Thou Almighty King

We sing together



1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing;
2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful, might - y Lord;
3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear
4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais - es be



help us to praise; Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -
our prayer at - tend. Come and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy
in this glad hour! Thou who al - might - y art, rule now in
hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign maj - es - ty may we in



to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
word suc - cess, and let thy righ - teous - ness on us de - scend.
ev - 'ry heart, nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Text: source unknown, c. 1757, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

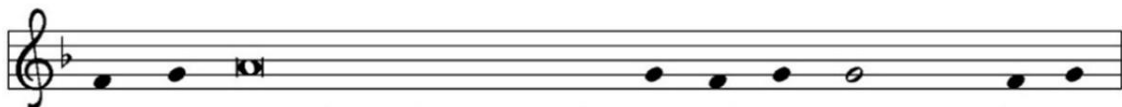
C: And also with you.

KYRIE

We sing responsively



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from 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

We sing together

Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
 1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we
 wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain



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



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



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



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

Refrain



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



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



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



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

Refrain



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast

in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8

L: A Reading from Isaiah.

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory. ⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" ⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 29:2

To begin, the organist plays the refrain once, the cantor sings it once and then we all sing it together.



Psalm 29:2

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.
May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

PSALMODY: Psalm 29

L: ¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

C: Refrain.

L: ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

⁷The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

C: Refrain.

L: ⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, “Glory!”

¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace

C: Refrain.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-17

L: A Reading from Romans.

¹²Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Word of God, word of life.

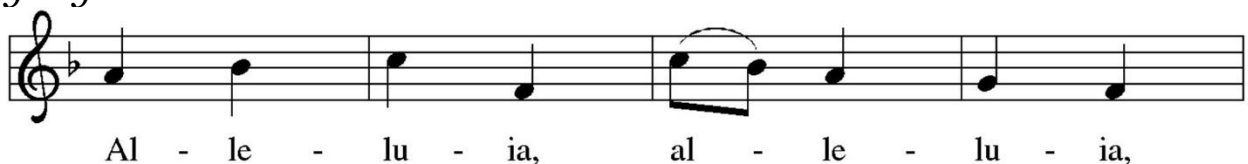
C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We sing together





GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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 412

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity

We sing together



1 Come, join the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun—
2 Come, see the face of Trin - i - ty, new - born in Beth - le - hem;
3 Come, speak a - loud of Trin - i - ty, as wind and tongues of flame
4 With - in the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun,



the in - ter - weav - ing of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.
then blood - ied by a crown of thorns out - side Je - ru - sa - lem.
set peo - ple free at Pen - te - cost to tell the Sav - ior's name.
we sing the prais - es of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.



The u - ni - verse of space and time did not a - rise by chance,
The dance of Trin - i - ty is meant for hu - man flesh and bone;
We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth;
Let voic - es rise and in - ter - weave, by love and hope set free,



but as the Three, in love and hope, made room with - in their dance.
when fear con - fines the dance in death, God rolls a - way the stone.
go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move!
to shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trin - i - ty.

Text: Richard Leach, b. 1953

Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

Text © 2001 Selah Publishing Co., Inc. www.selahpub.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Lloyd Larson

Voices of Faith Choir

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart; wean it from earth, through all its pulses move.
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art, and make me love Thee as I ought to love.
Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh; teach me the struggle of the soul to bear.
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh; teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.
Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love, one holy passion filling all my frame.
The baptism of the heaven descended Dove, my heart an altar, and Thy love the flame.

Copyright 1995 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

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

We sing responsively

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

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat). The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.' The second staff has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff has one measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff has one measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

PREFACE

The presiding minister sings

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,

The image shows a single staff of musical notation in G major. It begins with a C-clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody consists of a quarter note G, a quarter rest, a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note B, a quarter note A, a quarter note G, and a quarter note F.

The presiding minister continues, then concludes ...

we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

The image shows a single staff of musical notation in G major. It begins with a C-clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody consists of a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note B, a quarter note A, a quarter note G, and a quarter note F.

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license # _____.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

We sing together

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major. The first staff has two measures: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,'. The second staff has two measures: 'heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the'. The third staff has two measures: 'high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -'. The fourth staff has two measures: 'san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe ...

... With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, 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! All are welcome at the Lord's table

COMMUNION SONG

We sing together



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



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



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

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.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Lord, Here I Am
Voices of Faith Choir

Jay Althouse

Master, thou callest, I gladly obey. Only direct me, and I'll find Thy way,
Teach me the mission appointed for me. What is my labor, and where shall it be?
Master, Thou callest, and this I reply, "Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."
Lord, I will follow if Thou will but lead. Only support me with grace in my need.
Pardon whenever I turn from the right. Help me, and bring me again to the light.
Master, Thou callest, and this I reply, "Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."

Copyright MCMXCIV by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.

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.

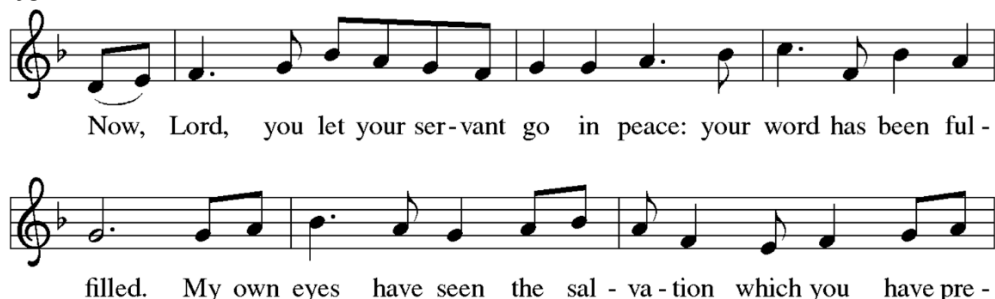
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

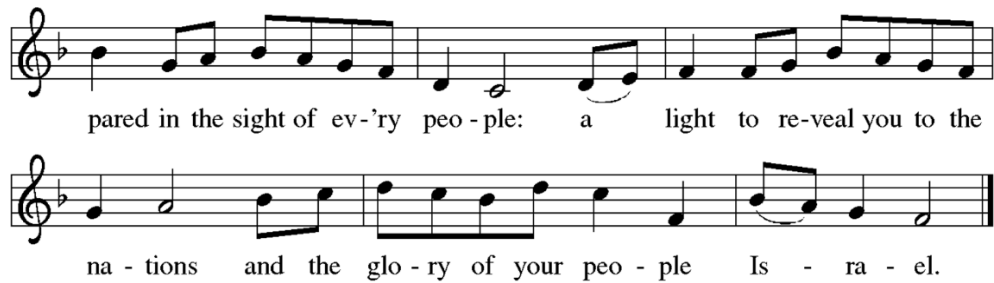
C: Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS

We sing together



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

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

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

ELW 413

We sing together



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.
Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

DISMISSAL

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

C: Thanks be to God.

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.

Use Email or Prayer Request Cards to Add or Keep Someone on the Prayer List

It's time to update the Faith Prayer List so, beginning Sunday, June 2, the list will begin anew. To add someone to the list or to ensure that someone who had previously been on the list remains there:

- Email communications@faithlutheransrq.com.
- Complete a Prayer Request Card, which are 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 and joy 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.

Considering Membership? Attend a Q&A and Coffee Today

Are you considering membership at Faith? Join Pastor Eric and congregational leaders for a Q&A and coffee **after worship today**. Faith will receive new members during both June 9 services.

The Faith Church Office Will Be Closed Tomorrow, May 27, in Observance of Memorial Day.

May Stewardship Message

If we are going to serve the Lord, we should do so wholeheartedly and see what God will do in response.

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

Join in Prayer and Bible Study

- **Adult Forum now is on summer break.** It will resume in the fall.
 - **Men of Faith** meet for breakfast and prayer at **8:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 28, at Skilletts, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail.**
 - **G.I.F.T.S. (Growing in Faith Through Scripture) Women's Bible study meets at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 28, in the library** to complete study of "Be Still and Know — A Study of Rest and Refuge." **May 28 is the final meeting before summer break.** G.I.F.T.S. will resume in the fall with new study booklets provided. Plan to join in!
 - **The Prayer Support Group meets at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the chapel** to pray for all in need. You also can join via Zoom: **Meeting ID 871 4720 3661. Passcode 041291.**
-

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.

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 Deborah Dornemann, familyandchild@faithlutheransrq.com or 941-914-7553.

Readers Club Meets May 28

Readers Club meets at 2 p.m., Tuesday, May 28, in the library to discuss *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. All are welcome!

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, June 2.** 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.
-

Mary Circle Enjoys a Busy Spring

On April 6, Mary Circle members attended the annual Women of the ELCA (WELCA) Spring Gathering at Living Waters Lutheran Church in North Port. They enjoyed meeting women from other churches in our conference, hearing speakers on a variety of topics and sharing Bible Study. As a speaker pointed out, all women members of the church are members of WELCA. Faith is blessed to have many women’s groups, including Mary Circle, Women’s Bible Study and Stitch ‘n’ Chatter. Circle members are excited to begin planning for the 2025 Spring Gathering, which will be hosted by Faith.

Thanks to generous contributions and assistance from the congregation, 110 personal-care kits for Lutheran World Relief were packaged May 5. Mary Circle members will box and weigh the kits in preparation for fall shipping.

Tuesday, June 11, Mary Circle will meet at noon for lunch in fellowship hall. The agenda will include growth strategies and plans. The group will take a July break before starting afresh with new activities. All women are invited to join as Mary Circle provides service to the church and fellowship for all.

Coffee Hour: Volunteer to Set Up, Clean Up

Coffee hour is an important fellowship ministry at Faith that needs additional volunteers. All you have to do is put out snacks and clean up afterward. Please sign up on the sheet beside the coffee pot in fellowship hall. Questions? Contact Karen Naulty, knaulty@yahoo.com or 406-334-1063; or Denise Kirkeeng, kirkeengd@verizon.net or 941-468-6668.

You Can Help Faith Help the Needy

Pastor Eric often speaks with people about aid they might require. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund allows him to assist financially, when appropriate. If you can, please consider a donation to the fund so those in need can receive assistance. And if someone at Faith approaches you for assistance, please direct that person to Pastor Eric.

Need a Ride to Church? Contact Pastor Eric

Faith will pay for Uber or Lyft to bring you or others to worship or other events at Faith. Contact Pastor Eric to make arrangements: 716-352-0055 or pastor@faithlutheransrq.com.

A Beautiful Poem by former member, Paula Harris,

"What If"

What if today we offered our hand, said Hello and gave a smile.
What if today we stopped, listened, and talked awhile.

What if we listened and found we are all much the same.
What if it does not matter the color of our skin or our name.

What if we stopped, looked about, and could see all the gifts we are given.
What if these gifts opened our hearts and by kindness and service we are driven

What if we no longer accept injustice, greed, and power.
What if we begin spreading love everywhere, every hour.

What if we gave up hard feelings and judging and caused hatred to cease.
What if Faith, Hope, and Love abide would cause Peace.



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, May 19

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Online views | 226 |
| 8 a.m. in person | 25 |
| 10:15 a.m. in person | 124 |

Next Sunday, June 2

First Reading

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

The commandments regarding the sabbath.

Psalmody

Psalm 81:1-10

Raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

(Ps. 81:1)

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

Treasure in clay jars.

Gospel

Mark 2:23 – 3:6

Doing the work of God on the sabbath.

This Week at Faith

Monday, May 27

Memorial Day: Church Office Closed

Tuesday, May 28

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

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study, library

10 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

2 p.m. Readers Club, library

5 p.m. Congregation Council, conf. room

7 p.m. Diversity Voices of Sarasota,
sanctuary

Wednesday, May 29

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

1 p.m. Bereavement Group, chapel

6:30 p.m. Voices of Faith Choir Rehearsal,
choir room

Thursday, May 30

9 a.m. Receive and Prep Food Delivery

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, May 31

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

Saturday, June 1

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

9 a.m. Diakonia, conf. room

Sunday, June 2

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

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 to add someone to or remove someone from the Prayer List.

Prayer List

Marsha Anderson, sister of Gail Murphy
Rev. Steve Anderson, pastor at
 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Tim Anderson, son-in-law of Dick and Jetty Zarfos
George and James Ball, brothers of Alix Giannini
Anna Bancroft, young friend of Alyene Weaver
Chuck Banta
Chloe Bennenthum, friend of Gail Murphy
Allan Boardman, friend of Kevin & Linda Fewell
Sean & Rebekah Brett, son and daughter-in-law
 of Alyene Weaver
Charles Budreau
Dee Burlingame
 Byrne, friend of Anita Wooton
Elise Carmona
Michelle Cave, friend of George Young
Evelyn Conlon
Family & Friends of John Conlon
Family & Friends of Jordan Demers,
 cousin of Hannah Boyd
Eloise Dettmer
Philomena Dimichelle, friend of Conrad Zabor
Ken Dixon
Ryan and Valerie Donahue
Elizabeth Farmer
Judy & Robert Ferguson
Carolyn & Marty Friedman,
 friends of Marlene Radesk
John Gallo, friend of April Shettler
Andrea Gamboa
Laurie Good, friend of Ann Greenwood
Paula Haas, friend of Eloise Dettmer
Jon Hale
Alyssa Hansen, cousin of Lisa Olsen
Jeff Hansen, nephew of Joan Searles
Patricia Head, mother of Wayne Head
Becky Heeps, friend of Lisa Olsen
Family & Friends of Michael Helpin
Christiana Holmes
Kevin Hooks, son-in-law of
 Anita and Jon Wooton
Rod Holter and Family, friend of
 Mark and Ann Greenwood
Tesa Inkrott,
 granddaughter of Pete & Carole Inkrott

Jesus & Rita Jimenez
Alf Kirkeeng
Lillian Lapenckas
Family & Friends of Kathy Lasko
Jacqueline Laurent,
 friend of Margaret Borrows
Diane Lewis, sister-in-law of Karla Lewis &
 Michael Leonhardt
Lois Light
Shirley Manning, friend of Margaret Borrows
Paul & Debby Maresch
Vincenzo Mariani, friend of Conrad Zabor
Annabelle Martone
Kathleen McBride
Judi Melander
Jeremy & Yvonne Mullins
Beverly Novak, cousin of Patty McKee
Olaf Olsen, father of Pastor Eric Olsen
Judy Osborn, sister of Peggy Ragan
James & Virginia Pease
Fran Perkins
Wally Pina
Kristen Pizan
Cindy Press, friend of Kevin & Linda Fewell
Marlene Radesk
Fritz Rappold
Gabriel Rockwell
Ted and Carol Rodi
Floyd Ryder
Mike Schell
Phillip Schlueter
Family & Friends of Donna Souders, mother of
 Lois Weaverling's friend
Adam Spartaro
Rev. John Spittal
Ron and Leigh Tarrantino
Werner Thomsen, brother of John Thomsen
Colette Thornbloom
David Turnbull
Family & Friends of Pastor David Wagner
Brittany Wanko and her premature newborn
 infants, Olivia Mae and Emmet Walter
Alyene Weaver
Jon Wooton

About Faith Lutheran Church

Our Mission

Gathered faithfully to love and serve God and all others.

Our Vision

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

The ELCA

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

Receive the Latest News and Updates

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