



# Faith Lutheran Church

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

## **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

10:15 a.m., May 5, 2024



We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve but, for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

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](http://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 Judi Melander in honor and celebration of mothers.**

**Presiding Ministers**

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen  
Rev. Marianne Powrie  
Rev. Larry Wright

**Lector**

Jim Winemiller

**Guest Organist**

Robert Woody

**Guest Conductor**

Hannah Boyd

**Cantor**

Kiran Kimbell

**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

Rev. David Wagner

**Director of Family and Child Ministry**

Deborah Dornemann

**Director of Music/Organist**

David V. Patrick

**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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

*WE STAND*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

**C: Amen.**

P: Held in God's mercy, 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: In the mercy of almighty God,  
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister  
of the church of Christ,  
and by his authority,

I therefore declare to you  
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,  
in the name of the Father, and of the † Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN

ELW 625

Verses 1, 2 and 4

# Come We That Love the Lord

We sing together



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;  
2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;  
3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou-sand sa - cred sweets  
4 Then let our songs a-bound, and ev - 'ry tear be dry;



join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with  
but chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, but chil - dren of the  
be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, be - fore we reach the  
we're march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Im -



sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur-round the throne.  
heav'n-ly King may tell their joys a-broad, may tell their joys a - broad.  
heav'n-ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en streets.  
man-uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.

### Refrain



We're march - ing to Zi - on, beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on:



we're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, stanzas; Robert Lowry, 1826–1899, refrain  
Music: MARCHING TO ZION, Robert Lowry

## GREETING

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

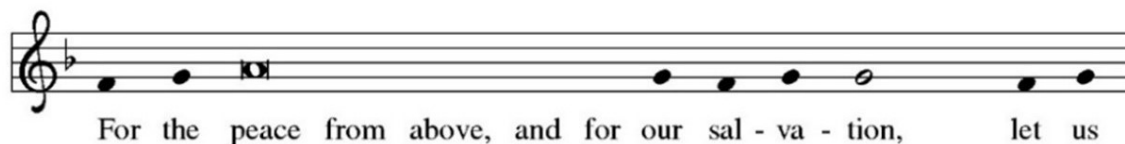
**C: And also with you.**

# KYRIE

*We sing responsively*



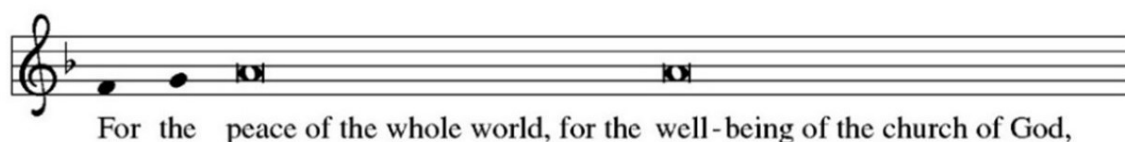
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



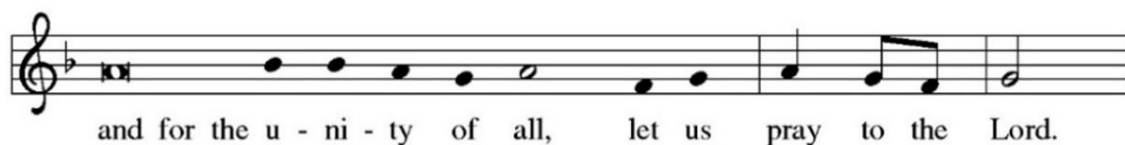
For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



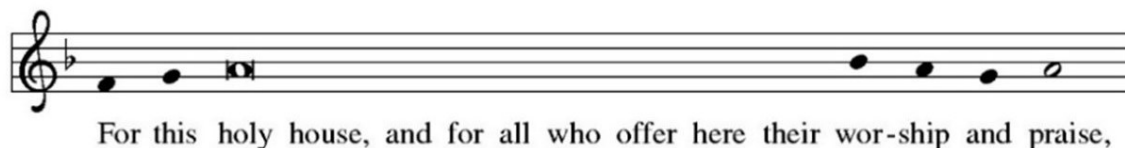
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



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 - mighty God and Fa - ther, we



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



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.



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. O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

## WE SIT

### FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

**L:** A Reading from Acts.

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Word of God, word of life.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

### PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 98:4

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands.

Psalm 98:4

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress  
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## **PSALMODY: Psalm 98**

L: <sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, you have made known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

<sup>4</sup>Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

### **C: Refrain.**

L: <sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,  
the world and those who dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup>Let the rivers clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
who comes to judge the earth.

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with equity.

### **C: Refrain.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6**

L: A Reading from 1 John.

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.

<sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

<sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.

<sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Word of God, word of life.

### **C: Thanks be to God.**



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*We sing together*

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

## GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: [Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*WE SIT*

**SERMON**

Rev. Larry Wright

*WE STAND*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service**

*ELW 712*

*We sing together*

*See next page*

## Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,  
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;  
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light  
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:  
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,  
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;  
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,  
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.  
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.  
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.  
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984  
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844  
Text © Oxford University Press

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## 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:*

L: ... God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*As the prayers conclude:*

P: ... Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*WE STAND*

**PEACE**

P: The Lord 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](http://www.faithlutheransrq.com). We deeply appreciate your support of Faith Lutheran's ministries.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

This is the Day  
*Voices of Faith Choir*

Sally K. Albrecht

This is the day to rejoice!

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad!

The Lord be my strength and my song, Haec est dies.

Be the rock of my salvation. Be my guide and make me strong.

Be the joy of every nation.

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad!

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*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. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**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) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a line of lyrics. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes with stems.

## 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 and 4/4 time. It contains a line of lyrics. The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes with stems.

*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 and 4/4 time. It contains a line of lyrics. The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes with stems.

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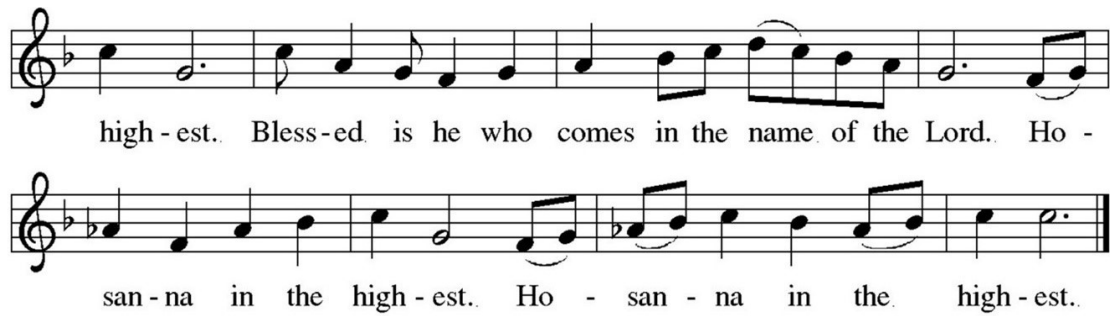
## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a line of lyrics. The notes are more complex, including eighth and sixteenth notes with stems.



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father ...

... 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: Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered  
for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power  
to share with us the great and promised feast.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and  
blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your  
saints in light.

**C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place,  
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as  
victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, 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.**

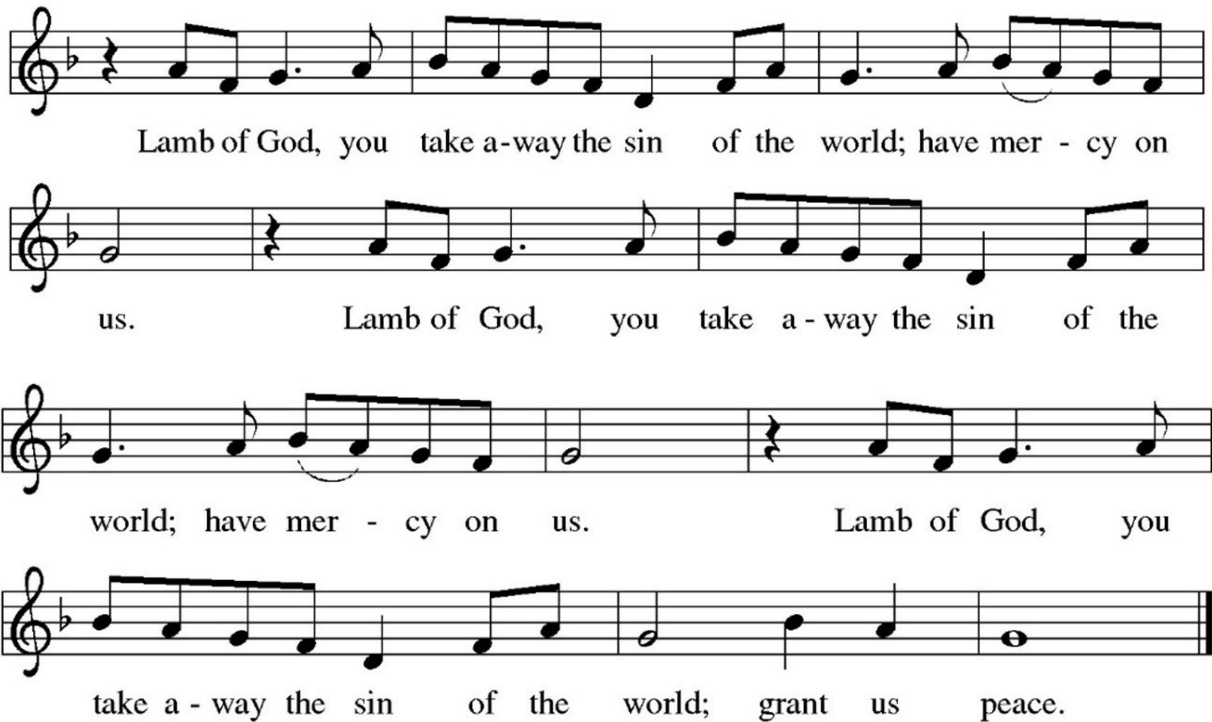
**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we  
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and  
the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God'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, I Come to Your Table *Voices of Faith Choir*

Mark Weston

Lord, I come to your table; make a place for me.  
Guilty by sins, I'm unable; help me to be free.  
Let me share the bread and wine  
And in true fulfillment find true forgiveness in your arms of love.  
Lord, I come to your table; weary, tired and worn,  
Seeking pure refreshment, yearning for your love.  
Lift me up and cheer my soul, raise my spirits, make me whole;  
Let me live in hope with you, my Lord.  
There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins;  
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.

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### *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. Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**C: Amen.**

## NUNC DIMITTIS

*We sing together*



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have prepared 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: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✠ bless you now and always.

**C: Amen!**



## SENDING SONG

## Blest Be The Tie That Binds

ELW 656

We sing together



- 1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;
- 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
- 3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
- 4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.  
Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

## DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

## POSTLUDE

Offertoire for Easter on the Melody "O Fillie et Filiae"  
Jean-Francois Dandrieu

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## 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.

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## Help Assemble Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief After the 10:15 a.m. Service Today

Thanks to all who donated items for personal care kits that will be distributed through Lutheran World Relief. **A total of 108 kits are ready to be assembled here at Faith, and you can help! Assembly begins after the 10:15 a.m. service today in fellowship hall.** With unstable times in many countries, some of our siblings in Christ around the world are in terrible circumstances. Personal care kits can help bring a little normalcy to otherwise untenable situations. Please consider taking a few minutes today to assemble a kit. All materials are provided. **Bring your willing hands and a whispered prayer for the recipient.**

## ***Find Out How You Can Help Faith Better Serve Families***

Following the Children's Sermon, Director of Family and Child Ministry Deborah Dornemann and volunteers help young people learn about the gospel through age-appropriate lessons and fun activities. **Are you interested in how Faith Lutheran can better serve families? Contact Deborah, [familyandchild@faithlutheransrq.com](mailto:familyandchild@faithlutheransrq.com) or 941-914-7553.**

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### ***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.

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### ***Join in Prayer and Bible Study***

- **Adult Forum meets between worship services in the conference room.** Next week, participants will study Lesson 3, "He Leads Them Like a Shepherd," in the "That the World May Know" video series.
  - **Men of Faith** meet for breakfast and prayer at **8:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 7, at Skillet's, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail.**
  - **G.I.F.T.S. (Growing in Faith Through Scripture) Women's Bible study meets at 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays in the library** to focus on "Be Still and Know – A Study of Rest and Refuge."
  - **The spring session of Adult Bible Study** focuses on chapters from a favorite resource: "**Reading Biblical Literature**," with Dr. Craig R. Koester, professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary. **Each remaining one-hour session begins at 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays, May 8 and 15, in the second-floor classroom.** Pastor Larry leads the study, which continues with Luke on the World Upside Down; and John on the Word Made Flesh. Light refreshments provided! Great discussion! Fun fellowship!
  - **The Prayer 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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### ***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).

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## ***Calling All ELCA Youth Grades 6-9! Let's Have Fun!***

It's mini-golf! It's pizza! It's soda pop! **If you are in grades 6-9, be at Evie's Family Golf Center, 4725 Bee Ridge Road, from 6-9 p.m., Thursday, May 9,** to join the fun. Questions? Contact Ms. Deborah, 941-914-7553 or [familyandchild@faithlutheransrq.com](mailto:familyandchild@faithlutheransrq.com). **Note: Confirmation class will not meet May 9.**

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## ***Faith Food Pantry Needs Your Donations***

The Faith Food Pantry distributes food for about 200 people each week! Help care for our hungry neighbors by placing donations of food or paper products in the white food pantry barrel. Thank you!

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## ***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](mailto:familyandchild@faithlutheransrq.com) or 941-914-7553.

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## ***Your Contributions Help to Maintain the Faith Memorial Garden***

The Faith Memorial Garden, located behind the church building along Eugene Ave., is the site of special worship services, the final resting place for the ashes of Faith members and friends who have joined the church triumphant, and a place of quiet respite. Volunteers work diligently to maintain the garden and continually enhance its beauty.

The cost of garden maintenance is covered by the Faith Memorial Garden Fund. You can contribute to that fund through the Online Giving page at [faithlutheransrq.com](http://faithlutheransrq.com), or by designating a donation made by cash or check. Please visit the garden – you are welcome there. And thank you for your generosity.

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## ***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](http://faithlutheransrq.com).
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## ***Resources Help Us Learn About, Participate in Israeli/Palestinian Justice Initiatives***

The Rev. Khader El-Yateem, executive director of Service and Justice for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, shared the following resources related to Israeli/Palestinian justice initiatives during the special adult forum on Good Shepherd Sunday, April 21. Pastor Eric encourages you to make yourself familiar with these resources:

- Sumud: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, <https://www.elca.org/sumud>.
- Welcome to Sumud: For Justice in Palestine and Israel, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qy9cjJcpNiA>.
- Sumud: April 2024 News, <https://support.elca.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=1766>.
- Churches for Middle East Peace, <https://cmep.org/>.
- Jewish Voices for Peace, <https://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/>.

Look for invitations to follow-up discussions about this important topic during the season of Pentecost.

## ***Thrivent Choice Dollars Strengthen Ministries***

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you! Thanks to all Thrivent membership clients who have directed Thrivent Choice Dollars® to Faith Lutheran. The grant funds received from Thrivent help support our Faith journey and mission: "Gathered faithfully to love and serve God and all others."

Through April 8 of this year, Faith has received a total of \$686 in Thrivent grants:

- January: \$280 thanks to Gail Lidinsky and Peggy Ragan.
- February: \$224 thanks to William Herb, Janet Petersen, Peggy Ragan, Steve Ragan and John White.
- March: \$182 thanks to Alf Kirkeeng and William Little.

Here's information about how Thrivent Choice Dollars® are transferred to and received by Faith Lutheran Church:

- Thrivent Choice Dollars® are electronically transferred directly into the church's operating account at Synovus bank, generally on the 7th or 8th of the month.
- Thrivent provides Faith with the names and addresses of those who designate Choice Dollars® to the church along with the total deposit of funds. Thrivent does **not**, however, include the amount of Choice Dollars® directed individually by a person. That's because all funds distributed under the Thrivent Choice® program are exclusively Thrivent's funds and are never owned by clients. This also means that Faith can't provide tax receipts to people who direct Choice Dollars® to Faith, nor can a record of those Choice Dollars® appear on any giving statement from Faith.
- Faith does, however, sincerely thank each and every person who directs Thrivent Choice funds to support Faith's work and mission.

If you have questions about Thrivent Choice Dollars® -- or if you have updated bank, email or contact information -- call Thrivent, 1-800-847-4836. When prompted, say "Thrivent Choice." You may also contact Patty McKee, 941-921-3709 or [financialsecretary@faithlutheransrq.com](mailto:financialsecretary@faithlutheransrq.com).

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### ***Mary Circle Meets May 14***

All ladies of Faith are invited to the next meeting of Mary Circle at **noon, Tuesday, May 14, in fellowship hall**. The agenda includes planning for next year, and completing and boxing personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. Bring your lunch; dessert is provided.

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# ***Faith Walk and Talk Continues Active Fellowship***

Prayer, an outdoor walk, coffee fellowship and a closing prayer of thanks bring people of Faith together during Faith Walk and Talk. Plan to join the group at **9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 11, outside of Panera Gulf Gate, 6589 S. Tamiami Trail.** If you would enjoy the talk but not the walk, arrive at 10:30 a.m. Questions? Contact Carolyn Francis, 941-400-0083.

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## ***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](http://www.faithlutheransrq.com/live-service)

### **Sunday, April 28**

Online views 128

8 a.m. in person 47

10:15 a.m. in person 116

### **Next Sunday, May 12**

#### **First Reading**

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Matthias is added to the apostles.

#### **Psalmody**

Psalm 1

The Lord knows the way of the righteous.

*(Ps. 1:6)*

#### **Second Reading**

1 John 5:9-13

Life in the Son of God.

#### **Gospel**

John 17:6-19

Christ's prayer for his disciples

### **This Week at Faith**

#### **Monday, May 6**

#### **Tuesday, May 7**

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

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

10 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

7 p.m. Diversity Voices of Sarasota, sanctuary

#### **Wednesday, May 8**

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study, upstairs classroom

10:30 a.m. Prayer Group, chapel

1 p.m. Bereavement Group, chapel

#### **Thursday, May 9**

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

6 p.m. Youth Event: Mini-Golf! Pizza! Soda Pop!, Evie's Family Golf Center, 4725 Bee Ridge Road

#### **Friday, May 10**

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

#### **Saturday, May 11**

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

9 a.m. Diakonia, conf. room

9:30 a.m. Faith Walk and Talk, Panera, 6589 S. Tamiami

#### **Sunday, May 12**

9:10 a.m. Adult Forum, conf. room

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

10:25 a.m. Sunday School, classroom

2 p.m. German Congregation Worship and Fellowship

# ***Prayer List***

*Please remember in your prayers this week:*

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  
Family & Friends of Tina Arnold  
George and James Ball, brothers of Alix Giannini  
Anna Bancroft, 6-year-old  
    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  
Jason 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  
Michael Helpin, friend of Marlene Radesk  
Christiana Holmes  
Kevin Hooks, son-in-law of  
    Anita and Jon Wooton

Tesa Inkrott,  
    granddaughter of Pete & Carole InkrottS  
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 Fire Lieutenant James Joel Slack  
Family & Friends of Donna Souders, mother of  
    Lois Weaverling's friend  
Rev. John Spittal  
Ron and Leigh Tarrantino  
Werner Thomsen, brother of John Thomsen  
Colette Thornbloom  
David Turnbull  
Alyene Weaver  
Jon Wooto

- **Contact [officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com](mailto: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](mailto:communications@faithlutheransrq.com)** to add someone to or remove someone from the **Prayer List.**
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## ***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](http://www.faithlutheransrq.com) or email [communications@faithlutheransrq.com](mailto:communications@faithlutheransrq.com).

