



Time After Pentecost
9:30 Worship Celebration

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH | Inviting, Growing, Serving...

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

October 4, 2026

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Faith is a growing faith community in the Aurora area. We're people just like you, who are hungry to know God better. We're looking for the answers to life's tough questions. We're struggling to be better parents, spouses, friends, and neighbors. We don't have all the answers but we're growing as we go.

Faith is a great place to find healing for broken hearts and broken lives. In every Sunday message you'll learn new skills and attitudes to help you live life with the kind of joy that God intends for us. You'll also meet people who are also growing in their journey through the joys and challenges of life. You'll find lots of "walking partners" for your journey here. There are no closed doors at Faith, just lots of opportunities to grow in Christ, friendship, and love.

Faith is a church with a great vision; however, accomplishing a great vision requires the participation of many great people like you. There's a place in our vision for you to use your unique gifts and talents.

CURRENT WORSHIP SERIES: ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

Love. It's a word we use for everything—family, friends, food, even a favorite team. But what if we've been missing its true meaning all along? In a world full of noise, division, and fleeting emotions, there's a kind of love that never fails. It's not shallow. It's not self-serving. It's not temporary. It's the kind of love that transforms relationships, reshapes priorities, and reveals the very heart of God. Join us for a powerful new sermon series through 1 Corinthians 13 as we rediscover what love really is—and what it was always meant to be. Because when everything else fades... love remains.

The Gathering

Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You, I want to see You
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You, I want to see You

Chorus To see You high and lifted up
 Shinin' in the light of Your glory
 Pour out Your power and love
 As we sing holy, holy, holy

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You, I want to see You
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You, I want to see You (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

Holy holy holy Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy I want to see You (*Repeat*) (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

I want to see you, I want to see you

Hosanna, Praise is Rising

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You We turn to You
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You We long for You

Pre-Chorus Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day
In Your presence all our fears are washed away Washed away

Chorus Hosanna, Hosanna
You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna, Hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome you here, Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You We turn to You
In your kingdom, broken lives are made new You make us new

(Pre-Chorus) (Chorus)

(Pre-Chorus) (Pre-Chorus)

(Chorus) (Chorus)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

READING

1 Corinthians 13: 8-13

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

RESPONSE

Blessing, Honor and Glory

please stand

Blessing, Honor, Glory to The Lamb
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb

Death could not hold him down
For he is risen Seated upon the throne
He is the lamb of God
Blessing, honor, Glory to the lamb
Holy , Righteous, worthy is the lamb of God

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-46

“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they

seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

“Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

MESSAGE

Love Always Trusts | Pastor Rob

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A: God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church. Inspire us to follow their example in our own day. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of every tribe and nation, restore peace to the world’s conflict zones, and shelter those who live within them. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for teachers of the faith. Fill their hearts with your Spirit, that they inspire others with your truth. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Gracious and loving God, we pray for the family and friends of Faith...
Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

I Love You, Lord

please stand

I love you, Lord and I lift my voice
To worship You, oh my Soul rejoice
Take joy, my King in what You hear
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear

OFFERATORY PRAYER

A: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

C: Amen.

The Meal

- P: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
you have brought us this far along the way.
In times of bitterness you did not abandon us,
but guided us into the path of love and light.
In every age you sent prophets
to make known your loving will for all humanity.
The cry of the poor has become your own cry;
our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.
In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant
to preach good news to the afflicted,
to break bread with the outcast and despised,
and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
- P: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth
from the bonds of slavery and death.
Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say "Amen"!
- C: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread;
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us;
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE MEAL

P: Christ invites you to this table.

All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

AN INVITATION

We invite you to share in Holy Communion this morning, regardless of your church background or lack thereof. We believe that God is present in the bread and wine as it becomes the body and blood of Jesus Christ and that this presence is a gift of grace in the lives of those who receive it. All are welcomed to the table enjoy this gift of God's love and mercy. Apple/Grape juice is in the center of the communion tray. Gluten free wafers available at usher stand.

COMMUNION BLESSING *please stand*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

The Sending

SENDING PRAYER

A: Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

Goodness of God

I love You, Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In the darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known You as a Father
I've known You as a Friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

Your goodness is running after It's running after me
Your goodness is running after It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after It's running after me

DISMISSAL

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Faith!

We are so glad that you have chosen to worship with us today! Have questions about Faith? Wondering how to get connected or get more involved? We'd love to help. No matter where you are in life or how many times you've visited, we're here to guide you towards your next best step. Stop by the welcome center located near the main entrance. If this is your first time at Faith, let us know, we've got a special gift just for you!

NEXT

Sun 10/4 | 9:00 & 10:30 AM

If you've ever wondered how to get involved at Faith, or how to take the next step, don't worry. We've created a simple next step for you. It's a small gathering called NEXT. This informal gathering lasts only about 20 minutes after services and will provide you an overview of our mission, strategy, and environments to help you determine your best next step for continuing your faith journey. Meets fireside.

REVOLUTION

Sun 10/4, 10/18 | 5:00 PM

On Sunday Nights at Faith, we've created an event that attracts **middle & high school students just like you**. After all, we figure you want to be wherever your friends are. We make this time as fun and relevant as we possibly can. The goal is for you to leave feeling energized to go out there and tackle another week! Meets 1st and 3rd Sundays in the auditorium. Register online- discoveringfaith.com

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sun 10/4 | 2:00 PM

From kittens to chickens, guppies to puppies, join us for our blessing of all animals great and small. This free event celebrating the Feast of St. Francis is open to the entire community, so come and enjoy this soon to be annual tradition. A short service will be led by Pastor Rob followed by individual pet blessings. Refreshments for pets and their humans will be served. In the event of inclement weather, the blessing will take place in the café. We will also be collecting donations for the Naperville Area Humane Society. Link below for the shelter's wish list. So, bring your pets to be blessed and help us to bless other animals who are in need. <https://www.naperhumane.org/wish-list>

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Begins 10/6 | 7:15 PM

Epic of Eden

The Old Testament can feel like a puzzle. Richter's substantive and profoundly spiritual exploration shows how the pieces fit together and how accessible the narrative truly is! We plan to begin our next study on October 6. This will be a twelve week study.

MENS COMMUNITY GROUP

Sat 10/10 | 8:00 AM

Meets fireside at Faith, the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month.

In addition to coffee, great conversation, and fellowship, we typically are engaged in a spiritual study topic or video discussion. Come join us!

A MOMENT FOR MOM

Sat 10/10 | 10:00 AM

We welcome you to our moms group for moms just like you! We are hosting moms of children ages 0-10 to come together for a time of learning, laughter, and treats. Take a moment to connect with other moms, while enjoying a yummy breakfast, hearing from a knowledgeable speaker on topics related to parenting, and build your mom village along the way. Each Session is \$6, Childcare is \$8

Guest Speaker: Joseph Agostinelli, PT

Where We Hold Our Stress and Why It Matters, Jaw and Neck Techniques to Release Tension
Register online www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom

PROJECT 3:23 GAME ON!

Sat 10/10 | 1:00 PM

Come hang out. Meet some guys. Play a few games. Game On is the first gathering of Project 3:23, a new monthly group for men in their 20s, 30s, and 40s. We're keeping the first one simple and casual—just a chance to meet some new guys, relax, have some fun, and start building relationships. We'll play a few games, with Priorities at the center of the afternoon. It's an easy, fun way to learn what matters to one another and spark some genuine conversation along the way. This isn't a Bible study, a formal meeting, or another big commitment. It's simply a place for guys to show up, hang out, and get to know each other. Come as you are. No experience necessary.

BUNCO NIGHT

Sat 10/10 | 5:00 PM

Come join us for our annual Bunco Night at Faith. Fun, friendship and a spirited game night. Cost is \$5/person and bring a dish to share. BYOB

MEMBERSHIP @ FAITH

Mon 10/12 | 6:30 PM

This course invites participants to explore the vision, mission and values of Faith, as well as a broad overview of the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective. Participants will also discover their unique gifts and how they can use them in serving others. This course is open to everyone and is expected of those who wish to become members at Faith! Register online or at the welcome center.

MONDAY PM WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Mon 10/12 | 7:15 PM

The Silent Echo

When God really wants to get your attention, he doesn't just say something once. He echoes. He speaks through a Sunday sermon, a chance conversation with a friend the next day, even a random email. the same theme, idea, impression or lesson will repeat itself in surprising and unexpected ways until you realize that maybe, just maybe God is at work. Come join us on Monday nights for a discussion of Margaret Feinberg's book. The bible study will meet October 12 & 26; November 9 & 23; December 7 & 21

TUESDAY AM WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Tues 10/13 | 9:00 AM

The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study have resumed their weekly meetings at the church at 9:00 a.m. This fall the group is reading Jesus In Me ~ Experiencing the Holy Spirit as a Constant Companion by Anne Graham Lotz.

Copies of the book can be purchased at the meeting for \$11.00. The book is also available on Amazon in Kindle and Audiobook formats. All women of Faith and their friends are welcome and encouraged to attend. We would love to have you join us! For additional information contact Sue Boozell at sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com.

FAITH FAMILY DINNER NIGHT

Weds 10/14 | 5:00 PM

Faith Dining Nights are starting again for the 2026-2027 season.

Our first Faith Family Dining Night is set for Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Portillo's Restaurant, 2810 US-34, Oswego, IL

Must present the Flyer in person, on your phone or use ONLINE CODE: PORTILLOS when ordering.

Portillo's in Oswego will donate 20% of the proceeds from that night back to Faith Lutheran Church. You are welcome to share the flyer with family, friends and neighbors. We are not able to pass out the flyer at the restaurant. Grab a cake shake, some cheese fries and Portillo's famous beef sandwich to help support Faith!

FIRST COMMUNION WORKSHOP

Sun 10/18 | 2:00 PM

For those parents who feel their elementary school-aged child is ready to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion, you are encouraged to attend our First Communion workshop. This learning event is intended to be a time for both the parents and the child to discover the gracious gift of God's love and mercy that comes to us through this meal. For further information, contact Pastor Rob at pastor@discoveringfaith.com. Sign up today online or at the welcome center.

HESED HOUSE

Weds 10/21 | 6:30 PM

Faith's next serving opportunity at Hesed House is August 19. We will need roughly 5 to 10 volunteers to help with meal setup, serving and cleanup. Volunteers can conveniently sign up online or at the welcome center. All that's needed is a serving heart. Sign up today! If you have questions about Faith's Hesed House ministry, please reach out to the ministry team at hesedhouse@discoveringfaith.com.

FALL FEST IS COMING

Sun 10/25 | 3:30 PM

On Sunday, October 25, we're celebrating the season with some fall-tastic fun. Mega Awesome Costume Party for preschool & elementary kids—prizes, games, inflatables, food vendors, and all the fall vibes! It's going to be a Sunday full of fun, community, and memories you won't want to miss. Grab your crew, plan your costumes, and join us for Fall Fest at Faith!

Giving at Faith! As Easy as Click & Give



As followers of Jesus Christ, we embrace irrational generosity. We know it changes lives—ours and the people we're reaching. At Faith, taking action on your generosity is simple. Just scan the QR code with your camera and give. Simple, safe, and secure.



Pastor Rob Douglas
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