



First Sunday in Lent
8:00 am worship service

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

February 21, 2021

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: KINGDOM COME

We often read the Bible for application, inspiration, or direction. However, there are times when the author wants to simply point the reader to a big idea—an idea that fits with God's grand story. In the Gospel of Mark, we read about Peter's experience with Jesus that led Peter to believe in one big idea: the kingdom of God has come, and everyone is invited to participate.

The Gathering

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the keeper of the covenant,
the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

C Amen.

P God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return
to the one who is full of compassion.

P Fountain of living water,
pour out your mercy over us.
Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.
Rebuild what we have ruined
and mend what we have torn.
Wash us in your cleansing flood.
Make us alive in the Spirit
to follow in the way of Jesus,
as healers and restorers of the world you so love.

C Amen.

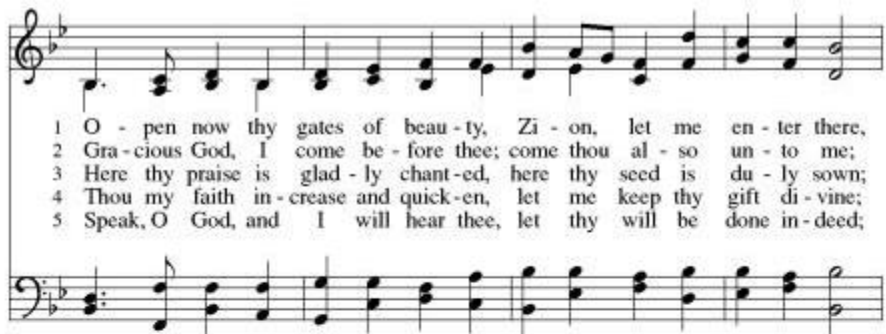
P Beloved, God's word never fails.
The promise rests on grace:
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,
the wisdom and power of God,
your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
Journey in the way of Jesus.

C Amen.

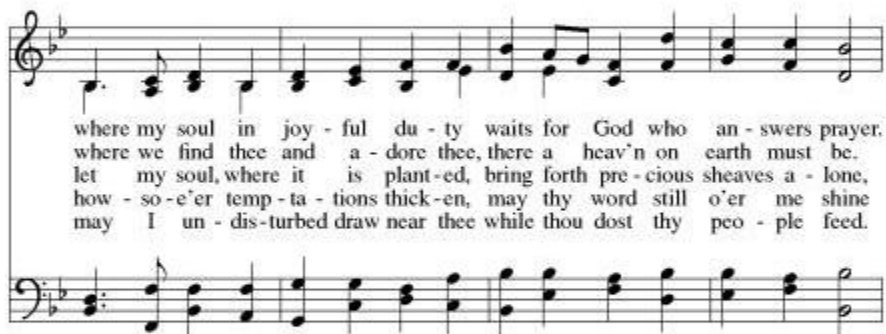
OPENING HYMN

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty | ELW #533

please stand



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



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



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

GREETING

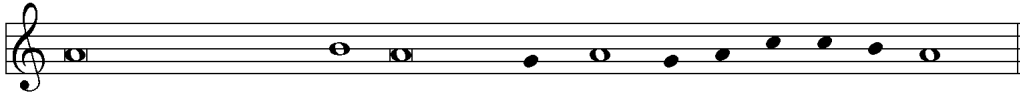
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE



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



A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



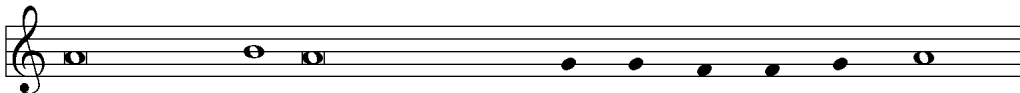
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,

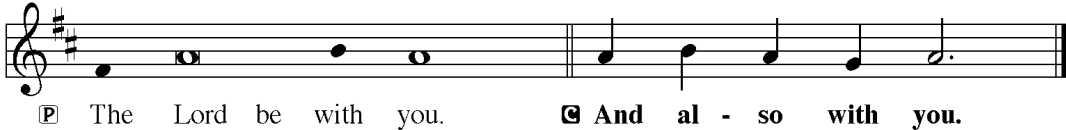


let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **G** A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY



P: Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Word

FIRST READING

Genesis 9:8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:18-22

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

LENTEN VERSE *please stand*



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful,



slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in stead - fast love.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 2nd chapter.



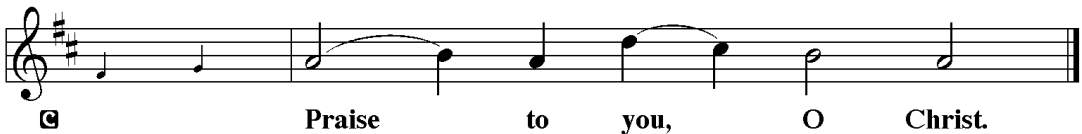
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Mark 2: 13-17

Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in Levi’s house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples—for there were many who followed him. When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, “Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?” When Jesus heard this, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

Missing the Mark | Pastor Rob

HYMN OF THE DAY

When Morning Gilds the Skies | ELW #853

please stand

1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries:
2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:
3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heav'n is known
4 Let all of hu - man - kind in this their con - cord find:
5 Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, all who see his face,

may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning shad - ows fall,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer
than "Je - sus Christ be praised!" There to the e - ter - nal Word
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
sing, "Je - sus Christ be praised!" God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,

this rings my cur - few call; may Je - sus Christ be praised!
has none that can com - pare with "Je - sus Christ be praised!"
the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: oh, Je - sus Christ be praised!
ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
to - day and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need

P: In Jesus your realm has come near to us in every place and time. Give your church throughout the world a spirit of humility and repentance; teach us to trust always in the good news of your salvation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You have made a covenant of mercy with every living creature. Protect all the earth's creatures from destruction. Empower the work of biologists, conservationists, and science educators. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: All your paths are steadfast love and faithfulness. Direct the words and actions of leaders in our community and throughout the world, that they may maintain justice for the lowly. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Even in the wilderness you are with us. Walk alongside migrants and refugees crossing dangerous lands. Tend to those whose lives feel desolate. Give healing and strength to all who suffer. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: In the covenant of baptism you claim us as beloved children. Nurture us in our baptismal identity and teach us to live within it for the sake of others. Strengthen this congregation's ministries of care and concern. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: (Prayers of the community), Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

The Sending

BLESSING

P: You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you † that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing | ELW #545

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing'. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,

let us each, your love pos - sess - ing, tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace.
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.

Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN SEASON

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues; to receive the gifts of God's grace; to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus; and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we will embark. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

MIDWEEK LENT WORSHIP

Begins Weds 2/24 | 7:00 PM

We want to invite you to our midweek lenten worship event that will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm. This 30 minute, interactive, online Zoom gathering will be filled with music, a message, worship and prayer. Following the service we'll host a virtual coffee hour where you'll have the chance to connect with other.

MIDWEEK LENT WORSHIP SERIES - I QUIT

Weds 2/24 – 3/24 | 7:00 PM

Fed up with the status quo? The way things are isn't the way things have to be. Come see what happens when we're ready to say, "I quit." Join us Wednesdays at 7:00PM during the season of lent as we look at letting go of four habits that keep us from experiencing the life God has for us. This series is about learning to do less so that we can experience more!

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Tuesdays | 7:00 PM

30 Days to Understanding the Bible

The problem most of us have with the Bible is we never got the big picture. Master the Bible by looking at only a manageable amount of information. In 30 days, you'll have a complete understanding of the story of the Bible and the core teachings or doctrines that Christians have held onto throughout the centuries, presented in bite-sized pieces. This six-session online series is led by Pastor Rob and meets on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:00pm.

Register online: <https://faith.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/115/responses/new>

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Wednesdays | 7:00 PM

Rhythms of Renewal

Daily struggles with anxiety and stress make it difficult to receive God's peace. Rhythms of Renewal will help you trade your anxiety for the vibrant life you were meant to live through four profound rhythms: rest, restore, connect, and create. With encouraging stories and practical steps, Rebekah Lyons will help you begin an intentional, lifelong journey toward sustained emotional, relational, and spiritual health. Rebekah shares a pathway to establish four life-giving rhythms that quiet inner chaos and make room for a flourishing life. This five-session online series is led by Pastor Rob and meets on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:00pm. Register online: <https://faith.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/116/responses/new>

REVOLUTION ONLINE

Sundays | 5:00 & 6:00 PM

God is good, and He is with us in everything! We want our students to know that, trust that, and experience that every moment of their lives. Our fall groups for middle & high school students have begun. These 45 minute gatherings will allow our students to connect with each other and with God, and grow in their faith. This will be a fun, and engaging opportunity for your child to connect with others during this confusing time, where they will find encouragement, support, and growth.

KIDWERKS LIVE

Sundays | 10:30 AM

We've changed to a new time and a new engaging format to help our kids connect with God and with each other. Every Sunday morning kids are invited to connect and grow through our Kidwerks Live 2.0. This fun, interactive, event happens at our new time at 10:30am.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS REGISTRATION

We are now accepting registrations for Fall 2021.

Information and forms for registration are available on the website discoveringfaith.com under the "preschool" tab. Feel free to call the church and leave a message at ext. 103 or email jenn@discoveringfaith.com and Jenn will get back to you as soon as possible.



DISCOVERINGFAITH.COM

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