

# AMAZING STORIES

---

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
8:00 am worship service

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

July 2, 2023

## **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: Amazing Stories**

Join us for our series entitled, "Amazing Stories," where over the next few weeks, we're going to be looking at some of the more famous stories in the Bible. We'll journey with Noah, stand with David, consider Joseph's wardrobe, and watch God restore a man named Naaman. Our hope is that you don't just see these stories as cute children's stories, but as amazing stories of our amazing God.

---

# The Gathering

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING HYMN

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing | ELW #886

*please stand*

1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise,  
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,  
3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,  
4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;

the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!  
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.  
sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.  
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the final four lines. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation for the vocal line.

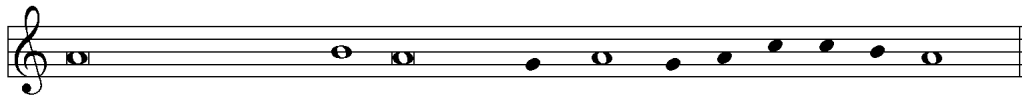
### GREETING

- 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.



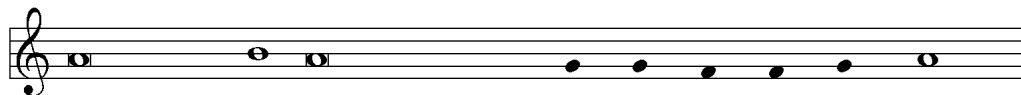
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,  
O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

---

## *The Word*

### FIRST READING

**Genesis 37: 1-8**

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Once Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. He said to them, "Listen to this dream that I dreamed. There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright; then your sheaves gathered around it, and bowed down to my sheaf." His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Are you indeed to have dominion over us?" So they hated him even more because of his dreams and his words.

## SECOND READING

**Romans 6:12-23**

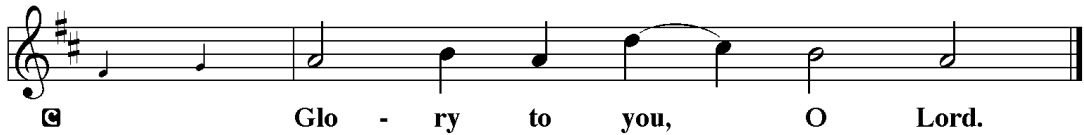
Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *please stand*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

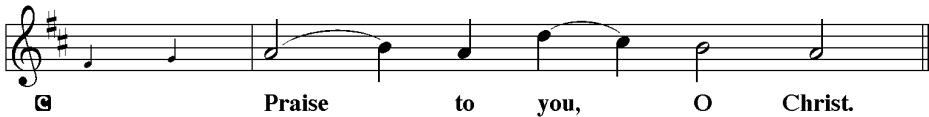


**GOSPEL**

**Matthew 10:40-42**

“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



**MESSAGE**

The Secret of the Man Who Lost His Coat | Pastor Rob



# HYMN OF THE DAY

Children of the Heavenly Father | ELW #781

please stand



*Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,*  
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;  
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.  
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;  
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



*stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.*  
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.  
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.  
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.



## 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.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

**A:** Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

**A:** We pray for the church. For wisdom to heed the voices of prophets in our midst who cast a vision of God's promised future. For courage to welcome people whom society rejects. For resolve to serve all in need. God, in your mercy,

**C:** hear our prayer.

**A:** We pray for creation. For all rivers, lakes, oceans, and streams. For lands experiencing scorching heat, drought, or wildfires. For conservation organizations and environmental activists. For scientists working on clean energy solutions. God, in your mercy,

**C:** hear our prayer.

A: We pray for this nation and all nations. For presidents, governors, and legislators. For judges, juries, district attorneys, and public defenders. For military personnel. For those who are incarcerated. Guide us in ways of freedom that promote the common good. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for those in need. For exiles, immigrants, refugees, and those seeking asylum. For victims of harassment, torture, or abuse. For those who are ill. For any near death and for all who grieve. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for children. For their safety at home and in childcare settings. For their flourishing at summer programs and camps. For the many people who care for them including parents and grandparents; childcare workers and teachers; coaches, counselors, and mentors; pediatricians and psychologists. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Gracious and loving God, we pray for the family and friends of Faith... God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

---

## *The Meal*

### **PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

### **OFFERING**

## OFFERING RESPONSE *please stand*



☐ Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.


## OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A: God of field and forest, sea and sky,  
you are the giver of all good things.  
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,  
and multiply your graciousness in us,  
that the world may be fed with your love,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C: Amen.


## GREAT THANKSGIVING



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



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



**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary . . .we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



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.

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

P: 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.

### **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**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: All people are called to Christ's table.  
Come, eat what is good.

**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 the usher stand, please ask an usher to assist you.*

**C** 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.

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

**C:** Amen.

**C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.  
He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with  
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*please stand*

A: We thank you, generous God,  
for the refreshment we have received  
at your banquet table.  
Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,  
through the one who is our dearest treasure,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

---

## *The Sending*

### **BLESSING**

P: The God who calls across the cosmos  
and speaks in the smallest seed  
† bless, keep, and sustain you  
now and to the end of the age.

**C: Amen.**



## CLOSING HYMN

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies | ELW #888

*please stand*



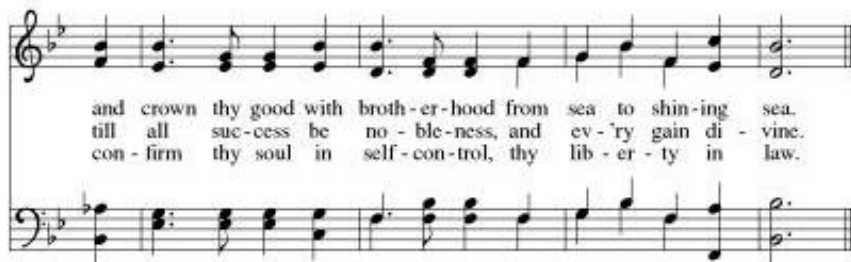
1 O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, for am-ber waves of grain,  
2 O beau-ti-ful for he-roes proved in lib-er-at-ing strife,  
3 O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream that sees be-yond the years



for pur-ple moun-tain maj-es-ties a-bove the fruit-ed plain:  
who more than self their coun-try loved, and mer-cy more than life:  
thine al-a-bas-ter cit-ies gleam, un-dimmed by hu-man tears:



A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed his grace on thee,  
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-fine,  
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God mend thine ev-ry flaw,



and crown thy good with broth-er-hood from sea to shin-ing sea.  
till all suc-cess be no-ble-ness, and ev-ry gain di-vine.  
con-firm thy soul in self-con-trol, thy lib-er-ty in law.

## DISMISSAL

**A:** Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**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!

### **VBS -Stellar**

**7/10 - 7/14 | 9:00 AM**

Join us at Stellar VBS, where we'll explore rugged moonscapes, colorful constellations, and lunar landers as we dig into God's great love! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of God's love, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos they'll take home and play with all summer long. For more information contact [jenn@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:jenn@discoveringfaith.com) or register online at [discoveringfaith.com](http://discoveringfaith.com)

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

- The children's ministry team is looking for volunteers to join us for VBS this summer, July 10-14. We are looking for both teen and adult volunteers for the week. Please contact [jenn@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:jenn@discoveringfaith.com) if you're interested in serving this summer!

### **DOWNTOWN ALIVE!**

**Concerts at RiverEdge in Aurora | 8:00 PM**

**7<sup>th</sup> Heaven Fri 7/7 \$5**

**Stayin' Alive Sat 8/5 \$20**

We're gathering inside the park in the grass closer to the river. We'll be flying red balloons to make it easier to find us. Tickets must be purchased at RiverEdge Park website. All general admission. No seating provided. Gates open at 6:00 PM. Come join us!

### **KIDWERKS Summer Schedule**

**Sundays at 9:30am**

July: 2, 16 & 30

August 13 & 27

We will continue to meet this summer every other week in the auditorium. Join us for a summer of fun and learning! To register go to [discoveringfaith.com](http://discoveringfaith.com) or for more information please contact [jenn@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:jenn@discoveringfaith.com)

## **REVOLUTION Summer Schedule**

**Sundays at 5:00 PM**

Get ready for our summer adventure at Revolution. We are going to be meeting weekly for Revolution starting on Sunday, July 9th, from 5:00 - 6:30pm. Our kickoff night will include some extreme outdoor games, food hot off the grill, and a raffle for some awesome prizes. Our summer Revolution will run July 9 - August 6th, and will include the same games, groups, and food that we enjoy during the school year. So, drop it in your calendar, and invite your friends!

## **NEXT**

**Sun 7/16 | 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 we call NEXT. This informal gathering lasts only about 20 minutes. It 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 at the church after each service.

## **BLOOD DRIVE**

**Sat 8/5 | 9:00AM**

We will be hosting a Blood Drive on Sat, August 5 from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM in the auditorium. There will be snacks and more! Download the flyer from the Faith website [discoveringfaith.com](http://discoveringfaith.com) for complete details, including how to schedule an appointment. Thank you!

## **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

DISCOVERINGFAITH.COM

3000 LIBERTY ST. AURORA, IL. 60502 | (630) 862-3500 | [OFFICE@DISCOVERINGFAITH.COM](mailto:OFFICE@DISCOVERINGFAITH.COM)