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Easter Sunday

6:30 & 8:00 AM Worship Celebration

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

**Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.**

March 31, 2024

## **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.

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# The Gathering

## MUSICAL PRELUDE

### EASTER LITANY *please stand*

P: The Lord is risen!

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

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**C: His steadfast love endures forever.**

P: The Lord is risen indeed! And because he lives, we too shall Live! Remember how he told you that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.

**C: Look! He is no longer here. The tomb of death is empty!**

P: He is risen indeed! And because he lives, we too shall live!

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

P: The Lord's mighty arm has triumphed; his power has brought us victory!

**C: I will not die but live, and proclaim what the Lord has done.**

P: The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces.

Death shall be no more.

**C: Let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation!**

P: The Lord is risen!

**C: He has risen indeed!**

# EASTER HYMN

Jesus Christ is Risen Today | ELW #365

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

## EASTER GREETING & WELCOME

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### *The Word*

#### FIRST READING

**Acts 10: 34-43**

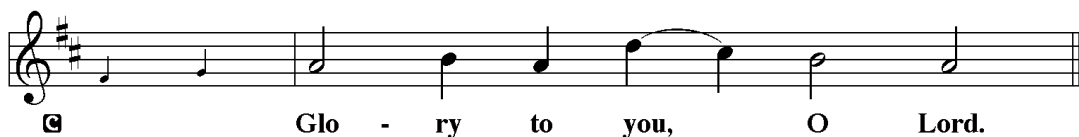
Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

## SECOND READING

## 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

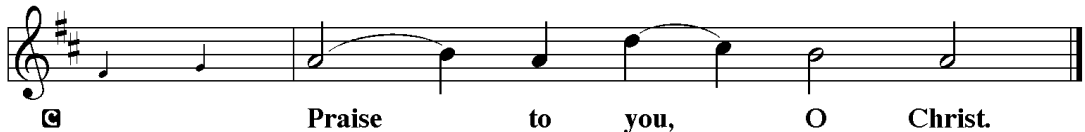


## GOSPEL

Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



## MESSAGE

New Beginnings | Pastor Rob Douglas

# HYMN OF THE DAY

I Know That My Redeemer Lives! | ELW #619

*please stand*

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -  
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to  
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,  
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort  
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.  
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.  
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.



## THE PRAYERS

A: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A: Holy God, we pray for the body of Christ, the church. Where the church is persecuted, protect it. Where the church is privileged, grant it humility. Where the church is fractured, heal it. Guide us all to embody Christ's love in the world. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Life-giving God, we pray for the earth, your good creation. Join our prayers with branches lifted in praise and roaring waters of new life, that together we may proclaim Easter hope. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Merciful God, we pray for all peoples and nations. Free oppressed communities from occupation, exploitation, and abuse. Teach leaders your way of justice. Empower peacemakers and all who work to end violence and strife. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Liberating God, we pray for people everywhere who long for good news. Roll away the stones that keep people from living with dignity and wholeness. Breathe new life and hope into people struggling to make it through each day. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Loving God, we pray for this community of faith and for your Spirit in our midst. Feed us at your Easter table and fill us with your wisdom, that we may serve and care for others. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Eternal God, we remember those who have gone before us in death. Renew our trust in your promises, that we live with joyful courage and compassion. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

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.**

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## The Meal

### PEACE

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.**

### OFFERING

#### OFFERING RESPONSE *please stand*



☞ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. 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 dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

A: 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**

## EASTER COMMUNION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: God of Easter, in the presence of this bread, we lift our voices in praise. We see the bread in all its glory and power, grateful that the resurrection of our Lord has stamped it with the emblem of eternity. As the tomb is empty and the bread of his table is filled, breathe into all who break it, a rebirth of the majesty and mystery of Easter.

C: **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...**

P: Take and eat: this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. God of life, may the beauty of this Easter day bring us to this cup with open hearts. May the majesty of this day bring us to this cup with open minds. May the truth of this day bring us to the cup with willing hands. You have blessed this cup with the power of Easter. Touch our lives with the gift of your grace.

C: **Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying...**

P: 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: Therefore, gracious Father, 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.

### **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: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

*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.*

COMMUNION HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns | ELW #855

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,  
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,  
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave  
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,

hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
 whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;  
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.  
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,  
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem,  
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright,  
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**A:**     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.**

## **BLESSING**

**P:**     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.**

CLOSING HYMN

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds | ELW #367



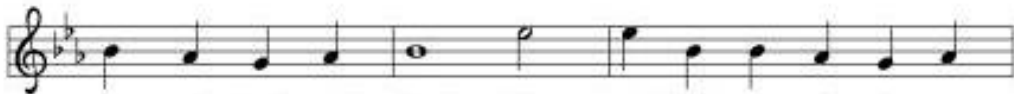
1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has  
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has  
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he  
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 strife, "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## **DISMISSAL**

**A:** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C:** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **POSTLUDE**



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## 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!

### **MOM'S GROUP: A Moment for Mom**

**Sat 4/13 | 10:00 AM**

We are hosting moms of children infants-elementary school 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 building your mom village along the way. Our group meets the 2nd Saturday of each month, through May, 10:00 AM - 12:15 PM. For more information about our guest speaker and topic lineup, and to register for events, please visit [www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom](http://www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom).

### **KIDWERKS**

**Sundays at 9:30 AM**

Join us as we dive into learning about new virtues each month through stories from the bible so that we can grow in our understanding and relationship with God. For more information please contact [jenn@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:jenn@discoveringfaith.com)

### **REVOLUTION**

**Sundays | 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!

### **NEXT**

**Sun 4/21 | 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

## **VBS -Scuba**

**7/8 - 7/12/24 | 9:00 AM**

Join us at Scuba VBS, where kids will dive deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. At Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about! 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)

## **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.

**Easter flowers decorating the sanctuary are given by the following members to the Glory of God and:**

In memory of Elvira Besco from Bri Ardelean 1 lily  
In celebration of our family & grandkids from Dennis & Karen Banschbach 1 mum  
Jill, Andrew, Cole, Tyler and Mason & Jeff, Heather, Alex and Evalynn  
In memory of Martin & Dorothy Banschbach from Dennis & Karen Banschbach 1 daffodil  
In memory of Allan & Doris Johnson from Dennis & Karen Banschbach 1 tulip  
To the Glory of God from Mark & Sue Boozell 1 lily  
In memory of Cal & Kathryn Caldwell from Laurel Caldwell 2 tulips  
In memory of grandmother Theresa K Caruso from Theresa Caruso 1 tulip  
In memory of Gary Cowan from Jeff Cowan 3 hyacinth  
In memory of Renita McCarty from Scott Farnum 2 tulips, 2 mums 1 lily  
In memory of Jim Bush, Michael & Vivian Hogan from Kevin & Kristin Hogan 1 daffodil, 1 tulip  
In memory of Patty Lariviere from John Lariviere 1 hyacinth  
To the Glory of God from John Miller 1 hyacinth  
In celebration of Easter! from Nancy Miller 1 daffodil  
In memory of our parents from Gerry & Nan Noack 1 hyacinth  
In memory of our parents from Randy & Bonnie Schumacher 1 hyacinth  
In memory of Cathy Johnston, Peggy Wojtak, Sally Gyannpoulas from Gail Secor  
1 mum, 2 hyacinth, 1 daffodil, 1 tulip  
In memory of our loved ones from the Spears Family 1 hyacinth  
In celebration of our risen Lord & Savior Jesus Christ from Christine Wagenknecht 1 daffodil  
In memory of Mary Larson, Muriel Weigel, Lu Weigel, Keith Lite and Don Neff  
from Gary & Linda Weigel 1 lily, 1 hyacinth, 1 daffodil, 1 tulip, 2 mums  
In memory of parents Charlotte & Gordon Becker from Paula Zastrow 1 lily

**You are welcome to take your flowers after the 9:30 Easter service.**



Pastor Rob Douglas  
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