



Time After Pentecost
8:00 am worship service

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

September 6, 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.

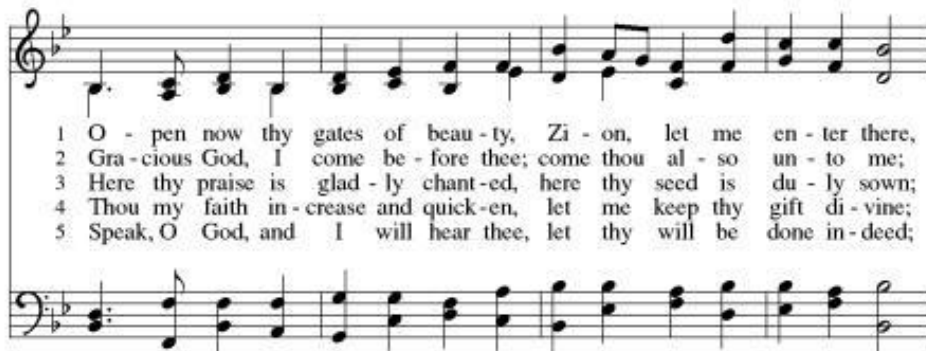
The Gathering

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

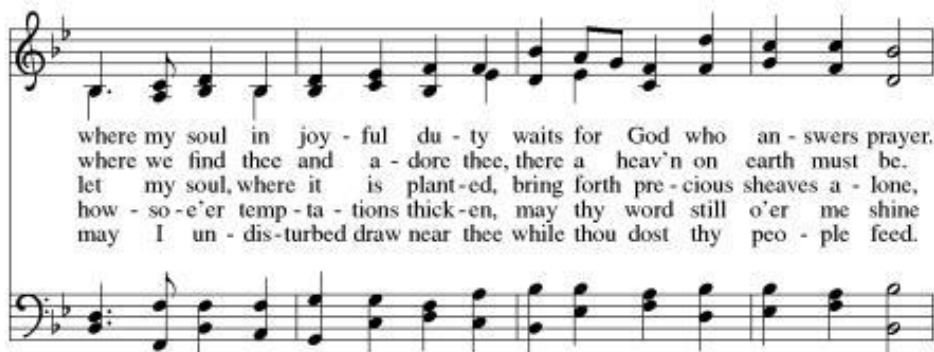
OPENING HYMN

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.

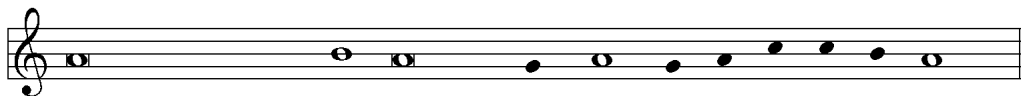
C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



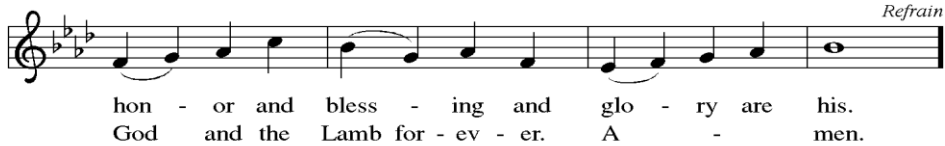
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy.
Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is
harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Word

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 33:7-11

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 13: 1-3

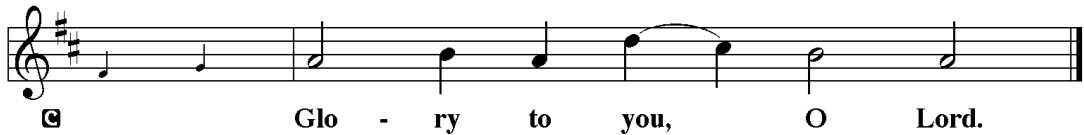
If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

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 18th chapter.

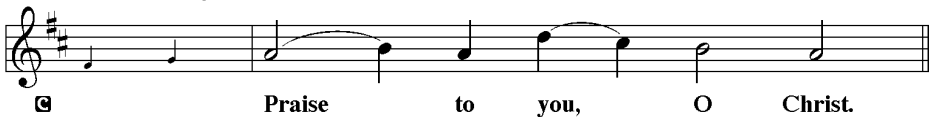


GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

Everything – Love= Nothing | Pastor Rob

HYMN OF THE DAY

Abide with Me | ELW #629

please stand



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness;
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A: Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce the words you give us. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the good of all who labor. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news known even through our imperfections. 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: Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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*



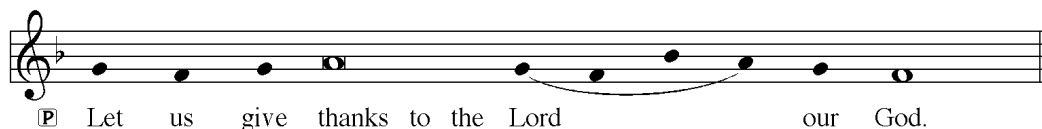
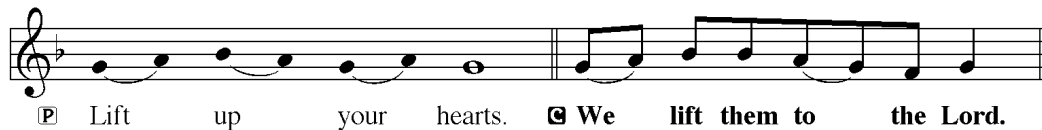
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: God of 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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



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**

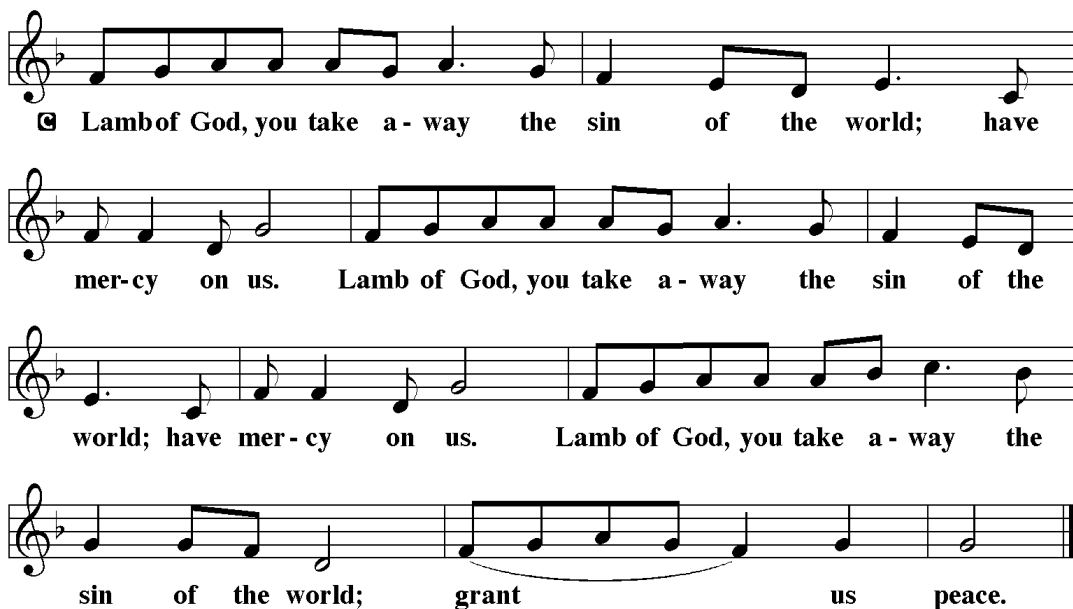
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!
C: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

AN INVITATION

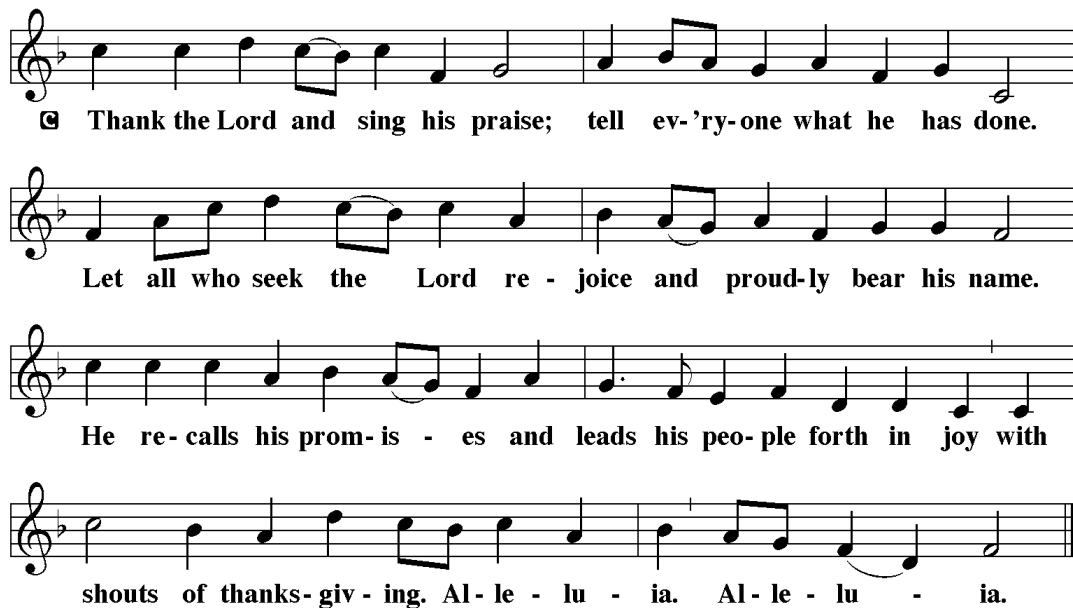
We invite you to share in Holy Communion this morning, regardless of your church background or lack thereof. We believe that God is present in the bread and wine as it becomes the body and blood of Jesus Christ and that this presence is a gift of grace in the lives of those who receive it. All are welcomed 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 the usher stand, please ask an usher to assist you.



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.**



Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice 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: 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**

The Sending

BLESSING

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of grace † bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing| ELW #543

please stand



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for-ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

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 9/6 | 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.

TUESDAY AM WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Begins 9/8 | 9:00 AM

The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study will resume their weekly meetings at the church on September 8 at 9:00 a.m. This fall the group will be 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.

MENS COMMUNITY GROUP

Sat 9/12 | 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 9/12 | 10:00 AM

A Moment for Mom will hold an Open House on Saturday, September 12th at 10:00 AM. Donuts and coffee will be served. Bring your kids to play on our playground and you can learn what we are all about.

STUDENT MINISTRIES ORIENTATION MEETING

Sun 9/13 | 10:45 AM

All 6th – 12th grade students and their parents are invited to attend the orientation meeting for Revolution, on Sunday, Sept 13 @ 10:45am in the sanctuary. Come learn about the exciting events planned for this year. Our program, events, mission trip 2027, Middle School Summer Camp 2027, and expectations for our Crossroads/Confirmation program will be covered. For more information contact Pastor Rob.

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Begins 9/15 | 7:15 PM

Drive Through History: Temple, Cross and the Empty Tomb

In a style all his own, Dave Stotts—host and editor of Drive Thru History—speeds through the ancient world of the Bible, giving you a fast-paced encounter with the people, places, and events that have shaped our world and the Christian faith.

In this 3-week study, the group will be following and discussing Dave's journey from Jerusalem to Calvary.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Weds 9/16 | 7:15 PM

This is a wonderful volunteer opportunity to help out in our community. We will be packing meals on Wednesday, September 16. Sign up at www.discoveringfaith.com. All volunteers need to sign up before September 7. Check out the volunteering policies before signing up!

COMPASSION WEEKEND IS COMING!

September 18-20

Save the date and get ready to get your serve on at Faith's 13th annual Compassion Weekend. We'll be rolling up our sleeves and heading out to partner with organizations and projects that make a real impact on the lives of people in our community. As part of our serving weekend, we want to extend care and love to those in need in our very own neighborhoods. If you, or someone you know, is in need of any help with projects/tasks around their home you are encouraged to visit www.discoveringfaith.com/compassionweekend where you can submit that need. From cutting lawns, to painting, to yard work, our Compassion Weekend Team would like to help our neighbors on that weekend.

WATOTO CHILDREN'S CHOIR CONCERT

Fri 9/18 | 7:00 PM

"LOVE NEVER FAILS" A Vibrant Worship Experience

The Sound of a Transformed Generation

All the way from Uganda, East Africa, we're excited to bring you the Watoto Children's Choir performing songs from their brand-new album, "Love Never Fails". As the children sing, dance, and share their personal stories of hope, you'll see firsthand the power of God's unfailing love.

Watoto Children's Choirs have traveled the world for over three decades, declaring the good news of what Jesus has done in their lives. Our children have performed for Her Majesty the Queen, the President of the United States, and almost every major parliament in the world.

Yet, as remarkable as those moments have been, we cherish the times we've met ordinary people in their moment of pain and have been able to see firsthand how Jesus heals. As people meet our children from Uganda, with their hearts healed and their dreams restored, they can't help but realize that God loves them too.

Don't miss out! This one-of-a-kind experience will inspire and encourage you, your family, and your friends. Other than traveling to Africa yourself, what better way to learn about all the good work God is doing through Watoto than by meeting the children and hearing how the love of Jesus transformed their lives.

Outdoor Sunday Worship

Sun 9/20 | 9:30 AM

Sunday, September 20, we'll be meeting outdoors at 9:30 AM for only one worship service. No 8:00 AM service. Bring your lawn chair or blanket and join us on the lawn. We'll have some outdoor seating as well. You can also attend from your car by tuning into FM 88.3. We'll be live streaming this service as well, if you're unable to make it in person. Come join us!

REVOLUTION KICK OFF

Sun 9/20 | 5:00 PM

Put it on the calendar and get ready for a great new year of outrageous games, extraordinary worship, and engaging groups as we gather on Sunday Nights for our Student Ministries. Students, 6th-12th grade, are invited to attend this engaging night of growing as followers of Jesus. Student ministries meets the first and third Sundays of the month. Register today at www.discoveringfaith.com/students.

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.

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

PROJECT 3:23 COMING SOON!

A new monthly group for men in their 20s, 30s, and 40s. Inspired by Colossians 3:23, Project 3:23 is designed to bring men together through Service, Social, and Support—creating opportunities to serve others, build genuine friendships, and support one another through every season of life. No pressure, no special skills required, and no major time commitment—just a chance to show up, connect, and do something meaningful together. More details coming soon!

FAITHFUL FOUNDATIONS CAMPAIGN

Our 2026 Faithful Foundations campaign aims to raise \$75,000 for Faith. Our building and grounds are 18 years old and need some tender loving care.

The goal for this fundraising campaign is to:

- Repair and Upgrade our HVAC units.
- Improve our parking lot.
- Upgrades to our building's interior painting, furniture, light fixtures and improvements to our auditorium.
- Landscaping around the church.
- Signage at the parking lot entrance.

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