

THIS IS US

THE CHURCH FAMILY

Invite | Grow | Serve

13th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Aug 27, 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: THIS IS US

Welcome to This Is Us - We will discover and explore our church's mission, vision, and values. Together, we will explore the foundations of our faith, the heart of our community, and the purpose that drives us forward. Whether you're a long-time member of our congregation or someone new to our community, we're excited to have you join us for this engaging series.

The Gathering

OPENING SONG

Good, Good Father

Oh, I've heard a thousand stories of what they think You're like
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night
And You tell me that You're pleased and that I'm never alone

Chorus You're a good, good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

I've seen many searching for answers far and wide
But I know we're all searching for answers only You provide
'Cause You know just what we need before we say a word (*Chorus*)

You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us (*Repeat*)

Oh, this love so undeniable
I, I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable
I, I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still into love, love, love (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

Way Maker

You are here, moving in our midst
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, working in this place
I worship You, I worship You

Chorus You are way maker, miracle worker
Promise keeper, light in the darkness
My God, that is who You are

You are here, turning lives around
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, healing every heart
I worship You, I worship You (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

Refrain That is who You are That is who You are
That is who You are That is who You are

Bridge Even when I don't see it, You're working
Even when I don't feel it, You're working
You never stop, You never stop working
You never stop Jesus

(*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)
(*Refrain*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

READING

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Beautiful Savior

please stand

Beautiful Savior King of creation
Son of God and Son of Man
Truly I'd love Thee truly I'd serve Thee
Light of my soul my Joy my Crown

GOSPEL

John 13: 31-35

When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A: God of Sarah and Abraham, inspire your church to pursue righteousness in its ministry. Equip us to share your compassion that unites us as one family of faith. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Remind us that from the beginning of creation, you knit together a world meant for harmony. Protect and restore the wasted places to joy and gladness. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Stir the leaders of nations and towns, militaries and courts, to respond to your teachings. Let your call for justice reach all people and bring deliverance where there is oppression. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Show your steadfast love and faithfulness to those in despair. Increase their strength, care for all who feel low, keep safe any in the midst of trouble, and protect vulnerable people from harm. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Encourage those who offer their gifts and talents in service to your church. Energize this congregation's rostered and lay leaders, musicians, teachers, greeters, and administrators so they may be transformed in sharing your grace. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

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

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

The Meal

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

We Are an Offering

We lift our voices, we lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You, We are an offering
Lord, use our voices, Lord use our hands
Lord, use our lives, they are Yours
We are an offering!

All that we have, all that we are
All that we hope to be,
We give to You, we give to You
We lift our voices, we lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You,
We are an offering We are an offering

OFFERATORY 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**

The Meal

P: God's love for the world was so great that He gave us His Son, so that anyone who believes in Him should not die but receive eternal life.

We come to this table in need;

We are weak and need strength;

We are broken and need healing;

We are hardened and need softening;

We are poor in spirit and need care.

**C: We give thanks for Your compassion, O God;
We rejoice at Your invitation to share in this meal,
and we receive again Your abundant grace.**

P: So, let's remember how Jesus gave Himself for us;

At supper, on the night of His betrayal, Jesus took bread,

gave thanks, broke it and shared it with His friends, saying:

This is my body, given for you. Take it, eat it, and remember Me.

C: Amen.

P: After supper, Jesus took the cup,

gave thanks and shared it with His friends, saying:

This is my blood shed for you. Take it, drink it and remember Me.

C: Amen.

P: In this bread and in this wine we receive again

the generous, and costly gift of life,

offered to us through the sacrifice of Jesus.

This meal is a proclamation of God's goodness, a thanksgiving for God's grace and a sharing in God's life.

C: And we will keep celebrating in this way until Jesus returns. 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: 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 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: 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.**

CLOSING SONG

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

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!

FAITH IN ACTION TEAM

Following Jesus is what Faith is all about. He made it very clear, that if we love him, we'll love those around us. Actions speak louder than words! Our Faith In Action team is all about meeting the needs of those around us. From providing rides, dropping of meals, cutting someone's lawn, to visiting those hospitalized, or home bound, our team is here for you. If you have a need, or know of someone in need, please fill out a need request form online.

If you would like serve on the Faith In Action team, or would like more information, please email faithinaction@discoveringfaith.com. Your simple act of serving can make a huge impact!

GRIEFSHARE AT FAITH

Tuesdays | 6:30 PM

Anyone who has experienced the death of a family member or friend is invited to attend our new GriefShare series.

GriefShare is a nondenominational, biblical support group that focuses on helping people who are dealing with a loved one's death. Each DVD session features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by small group discussion about the topics presented (with workbook support). The workbook also provides a brief daily Bible study. These sessions are open to any adult regardless of whether your experience is recent or not so recent.

The group is led by individuals who have personally experienced grief due to a loved one's death. Each leader is trained in facilitating a GriefShare support group.

The \$15.00 registration fee includes materials.

To register visit www.discoveringfaith.com/griefshare

KIDWERKS Summer Schedule

Sundays at 9:30AM

August 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 or for more information please contact jenn@discoveringfaith.com

COMPASSION WEEKEND IS COMING!

September 15-17

Save the date and get ready to get your serve on at Faith's 11th annual Compassion Weekend. We'll be rolling up our sleeves and heading out to partner with organizations and projects that make a real impact in the lives of people in our community. Please see all the opportunities and sign up sheets in the café!

OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE

Sun 9/17 | 9:30 AM

Join us on Sunday, September 17th for our outdoor church service! There will be just one service that day at 9:30 AM. You are invited to worship from your car or bring a lawn chair and blankets to sit on the lawn. Don't forget to bring the whole family, including the dog!

ELCA MAUI WILDFIRE RELIEF

Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires. They will work with them to provide for immediate needs and recovery amid the widespread destruction. Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to accompanying recovering communities in the years ahead.

Please donate here: <https://community.elca.org/uswildfires>

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.

Prayers

If you would like to add someone to our prayer list and have the prayer team pray for them, please contact the church office at [\(630\) 862-3500](tel:(630)862-3500) or send an e-mail prayerteam@discoveringfaith.com

Prayer concerns will be listed for four weeks unless otherwise noted.

Care

If you know of someone who is in need of emotional, physical, or spiritual support, please contact our care team at: careteam@discoveringfaith.com

Pastoral Emergency

In the case of an emergency that requires immediate Pastoral Care, please contact Pastor Rob directly on his cell phone at [\(630\) 248-5515](tel:(630)248-5515).



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