



Fourth Sunday of Lent
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

March 15, 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: THE KINGDOM OF GOD

The writers of the New Testament consistently pointed out that Jesus's primary role was a king who had come to establish God's kingdom on earth. And everyone is invited to participate in it.

The Gathering

Hosanna, Praise is Rising

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You We turn to You
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You We long for You

Pre-Chorus Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day
In Your presence all our fears are washed away Washed away

Chorus Hosanna, Hosanna
You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna, Hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome you here, Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You We turn to You
In your kingdom, broken lives are made new You make us new

(Pre-Chorus) (Chorus)

(Pre-Chorus) (Pre-Chorus)

(Chorus) (Chorus)

Here I Am to Worship

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus Here I am to worship
 Here I am to bow down
 Here I am to say that You're my God
 You're altogether lovely
 Altogether worthy
 Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor *(Chorus)*

I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross *(Repeat)*
(Chorus) (Chorus)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

for once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

RESPONSE

Come Let Us Worship & Bow Down

please stand

Come let us worship and bow down
Let us kneel before the Lord,
Our God, our Maker Come let us worship and bow down
Let us kneel before the Lord, Our God, our Maker

For He is our God
And we are the people of His pasture
And the sheep of His hand And the sheep of His hand

GOSPEL

Matthew 6: 25-33

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

MESSAGE

Beyond Pledging Allegiance | Pastor Rob

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- A: Reconciled by God’s mercy and sustained by God’s presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.
- A: God, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead Christians in our community and across the globe in right paths for your name’s sake. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: God our provider, we cry out for this planet and the life it holds. Rescue endangered animals and plants, preserve threatened ecosystems, and save creatures from natural disasters. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**

A: God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all. 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: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

Holy, Holy, Holy

please stand

Holy holy holy Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning Our song shall rise to Thee
Holy holy holy Merciful and mighty
God in three persons Blessed Trinity

OFFERATORY PRAYER

A: O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.
Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

The Meal

P: The earth is the Lord's and everything in it,
The trees of the field clap their hands,
the birds of the air sing songs of praise.
And so, we lift up our hearts, and we lift up our voices
And we offer thanksgiving and adoration to the Lord the Creator of all.

Blessed are you, Sovereign of the Universe, for from seeds sown into the earth you have given us the gift of bread to feed and nourish us. And at Jesus' last meal with his friends, before facing the cross, Our Lord took bread, blessed it and broke it. Then he passed it among them saying:

**C: This is my body, broken for you.
Take and eat, and do this to remember me.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign of the Universe,
for from grapes which grow ripe and sweet on the vine,
you have given us the gift of wine to refresh and heal us.
And at Jesus' last meal with his friends before facing the cross,
Our Lord took the cup of wine and blessed it.
Then he passed it among them saying:

**C: This is my blood shed for you.
Take and drink, and do this to remember me.**

And now we come to your table again, Jesus,
Mindful of how you laid your life down,
so that we and creation could be born anew;
Mindful of how you took your life up again,
so that we and creation could be filled with your abundant life.
May your Spirit work in these fruits of earth,
so that they may become for us a sharing in Christ's body and blood.
May your Spirit work in us, so that we may be transformed into Christ's
body, carrying his life, his care, and his salvation to all creation.

C: 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: Come to the table.

Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

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: God of our salvation,
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

Only King Forever

Our God and firm foundation
Our rock the only solid ground
As nations rise and fall
Kingdoms once strong now shaken
We trust forever in Your name
The name of Jesus
We trust in the name of Jesus

Chorus You are the only King forever
Almighty God we lift You higher
You are the only King forever
Forevermore You are victorious *(Repeat)*

Unmatched in all Your wisdom
In love and justice You will reign
And every knee will bow
We bring our expectations
Our hope is anchored in Your name
The name of Jesus
We trust the name of Jesus *(Chorus)*

We lift our banner high
We lift the name of Jesus
From age to age You reign
Your kingdom has no end *(Repeat) (Chorus)*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

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!

LENTEN MIDWEEK MEAL

Wednesdays | 6:30 PM

Each Lenten season we provide a fellowship opportunity for people of faith to gather around a table and share a meal at 6:30PM. This meal is intended to be simple and provide some time for us to slow down and care for one another. Everyone who attends shares in the responsibility of providing different components for the meal. Volunteers sign up each week to provide a gallon of soup for the evening. The remainder of the attendees provide either bread or cookies. Beverages and table service will be provided.

The Lenten Meal will be offered at 6:30 PM on Wednesdays: 3/18, 3/25

Our worship series begins after this fellowship time at 7:15PM. Sign up at the welcome center or online at www.discoveringfaith.com

MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP “The Way of the Cross”

Wednesdays | 7:15 PM

In Jesus' day the cross was a symbol of suffering and shame. Join us for our midweek Lenten series where we'll talk about how it now represents an empowering invitation to a completely different way of life.

GIVING HOPE PROJECT

Our Faith community is partnering with Sharing Connections to help individuals and families who need basic supplies and furnishings. Veterans, Homeless transitioning to housing, Abuse/Domestic Violence victims and others in need. If you have gently used furniture, household items, seasonal clothing, or would like to help financially, please consider giving.

THIS Saturday March 21st from 8:00-10:30AM is the LAST day to drop off donations.

If you have registered online for furniture to be picked up, we will contact you this week.

Volunteers are needed to pick up furniture and deliver all our donations to the warehouse in Downers Grove. Please volunteer by going to the link below. Or to find out what you can donate.

Thank you for your contributions to help our neighbors in need.

For all details visit www.discoveringfaith.com/thegivinghopeproject

EGG STUFFING PARTY

Wed 3/18 & 3/25 | 7:30 PM

Come join the fun and help make our egg drop a huge success. Volunteers are needed to stuff eggs. We will be having an Egg Stuffing Party in the cafe on Wednesday evenings 7:30-9:00 PM. Come join the fun! For more information contact the church office.

CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED

Individually wrapped bite size candy donations are needed to fill our 15,000 eggs! If you are able to donate some bags of candy, please drop them off at the welcome center.

WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Mon 3/23 | 7:15 PM

Unfolding over 6 sessions, Nicki Koziarz walks women through the Book of Ruth, focusing on the Moabite woman's 5 practical habits that kept her eyes on God: Ruth accepted the assignment of refinement, followed through on her commitments despite her feelings, remained open to the movement of God, gave others what she needed, and moved forward in faith. Meeting Mondays at Faith Mar 9 & 23

EASTER FLOWERS

Orders Due Mar 22

Once again a variety of spring flowers will be offered to adorn our altar for the Easter services. If you would like to honor the memory of a loved one or just celebrate the Glory of God please fill out an order form and place it in the offering plate or in the church office. Order forms available ONLY at the welcome center- no online ordering.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Weds 3/25

This is a wonderful volunteer opportunity to help out in our community. We will be packing meals on Wednesday, March 25th. Sign up online at www.discoveringfaith.com. All volunteers need to sign up before March 15th. Check out the volunteering policies before signing up!

Each day our partners distribute FMSC meals in schools, orphanages, clinics and feeding programs around the world to deliver hope and break the cycle of poverty.

REVOLUTION

Sun 3/15 & 4/19 | 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! Meets 1st and 3rd Sundays in the auditorium. Register online- discoveringfaith.com

FIRST COMMUNION WORKSHOP

Sun 3/22 | 3:00 PM

For those parents who feel their elementary school-aged child is ready to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion, you are encouraged to attend our First Communion workshop. This learning event is intended to be a time for both the parents and the child to discover the gracious gift of God's love and mercy that comes to us through this meal. The children who participate in this workshop will celebrate their First Communion at the Maundy Thursday service on April 2, at 7:00 p.m. For further information, contact Pastor Rob at pastor@discoveringfaith.com. Sign up today at the welcome center.

TUESDAY AM WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Begins 3/17 | 9:00 AM

It's Good to Be Queen by Liz Curtis Higgs

This book chronicles the Queen of Sheba's intentional journey to seek wisdom from a godly source, King Solomon, and challenges the readers to become as bold, gracious and wise as the Queen. The workbook will be made available at the meetings (\$12). It is also available in Kindle format. For additional information contact Sue Boozell at sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com.

HELICOPTER DROPPED EASTER EGG HUNT

Sat 4/4 | 11:00 AM

Be a part of the excitement!

Join us for our Annual Easter Egg Drop on April 4th, at 11:00am. This event has become an anticipated community event which all of our friends in the Fox Valley look forward to each year. While it is intended to bring focus to Faith and celebrate the renewal of spring time and the blessings of Easter...it is also a magical day in which children revel in the excitement and anticipation of the Easter Bunny and all of his goodies... which is magnified by the special delivery from a helicopter!

This event is only possible by the many gifted volunteers who help prepare the entire experience. Volunteer opportunities include the stuffing thousands of eggs, set up, traffic directors, music, photography, leaders and tear down. There is no doubt YOU have something to offer! You may sign up to volunteer online or at the welcome center.

Parking passes can be purchased through Eventbrite on our website. There are a limited amount of on-site parking passes but additional parking will be available at Young Elementary School on Liberty Street, just down from the church. There will be bus transportation to and from the school. Volunteers are asked to park at Young Elementary.

Visit: www.discoveringfaith.com.

Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to this incredible event!

HOLY WEEK 2026

Maundy Thursday

April 2 | 7:00 PM

Good Friday

April 3 | 12:00 PM, 7:00 PM

Easter Celebration Worship

Sunday April 5 | 6:30, 8:00, 9:30 AM

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Tuesdays | 7:00 PM

The Case for Easter

In this four-session video Bible study, you'll examine the story around the resurrection of Jesus and how you can know it's true.

The Case for Easter will invite you to examine what you believe about the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and determine what you believe about the most important questions of the Christian faith.

This 4-week online study is facilitated by Becky Marchiando. Please register below so that we may send you Zoom credentials required to participate and come join us!

A MOMENT FOR MOM

Sat 4/11 | 10:00 AM

A Moment for Mom is a group for moms of kiddos ages 0-10 that meets the 2nd Saturday each month through May 2026. Sessions provide a delicious breakfast and amazing speakers on topics relating to motherhood. We offer affordable childcare while you attend. Our website is ready for you to explore our speakers and costs for the 2025-2026 year. Come join us and other moms to laugh, learn, and connect. Register today and/or reach out to us for more information at www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom.

ROCKSTAR BINGO FUNDRAISER FOR TROOP 643

Sat 4/11 | 7:00PM

Bring your friends and family to this fun, musical, fundraising event hosted by Pack 643! Our Faith Lutheran Cub Scout pack 643 is hosting their 2nd annual Rockstar Bingo fundraiser. When bingo, and music come together, everyone wins! A silent auction, prizes after each round, food, drinks and a 50/50 make it a winning night for everyone! This is a perfect date night, parents' night out or fun night with co-workers!

KIDWERKS

Sundays | 9:30 AM

Join us in the auditorium 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. To register go to discoveringfaith.com or for more information please contact jenn@discoveringfaith.com PreK – 5th grade



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