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Fifth Sunday after Epiphany  
9:15 am worship service

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

February 7, 2021

## **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: KINGDOM COME**

We often read the Bible for application, inspiration, or direction. However, there are times when the author wants to simply point the reader to a big idea—an idea that fits with God's grand story. In the Gospel of Mark, we read about Peter's experience with Jesus that led Peter to believe in one big idea: the kingdom of God has come, and everyone is invited to participate.

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# The Gathering

**OPENING SONG** *please stand*

## **Build Your Kingdom Here**

Come set Your rule and reign In our hearts again  
Increase in us we pray Unveil why we're made  
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope Like wildfire in our very souls  
Holy Spirit, come invade us now We are Your Church

We need Your power in us We seek Your kingdom first  
We hunger and we thirst Refuse to waste our lives  
For You're our joy and prize To see the captive hearts released  
The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace We lay down our lives for heaven's cause  
We are Your church We pray revive this earth

Build Your kingdom here Let the darkness fear  
Show Your mighty hand Heal our streets and land  
Set Your church on fire Win this nation back  
Change the atmosphere Build Your kingdom here we pray

Unleash Your kingdom's power Reaching the near and far  
No force of hell can stop Your beauty changing hearts  
You made us for much more than this Awake the kingdom seed in us  
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ  
We are Your church  
We are the hope on earth

## **I Could Sing of Your Love Forever**

Over the mountains and the sea,  
Your river runs with love for me,  
and I will open up my heart  
and let the Healer set me free.

I'm happy to be in the truth,  
And I will daily lift my hands:  
For I will always sing of when  
Your love came down.

Chorus I could sing of Your love forever,  
I could sing of Your love forever,  
I could sing of Your love forever,  
I could sing of Your love forever,

Oh I feel like dancing  
it's foolishness I know;  
but when the world has seen the light,  
they will dance with joy,  
like we're dancing now.

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

L: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint.  
Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may  
be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our  
Savior and Lord. Amen.

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# The Word

## FIRST LESSON

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings..

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

I Love You Lord

I love you, Lord and I lift my voice  
To worship You, oh my Soul rejoice  
Take joy, my King in what You hear  
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear

## GOSPEL

Mark 12: 28-34

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’ —this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

## MESSAGE

So Close | Pastor Rob

## SPECIAL MUSIC

Reckless Love

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.
- P: For the church: for ministries of healing and wholeness, for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains, for those serving in prison ministry, for all who proclaim freedom and release in the name of Christ, let us pray.
- C: Have mercy, O God.**
- P: For creation: for insects in the grass, clouds on the mountaintops, for cattle and the rainwater they drink, for the humility to take our place among all creatures of the earth, let us pray.
- C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: For the nations: for all who lead in cities and towns, states and countries; for community organizers, school officials, and CEOs; for international health organizations, that in times of trial, fear, or hopelessness, they find freedom in service to those most in need, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: For all wearied by life's burdens: for those who are poor, for those lacking supportive relationships, for those crushed by debt, for those struggling with chronic pain or other sickness, for those exhausted from overwork or stress, and for all who cry out to you, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: For this congregation: for outreach and social ministries centered here; for parish nurses and visitors; for ministries of companionship and support, for the young people in this place who open us to new understandings, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: (Prayers of the community), let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C:** 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

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## *The Sending*

### BLESSING

**P:** God the creator strengthen you;  
Jesus the beloved fill you;  
and the Holy Spirit the comforter † keep you in peace.

**C: Amen**



## CLOSING SONG

Oh love that will not let me go  
I rest my weary soul in Thee  
I give Thee back the life I owe  
That in Thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be

Oh light that followest all my way  
I yield my flickering torch to Thee  
My heart restores its borrowed ray  
That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day  
May brighter, fairer be

Oh joy that seekest me through pain  
I cannot close my heart to Thee  
I trace the rainbow through the rain  
And feel the promise is not vain  
That morn shall tearless be

Oh cross that liftest up my head  
I dare not ask to fly from Thee  
I lay in dust's life's glory dead  
And from the ground there blossoms red  
Life that shall endless be

## DISMISSAL

**P:** Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

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

## Oh Love That Will Not Let Me Go

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## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Today! | 11:30 AM

All members are invited to attend Faith's annual congregational meeting. This year's meeting is on Zoom, a link will be sent out to members prior. Agenda items will include a review and celebration of 2020, approval of the 2021 spending plan.

### FEED THE NEED: 2021 MOBILE PACK

Sat 2/12 & 2/13

#### *Let's Work Together to Fight Hunger*

Just because there is a pandemic doesn't mean the church is closed. God calls us out to bring hope to a hurting world. You are invited to be a part of sharing that hope in a very tangible way. Faith is participating in the 2021 Feed the Need event scheduled for February 12 & 13th and here is how you can be a part of it!

#### ONE: DONATE

It takes only \$88 to feed a child for a year through Feed My Starving Children. We've set a challenge **goal for our church of \$880**. That's 10 kids that will be fed. Your generosity has never been more important. Won't you help us reach our goal?

#### TWO: VOLUNTEER

Teams of five people are invited to sign up to serve at FMSC Aurora packing center on either Friday, February 12, or Saturday, February 13. You will serve with only your team and social distancing, masks, and sanitizing measures will be in place. Gather your favorite people, grab your mask, and get ready to serve in a safe, socially distanced setting. If you would like the link to volunteer please contact the office and it can be emailed to you.

### ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Tuesdays | 7:00 PM

#### **30 Days to Understanding the Bible**

The problem most of us have with the Bible is we never got the big picture. Master the Bible by looking at only a manageable amount of information. In 30 days, you'll have a complete understanding of the story of the Bible and the core teachings or doctrines that Christians have held onto throughout the centuries, presented in bite-sized pieces. This six-session online series is led by Pastor Rob and meets on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:00pm.

Register online: <https://faith.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/115/responses/new>

## **ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP**

**Wednesdays | 7:00 PM**

### **Rhythms of Renewal**

Daily struggles with anxiety and stress make it difficult to receive God's peace. Rhythms of Renewal will help you trade your anxiety for the vibrant life you were meant to live through four profound rhythms: rest, restore, connect, and create. With encouraging stories and practical steps, Rebekah Lyons will help you begin an intentional, lifelong journey toward sustained emotional, relational, and spiritual health. Rebekah shares a pathway to establish four life-giving rhythms that quiet inner chaos and make room for a flourishing life. This five-session online series is led by Pastor Rob and meets on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:00pm. Register online: <https://faith.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/116/responses/new>

### **LET'S BUILD A SNOWMAN!**

At the next big snowfall of 3 inches or more.... Come out and build your snow-man at Faith! Snowmen can be made anywhere on the property. First come First Built! Snowmen must be tasteful and family friendly. Decorations are encouraged. Decorations must be retrieved as your snowman melts. Label your snowman so we know who built it.

## **REVOLUTION ONLINE**

**Sundays | 5:00 & 6:00 PM**

God is good, and He is with us in everything! We want our students to know that, trust that, and experience that every moment of their lives. Our fall groups for middle & high school students have begun. These 45 minute gatherings will allow our students to connect with each other and with God, and grow in their faith. This will be a fun, and engaging opportunity for your child to connect with others during this confusing time, where they will find encouragement, support, and growth.

## **KIDWERKS LIVE**

**Sundays | 10:30 AM**

We've changed to a new time and a new engaging format to help our kids connect with God and with each other. Every Sunday morning kids are invited to connect and grow through our Kidwerks Live 2.0. This fun, interactive, event happens at our new time at 10:30am.

## **BRIGHT BEGINNINGS REGISTRATION**

We are now accepting registrations for Fall 2021.

Registration for this year's clients & church members begins January 18th. There is a 5% tuition discount for church members. Registration opens to the public & alumni on Monday January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Information and forms for registration are available on the website [discoveringfaith.com](https://discoveringfaith.com) under the "preschool" tab. Feel free to call the church and leave a message at ext. 103 or email [jenn@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:jenn@discoveringfaith.com) and Jenn will get back to you as soon as possible.



Pastor Rob Douglas

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