



Second Sunday of Christmas
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Jan 4, 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: MADE FOR MORE

Just as the apostle Paul wrote to the Jesus followers in Ephesus, you were made for something more than yourself. You are God's workmanship, and you've got something to offer God's Kingdom.

The Gathering

OPENING SONG

Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)

Angels from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er all the earth
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth
Come and worship
Come and worship
Worship Christ the newborn King

Shepherds in the field abiding
Watching o'er your flocks by night
God with man is now residing
Yonder shines the infant light
Come and worship
Come and worship
Worship Christ the newborn King

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

Come and worship
Worship Christ the newborn King
God is with us even now His love is here (Repeat)

His love is here

Emmanuel Emmanuel
Emmanuel Emmanuel

Build My Life

Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You we live for You

Jesus the name above every other name
Jesus the only One who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You Oh we live for You

Chorus Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Jesus the name above every other name
Jesus the only One who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You Oh we live for You (Chorus)

And I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken (Repeat) (Chorus)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

READING

Ephesians 2: 8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them.

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

John 1: 10-18

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

A: O God, you reveal yourself wherever two or three are gathered in your name. Be with us now, not only in the infant Jesus and resurrected Christ, but in the beloved people of this assembly. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You reveal yourself in blessed diversity. Help us to look for you in people near and far, in bodies of all kinds, and in kindred young and old. Let us seek you in many places, praising you in many tongues. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You reveal yourself in new life. Support those beginning a new job, a new relationship, or a new living situation, especially those displaced because of tragedy or loss. Be with all others who need your life-giving touch this day. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You reveal yourself in holy communion. Sustain all who provide food and fellowship in this congregation and in the wider community. Make our tables signs of your welcoming presence among us. 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: With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

Give Thanks

please stand

Give thanks with a grateful heart Give thanks to the holy one

Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart Give thanks to the holy one

Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His son.

And now let the weak say I am strong Let the poor say I am rich.

Because of what the Lord has done for us

And now let the weak say I am strong Let the poor say I am rich.

Because of what the Lord has done for us

Give thanks!

OFFERATORY PRAYER

A: God of glory,
great are your wonders among us
and many are the blessings you bestow.
Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world,
that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace,
through Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

The Meal

P: You are indeed holy, O God,
the fountain of all holiness;
you bring light from darkness,
life from death,
speech from silence.

We worship you for our lives
and for the world you give us.

We thank you
for the new world to come
and for the love that will rule all in all.

We praise you for the grace
shown to Israel, your chosen,
the people of your promise:
the rescue from Egypt,
the gift of the promised land,
the memory of the ancestors,
the homecoming from exile,
and the prophets' words
that will not be in vain.

In all this we bless you
for you only-begotten Son,
who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

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.

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: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we and all who share in this bread and cup
may be united in the communion of the Holy Spirit,
may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven,
and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom,
And teach us to pray:

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: God is now in flesh appearing.
Come to the feast of joy!

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 to 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: Incarnate God, you are among us at this table.
May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts
the mystery of your presence.
Move us to discover the wonders of your love
in the everyday moments of our lives,
through Christ born in us.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord

Pre-Chorus Our God, You reign forever
Our hope, our strong Deliverer

Chorus You are the everlasting God
The everlasting God
You do not faint You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on the wings Like eagles

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord
(Pre-Chorus) (Chorus) (Chorus)

Everlasting God

DISMISSAL

P: Glory to God in the highest!
C: And peace to God's people on earth!
P: Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.
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 1/4 | 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 approximately 20 minutes and will provide you with an overview of our mission, strategy, and environment to help you determine your best next step in continuing your faith journey. Pastor Rob and Jenn Richardson, Faith's volunteer coordinator, will be on hand for conversation and to welcome you to Faith. Meets fireside.

REVOLUTION

Sun 1/4 & 1/18 | 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

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

WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Mon 1/12 | 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 Jan 12 & 26, Feb 9 & 23, Mar 9 & 23

A MOMENT FOR MOM

Sat 1/10 | 10:00 AM

JANUARY 10th, we are hosting a mom event and a child's event. For us moms our speaker Samantha McGann, LCSW will be talking about "Helping Your Littles Regulate Without Losing Your Cool ." Our children ages 0-10 will be playing in an indoor winter wonderland in our auditorium, with fun snacks, games and crafts.

Please register your children by January 2nd, so we have enough childcare workers and fun snacks. We can't wait to see you there, to get a break and for your kids to burn off energy. 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.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sun 1/25 | 10:45 AM

All members are invited to attend Faith's annual congregational meeting. Agenda items will include a review and celebration of 2025, approval of the 2026 spending plan, the election of council members and nominating committee members.

CHILI COOK OFF

Sat 1/31 | 5:00 PM

Do you make the best Chili? Don't Cook? Join us in the tasting and judge your favorite Chili! Sign up soon at the welcome center to enter your favorite Chili recipe, or to bring desserts or sides, e.g. corn bread. Open to all ages. If you're competing, please have your Chili entry at the church by 4:30 PM. Please bring any fixings for your chili, e.g. cheese, sour cream, etc. Prizes will be awarded along with bragging rights of course

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.



FAITH
Lutheran Church

Pastor Rob Douglas

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