



**don't worry.  
be happy.**

CONFIDENTLY LIVING THROUGH TROUBLED TIMES

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Time After Pentecost  
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

November 12, 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: DON'T WORRY. BE HAPPY.**

Worry—it's universal. It's as much a part of life as breathing. Yet Jesus said, Don't. Don't worry! Easier said than done. Join us as we explore all that Jesus had to say about worry. You'll discover where worry comes from, why it's so difficult to overcome, and what you can do to conquer it. We'll discover a story about a man who was challenged with a single question—a question that brought a new perspective to his worries. That question may be the key to overcoming worry in your life as well.

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# *The Gathering*

## **OPENING SONG**

### **Only King Forever**

Our God and firm foundation  
Our Rock the only solid ground  
The 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

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

## **10,000 Reasons**

*Chorus* Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing when the evening comes (*Chorus*)

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find (*Chorus*)

And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore (*Chorus*)

Worship Your holy name  
Lord I'll worship Your holy name

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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## The Word

### READING

**Amos 5:18-24**

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

In Christ Alone

*please stand*

In Christ alone, my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm

### GOSPEL

**Matthew 6: 24-34**

“No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

“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 can any of you by worrying 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 strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

## MESSAGE

A New View | Pastor Rob

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A: O God for whom we wait, come quickly to your people, bring your salvation, and center us in hope found only in you. Deepen our faith through meaningful worship and send us out with your justice and truth. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: O God for whom we watch, we glimpse your power in rushing water and your beauty in the darkening night. Restore this creation, and provide clean water to all people and animals. Save us from foolish, wasteful living. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: O God for whom we long, let justice roll down like waters on all nations. Bless citizens with wise leaders; save your children from war. We pray for the veterans of this community, that they are supported and loved. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: O God, in whom we hope, we pray for all who are in need. Provide for those who experience homelessness or hunger, support the under- or unemployed, and comfort any who are suffering this day. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: O God for whom we listen, inspire the music ministry of our congregation. Fill our worship with songs to proclaim your greatness. Help us to sing and dance with joy and tell boldly of your salvation. 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: We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your  
mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

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## *The Meal*

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

### **OFFERING**

### **OFFERING RESPONSE**

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King  
Lift up your voice and with us sing  
O praise Him alleluia  
Thou burning sun with golden beam  
Thou silver mood with softer gleam  
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

### **OFFERATORY PRAYER**

A: God of all goodness,  
generations have turned to you,  
gathered around your table,  
and shared your abundant blessings.  
Number us among them  
that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,  
and give thanks for your rich blessings,  
we may feast upon your very self  
and care for all that you have made,  
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

**C: Amen**

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## *The Meal*

P: God, you are with us.

**C: You are always with us.**

P: May we open our hearts.

**C: May we know your presence.**

P: In thanksgiving,

**C: And in deepest honor.**

P: Holy God, we honor you in whom our lives are founded, and in whom our futures lie. We remember and honor also the human searching over the centuries that has perceived your presence in life, and your meaning for all of life.

Above all we honor Jesus, our Christ, whose life and death reveal to us, as his resurrection, the full nature of your being and the potential nature of ours.

We remember that, on the night before his death, Jesus, as he'd always done, gathered his friends for a common meal. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread and gave some to each one, saying:

“Take, eat: This is my body given for you and for everyone.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper he took a cup of wine, and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my blood which is shed for you and for everyone. Drink this in remembrance of me.”

In light of this, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**C: Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ's spirit renews our lives.**



P: Holy God, may our hearts and minds be alive to what is sacred in this bread and wine. May they open us to your guidance and to your love for us, for all humankind, and for all life on this earth. This is our hope, our common will, and the expression of our love and trust in Jesus, our Christ.

And now, in the spirit of Christ's teaching, we 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: There is a place for you at the banquet.  
Come and feast at Jesus' table.

**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.**

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*The Sending*

**SENDING PRAYER**

A: May the God of all creation,  
in whose image we are made,  
who claims us and calls us beloved,  
who strengthens us for service,  
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!  
The blessing of God,  
Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit,  
be with you today and always.

C: **Amen.**

## CLOSING

Everyone needs compassion  
Love that's never failing  
Let mercy fall on me  
Everyone needs forgiveness  
The kindness of a savior  
The hope of nations

*Chorus* Saviour, He can move the mountains  
My God is mighty to save  
He is mighty to save  
Forever, author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave  
Jesus conquered the grave

So take me as you find me  
All my fears and failures  
Fill my life again  
I give my life to follow  
Everything I believe in  
Now I surrender (*Chorus*)

Shine your light and  
Let the whole world see  
We're singing  
For the glory  
Of the risen King... Jesus (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

## DISMISSAL

**A:** Beloved of God,  
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## Mighty to Save

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## 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!

### **NEW MISSION SHOEBOX DRIVE**

**November 11-26**

During the month of November, we are collecting shoeboxes filled with gifts for children in Haiti who are a part of our mission partner New Missions. School supplies, hygiene items, toys and other small gifts make a big difference in the lives of Haitian children and their families. You can share God's love this Christmas by packing a shoebox. Stop by the shoebox drive display and pick up your box and gift list today. Fill up your box and return it by 12/3. Thank you for sharing God's love!

### **LADIES BIBLE STUDY**

**Mon 11/13 | 7:15 PM**

Ladies Bible Study has started up again onsite at Faith. We'll be following Pastor Rob's message series "Follow the Leader". Here are our other meeting dates for your calendar. All dates begin 7:15 PM.

Monday | November 27

Monday | December 11 | Holiday Party

Monday | January 8

We will resume study in the new year with a new book we'll announce at the end of this year. As in the past, there's no need to register or signup. Just come join us and bring a friend!

### **COMMITMENT SUNDAY**

**Sun 11/19**

God has given us an exciting vision here at Faith to be a place where everyone is invited, encouraged, and challenged to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. Join us on Sunday, November 19 as we share our gifts of financial commitment for 2024 during each worship service. You are invited to prayerfully consider your level of generosity and submit it through the mail, go online to [www.discoveringfaith.com/livinggenerously](http://www.discoveringfaith.com/livinggenerously), or bring your response card to worship on that day as we will lift them up to God in prayer. Let's get ready. God has exciting things in store for our community!

### **NEXT**

**Sun 11/19 | 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

### **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**Sun 11/19 | 7:00 AM**

Get ready for some hot buttery pancakes, crispy bacon, sausage & eggs, fruit and delicious coffee! Faith is hosting an "all you can eat" pancake celebration breakfast on our commitment Sunday, November 19 from 7:00 – 11:00am! Tickets are \$5.00 per person, or \$20 per family. Get your tickets today online or at the welcome center. All proceeds go to support the ministries of Faith.

### **ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP**

**Begins 11/28 | 7:00 PM**

#### **Waiting Here For You**

Waiting is not wasted when waiting on the Lord. A season overflowing with anticipation, Christmas comes the same time each year with great hope and promise of a baby born long ago. But this season meant for joy is often consumed by busyness, pressure, mixed emotions, and is gone as quickly as it came.

Becky Marchiando is the study group facilitator. We'll be meeting via Zoom for 4 sessions. Register online or at the welcome center so we can send you the information you'll need to attend. Come join us!

### **HOLIDAY TROLLEY: All Ages**

**Sat 11/25 | 6:15PM**

Only 20 tickets available! We will meet at Gemato's in Naperville at 6:15pm, Cost is \$17/person (all ages need a ticket), Trolley ride is approximately 1 hr & no food/candy is allowed on the trolley. Must pay by 11/20- address questions to Kris Harvey [kriselharvey@aol.com](mailto:kriselharvey@aol.com)  
Dress Warm! Tickets are purchased online [www.discoveringfaith.com](http://www.discoveringfaith.com)

### **SHOP WITH A MISSION FAIR TRADE MARKETPLACE**

**December 3 -17**

Faith will be hosting our Fair-Trade Marketplace the first three weekends in December. Handcrafted products from artisans around the world will be on sale. When you purchase a product, you are helping to enable impoverished artisans to have an ongoing business, allowing them to provide for their families. Visit [heavenlytreasures.org](http://heavenlytreasures.org) to learn more about the impact you can make. Every product represents a changed life!

### **MOM'S GROUP: A Moment for Mom**

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

We are hosting moms of children infants-elementary school 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

building your mom village along the way. Our group meets the 2nd Saturday of each month, October-May, 10:00 AM - 12:15 PM. For more information about our guest speaker and topic lineup, and to register for events, please visit [www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom](http://www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom).

### **POT LUCK/ORNAMENT EXCHANGE: Adults 21+**

**Sat 12/9 | 5:00 PM**

Bring a dish to pass and a wrapped ornament under \$15. BYOB

Wear your favorite or ugliest Christmas Sweater! Sign up at the Welcome Center

### **LIVE NATIVITY AT FAITH!**

**Sat 12/16 | 6:00 PM**

This year, the spirit of Christmas will be alive at Faith, as we host our annual outdoor Live Nativity on Saturday, December 16th at 6:00 PM. The journey will take you back in time to the birth of our Savior. Shepherds peacefully tend to their flocks, while Mary and Joseph look after the child in the manger. Wise men will come from the East bearing gifts as angels watch over the scene. Faith's Live Nativity features a large cast, choir, live animals, and scenery to provide a memorable Christmas event for the entire family. During the performance as the story is told, visitors will be invited to join with the choir in singing traditional carols. After the performance, stay to have hot chocolate and cookies, enjoy the petting zoo, and get your very own nativity scene picture. It's an experience that will bring the true meaning of the Christmas season for one and all!

### **LIVE NATIVITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Sat 12/16 | 6:00 PM**

Save the date for this year's Live Nativity here at Faith! However, many types of volunteers are needed to help make this event a huge success (actors, hospitality, set up, animal control, "Welcomers", photographers.) Sign up today at the welcome center or contact Pastor Rob if you are interested.

### **KIDWERKS**

**Sundays at 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](http://discoveringfaith.com) or for more information please contact [jenn@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:jenn@discoveringfaith.com) PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> grade

### **REVOLUTION**

**Sundays | 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 weekly in the auditorium Register online- [discoveringfaith.com](http://discoveringfaith.com)

## Living Generously

Our mission is simple. Invite people to discover the new life that can be found in Jesus Christ. Because of your financial generosity, lives are being changed. Our budgeted resource needs to live out our mission are not currently fully funded. We would like to invite you to prayerfully consider how you can respond so that together we can enhance our mission impact in our community and beyond. Thank you for living generously.

2023 YTD Giving \$ 274,221

2023 YTD Budget \$ 301,356

2023 YTD Expenses \$ 349,415

### 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

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