



Seventh Sunday of Easter
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

May 21, 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: LIVING WITH MARGIN

Have you ever said, "I'm overloaded. I just can't get it all done. I can't catch up"? Many of us feel like we're chronically rushed, chronically late, and chronically exhausted. We're overwhelmed by activities, choices, work, debt, and more, and we feel a constant strain on ourselves and our relationships. Join us for this four-part series where you'll learn how God designed your body to follow a regular cycle of work and rest, and how building margin into your life will lower your stress and tension and increase your peace of mind. Find out how living with margin will give you a healthier life, as well as make you available to be used and blessed by God.

The Gathering

OPENING SONG

Glorious Day

I was buried beneath my shame
Who could carry that kind of weight?
It was my tomb 'til I met You

I was breathing but not alive
All my failures I tried to hide
It was my tomb 'til I met You

Chorus You Called my name and I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day
You called my name and I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day

Now Your mercy has saved my soul
Now Your freedom is all that I know
The old made new, Jesus, when I met You (*Chorus*)

I needed rescue, my sin was heavy
But the chains break at the weight of Your glory
I needed shelter, I was an orphan
Now You call me a citizen of Heaven

When I was broken, You were my healing
Now Your love is the air that I'm breathing
I have a future
My eyes are open, cause when (*Chorus*)

O Come to the Altar

Are you hurting and broken within
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin
Jesus is calling
Have you come to the end of yourself
Do you thirst for a drink from the well
Jesus is calling

Chorus O come to the altar
The Father's arms are open wide
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes
Come today there's no reason to wait
Jesus is calling
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy
From the ashes a new life is born
Jesus is calling (*Chorus*)

Oh what a Savior
Isn't he wonderful
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him
For He is Lord of all
Sing alleluia Christ is risen (*Chorus*)

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown
Tell the world of the treasure you've found

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, 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

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.

And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Seek Ye First

please stand

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And its righteousness
And all these things will be added unto you
Allelu, alleluia Bought with the precious blood of Christ

GOSPEL

Matthew 6: 19-24

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! “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.

MESSAGE

Money | Pastor Rob

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- A: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
- A: God of harmony, as you drew your son to your side, you draw us to you and unite us with the planet and one another. Weave your church together in a web of mutual love for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: As your Spirit hovered over the waters of creation, so your Spirit hovers over all that you have made. Bless the water that sustains the planet and grant wisdom to use it wisely. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: You empower your people with the fire of your Spirit. Challenge activists and organizers, teachers and politicians, and all in leadership to speak a message of peace and justice. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: You care for all your children. Show your steadfast love to those suffering isolation, especially exiles, refugees, or prisoners. Break the chains of all held fast by systemic oppression of any kind. Comfort all who are afraid or suffering from illness. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**

A: We give thanks that humankind serves as your body in the world, stewarding your abundant gifts. Guide this congregation's leaders as they seek your will. We pray for our staff and council. 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: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

The Meal

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
Praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

OFFERATORY PRAYER

A: Generous God,
in this meal you offer your very self.
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.
In the breaking of this bread
reveal to us the Risen One.
In the pouring of this wine
pour us out in service to the world;
through Christ our 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: Come and know Christ,
broken and poured out for you.

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: Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace,
you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG

Christ is Risen

Let no one caught in sin remain
Inside the lie of inward shame
But fix our eyes upon the cross
And run to Him who showed great love
And bled for us
Freely You've bled for us

Chorus Christ is risen from the dead Trampling over death by death
Come awake come awake Come and rise up from the grave
Christ is risen from the dead We are one with Him again
Come awake come awake Come and rise up from the grave

Beneath the weight of all our sin
You bowed to none but heaven's will
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown
No burden great can hold You down
In strength You reign
Forever let Your church proclaim (*Chorus*)

O death where is your sting
O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light
The glory of God has defeated the night
Singing O death where is your sting
O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light
Our God is not dead He's alive He's alive (*Repeat*) (*Chorus*)

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

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!

A New Mom's Group coming to Faith "A Moment for Mom"

Mtg Today | 9:00 AM

We are looking to launch a moms group this fall, that will meet once a month on Saturday mornings and provide a moment for moms to learn, connect, and recharge. There will be a speaker on a mom related topic, a meal and childcare. If you are interested in learning more, or would like to serve on the team, indicate your interest on a connection card, or contact the church office. An informational meeting is today at 9:00am, fireside.

NEXT

Sun 5/21 | 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 we call NEXT. This informal gathering lasts only about 20 minutes. It 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 at the church after each service.

INTERESTED IN SERVING IN MUSIC MINISTRY?

Tues 5/23 | 8:00 PM

Open Jam Session with Danny Singh

Do you play an instrument, or enjoy singing, and have been interested in sharing your gifts at Faith. Danny Singh, Faith's new worship leader, will be hosting an open jam/rehearsal session on Tuesday, May 23 where you'll have the chance to learn about opportunities to serve in our music ministry. This gathering will also include an informal jam/rehearsal session. Come meet Danny, ask questions, and have fun connecting with other musicians at Faith. For more information contact Danny at: Danny@discoveringfaith.com.

VBS -Stellar

7/10 - 7/14 | 9:00 AM

Join us at Stellar VBS, where we'll explore rugged moonscapes, colorful constellations, and lunar landers as we dig into God's great love! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of God's love, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos they'll take home and play with all summer long. For more information contact jenn@discoveringfaith.com or register online at discoveringfaith.com

MISSION TRIP 2023 – UGANDA

June 1-13 | Donate today!

It's just around the corner! The team is assembled and making preparations to leave for Kampala Uganda on June 1st. What an extraordinary opportunity to serve God alongside our ministry partner Watoto . There are a number of needs that have yet to be met, including travel expenses and ministry supplies.

Show your support by considering a donation today – discoveringfaith.com/missionuganda2023

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- The children's ministry team is looking for volunteers to join us for VBS this summer, July 10-14. We are looking for both teen and adult volunteers for the week. Please contact jenn@discoveringfaith.com if you're interested in serving this summer!

KIDWERKS Summer Schedule

Sundays at 9:30 AM

June: 4 & 18

July: 2, 16 & 30

August: 13 & 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

DOWNTOWN ALIVE!

Concerts at RiverEdge in Aurora | 8:00 PM

7th Heaven Fri 7/7 \$2 through May 31, \$5 after May 31

Stayin' Alive Sat 8/5 \$12 through May 31, \$20 after May 31

We're gathering inside the park in the grass closer to the river. We'll be flying red balloons to make it easier to find us. Tickets must be purchased at RiverEdge Park website. All general admission. No seating provided. Gates open at 6:00 PM. Come join us!

FLOCKING FLAMINGO'S FUNDRAISER

May

April Showers bring May Flamingos

Flamingo season is in full swing here at Faith. Yes, two flocks of those lovely, tacky, plastic, pink flamingo lawn ornaments have descended upon the lawns of various families of Faith. Fortunately, we have a trained team of flamingo handlers who are ready to remove them should they land in your yard. Removal fee is \$20.

You can join the fun by requesting these flocks land at a specific address. Special requests will be honored for \$10. Get someone before they get you! So choose wisely, and have fun playing the game all month long!

Want to insure against the removal cost of these pesky birds? Flamingo Insurance is available for only \$10. Buy early; the cost of removing these from your yard is double. All proceeds go to support the Uganda Mission Trip team. Details, special requests, and insurance certificates are available at the Pink Flamingo Table, or online.

Thanks for playing, and for your support.

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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