



Palm Sunday
8:00 am worship

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

March 28, 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.

The Gathering

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

P When Jesus and his disciples had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethpage at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

C “Tell the daughter of Zion, ‘Look, your King is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

P The disciples went on and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and followed were shouting.

C “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

P When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking “Who is this?” The crowds were saying...

C This is the Prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”


P Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

PROCESSIONAL SONG


All Glory, Laud, and Honor | ELW

#344


Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,




to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing you on high;
3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went.
4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
Our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens— wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

GOSPEL

John 1: 1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. 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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of the following notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter). The lyrics 'Praise to you, O Christ.' are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The word 'Praise' is under the first two notes, 'to' under the third, 'you,' under the fourth, 'O' under the fifth, and 'Christ.' under the last three notes. A fermata is placed over the 'to' and 'you,' notes. The staff ends with a double bar line.

MESSAGE

| Pastor Rob

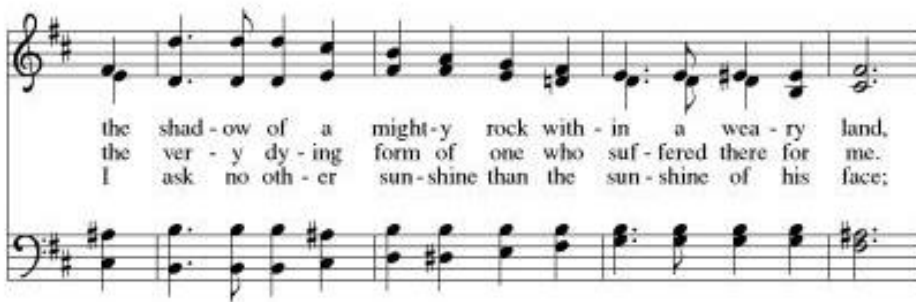
HYMN OF THE DAY

Beneath the Cross of Jesus | ELW #338


please stand




1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day,
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness,
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross,

APOSTLES CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.*
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- A:** Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.
- A:** In Jesus you came among us as a suffering servant. Give your church humility. Redeem your people from pride and the certainty that we always know your will. Heal us and empower us to confess Christ crucified. Hear us, O God.
- C:** **Your mercy is great.**
- A:** In creation, life springs from death. Redeem your creation awaiting resurrection: restore lost habitats and endangered species. Create new possibilities for areas affected by climate change, grant relief from natural disasters, and nurture new growth. Hear us, O God.
- C:** **Your mercy is great.**

A: Jesus was handed over to the powers of this world. In all nations, instruct the powerful, that they would not exploit their power but maintain justice. Sustain soldiers, and guide those who command them, that they serve those in greatest need. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: On the cross Jesus joined all who feel forsaken. Abide with those who are condemned to death. Defend those who are falsely accused. Console and strengthen those who are mocked or bullied. Accompany all who suffer; grant respite and renewal. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You called followers to tend Jesus' body in death. Sustain hospice workers and funeral directors. Bless this congregation's ministries at times of death: those who plan and lead funerals, those who prepare meals, all who offer support in grief. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Gracious and loving God, we pray for the family and friends of Faith... Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Meal

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: God is with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift our hearts to God.

P: Let us give thanks to God, our God!

C: We give God our thanks and our praise!

P: On this day of celebration –
on this day of renewing our faith –
on this day of walking with the Christ,
to Jerusalem... to Golgotha... and beyond –
we give you thanks, great and loving God.

C: Thank you, loving God!

P: From the very beginning, you have loved us.
You created all that is, calling it into being.
With the *ruach* – the Spirit – with the Wind and the Word,
you saw what you had created,
and called it, “Good!”

C: Thank you, loving God!

P: But, time and time again, in history and in our story,
we have turned away from your love.
We have turned away from your hope.
We have turned away from you.
We have wandered away, thinking we knew best.

**C: But you never left us to walk by ourselves, loving God.
Even when we turn away.
You walk the road with us.**

P: Through prophets, priests and storytellers,
through mothers and grandmothers,
through fathers and grandfathers,
through teens and children and infants,
you called us back to your love.

C: Thank you, loving God!

P: There came a time when you sent Jesus to speak to the world.
To speak to us.
To teach us your love.
To give abundant life.
To make us new.

C: Thank you, loving God!

P: He lived a life as one of us – a child, a youth, an adult.
He laughed with those who laughed,
he cried with those who cried.
In all of this, he walked the hard road –

C: the way of the Cross and the way of the Resurrection.

P: On the night before he was put to death,
he gathered for a meal of celebration with his friends.
There he recommitted himself to your love, and to his people.
He took bread, thanked You, and broke the bread,
giving it to his friends, saying,
“Take this and eat it. This is my body, given for you.
Each time you do this, remember me.”

C: We remember him.

P: After the meal was over, he took the cup of blessing,
thanked You, and poured the wine,
giving it to his friends, saying,
“Take this and drink it. This is my blood, given for you.
Each time you drink this, remember me.”

C: We remember him.

- P:** And so we do as he asked us, loving God.
We pray that your Spirit might fill these gifts,
and fill us – that all might be vessels of your love,
your hope and your life in the world.
- C:** **Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

THE 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 COMMUNION

- P:** God’s love is poured out in Christ for you.
Open yourselves to receive it.
- 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. Grape juice is in the center of the communion tray. Gluten free wafers available at the usher stand, please ask an usher to assist you.

G Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
- C: **Amen.**



Lord, now you let your ser-vant go in peace; your word has been ful-filled.



My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it,



as it was in the be-gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men

PASSION DRAMA

NARRATOR: Now Jesus stood before the Governor, and the Governor asked him,

PILATE: Are you the King of the Jews?

NARRATOR: Jesus answered, "You say so." But when he was accused by the chief priest and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

PILATE: Do you not hear how many accusation they make against you?

NARRATOR: But he gave them no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the Governor was accustomed to releasing a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted.
At that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas.
So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them:

PILATE: Whom do you want me to release for you, Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?

NARRATOR: And the people shouted... .

CROWD: Barabbas! Barabbas!

PILATE: Then what should I do with Jesus, this man who is called the Messiah?

CROWD: Let him be crucified!

PILATE: Why, what evil has he done?

CROWD: Let him be crucified! Release Barabbas! Let him be crucified!!

NARRATOR: So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water, washed his hands before the crowd, saying...

PILATE: I am innocent of this man's blood— see to it yourselves.

NARRATOR: Then the people as a whole answered:

CROWD: His blood be on us and on our children!

NARRATOR: So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of Pilate took Jesus into the Governor's headquarters and gathered the whole court around him. They stripped him; put a scarlet robe

on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him saying, “Hail, king of the Jews!”

They spat on him and took the reed; struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots and then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read: “THIS IS JESUS, KING OF THE JEWS.” Then two thieves were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying...

CROWD: You who would destroy the temple and build it in
three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God,
come down from the cross.

NARRATOR: From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?”
that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

And when some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “This man called for Elijah”. At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick and gave it for him to drink. But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to see him.”

Then Jesus cried again and breathed his last.

At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks were split. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and he said...

CENTURION: Truly, this man was God's Son!

The Sending

CLOSING HYMN

Were You There | ELW #353

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Refrain

Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Apr 1 | 7:00PM

Lent concludes as we gather around the table and a new commandment that Jesus gives, "Love one another as I have loved you." Join us as we begin the three day journey to the resurrection. Communion will be celebrated.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

Apr 2 | 7:00PM

Join us for our Good Friday service of gathering darkness. We gather together at the foot of the cross to remember the depth of God's love for us. Services will be held in the auditorium.

EASTER SUNDAY

April 4 | 6:30, 8:00, 9:30 AM

At Faith, we want to experience the excitement of Easter with you. On April 4, join us at one of three worship services for some awesome music, an inspirational message, and a time for refreshments and making new friends in our café afterwards.

Come and celebrate Easter at Faith!



Pastor Rob Douglas
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