



Easter Sunday

9:30 Worship Celebration

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

March 31, 2024

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

EASTER CALL TO WORSHIP

Glorious Day

EASTER LITANY *please stand*

P: The Lord is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: His steadfast love endures forever.

P: The Lord is risen indeed! And because he lives, we too shall live! Remember how he told you that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.

C: Look! He is no longer here. The tomb of death is empty!

P: He is risen indeed! And because he lives, we too shall live!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: The Lord's mighty arm has triumphed; his power has brought us victory!

C: I will not die but live, and proclaim what the Lord has done.

P: The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces.

Death shall be no more.

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation!

P: The Lord is risen!

C: He has risen indeed!

OPENING SONG

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia

Hymns of praise, then let us sing, Alleluia
Unto Christ our heavenly king, Alleluia
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia
Our salvation have procured, Alleluia
Now above the sky, He's King, Alleluia
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia
Praise eternal as His love, Alleluia
Praise Him all you heavenly host, Alleluia
Father Son and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

EASTER GREETING & WELCOME

The Word

READING

Acts 10: 34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

SONG OF PROMISE *please stand*

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy
Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, holy, holy
Merciful and mighty
God in three persons
Blessed Trinity

GOSPEL

Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

MESSAGE

New Beginnings | Pastor Rob Douglas

THE PRAYERS

- A: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.
- A: Holy God, we pray for the body of Christ, the church. Where the church is persecuted, protect it. Where the church is privileged, grant it humility. Where the church is fractured, heal it. Guide us all to embody Christ’s love in the world. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- A: Life-giving God, we pray for the earth, your good creation. Join our prayers with branches lifted in praise and roaring waters of new life, that together we may proclaim Easter hope. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**

- A: Merciful God, we pray for all peoples and nations. Free oppressed communities from occupation, exploitation, and abuse. Teach leaders your way of justice. Empower peacemakers and all who work to end violence and strife. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- A: Liberating God, we pray for people everywhere who long for good news. Roll away the stones that keep people from living with dignity and wholeness. Breathe new life and hope into people struggling to make it through each day. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- A: Loving God, we pray for this community of faith and for your Spirit in our midst. Feed us at your Easter table and fill us with your wisdom, that we may serve and care for others. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- A: Eternal God, we remember those who have gone before us in death. Renew our trust in your promises, that we live with joyful courage and compassion. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- A: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
- C: Amen.**

The Meal

PEACE

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon His throne
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

- P: Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
- C: **Amen**

EASTER COMMUNION

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: **And also with you.**
- P: God of Easter, in the presence of this bread, we lift our voices in praise. We see the bread in all its glory and power, grateful that the resurrection of our Lord has stamped it with the emblem of eternity. As the tomb is empty and the bread of his table is filled, breathe into all who break it, a rebirth of the majesty and mystery of Easter.
- C: **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...**

P: Take and eat: this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. God of life, may the beauty of this Easter day bring us to this cup with open hearts. May the majesty of this day bring us to this cup with open minds. May the truth of this day bring us to the cup with willing hands. You have blessed this cup with the power of Easter. Touch our lives with the gift of your grace.

C: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying...

P: 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: Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

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: The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's 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 MUSIC

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
in praise of love that still abounds,
"Christ hath triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed, He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal is the gift he brings,
therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still he comes to give us life;
and by his presence stills all strife
"Christ has triumphed, He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
set heart and will on things above,
that we conquer through your triumph,
grant grace sufficient for life's day,
that by our lives we truly say,
"Christ has triumphed, He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Adoring praises now we bring
and with the heav'nly blessed sing,
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
to Spirit blest, most holy God,
all the glory never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Shepherding God,
 you have prepared a table before us
 and nourished us with your love.
 Send us forth from this banquet
 to proclaim your goodness
 and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
 our redeemer and friend.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: The God of resurrection power,
 the Christ of unending joy,
 and the Spirit of Easter hope
 † bless you now and always.

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: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

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

POSTLUDE

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!

MOM'S GROUP: A Moment for Mom

Sat 4/13 | 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, through 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.

KIDWERKS

Sundays at 9:30 AM

Join us 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. For more information please contact jenn@discoveringfaith.com

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!

NEXT

Sun 4/21 | 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 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

VBS -Scuba

7/8 - 7/12/24 | 9:00 AM

Join us at Scuba VBS, where kids will dive deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. At Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about! 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

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.

Easter flowers decorating the sanctuary are given by the following members to the Glory of God and:

In memory of Elvira Besco from Bri Ardelean 1 lily
In celebration of our family & grandkids from Dennis & Karen Banschbach 1 mum
Jill, Andrew, Cole, Tyler and Mason & Jeff, Heather, Alex and Evalynn
In memory of Martin & Dorothy Banschbach from Dennis & Karen Banschbach 1 daffodil
In memory of Allan & Doris Johnson from Dennis & Karen Banschbach 1 tulip
To the Glory of God from Mark & Sue Boozell 1 lily
In memory of Cal & Kathryn Caldwell from Laurel Caldwell 2 tulips
In memory of grandmother Theresa K Caruso from Theresa Caruso 1 tulip
In memory of Gary Cowan from Jeff Cowan 3 hyacinth
In memory of Renita McCarty from Scott Farnum 2 tulips, 2 mums 1 lily
In memory of Jim Bush, Michael & Vivian Hogan from Kevin & Kristin Hogan 1 daffodil, 1 tulip
In memory of Patty Lariviere from John Lariviere 1 hyacinth
To the Glory of God from John Miller 1 hyacinth
In celebration of Easter! from Nancy Miller 1 daffodil
In memory of our parents from Gerry & Nan Noack 1 hyacinth
In memory of our parents from Randy & Bonnie Schumacher 1 hyacinth
In memory of Cathy Johnston, Peggy Wojtak, Sally Gyannpoulas from Gail Secor
1 mum, 2 hyacinth, 1 daffodil, 1 tulip
In memory of our loved ones from the Spears Family 1 hyacinth
In celebration of our risen Lord & Savior Jesus Christ from Christine Wagenknecht 1 daffodil
In memory of Mary Larson, Muriel Weigel, Lu Weigel, Keith Lite and Don Neff
from Gary & Linda Weigel 1 lily, 1 hyacinth, 1 daffodil, 1 tulip, 2 mums
In memory of parents Charlotte & Gordon Becker from Paula Zastrow 1 lily

You are welcome to take your flowers after the 9:30 Easter service.



Pastor Rob Douglas
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