



Time After Pentecost
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

August 23, 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: AT THE MOVIES

Your favorite movie? It stuck with you for a reason—the story, the music, the characters—you felt something. During the month of August, join us for At the Movies, where we'll explore powerful biblical truths through some of your favorite films. Each week, we'll dive into a different movie and discover how God's story of hope, redemption, and purpose shows up in unexpected places. It's the perfect series to invite a friend—you never know what story God might use to speak to them. We can't wait to see you!

The Gathering

Our God

Water You turned into wine Opened the eyes of the blind
There's no one like You None like You

Into the darkness You shine Out of the ashes we rise
There's no one like You None like You

Chorus Our God is greater
 Our God is stronger
 God You are higher than any other
 Our God is healer
 Awesome in power our God our God

Into the darkness You shine
Out of the ashes we rise
There's no one like You
None like You (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

And if our God is for us
Then who could ever stop us
And if our God is with us
Then what could stand against
And if our God is for us
Then who could ever stop us
And if our God is with us
Then what could stand against
Then what could stand against (*Chorus*)(*Repeat*)

Abide

For my waking breath
For my daily bread
I depend on You
I depend on You

For the sun to rise
For my sleep at night
I depend on You
I depend on You

Chorus You're the way the truth and the life
 You're the well that never runs dry
 I'm the branch and You are the vine
 Draw me close and teach me to abide

For the victories
Still in front of me
I depend on You
I depend on You (*Chorus*)

For eternal life
To be raised with Christ
I depend on You
I depend on You (*Chorus*)

Be my strength, my song in the night
Be my all, my treasure my prize
I am Yours, forever You're mine
Draw me close and teach me to abide

Draw me close and teach me to abide

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

READING

Isaiah 43: 1-3

But now thus says the Lord,
 he who created you, O Jacob,
 he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
 I have called you by name; you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
 and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
 and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God,
 the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

RESPONSE

I Love You, Lord

please stand

I love you, Lord and I lift my voice
To worship You, oh my Soul rejoice
Take joy, my King in what You hear
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven,

and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

MESSAGE

The Lost Bus | Pastor Rob

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- A: With bold trust in God’s unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.
- A: God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world. Merciful God,
- C: receive our prayer.**
- A: You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster. Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations. Merciful God,
- C: receive our prayer.**
- A: You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day. Merciful God,
- C: receive our prayer.**
- A: You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Merciful God,
- C: receive our prayer.**
- A: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

Praise and Thanksgiving

please stand

Praise and thanksgiving God we would offer
For all things living You have made good
Harvest of sown fields Fruits of the orchard
Hay from the mown fields Blossom and wood

OFFERATORY PRAYER

A: Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

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: Heaven has come near.

Come, share in the feast!

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: Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

Build Your Kingdom Here

Come set Your rule and reign In our hearts again
Increase in us we pray Unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit, come invade us now

Pre-Chorus We are Your church
 And we need Your power in us

We seek Your kingdom first We hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives For You're our joy and prize
To see the captive hearts released The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for Heaven's cause

Pre-Chorus We are Your church
 And we pray revive this Earth

Chorus Build Your kingdom here Let the darkness fear
 Show Your mighty hand Heal our streets and land
 Set Your church on fire Win this nation back
 Change the atmosphere Build Your kingdom here
 We pray

Unleash Your kingdom's power Reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop Your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength And love of Christ

Pre-Chorus We are Your church
 We are the hope on Earth (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

DISMISSAL

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

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!

COMMUNITY LIFE EVENTS

RiverEdge Concert: **16 Candles** **Fri 8/28 | 8:00 PM \$5**

Tickets available now & purchased through the Paramount Theater in Aurora

KIDWERKS KICKOFF

Sun 8/30 | 9:30 AM

Our Sunday morning PreK – 5th grade children's ministry program is back! At 9:30am we will meet weekly in the auditorium. Registration is now open online at discoveringfaith.com

NEXT

Sun 9/6 | 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.

TUESDAY AM WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Begins 9/8 | 9:00 AM

The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study will resume again on September 8th at 9:00 AM. Information regarding the topics to be discussed this fall are coming soon.

All women of Faith and their friends are welcome and encouraged to attend. We would love to have you join us! For additional information contact Sue Boozell at sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com.

MENS COMMUNITY GROUP

Sat 9/12 | 8:00 AM

Meets fireside at Faith, the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month.

In addition to coffee, great conversation, and fellowship, we typically are engaged in a spiritual study topic or video discussion. Come join us!

A MOMENT FOR MOM

Sat 9/12 | 10:00 AM

A Moment for Mom will hold an Open House on Saturday, September 12th at 10:00 AM. Donuts and coffee will be served. Bring your kids to play on our playground and you can learn what we are all about.

STUDENT MINISTRIES ORIENTATION MEETING

Sun 9/13 | 10:45 AM

All 6th – 12th grade students and their parents are invited to attend the orientation meeting for Revolution, on Sunday, Sept 13 @ 10:45am in the sanctuary. Come learn about the exciting events planned for this year. Our program, events, mission trip 2027, Middle School Summer Camp 2027, and expectations for our Crossroads/Confirmation program will be covered. For more information contact Pastor Rob.

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Begins 9/15 | 7:15 PM

Epic of Eden

The Old Testament can feel like a puzzle. Richter's substantive and profoundly spiritual exploration shows how the pieces fit together and how accessible the narrative truly is! We plan to begin our next study on September 15. This will be a twelve week study.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Weds 9/16 | 7:15 PM

This is a wonderful volunteer opportunity to help out in our community. We will be packing meals on Wednesday, September 16. Sign up at www.discoveringfaith.com. All volunteers need to sign up before September 7. Check out the volunteering policies before signing up!

COMPASSION WEEKEND IS COMING!

September 18-20

Save the date and get ready to get your serve on at Faith's 13th annual Compassion Weekend. We'll be rolling up our sleeves and heading out to partner with organizations and projects that make a real impact on the lives of people in our community. As part of our serving weekend, we want to extend care and love to those in need in our very own neighborhoods. If you, or someone you know, is in need of any help with projects/tasks around their home you are encouraged to visit www.discoveringfaith.com/compassionweekend where you can submit that need. From cutting lawns, to painting, to yard work, our Compassion Weekend Team would like to help our neighbors on that weekend.

WATOTO CHILDREN'S CHOIR CONCERT

Fri 9/18 | 7:00 PM

“LOVE NEVER FAILS” A Vibrant Worship Experience

The Sound of a Transformed Generation

All the way from Uganda, East Africa, we're excited to bring you the Watoto Children's Choir performing songs from their brand-new album, “Love Never Fails”. As the children sing, dance, and share their personal stories of hope, you'll see firsthand the power of God's unfailing love.

Watoto Children's Choirs have traveled the world for over three decades, declaring the good news of what Jesus has done in their lives. Our children have performed for Her Majesty the Queen, the President of the United States, and almost every major parliament in the world.

Yet, as remarkable as those moments have been, we cherish the times we've met ordinary people in their moment of pain and have been able to see firsthand how Jesus heals. As people meet our children from Uganda, with their hearts healed and their dreams restored, they can't help but realize that God loves them too.

Don't miss out! This one-of-a-kind experience will inspire and encourage you, your family, and your friends. Other than traveling to Africa yourself, what better way to learn about all the good work God is doing through Watoto than by meeting the children and hearing how the love of Jesus transformed their lives.

Outdoor Sunday Worship

Sun 9/20 | 9:30 AM

Sunday, September 20, we'll be meeting outdoors at 9:30 AM for only one worship service. No 8:00 AM service. Bring your lawn chair or blanket and join us on the lawn. We'll have some outdoor seating as well. You can also attend from your car by tuning into FM 88.3. We'll be live streaming this service as well, if you're unable to make it in person. Come join us!

PROJECT 3:23 COMING SOON!

A new monthly group for men in their 20s, 30s, and 40s. Inspired by Colossians 3:23, Project 3:23 is designed to bring men together through Service, Social, and Support—creating opportunities to serve others, build genuine friendships, and support one another through every season of life. No pressure, no special skills required, and no major time commitment—just a chance to show up, connect, and do something meaningful together. More details coming soon!

FAITHFUL FOUNDATIONS CAMPAIGN

Our 2026 Faithful Foundations campaign aims to raise \$75,000 for Faith. Our building and grounds are 18 years old and need some tender loving care.

The goal for this fundraising campaign is to:

- Repair and Upgrade our HVAC units.
- Improve our parking lot.
- Upgrades to our building's interior painting, furniture, light fixtures and improvements to our auditorium.
- Landscaping around the church.
- Signage at the parking lot entrance.

Living Generously (through July 2026)

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.

YTD Revenue: \$270,976

YTD Expenses: \$278,618

YTD Budget: \$266,700

Note - YTD expenses include the auditorium project. YTD revenue includes offsetting special donations to cover the cost of that project.

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

3000 LIBERTY ST. AURORA, IL. 60502 | (630) 862-3500 | OFFICE@DISCOVERINGFAITH.COM