



Fourth Sunday of Easter
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

May 11, 2025

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: THE JOY PROJECT

Jesus promised that a consistent, constant, and steady joy can be ours. And fortunately, he also tells us how. Join us as embrace the way of life we were meant to live. This series will help us learn to be thankful and excited despite all the negativity we experience in this world. Weekly topics include optimism, gratefulness, encouragement, generosity, enthusiasm, and confidence. There's no limit to joy!

The Gathering

OPENING SONG

Open Up the Heavens

We've waited for this day, we're gathered in Your name
Calling out to you
Your glory like a fire, awakening desire
Will burn our hearts with truth

Pre-Chorus You're the reason we're here
You're the reason we're singing

Chorus Open up the heavens, we want to see you
Open up the floodgates, a mighty river
Flowing from your heart
Filling every part of our praise

Your presence in this place, Your glory on our face
We're looking to the sky
Descending like a cloud, You're standing with us now
Lord, unveil our eyes (Pre-Chorus) (Chorus)

Show us, show us Your glory
Show us, show us Your power
Show us, show us Your glory, Lord
Show us, show us Your glory
Show us, show us Your power
Show us, show us Your glory, Lord (Chorus) (Chorus)

Forever

Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King

His love endures forever

For He is good, He is above all things

His love endures forever

Sing praise, sing praise

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm

His love endures forever

For the life that's been reborn

His love endures forever

Pre-Chorus Sing praise, sing praise

Sing praise, sing praise

Chorus Forever, God is faithful

Forever, God is strong

Forever, God is with us

Forever

From the rising to the setting sun

His love endures forever

And by the grace of God, we will carry on

His love endures forever (Pre-Chorus) (Chorus) (Chorus)

(Pre-Chorus) (Chorus) (Chorus)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, 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**Philippians 4: 4-8**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

RESPONSE**Thy Word**

please stand

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

When I feel afraid Think I've lost my way
Still you're there right beside me And nothing will I fear
As long as you are near Please be near me to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path (Repeat)

GOSPEL**John 10:22-30**

At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me, but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father’s hand. The Father and I are one.”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A: You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You lead all peoples along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children. 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 commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

The Meal

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

please stand

We lift our voices We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You We are an offering
Lord use our voices Lord use our hands
Lord use our lives they are Yours We are an offering

We Are An Offering

OFFERATORY PRAYER

A: Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C: Amen.

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: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life

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 to 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: Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG

What a Beautiful Name

You were the Word at the beginning One with God the Lord Most High

Your hidden glory in creation Now revealed in You our Christ

Chorus 1 What a beautiful Name it is What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

You didn't want heaven without us So Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great Your love was greater What could separate us now

Chorus 2 What a wonderful Name it is What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King What a wonderful Name it is
Nothing compares to this What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

What a wonderful Name it is The Name of Jesus

Death could not hold You The veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave The heavens are roaring
The praise of Your glory For You are raised to life again

You have no rival You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign Yours is the kingdom
Yours is the glory Yours is the Name above all names

Chorus 3 What a powerful Name it is What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King What a powerful Name it is
Nothing can stand against What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

You have no rival You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign Yours is the kingdom
Yours is the glory Yours is the Name above all names (Chorus 3)

What a powerful Name it is The Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is The Name of Jesus

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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!

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLAMINGOS

Flamingo season is here. Yes, two flocks of those lovely, tacky, plastic, pink flamingo lawn ornaments will soon be descending upon the lawns of various families of Faith. Fortunately, we have a trained team of students who are ready to remove them should they land in your yard. Removal fee is \$20. Request fee is \$10. Premium Insurance is \$35.

All proceeds go to support the Student Ministries Summer Dominican Republic mission trip. All the details, special requests, and insurance certificates are available at the Pink Flamingo Table, as well as online at www.discoveringfaith.com/flamingos.

Thanks for playing, and for your support!

NEXT

Sun 5/18 | 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

KIDWERKS Summer Schedule

May: 18

June: 1, 15 & 29

July: 13 & 27

August: 10 & 24

Sundays at 9:30AM

We will continue to meet this summer every other week in the auditorium. Join us for a summer of fun and learning! Any questions please contact jenn@discoveringfaith.com

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Tuesdays | 7:00 PM

God Never Gives Up On You

God's Grace Is Greater Than Your Biggest Setback. God enacts his perfect plan through imperfect people—including you and me!

Join us online and see how God used Jacob—the misbehaving patriarch who was strong on savvy but weak on conscience—simply because God chose to use Jacob. His story invites us to believe in a God who sticks with the unworthy until we are safely at home. God turns brokenness into blessings through his grace, mercy, and relentless love. Not just for Bible characters, but for you. God Never Gives Up on YOU.

This 5-week video Bible study is facilitated by Becky Marchiando. The study group meets online via Zoom on Tuesday evenings April 29 through May 27 at 7:00 PM. Sign up online or at the welcome center so that we can send you Zoom credentials you'll need to participate. We'd love to have you join us!

REVOLUTION

Sun 5/18 | 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!

WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Begins 5/20 | 9:00 AM

What is it About Water? Miracles From the Bible.

All women of Faith are invited to attend a four week study of What is it About Water? by Jean Campbell.

Beginning May 20, the group will begin their final study before breaking for the summer. There are many miracles that occur in the old and new testaments. This book uses three healings from Jesus in the New Testament and opens conversation around today's world and how we can apply them to our own lives. There are also references from Psalms that give meaning to how God has provided over the ages.

The weekly meetings will be held in the auditorium and facilitated by Sue Boozell. The workbook is \$10 and will be available at the meetings. For additional information contact Sue at: sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com

CHICAGO CUBS GAME

Mon 5/26 | 10:30 AM

Grab your family and friends as we join the Faith Community Life team on a tour bus down to Wrigley Field Monday, May 26 to see the Cubs take on the Colorado Rockies. Tickets are \$80/person and include the bus and game ticket (food, drinks, etc. are on your own).

Tickets are in Section 225. ONLY 50 TICKETS AVAILABLE!

Purchase tickets online at www.discoveringfaith.com

Arrive at Faith promptly by 10:30 AM. Bus Leaves Faith and arrives at Wrigley Field between 12:00-12:30 PM. Game starts at 1:20 PM. The bus will leave immediately after the game and we are expected to arrive back at Faith by 6:00 PM, depending on the length of the game.

Tickets will be sent to you once purchased and closer to the game. Everyone must have a ticket and tickets are non-refundable. Dress for the weather. There is a bathroom on the bus.

VBS -True North

7/21 - 7/25/25 | 9:00 AM

Join us this summer at True North VBS, kids will embark on the ultimate Alaskan adventure where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers, and glistening glaciers. As kids trek the tundra, they'll explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today. Pointing them toward Jesus, True North VBS shows them that he is a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North! 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

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.



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