



# Practicing the Way

NINE PRACTICES THAT ROOT US AND DEEPEN US  
IN OUR EXPERIENCE OF GOD AS WE SERVE THE WORLD

---

Second Sunday in Lent  
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

**Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.**

March 16, 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: PRACTICING THE WAY**

Join us as we explore nine ancient practices of the way of Jesus that promise to help root us in the faith and deepen our experience of God as we serve our world. When practiced regularly these keystone habits can powerfully guide our journey of spiritual growth, creating a rule of life that helps us become more like Jesus, transformed into the people we were created to be.

---

# *The Gathering*

## **OPENING SONG**

### **Agnus Dei**

A-llelui-a    A-llel-ui-a

For the Lord, God Almighty, reigns

A-llel-ui-a    A-llel-ui-a

For the Lord, God Almighty, reigns

A-llel-ui-a

*Chorus 1*    Holy    Holy

Are You, Lord, God Almighty

Worthy is the Lamb    Worthy is the Lamb

*Chorus 2*    You are holy    holy

Are You, Lord, God Almighty

Worthy is the Lamb    Worthy is the Lamb

Amen

A-llelui-a    A-llel-ui-a

For the Lord, God Almighty, reigns

A-llel-ui-a    A-llel-ui-a

For the Lord, God Almighty, reigns

A-llel-ui-a

*(Chorus 2 ) x2*

Worthy is the Lamb    Worthy is the Lamb

## **Build My Life**

Worthy of every song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You we live for You

Jesus the name above every other name  
Jesus the only One who could ever save  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You Oh we live for You

Chorus Holy there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder  
And show me who You are  
And fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Jesus the name above every other name  
Jesus the only One who could ever save  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You Oh we live for You (Chorus)

And I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken (Repeat) (Chorus)

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, 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

### Psalm 46: 1-10

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though  
the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in  
the heart of the sea;

though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble  
with its tumult. Selah

There is a river whose streams  
make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it  
shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the  
morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the  
kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice, the earth  
melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

Come, behold the works of the Lord;  
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of  
the earth;  
he breaks the bow, and shatters  
the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.

“Be still, and know that I am  
God!  
I am exalted among the nations,  
I am exalted in the earth.”

## **RESPONSE**

*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

**I Love You Lord**

## **GOSPEL**

**Luke 13: 31-35**

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

## **MESSAGE**

Solitude: Encountering Self and God | Pastor Rob

---

## Service of Holy Baptism

P: In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love and obedience to the will of God.

**Sponsors:** We present Lainey Joanne Loke to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

P: In Christian love you have presented this child for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring her to the services of God's house and teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed and the Ten Commandments. As she grows in years, you should place in her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for her instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of her Baptism and in communion with the Church, she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

**R: I do.**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of His own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to His command, we make disciples of all nations,

baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that this child who is here baptized may be given new life. Wash away her sin and cleanse her by this water and bring her forth as an inheritor of Your glorious kingdom.

To You be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize. Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

**S: I do.**

**P:** Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**P:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: 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.**

**P:** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

**P:** Lainey, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**P:** God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Lainey: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

Lainey, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

**A:** Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon Robert & Paige. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for Lainey. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their children the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Through Baptism God has made this new sister a member in the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear His creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

**C: We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same Heavenly Father, and a worker with us in the kingdom of God.**

---

## *The Meal*

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

### **OFFERING**

### **OFFERING RESPONSE**

*please stand*

**Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n to earth come down!  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart

## OFFERATORY PRAYER

A: Gracious Provider,  
you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.  
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those  
treasures with others,  
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

---

## *The Meal*

P: The earth is the Lord's and everything in it,  
The trees of the field clap their hands,  
the birds of the air sing songs of praise.  
And so, we lift up our hearts, and we lift up our voices  
And we offer thanksgiving and adoration to the Lord the Creator of all.

Blessed are you, Sovereign of the Universe, for from seeds sown into the earth you have given us the gift of bread to feed and nourish us. And at Jesus' last meal with his friends, before facing the cross, Our Lord took bread, blessed it and broke it. Then he passed it among them saying:

This is my body, broken for you.  
Take and eat, and do this to remember me.

Blessed are you, Sovereign of the Universe,  
for from grapes which grow ripe and sweet on the vine,  
you have given us the gift of wine to refresh and heal us.  
And at Jesus' last meal with his friends before facing the cross,  
Our Lord took the cup of wine and blessed it.  
Then he passed it among them saying:

This is my blood shed for you.  
Take and drink, and do this to remember me.

And now we come to your table again, Jesus,  
Mindful of how you laid your life down,  
so that we and creation could be born anew;  
Mindful of how you took your life up again,  
so that we and creation could be filled with your abundant life.  
May your Spirit work in these fruits of earth,  
so that they may become for us a sharing in Christ's body and blood.  
May your Spirit work in us, so that we may be transformed into Christ's  
body, carrying his life, his care, and his salvation to all creation.

**C: 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: All who are hungry, come!  
The feast of grace is spread.**

**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: Generous Host,  
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.

Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,  
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,  
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

## **CLOSING SONG**

What to say Lord  
It's You who gave me life  
And I can't explain  
Just how much You mean to me  
Now that You have saved me Lord  
I give all that I am to You  
That everyday I can  
Be a light that shines Your name

Chorus    Everyday it's You I'll live for  
                  Everyday I'll follow after You  
                  Everyday I'll walk with You (my Lord)

Everyday Lord  
I'll learn to stand upon Your Word  
And I pray that I  
I may come to know You more  
That You would guide me  
In every single step I take  
That everyday I can be Your  
Light unto the world (Chorus)

It's You I live for everyday  
It's You I live for everyday  
It's You I live for everyday (Chorus)

**Everyday**

## **DISMISSAL**

A:    Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.  
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!

### **LENTEN MIDWEEK MEAL**

**Wednesdays | 6:30 PM**

Each Lenten season we provide a fellowship opportunity for people of faith to gather around a table and share a meal at 6:30PM. This meal is intended to be simple and provide some time for us to slow down and care for one another. Everyone who attends shares in the responsibility of providing different components for the meal. Volunteers sign up each week to provide a gallon of soup for the evening. The remainder of the attendees provide either bread or cookies. Beverages and table service will be provided. The Lenten Meal will be offered at 6:30 PM on Wednesdays: 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9. Our worship series begins after this fellowship time at 7:15PM. Sign up at the welcome center or online at

[www.discoveringfaith.com](http://www.discoveringfaith.com)

### **MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP**

**Wednesdays | 7:15 PM**

#### ***“I Am: The 7 I Am Statements of Jesus”***

In a world that is constantly changing, that is full of questions and uncertainties, can we find something solid to hang on to, something that will give the security we long for? Jesus gives an answer—in His own words. He is the “I Am!” When we are in darkness, He says, “I Am Light.” When we are lost, He declares, “I Am Your Good Shepherd.” When we have no way to get through our crisis, He invites, “I Am the Door.” Join us as we discover who Jesus is, and who we can become.

### **EGG STUFFING PARTY**

**Wed 3/19 & 3/26 | 7:30 PM**

Come join the fun and help make our egg drop a huge success. Volunteers are needed to stuff eggs. We will be having an Egg Stuffing Party in the cafe on Wednesday evenings 7:30-9:00 PM. Come join the fun! For more information contact the church office.

### **CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED**

Individually wrapped bite size candy donations are needed to fill our 15,000 eggs! If you are able to donate some bags of candy, please drop them off at the welcome center.

**NEXT****Sun 3/16 | 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

**REVOLUTION****Sun 3/16 & 4/6 | 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! Meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays in the auditorium. Register online- [discoveringfaith.com](http://discoveringfaith.com)

**ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP****Begins 3/18 | 7:00 PM*****The Promise and Power of Easter***

Easter is so much more than a holiday. Easter isn't just a date on the calendar; it's the most significant event in human history. It's the celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, and His victory over everything that holds us back in our earthly lives. It's the day we focus on the promise and power of Jesus and draw closer to Him.

This 4-week video Bible study is facilitated by Becky Marchiando. The study group meets online via Zoom on Tuesday evenings March 18 through April 8 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!

**THE EASTER JOURNEY****Sat 4/12 | 3:00 PM**

Join us as we journey from Palm Sunday to the great celebration of Easter. Your family will travel with Jesus and his disciples through those final days. Through live actors, storytelling, and music, your whole family will have the chance to experience the depth and beauty of God's love in a new and exciting way. The Easter Journey will be held at the church on Saturday, April 12, and starts at 3:00 PM. The journey will conclude with an egg hunt, Easter crafts, and treats. We can't wait to see the whole family! Spaces are limited, so reserve your ticket today.

**EASTER FLOWERS****Orders Due April 6**

Once again a variety of spring flowers will be offered to adorn our altar for the Easter services. If you would like to honor the memory of a loved one or just celebrate the Glory of God please fill out an order form and place it in the offering plate or in the church office. Order forms available at the welcome center or online at [www.discoveringfaith.com](http://www.discoveringfaith.com)

## **FIRST COMMUNION WORKSHOP**

**Sat 4/13 | 3:00 PM**

For those parents who feel their elementary school-aged child is ready to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion, you are encouraged to attend our First Communion workshop. This learning event is intended to be a time for both the parents and the child to discover the gracious gift of God's love and mercy that comes to us through this meal. The children who participate in this workshop will celebrate their First Communion at the Maundy Thursday service on April 17, at 7:00 p.m. For further information, contact Pastor Rob at [pastor@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:pastor@discoveringfaith.com). Sign up today at the welcome center.

## **HOLY WEEK 2025**

**Maundy Thursday**

**April 17 | 7:00 PM**

**Good Friday**

**April 18 | 12:00 PM, 7:00 PM**

**Easter Celebration Worship**

**Sunday April 20 | 6:30, 8:00, 9:30 AM**

## **KIDNEY DONOR SEARCH**

Kari and Jake Rothmeyer, members of Faith, are searching for a kidney donor for their son Asher. The live donor should be 42 years old or younger, have no history of diabetes, and be of a healthy weight. If you are interested in learning more or would like to discuss this opportunity with the family, you can contact Kari at (331) 238-9512.

## **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

**Tuesdays | 9:00 AM**

### ***The Women of Easter***

All women of Faith are invited to attend a study of The Women of Easter by Liz Curtis Higgs. Beginning March 11, the group will journey through Lent watching the ancient scenes unfold that lead to the Savior's resurrection through the eyes of Mary of Bethany, Mary of Nazareth and Mary Magdalene.

The weekly meetings will be held in the auditorium and facilitated by Sue Boozell. The workbook is \$8 and will be available at the meetings. For additional information, contact Sue Boozell at [sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com).

## **A MOMENT FOR MOM**

**Sat 4/12 | 10:00 AM**

Our moms group here at Faith, A Moment for Mom, has a delicious breakfast and amazing speakers on topics relating to motherhood. We meet the 2nd Saturday of each month through May 2025. We offer affordable childcare while you attend. Our website is up and ready for you to explore our speakers and cost for the 2024-2025 year. Come join other moms of kiddos ages 0-10, to laugh, learn and connect. Register today and/or reach out to us for more information at [www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom](http://www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom)

## KIDWERKS

**Sundays at 9:30 AM**

Join us in the auditorium 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. To register go to [discoveringfaith.com](http://discoveringfaith.com) or for more information please contact [jenn@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:jenn@discoveringfaith.com) PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> grade

## 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