

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

September 26, 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.

CURRENT MESSAGE SERIES :

The Gathering

OPENING SONGS *please stand*

Because of Your Love

Yeah, yeah

Yeah, yeah

As we come into Your Presence
We remember every blessing
That You've poured out so freely from above
Lifting gratitude and praises
For compassion so amazing
Lord, we've come to give You thanks for all You've done

Because of Your love, we're forgiven
Because of Your love, our hearts are clean
We lift You up with songs of freedom
Forever we're changed because of Your love

Yeah, yeah

Yeah

Yeah, yeah

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

Hallelujah Hallelujah
Praise the one risen son of God

When Satan tempts me to despair And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there Who made an end to all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there the risen Lamb My perfect spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I am The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself I cannot die My soul is purchased with His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Saviour and my God
With Christ my Saviour and my God

I bow before the cross of Christ And marvel at this love divine
God's perfect Son was sacrificed To make me righteous in God's eyes
This river's depths I cannot know But I can glory in its flood
The Lord Most High has bowed down low
And poured on me His glorious love
And poured on me His glorious love

OPENING PRAYER

L: Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you.
Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

FIRST LESSON

James 5: 13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Amazing Grace

please stand

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind but now I see

GOSPEL

Mark 9: 38-50

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

MESSAGE

| Pastor Paul Olson

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Made children and heirs of God’s promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A: God of community, we pray for the church around the world. Unite us in our love for you. Help us overcome our divisions, that we are encouraged to work together for your sake. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God of creation, we pray for this hurting earth. Awaken in us a new desire to care for this world and empower us to support agencies, organizations, and individual efforts to heal our environment. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God of cooperation, we pray for nations of the world embroiled in conflict. Inspire leaders to listen to each other and work towards peaceful solutions to disagreements. Protect the vulnerable, especially children, who cannot find safety in their home or country. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God of comfort, we pray for all who live with mental or physical illness. Help them find appropriate care. Bring healing and wholeness when the path forward seems bleak. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God of compassion, we pray for the young people of this congregation. Renew in us your call to welcome the children in our midst. As they grow, strengthen their faith and our commitment to them. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious and loving God, we pray for the family and friends of Faith... Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

please stand

Victory Feast

Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord
Fill this cup of blessing to the brim
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown
That we may be fed with the bread of life
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all
Unite them with the prayers we offer now
Grace our table with your presence
and give us a foretaste of the feast

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: God of abundance,
you cause streams to break forth in the desert
and manna to rain from the heavens.
Accept the gifts you have first given us.
Unite them with the offering of our lives
to nourish the world you love so dearly;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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.

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 THE MEAL

**P: All who hunger and thirst, come.
The table is ready.**

C: Thanks be to God.

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 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: Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

BLESSING

P: People of God,
you are Christ's body,
bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, † one God,
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

I sing the mighty pow'r of God, that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command, and all the stars obey.

Chorus I sing... I sing
 I lift Your name on high
 I sing... I sing
 Your mighty power be ever glorified

I sing the goodness of the Lord, who filled the earth with food,
Who formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Your wonders are displayed everywhere I turn my eyes,
From here, the ground beneath my feet, and all across the skies (Chorus)

All plants, all flowers here below, still make Your glories known
And clouds arise and tempests blow, by order from Your throne;
Everything that draws its life from You is ever in Your care;
And everywhere that I can be, I know You're with me there. (Chorus)

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

REVOLUTION KICK OFF

Sep 26 | 5:00 PM

Put it on the calendar and get ready for a great new year of outrageous games, extraordinary worship, and engaging groups as we gather on Sunday Nights for our Student Ministries. Students, 6th-12th grade, are invited to attend this dynamic night of growing as disciples. Student ministries meets the first and third Sundays of the month.

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Begins Tues 9/28 | 7:00 PM

Paul and His Letter to the Philippians

Prof. N.T. Wright, renowned biblical scholar and historian will walk you through Paul's Letter to the Philippians. The course is a reflection of how to think and live in light of the death and resurrection of King Jesus. The powerful realities of 'unity' and 'holiness' are combined through the proper way to think about the work of God in Christ. The central portion of the letter, Phil 2:6-11, provides the foundation for understanding the whole of the letter and Paul's own way of life. Dig deep into the New Testament through studying this wonderful and practical epistle.

FIRST LOOK & KIDWERKS ARE BACK!

Our Sunday morning children's ministry program is back with both in-person and virtual options this year. At 9:30am we will meet weekly and you can choose to attend in person (with masks) or online. Whichever suits your family's needs. Registration is now open <https://faith.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/8/responses/new>

UPDATED COVID GUIDELINES FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Below are guidelines we ask all onsite participants to follow. These will be revised periodically as CDC guidelines continue to evolve.

- 1) Masks are required at all times while in the building, regardless of vaccination status. If you are ill, been exposed, or at risk, please continue to worship with us online.
- 2) Seating will be identified with space for social distancing blocked off. If you are the first to sit in your pew, please choose the center seating option to avoid “climbing” over one another.
- 3) Musicians, singers, and worship leaders will be following CDC guidelines. If you are fully vaccinated, feel free to fully participate in singing and prayer. Otherwise, the congregation may pray the words of our songs or hum along, but please do not sing. According to the CDC, if not vaccinated, singing has a greater risk of dispersing droplets.
- 4) Nursery has resumed operation.
- 5) Fellowship in the Café has resumed.

All services will continue be available via live stream and on-demand.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in keeping our community safe and healthy.



Pastor Rob Douglas

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