



Time After Pentecost
8:00 am worship service

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!

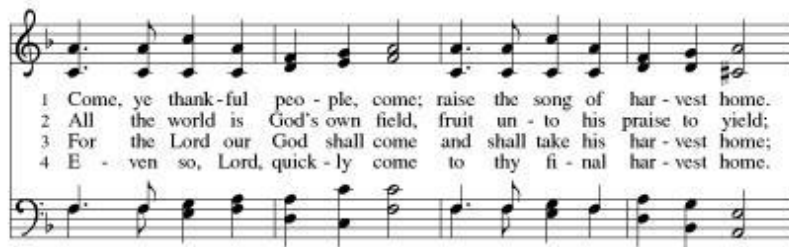
The Gathering

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come | ELW #693

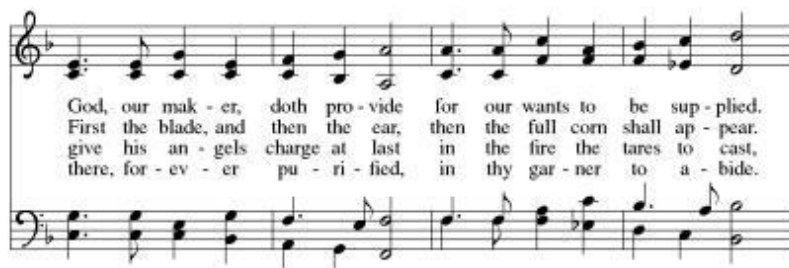
please stand



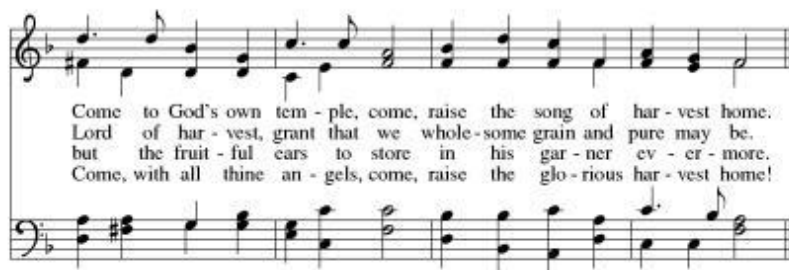
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield;
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har-vest home;
4 E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi-nal har-vest home.



All be safe-ly gath-ered in ere the win-ter storms be-gin.
wheat and tares to- geth-er sown, un-to joy or sor-row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of-fens-es purge a-way;
Gath-er then thy peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our mak-er, doth pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap-pear.
give his an-gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for-ev-er pu-ri-fied, in thy gar-ner to a-bide.



Come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.
Lord of har-vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit-ful ears to store in his gar-ner ev-er-more.
Come, with all thine an-gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home!

GREETING

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

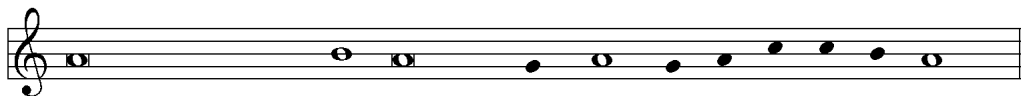
C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

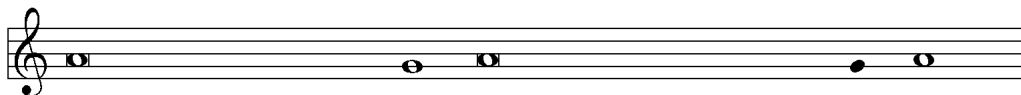
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.


 ♪ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,


 let us pray to the Lord.


 ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.


 ☩ Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord.


 ☩ A - men

let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

[A] Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord.

[C] A - men

Refrain

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

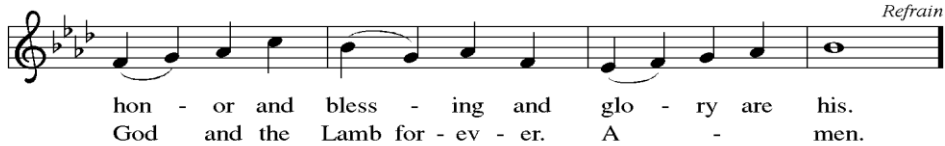
Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

join in the hymn of all crea - tion:



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

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.

The Word

READING

Isaiah 43: 1-3

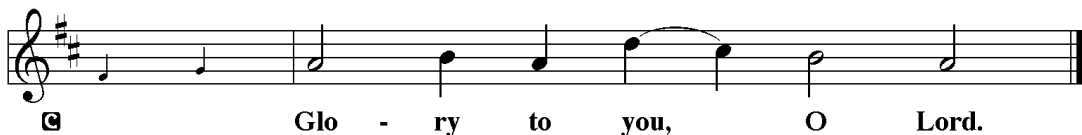
But now thus says the Lord,
 he who created you, O Jacob,
 he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
 I have called you by name; you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
 and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *please stand*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.



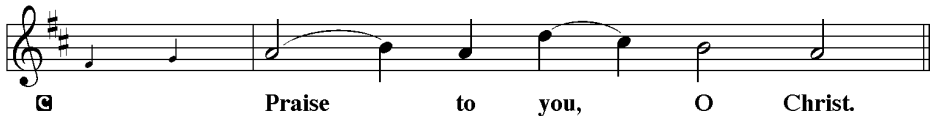
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

The Lost Bus | Pastor Rob

HYMN OF THE DAY

Here I Am, Lord | ELW #574

please stand



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me, I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

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.**
- P: 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.**

The Meal

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE *please stand*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

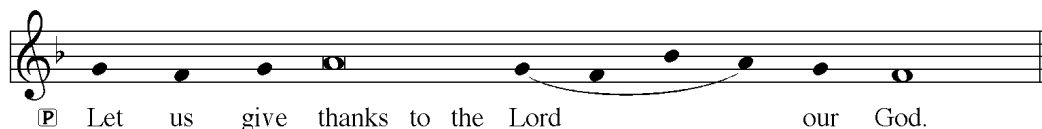
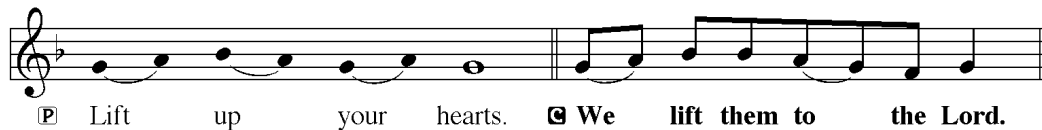
The musical score is written on six staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics. The third staff has a key signature change to one flat (Bb) and continues the melody and lyrics. The fourth staff continues the melody and lyrics. The fifth staff continues the melody and lyrics. The sixth staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

OFFERTORY 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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: It is indeed right and salutary . . .we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: 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: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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 the usher stand, please ask an usher to assist you.

☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: **Amen.**

☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.
He re-calls his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

please stand

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

The Sending

BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
† one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

You Servants of God | ELW #825

please stand

1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -
2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is
3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and

broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of
nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his
loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the
pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with

Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!
tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

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!

REVOLUTION KICK OFF

Sun 9/20 | 5:00 PM

Put it on the calendar and get ready for a great new year of outrageous games, extraordinary worships, and engaging groups as we gather on Sunday Nights for our Student Ministries.

Students, 6th-12th grade, are invited to attend this engaging night of growing as followers of Jesus. Student ministries meets the first and third Sundays of the month. Register today at www.discoveringfaith.com/students.

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