



“LAST WORDS”

JESUS'S LAST WORDS FROM THE CROSS

Last Sunday After Epiphany
9:30 am worship service

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

February 11, 2024

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 : LAST WORDS

There's something powerful about someone's last words. And that is especially true of the final words Jesus spoke from the cross. The gospel writers recorded seven sayings of Jesus from the cross, seven last words, and these sayings are the focus of our Lent series. As we prepare our hearts for the celebration of resurrection on Easter Sunday, we are taking a closer look at these final words Jesus spoke before he died on the cross and discover their significance for us today.

The Gathering

OPENING SONGS *please stand*

Hosanna, Praise is Rising

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You We turn to You
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You We long for You

Pre-Chorus Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day
In Your presence all our fears are washed away Washed away

Chorus Hosanna, Hosanna
You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna, Hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome you here, Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You We turn to You
In your kingdom, broken lives are made new You make us new

(Pre-Chorus) (Chorus)

(Pre-Chorus) (Pre-Chorus)

(Chorus) (Chorus)

Way Maker

You are here, moving in our midst
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, working in this place
I worship You, I worship You

Chorus You are way maker, miracle worker
Promise keeper, light in the darkness
My God, that is who You are

You are here, turning lives around
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, healing every heart
I worship You, I worship You (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

Refrain That is who You are That is who You are
That is who You are That is who You are

Bridge Even when I don't see it, You're working
Even when I don't feel it, You're working
You never stop, You never stop working
You never stop Jesus

(*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)
(*Refrain*)

OPENING PRAYER

A: Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, 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

FIRST LESSON

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Seek Ye First

please stand

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And its righteousness
And all these things will be added unto you
Allelu, alleluia Bought with the precious blood of Christ

GOSPEL

Matthew 4: 1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

MESSAGE

Preparation | Pastor Rob

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God’s blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A: We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for any who are sick and suffering. Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Gracious and loving God, we pray for the family and friends of Faith... God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

Beautiful Savior

please stand

Beautiful Savior King of creation
Son of God and Son of Man
Truly I'd love Thee truly I'd serve Thee
Light of my soul my Joy my Crown

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Blessed are you, Holy One,
for all good things come from you.
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.
Meet us at this table,
that we receive what we seek
and follow your Son, Jesus,
in whose name we pray.

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:

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: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.
Come and see.
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: Giver of every gift,
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power
for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever.

C: Amen

CLOSING SONG

No One

Yahweh, Yahweh

Holy is Your name

I don't wanna take it in vain *(Repeat)*

Chorus There will be no other God before You
There will be no other God before You
There is no one above You
No one beside You
And nobody like You
There will be no other God before You
No one, no one, no one
No one, no one, no one

Yahweh, Yahweh

Holy is Your name

I don't wanna take it in vain *(Repeat) (Chorus)*

Who else can lead us, lead us to freedom? No one, no one, no one
Who else can heal all our sins and diseases? No one, no one, no one
Who else can walk, walk on the water? No one, no one, no one
And who else can answer, answer by fire? No one, no one, no one
And who else can bring down the tallest of giants? No one, no one, no one
And who else can silence the roar of the lion? No one, no one, no one
Who else is worthy, worthy of worship? No one, no one, no one
Who else is worthy, worthy of worship? *(Chorus)*

Nobody greater, nobody higher No one, no one, no one
(Repeat 3x)

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

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!

SCOUT SUNDAY

Today!

Faith Lutheran Church's Cub Scout Pack 643 and Boy Scout Troop 508 are present at both services to greet Parishioners and assist with the service. This is a great opportunity for our congregation and our Scouts to come together.

The Boy Scouts of America designates a Sunday that falls in February to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. This coincides with the anniversary of the creation of the Scouts BSA Program.

MEMBERSHIP @ FAITH

Mon Feb 12, 19 | 6:30 PM

The New Year is a time of new beginnings and renewal. For those of you seeking a new faith journey or looking to strengthen your faith journey, Faith will offer a membership course in February. Membership @ Faith invites participants to explore the vision, mission and values of Faith, as well as a broad overview of the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective. Participants will also discover their unique gifts and how they can use them in serving others. This course is open to everyone and is required of those who wish to become members at Faith. The course meets on Monday nights at 6:30 p.m. for two weeks (2/12 and 2/19). Sign up on line or at the welcome center.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wed 2/14 | Noon & 7:00 PM

During the Christian church year, there are two major celebrations. One is Christmas where we celebrate Jesus' birth, and the other is Easter, when we celebrate His death and resurrection. There is a time before Easter where we often prepare ourselves for Jesus' death and resurrection. This time is known as Lent. Lent consists of the 40 days before Easter, not counting Sundays— because they are always celebrations of Jesus' resurrection. Thus, the first day of Lent is always a Wednesday. In ancient times, people marked times of fasting, prayer, and repentance by placing ashes on their foreheads. Today we do it as a reminder of who we are and what we are—forgiven sinners.

NEXT

Sun 2/18 | 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

GROUPLINK

Tues 2/20 | 7:00 PM

If you are interested in learning how to connect to a community group here at Faith please plan on attending Grouplink. In a community group, people study God's Word together and discuss the issues and challenges of life. It's also where they pray, care for one another, and are missed if they don't show up. Life change happens best in these small groups! Sign up at the welcome center or online at www.discoveringfaith.com

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: 2/21, 2/8, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20. Our worship series begins after this fellowship time at 7:15PM. Sign up at the welcome center or online at www.discoveringfaith.com

MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP – “Things Jesus Never Said”

Wednesdays | 7:15 PM

Begins 2/21/23

These days it's easy to see life the way we want to. We can filter our images, pick the news we want to hear, and listen only to the viewpoints that agree with us. When we do that, we start to distort our view of the world. The same thing can happen to our view of God. We reshape our perception of Him into what we want to believe, or what we want to think about others. Jesus came to bring us the truth about God and His plan for us, and it doesn't always sound like what you may think.

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.

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP
Becoming a Contagious Christian

Tuesdays | 7:00 PM

Learn how to share the gospel in natural and effective ways, being the person God made you to be. By applying training principles learned in this study to real-life situations and relationships, you'll identify and develop an evangelism style that's effective for you. This 6 week online study will be facilitated by Becky Marchiando. Please sign up at the welcome center so that we may send you Zoom credentials required to participate. Come join us!

MOM'S GROUP: A Moment for Mom

Sat 3/9 | 10:00 AM

We are hosting moms of children infants-elementary school to come together for a time of learning, laughter, and treats. Take a moment to connect with other moms, while enjoying a yummy breakfast, hearing from a knowledgeable speaker on topics related to parenting, and building your mom village along the way. Our group meets the 2nd Saturday of each month, through May, 10:00 AM - 12:15 PM. For more information about our guest speaker and topic lineup, and to register for events, please visit www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom.

KIDWERKS

Sundays at 9:30 AM

Join us 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. For more information please contact jenn@discoveringfaith.com

REVOLUTION

Sundays | 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!

Living Generously

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.

2024 YTD Giving. \$19,967

2024 YTD Budget \$32,822

2024 YTD Expenses \$36,776

Prayers

If you would like to add someone to our prayer list and have the prayer team pray for them, please contact the church office at [\(630\) 862-3500](tel:6308623500) or send an e-mail prayerteam@discoveringfaith.com

Prayer concerns will be listed for four weeks unless otherwise noted.

Care

If you know of someone who is in need of emotional, physical, or spiritual support, please contact our care team at: careteam@discoveringfaith.com

Pastoral Emergency

In the case of an emergency that requires immediate Pastoral Care, please contact Pastor Rob directly on his cell phone at [\(630\) 248-5515](tel:6302485515).



Pastor Rob Douglas
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