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Fifth Sunday of Easter  
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

May 18, 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!

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# *The Gathering*

## **OPENING SONG**

### **Blessed Be Your Name**

Blessed Be Your Name  
In the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow  
Blessed be Your name

Blessed Be Your name  
When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness  
Blessed Be Your name

*Pre-Chorus* Every blessing You pour out, I'll Turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in, Lord Still I will say

*Chorus* Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name  
When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's 'all as it should be'  
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name  
On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering  
Blessed be Your name (*Pre-Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

You give and take away  
You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say  
Lord, blessed be Your name (*Repeat*) (*Chorus*)

## **10,000 Reasons**

*Chorus* Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing when the evening comes (*Chorus*)

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find (*Chorus*)

And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore (*Chorus*)

I'll worship Your holy name  
I'll worship Your holy name

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through 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**

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# The Word

## READING

**Colossians 1: 4-5**

for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel

## RESPONSE

Blessing, Honor and Glory

*please stand*

Blessing, Honor, Glory to The Lamb  
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb

Death could not hold him down  
For he is risen Seated upon the throne  
He is the lamb of God  
Blessing, honor, Glory to the lamb  
Holy , Righteous, worthy is the lamb of God

## GOSPEL

**John 13:31-35**

When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

## MESSAGE

Cultivating Confidence | Pastor Rob

## **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: Fill the church with the spirit of your redeeming love. Make us steadfast in our proclamation of your grace for all people without exceptions, especially those often overlooked in our communities. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Awaken joy in the beauty and abundance of your creation. Show us the wonder of your presence from the smallest flower to the tallest tree. Recommit us to preservation of wild places. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Instruct all world leaders to protect the most vulnerable among us. Guide those in power toward equitable and just economic policies, so that all might have sufficient resources to live safely and with dignity. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Pour out your love on all in need of care: those mourning losses, enduring trauma, experiencing broken relationships, yearning for companionship, or facing illness. Wipe away every tear. 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.**

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# *The Meal*

## 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

### 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.**

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## *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 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.**

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## *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

## Praise to the Lord Almighty- Passion

Praise to the Lord the Almighty  
The King of creation  
O my soul praise Him for He is my health  
And my salvation

*Chorus 1* All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near  
Praise Him in glad adoration

Praise to the Lord who o'er all things  
So wondrously reigneth  
Shelters thee under His wings  
Yea so gently sustaineth

*Chorus 2* Hast thou not seen How thy desires e'er have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth

Hallelujah, hallelujah (*Repeat*)

Praise to the Lord who doth prosper  
Thy work and defend thee  
Surely His goodness and mercy  
Here daily attend Thee

*Chorus 3* Ponder anew what the Almighty can do  
If in His love He befriend Thee

Praise to the Lord, O let all that  
Is in me adore Him  
All that hath life and breath come now  
With praises before Him

*Chorus 4* Let the amen sound from His people again  
Gladly for aye we adore Him (*Repeat*)

Hallelujah, hallelujah (*Repeat*)

## DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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## 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](http://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**

**Sundays at 9:30AM**

May: 18

June: 1, 15 & 29

July: 13 & 27

August: 10 & 24

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](mailto: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](mailto:sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com)

## HESED HOUSE SERVING EVENT

Weds 6/18 | 6:30 PM

Faith's next serving opportunity at Hesed House is June 18. We will need roughly 5 to 10 volunteers to help with meal setup, serving, and cleanup. Volunteers can conveniently sign up online or at the welcome center. All that's needed is a serving heart. Sign up today! If you have questions about Faith's Hesed House ministry, please reach out to the ministry team at [hesedhouse@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:hesedhouse@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](http://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.

## **A MOMENT FOR MOM**

**Sat 6/14 | 10:00 AM**

Our last session before our summer break will be Saturday, June 14, at 10:00 AM. We will be holding a play day. Details to follow.

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 June 2025. We offer affordable childcare while you attend. 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).

## **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](mailto:jenn@discoveringfaith.com) or register online at [discoveringfaith.com](http://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.



Pastor Rob Douglas  
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