



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
8:00 am worship service

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

February 7, 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 WORSHIP SERIES: KINGDOM COME

We often read the Bible for application, inspiration, or direction. However, there are times when the author wants to simply point the reader to a big idea—an idea that fits with God's grand story. In the Gospel of Mark, we read about Peter's experience with Jesus that led Peter to believe in one big idea: the kingdom of God has come, and everyone is invited to participate.

The Gathering

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

Oh, Worship the King | ELW #842

please stand

1 Oh, wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.
2 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
3 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?
4 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,
5 O mea - sure - less might, in - ef - fa - ble love,

Oh, grate - ful - ly sing God's pow - er and love;
Al - might - y, your pow'r has found - ed of old;
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
while an - gels de - light to hymn you a - bove,

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,
the hum - bler cre - a - tion, though fee - ble their lays,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
our mak - er, de - fend - er, re - deem - er, and friend.
with true ad - o - ra - tion shall sing to your praise.

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



☩ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☩ **Lord, have mer - cy.**



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



☩ **Lord, have mer - cy.**



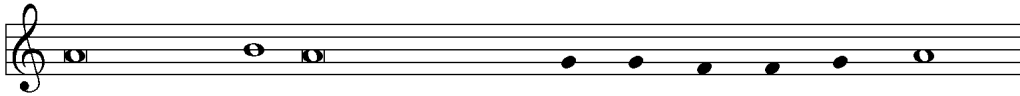
☩ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



☩ **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

HYMN OF PRAISE

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



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

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless-ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

C: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Word

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God”? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

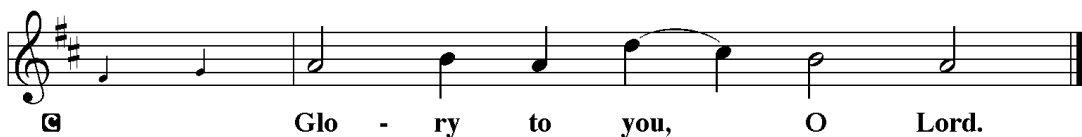
For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

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 Mark, the 1st chapter.



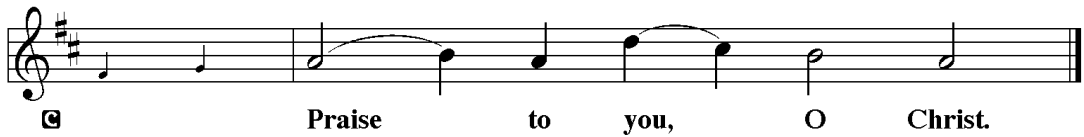
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Mark 12: 28-34

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’ —this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

So Close | Pastor Rob

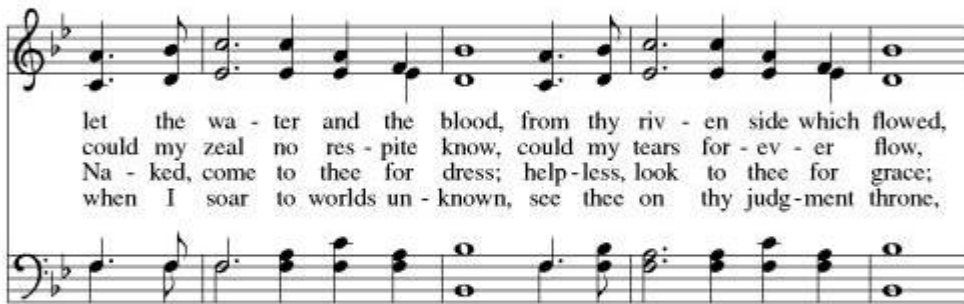
HYMN OF THE DAY

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me | ELW #623

please stand



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.
- P: For the church: for ministries of healing and wholeness, for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains, for those serving in prison ministry, for all who proclaim freedom and release in the name of Christ, let us pray.
- C: Have mercy, O God.**
- P: For creation: for insects in the grass, clouds on the mountaintops, for cattle and the rainwater they drink, for the humility to take our place among all creatures of the earth, let us pray.
- C: Have mercy, O God.**
- P: For the nations: for all who lead in cities and towns, states and countries; for community organizers, school officials, and CEOs; for international health organizations, that in times of trial, fear, or hopelessness, they find freedom in service to those most in need, let us pray.
- C: Have mercy, O God.**
- P: For all wearied by life's burdens: for those who are poor, for those lacking supportive relationships, for those crushed by debt, for those struggling with chronic pain or other sickness, for those exhausted from overwork or stress, and for all who cry out to you, let us pray.
- C: Have mercy, O God.**
- P: For this congregation: for outreach and social ministries centered here; for parish nurses and visitors; for ministries of companionship and support, for the young people in this place who open us to new understandings, let us pray.
- C: Have mercy, O God.**
- P: (Prayers of the community), let us pray.
- C: Have mercy, O God.**
- P: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.
- C: Amen.**

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

The Sending

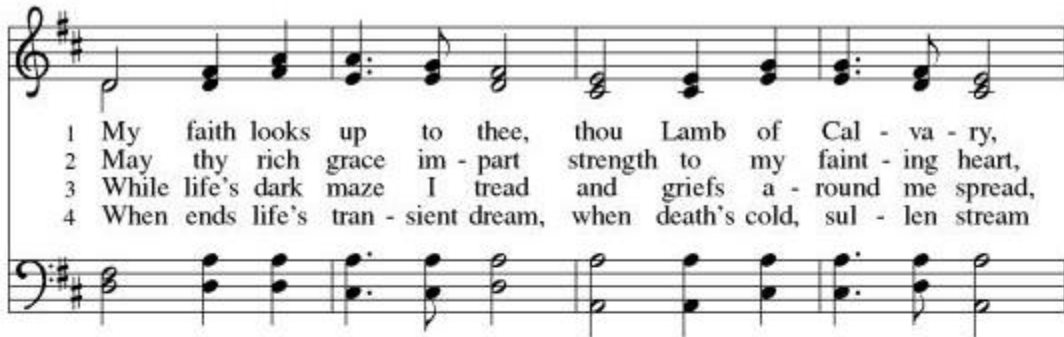
BLESSING

P: God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter † keep you in peace.

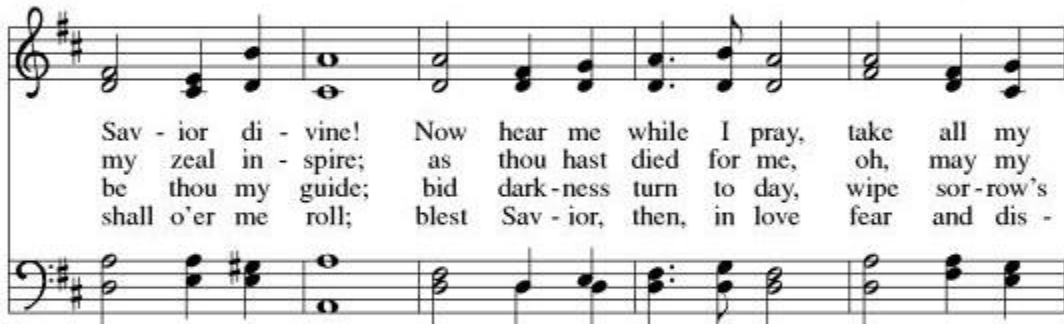
C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee | ELW #759



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Today! | 11:30 AM

All members are invited to attend Faith's annual congregational meeting. This year's meeting is on Zoom, a link will be sent out to members prior. Agenda items will include a review and celebration of 2020, approval of the 2021 spending plan.

FEED THE NEED: 2021 MOBILE PACK

Sat 2/12 & 2/13

Let's Work Together to Fight Hunger

Just because there is a pandemic doesn't mean the church is closed. God calls us out to bring hope to a hurting world. You are invited to be a part of sharing that hope in a very tangible way. Faith is participating in the 2021 Feed the Need event scheduled for February 12 & 13th and here is how you can be a part of it!

ONE: DONATE

It takes only \$88 to feed a child for a year through Feed My Starving Children. We've set a challenge **goal for our church of \$880**. That's 10 kids that will be fed. Your generosity has never been more important. Won't you help us reach our goal?

TWO: VOLUNTEER

Teams of five people are invited to sign up to serve at FMSC Aurora packing center on either Friday, February 12, or Saturday, February 13. You will serve with only your team and social distancing, masks, and sanitizing measures will be in place. Gather your favorite people, grab your mask, and get ready to serve in a safe, socially distanced setting. If you would like the link to volunteer please contact the office and it can be emailed to you.

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Tuesdays | 7:00 PM

30 Days to Understanding the Bible

The problem most of us have with the Bible is we never got the big picture. Master the Bible by looking at only a manageable amount of information. In 30 days, you'll have a complete understanding of the story of the Bible and the core teachings or doctrines that Christians have held onto throughout the centuries, presented in bite-sized pieces. This six-session online series is led by Pastor Rob and meets on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:00pm.

Register online: <https://faith.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/115/responses/new>

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Wednesdays | 7:00 PM

Rhythms of Renewal

Daily struggles with anxiety and stress make it difficult to receive God's peace. Rhythms of Renewal will help you trade your anxiety for the vibrant life you were meant to live through four profound rhythms: rest, restore, connect, and create. With encouraging stories and practical steps, Rebekah Lyons will help you begin an intentional, lifelong journey toward sustained emotional, relational, and spiritual health. Rebekah shares a pathway to establish four life-giving rhythms that quiet inner chaos and make room for a flourishing life. This five-session online series is led by Pastor Rob and meets on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:00pm. Register online: <https://faith.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/116/responses/new>

LET'S BUILD A SNOWMAN!

At the next big snowfall of 3 inches or more.... Come out and build your snow-man at Faith! Snowmen can be made anywhere on the property. First come First Built! Snowmen must be tasteful and family friendly. Decorations are encouraged. Decorations must be retrieved as your snowman melts. Label your snowman so we know who built it.

REVOLUTION ONLINE

Sundays | 5:00 & 6:00 PM

God is good, and He is with us in everything! We want our students to know that, trust that, and experience that every moment of their lives. Our fall groups for middle & high school students have begun. These 45 minute gatherings will allow our students to connect with each other and with God, and grow in their faith. This will be a fun, and engaging opportunity for your child to connect with others during this confusing time, where they will find encouragement, support, and growth.

KIDWERKS LIVE

Sundays | 10:30 AM

We've changed to a new time and a new engaging format to help our kids connect with God and with each other. Every Sunday morning kids are invited to connect and grow through our Kidwerks Live 2.0. This fun, interactive, event happens at our new time at 10:30am.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS REGISTRATION

We are now accepting registrations for Fall 2021.

Information and forms for registration are available on the website discoveringfaith.com under the "preschool" tab. Feel free to call the church and leave a message at ext. 103 or email jenn@discoveringfaith.com and Jenn will get back to you as soon as possible.



DISCOVERINGFAITH.COM

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