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20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

## **Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.**

October 15, 2023

### **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: FOLLOW THE LEADER**

Do you ever feel like the Christian life is a long game of "Jesus Says"? Jesus says pray. Jesus says give. Jesus says to go to church. However, Jesus' invitation to his first-century audience was really an invitation to relationship. And it began with a simple request-follow me. Join us for this transformational journey through the book of Colossians as we traces Paul's teaching on what it means to follow the leader- and prepare to see your faith radically changed.

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# The Gathering

## OPENING 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)*

## **Gratitude**

All my words fall short  
I got nothing new  
How could I express  
All my gratitude?

I could sing these songs  
As I often do  
But every song must end  
And You never do

*Chorus 1* So I throw up my hands And praise You again and again  
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah Hallelujah

*Chorus 2* And I know it's not much But I've nothing else fit for a King  
Except for a heart singing hallelujah Hallelujah

I've got one response  
I've got just one move  
With my arm stretched wide  
I will worship You (*Chorus 1*) (*Chorus 2*)

*Bridge* Come on, my soul Oh, don't you get shy on me  
Lift up your song 'Cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs  
Get up and praise the Lord (*Repeat 2x*) (*Chorus 1*) (*Chorus 2*)

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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## The Word

### READING

**Colossians 2: 20 – 3:4**

If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the universe, why do you live as if you still belonged to the world? Why do you submit to regulations, “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch”? All these regulations refer to things that perish with use; they are simply human commands and teachings. These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-imposed piety, humility, and severe treatment of the body, but they are of no value in checking self-indulgence.

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

### 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 22:1-14**

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into

the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

## MESSAGE

Lasting Change | Pastor Rob

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A: For the church of Jesus Christ in this and every land, that all followers of Christ share the mind of Christ and strive to live together in peace, staying firm in the Lord. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For green pastures and still waters and all the beauty of the natural world, that creation flourishes and humankind lives in right relationship with all you have made. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For the nations of the world and all who hold positions of authority, that they govern in accordance with God's vision of justice, providing shelter and refuge to all in need, striving toward the goal of peace and prosperity for all. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For all experiencing valleys of illness and grief, that they be healed and comforted and find rest in the presence of the Good Shepherd who walks beside them. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For this community of believers, that wherever there is conflict or discord, the love of Christ may keep us united and make us mindful of all that is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, and excellent. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

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

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

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## *The Meal*

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

### **OFFERING**

### **OFFERING RESPONSE**

Beautiful Savior

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: God of power, God of plenty,  
all things belong to you.  
We bring your gifts to the table,  
that all might be fed.  
Form us into the body of your Beloved,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen**

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## *The Meal*

P: God's love for the world was so great that He gave us His Son, so that anyone who believes in Him should not die but receive eternal life.

We come to this table in need;

We are weak and need strength;

We are broken and need healing;

We are hardened and need softening;

We are poor in spirit and need care.

**C: We give thanks for Your compassion, O God;  
We rejoice at Your invitation to share in this meal,  
and we receive again Your abundant grace.**

P: So, let's remember how Jesus gave Himself for us;

At supper, on the night of His betrayal, Jesus took bread,

gave thanks, broke it and shared it with His friends, saying:

This is my body, given for you. Take it, eat it, and remember Me.

**C: Amen.**

P: After supper, Jesus took the cup,

gave thanks and shared it with His friends, saying:

This is my blood shed for you. Take it, drink it and remember Me.

**C: Amen.**

P: In this bread and in this wine we receive again

the generous, and costly gift of life,

offered to us through the sacrifice of Jesus.

This meal is a proclamation of God's goodness, a thanksgiving for God's grace and a sharing in God's life.

**C: And we will keep celebrating in this way until Jesus returns. Amen.**



## 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: Jesus invites you to this table.

Come, eat and live.

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: Blessed be your name, O God,  
for we have feasted on your Word,  
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.  
Strengthened by this food,  
send us to gather the world to your banquet,  
where none are left out and all are satisfied.  
In Jesus' name we pray.

C: **Amen.**

## CLOSING SONG

## Trading My Sorrows

Chorus I'm trading my sorrows  
I'm trading my shame  
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord  
I'm trading my sickness  
I'm trading my pain  
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord

Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes yes Lord  
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes yes Lord  
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes yes Lord, Amen

I am pressed but not crushed  
Persecuted not abandoned  
Struck down but not destroyed  
I am blessed beyond the curse  
For His promise will endure  
That his joy's gonna be my strength  
Though the sorrow may last for the night  
His joy comes with the morning (Chorus)

## DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. God is at work in you.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

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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!

### **NEXT**

**Today! | 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

### **MEMBERSHIP @ FAITH**

**Mon 10/16 & 10/23 | 6:30 PM**

This two-part course 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 an expectation of those who wish to become members at Faith! Register online at [discoveringfaith.com](http://discoveringfaith.com) or sign up at the welcome center.

### **HESED HOUSE SERVE EVENT**

**Weds 10/18 | 6:15 PM**

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. If you have questions about Faith's Hesed House ministry, please reach out to the ministry team at [hessedhouse@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:hessedhouse@discoveringfaith.com).

### **FIRST COMMUNION WORKSHOP**

**Sat 10/28 | 9:00- 11:00 AM**

For those parents who feel their child is ready to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion, you are encouraged to attend our First Communion workshop. The workshop provides a time for both parents and their children to learn about the gift of God's love that comes to us through this meal. Those who participate in this workshop will celebrate their First Communion on All Saints Sunday, November 5th. The workshop is led by Pastor Rob. Register today online or at the welcome center.

## **MOM'S GROUP: A Moment for Mom**

**Sat 11/11 | 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, October-May, 10:00 AM - 12:15 PM.

## **KIDWERKS**

**Sundays at 9:30 AM**

Join us in the auditorium 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. To register go to [discoveringfaith.com](http://discoveringfaith.com) or for more information please contact [jenn@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:jenn@discoveringfaith.com) PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> grade

## **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! Meets weekly in the auditorium  
Register online- [discoveringfaith.com](http://discoveringfaith.com)

## **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.

**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:(630)862-3500) or send an e-mail [prayerteam@discoveringfaith.com](mailto: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](mailto: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:(630)248-5515).



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