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**Easter Sunday**  
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

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

April 20, 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.

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## The Gathering

### EASTER CALL TO WORSHIP

Glorious Day

#### EASTER LITANY *please stand*

P: The Lord is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **His steadfast love endures forever.**

P: The Lord is risen indeed! And because he lives, we too shall live! Remember how he told you that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.

C: **Look! He is no longer here. The tomb of death is empty!**

P: He is risen indeed! And because he lives, we too shall live!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: The Lord's mighty arm has triumphed; his power has brought us victory!

C: **I will not die but live, and proclaim what the Lord has done.**

P: The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces.  
Death shall be no more.

C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation!**

P: The Lord is risen!

C: **He has risen indeed!**

## OPENING SONG

## Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia  
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia  
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia

Hymns of praise, then let us sing, Alleluia  
Unto Christ our heavenly king, Alleluia  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia  
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia  
Our salvation have procured, Alleluia  
Now above the sky, He's King, Alleluia  
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia  
Praise eternal as His love, Alleluia  
Praise Him all you heavenly host, Alleluia  
Father Son and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**L:** God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

## EASTER GREETING & WELCOME

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## The Word

### READING

### Acts 10: 34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

### SONG OF PROMISE *please stand*

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy  
Lord God Almighty  
Early in the morning  
Our song shall rise to Thee  
Holy, holy, holy  
Merciful and mighty  
God in three persons  
Blessed Trinity

## GOSPEL

Luke 24:1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

## MESSAGE

A New Beginning | Pastor Rob Douglas

## THE PRAYERS

- 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: Kindle new life in your church. Encourage all who seek creative ways to share the good news of Christ’s resurrection. Bless mission developers and new ministries, that their work plant seeds that flourish. God of grace,  
**C: hear our prayer.**
- A: Nourish new life in all of creation. Shower forests and grasslands, deserts, and mountains with life-giving rains. Grant us delight in your glory that shows forth in all that grows this season. God of grace,  
**C: hear our prayer.**
- A: Empower new life among the nations. As you raised Jesus from the dead, bring new hope for peace and reconciliation in places of war and strife. Raise up leaders who are steadfast in their commitment to justice and transformation. God of grace,  
**C: hear our prayer.**

- A: Awaken new life in this place. Open our hearts to ways you are calling us to be at work in the world and our community. Give us courage to boldly share your love for all people beyond our walls. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- 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*

### **PEACE**

- 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.**

### **OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY**

#### Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns  
The Lamb upon His throne  
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns  
All music but its own  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
Of Him who died for thee  
And hail Him as thy matchless King  
Through all eternity

## PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

P: 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**

## EASTER COMMUNION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: God of Easter, in the presence of this bread, we lift our voices in praise. We see the bread in all its glory and power, grateful that the resurrection of our Lord has stamped it with the emblem of eternity. As the tomb is empty and the bread of his table is filled, breathe into all who break it, a rebirth of the majesty and mystery of Easter.

C: **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...**

P: Take and eat: this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. God of life, may the beauty of this Easter day bring us to this cup with open hearts. May the majesty of this day bring us to this cup with open minds. May the truth of this day bring us to the cup with willing hands. You have blessed this cup with the power of Easter. Touch our lives with the gift of your grace.

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

- P: 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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- C: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
- P: Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

## **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 COMMUNION**

- 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 MUSIC

## Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

Now all the vault of heav'n resounds  
in praise of love that still abounds,  
"Christ hath triumphed! He is living!"  
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
Repeat their song of glory here:  
"Christ has triumphed, He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal is the gift he brings,  
therefore our heart with rapture sings:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Now still he comes to give us life;  
and by his presence stills all strife  
"Christ has triumphed, He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;  
set heart and will on things above,  
that we conquer through your triumph,  
grant grace sufficient for life's day,  
that by our lives we truly say,  
"Christ has triumphed, He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Adoring praises now we bring  
and with the heav'nly blessed sing,  
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"  
Be to the Father, and our Lord,  
to Spirit blest, most holy God,  
all the glory never ending!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## **POST-COMMUNION 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.**

## **BLESSING**

P: The triune God,  
who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit,  
light your way with resurrection dawn,  
now and always.

**C: Amen.**

## CLOSING SONG

## Christ is Risen

Let no one caught in sin remain  
Inside the lie of inward shame  
But fix our eyes upon the cross  
And run to Him who showed great love  
And bled for us  
Freely You've bled for us

Chorus Christ is risen from the dead Trampling over death by death  
Come awake come awake Come and rise up from the grave  
Christ is risen from the dead We are one with Him again  
Come awake come awake Come and rise up from the grave

Beneath the weight of all our sin  
You bowed to none but heaven's will  
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown  
No burden great can hold You down  
In strength You reign  
Forever let Your church proclaim (Chorus)

O death where is your sting  
O hell where is your victory  
O church come stand in the light  
The glory of God has defeated the night  
Singing O death where is your sting  
O hell where is your victory  
O church come stand in the light  
Our God is not dead He's alive He's alive (Chorus)

## DISMISSAL

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

A: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

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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!

### **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](mailto:jenn@discoveringfaith.com)

### **REVOLUTION**

**Sun 4/27 | 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!

### **A MOMENT FOR MOM**

**Sat 5/10 | 10:00 AM**

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 May 2025. We offer affordable childcare while you attend. This month Dr Jana Richardson will be speaking on Empowered Motherhood: Understanding Your Pelvic Floor. 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)

### **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

**ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP****Begins 4/29 | 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!

**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.

**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)

## 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