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Sixth Sunday of Easter  
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

May 25, 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**

### **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)*

## **What A Friend We Have In Jesus**

What a friend we have in Jesus  
All our sins and griefs to bear  
And what a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer  
Oh what peace we often forfeit  
Oh what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations  
Is there trouble anywhere  
We shall never be discouraged  
Take it to the Lord in prayer  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share  
Jesus knows our every weakness  
Take it to the Lord in prayer

*Chorus*    Precious Jesus  
              Lord and friend  
              I give everything to You  
              Shelter   Shepherd   Savior King  
              I give everything to You

Are we weak and heavy laden  
Cumbered with a load of care  
Precious Savior still our refuge  
Take it to the Lord in prayer  
Do thy friends despise forsake thee  
Take it to the Lord in prayer  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee  
Thou Wilt find a solace there   (*Chorus*)   (*Chorus*)

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, 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

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## The Word

### READING

**Hebrews 10: 23-25**

Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

### RESPONSE

Be Thou My Vision

*please stand*

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light

### GOSPEL

**John 14:23-29**

Jesus answered him, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and

remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe.

## MESSAGE

100 Reasons to be Encouraged | 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: Unite your people with communities of faith throughout the world. Further cooperation between people of different faith traditions and bless our non-Christian neighbors, that we learn and grow in deeper relationship. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Bless the earth with fresh water, clean air, and rich soil. Nurture growing crops and encourage communities developing sustainable farming practices. Help us to live in balance and harmony with your good creation. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Reconcile nations and communities suffering from violence and conflict. Protect refugees, asylum-seekers, and all who flee their homes seeking safety and security. Make all nations safe for both migrants and residents. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: This Memorial Day weekend, we remember all who have died in military service. Soothe loved ones who mourn, and strengthen support systems for veterans and their families. Bring peace among nations, that war and conflict around the world might cease. 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**

All Creatures of Our God and King

*please stand*

All creatures of our God and King  
Lift up your voice and with us sing  
O praise Him alleluia  
Thou burning sun with golden beam  
Thou silver mood with softer gleam  
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

#### **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

## Build My Life

Worthy of every song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You we live for You

Jesus the name above every other name  
Jesus the only One who could ever save  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You Oh we live for You

*Chorus* Holy there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder  
And show me who You are  
And fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Jesus the name above every other name  
Jesus the only One who could ever save  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You Oh we live for You (*Chorus*)

And I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken (*Repeat*) (*Chorus*)

## 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!

### **Outdoor Sunday Worship**

**Sun 6/22 | 9:30 AM**

Sunday, June 22, we'll be meeting outdoors at 9:30 AM for only one worship service. No 8:00 AM service. Bring your lawn chair or blanket and join us on the lawn. We'll have some outdoor seating as well. You can also attend from your car by tuning into FM 88.3. We'll be live streaming this service as well, if you're unable to make it in person. Come join us!

### **KIDWERKS Summer Schedule**

**Sundays at 9:30AM**

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!

## **WOMENS BIBLE STUDY**

**Tuesdays | 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 Hased 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 Hased House ministry, please reach out to the ministry team at [hasedhouse@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:hasedhouse@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).

## **NEXT**

**Sun 6/15 | 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

## **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](https://discoveringfaith.com)

## **Living Generously (through April 2025)**

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.

2025 YTD Revenue \$142,284

2025 YTD Budget \$147,749

2025 YTD Expenses \$156,192

## **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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