



# Faith Lutheran Church

**We warmly greet members  
and visitors in Jesus' name**

## **17<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

10:15 a.m., September 24, 2023



Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work.

God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism, we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all.

As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

Welcome to Worship at Faith Lutheran Church

***Gathered faithfully to love and serve God and all others***

7750 Beneva Road. Sarasota, FL, 34238 | 941-924-4664 | [www.faithlutheransrq.com](http://www.faithlutheransrq.com)

All the baptized are invited to the celebration of Holy Communion, trusting that Christ is present in this sacrament for the forgiveness of our sin and the strengthening of our faith.



The flowers on the altar today are given by  
Susan Lehmann  
in loving memory of Bill Lehmann.



**Presiding Minister**

Rev. Larry Wright

**Lector**

Tom Tryon

**Director of Music/Organist**

David V. Patrick

**Cantor**

Jesse V. Martin

**Vocals**

Voices of Faith Quartet: Hannah Boyd,  
Michelle Caulkins, Jesse V. Martin, Tom Tryon

**Greeters & Ushers**

Jerry Cooper, Eloise Dettmer, Ashley Garlitz,  
Dottie Gustavson, Grace Kaarre, Alf Kirkeeng,  
Gail Lidinsky, Judy Millard, Mark Nelson, Jan Phillips,  
Scott Rice, Joan Searles, Dave Wardach

**Videography**

Greg Cooper, Kevin Fewell,  
Andrea & Sergio Gamboa, Mark Greenwood

**Altar Guild**

Linda Fewell, Carole Inkrott, Judy Millard,  
Mark Nelson, Jan Phillips, Steve & Peggy Ragan

**Congregation Council**

Scott Rice, president; Ann Greenwood, vice  
president; Peggy Ragan, secretary; Anita Wooton,  
treasurer; Jane Sanks, assistant treasurer;  
Jerry Cooper; Gail Lidinsky; Mark Nelson;  
Joan Searles; Lauren Wardach

\* \* \* \* \*

**Pastor**

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

**Assistant to the Pastor**

Rev. Larry Wright

**Retired Pastors in Residence**

Rev. Marianne Powrie

Rev. John Spittal

Rev. David Wagner

**Director of Family and Child Ministry**

Deborah Dornemann

**Lead Cantor/Music Librarian**

Tom Tryon

**Operations Administrator**

Jennifer Shaffer

**Communications Administrator**

Linda Fewell

Noted throughout the service - P: Presiding Minister    L: Lector    **C: Congregation**

Faith has a T-Coil-enabled hearing loop for those whose hearing aid(s) also are enabled.

NOTE: This service is being live-streamed and recorded. We try to avoid filming congregants, but it may happen at times.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WE STAND

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

## Lord of Light

## ELW 688

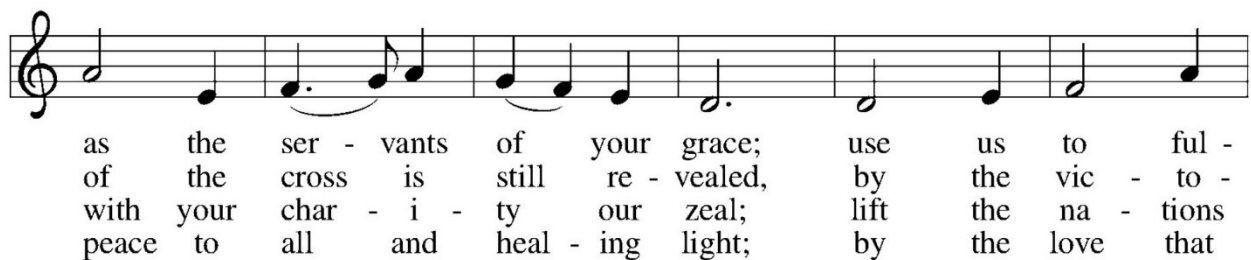
*We sing together*



1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and  
 2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -  
 3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may  
 4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom  
 ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance  
 low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,  
 day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing



Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

Text © Union of Welsh Independents

Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

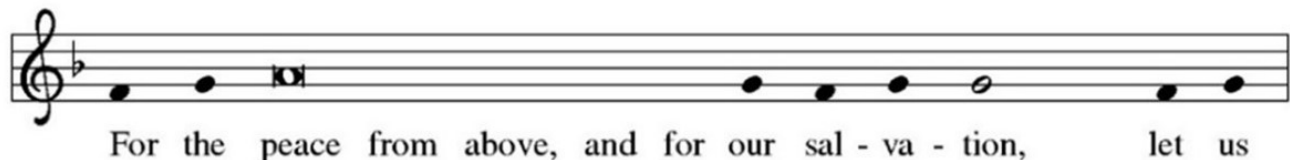
## GREETING

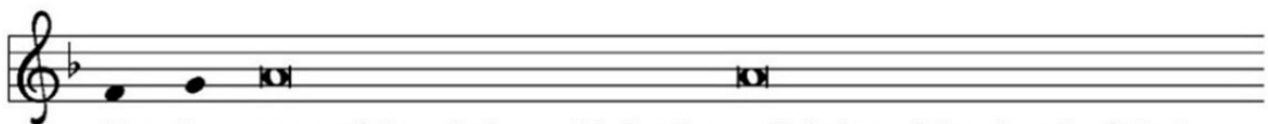
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

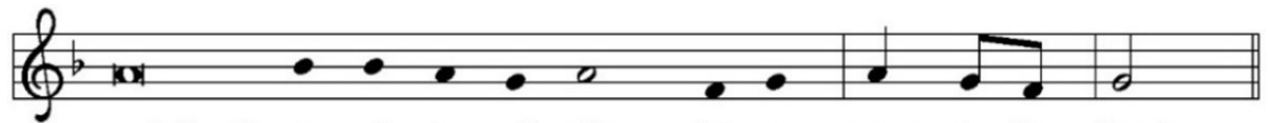
## KYRIE

*We sing responsively*





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



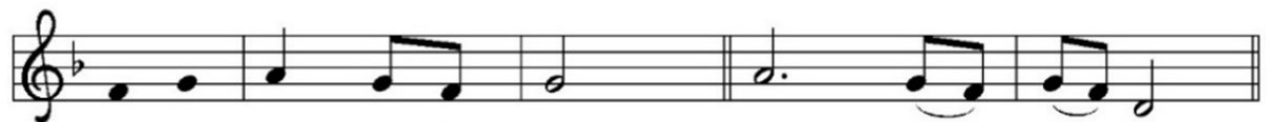
and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**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.**

# GLORIA

We sing together



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a - lone are the Ho-ly One. you a-lone are the Lord.



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us, your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

WE SIT

## FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10—4:11

L: A Reading from Jonah.

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. <sup>4:1</sup>But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup>And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." <sup>4</sup>And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" <sup>5</sup>Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. <sup>6</sup>The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup>But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." <sup>9</sup>But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." <sup>10</sup>Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a

night and perished in a night. <sup>11</sup>And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

when children are present

### PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 145:8

To begin, the organist plays the refrain once, the cantor sings it once, and then we all sing it together.



Psalm 145:8

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

May be reproduced by permission for local use only

### PSALMODY: Psalm 145:1-8

L: <sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.

<sup>2</sup>Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

<sup>3</sup>Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!

There is no end to your greatness.

<sup>4</sup>One generation shall praise your works to another  
and shall declare your power.

**C: Refrain.**

L: <sup>5</sup>I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty  
and all your marvelous works.

<sup>6</sup>They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,  
and I will recount your greatness.

<sup>7</sup>They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;  
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**C: Refrain.**

### SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

L: A Reading from Philippians.

<sup>21</sup>For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far



better; <sup>24</sup>but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup>Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup>so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. <sup>27</sup>Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup>For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well — <sup>30</sup>since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

WE STAND

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*We sing together*



### GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: [Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. <sup>5</sup>When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' <sup>7</sup>They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' <sup>8</sup>When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' <sup>9</sup>When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they

thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup>saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?' <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Larry Wright

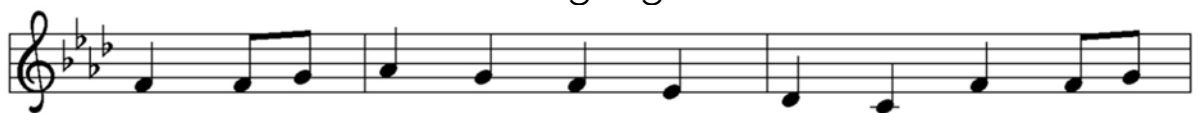
WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

**All Who Love and Serve Your City**

**ELW 724**

*We sing together*



1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who  
2 In your day of loss and sor - row, in your  
3 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed  
4 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the  
5 Ris - en Lord, shall vet the cit - v be the



bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for peace and  
day of help - less strife, hon - or, peace, and love re -  
work and wast - ed play, call to mind the word of  
Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a world that  
cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our judge, our



jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless,  
treat - ing, seek the Lord, who is your life.  
Je - sus, "You must work while it is day."  
spurns him, of - f'ring peace from Cal - v'ry's hill.  
glo - ry. Be its name "The Lord is there!"

Text: Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: NEW ORLEANS, Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

Text © 1969 Stainer & Bell Ltd., admin. in USA and Canada by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

For other territories © Stainer & Bell Ltd., 23 Gruneisen Road, London N3 1DZ, UK. [www.stainer.co.uk](http://www.stainer.co.uk). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## APOSTLES' CREED

P: Together, we confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

WE SIT

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors. *(brief silence)*

L: God who is gracious and merciful, teach your church to invite and welcome all. Lead us to be grateful for the blessing of community. Challenge your church to choose equity and compassion over judgment. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: God who sends the wind and the sun, you know every worm and bush by name. Help us remember that even the humblest parts of creation are precious to you. Show us how best to care for the earth and its creatures, and be with all who struggle to recover from hurricanes, wildfires, earthquakes and floods. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: God who is ready to relent from punishing, impart your compassionate wisdom to legislators, judges, members of the military, and law enforcement. Give them courage to serve their communities in times of uncertainty, stress or exhaustion. We pray especially for those who have power to bring peace between Ukraine and Russia, between Israel and Palestine, and in all places reeling from unrest. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: God who saves, direct your people who are tempted by evil ways. Protect your children from calamities and disaster. Strengthen all who are incarcerated. Encourage all who are in despair or pain, especially those on our prayer list and those we name before you now, aloud or in our hearts. *(pause)* Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: God who is slow to anger, may we boast about the goodness of Jesus with the confidence of Paul in prison. Inspire us to find abundance in whatever vocation we are called to in the world and in service to our congregation. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: God who abounds in steadfast love, we give thanks for the saints called to the kingdom of heaven, especially Debra Ann Cox, Christine Urraro, Bill Masser and Issy Smirnow. United with them in spirit, hold us firm as we labor in this life and look to the life to come. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer the prayers of our hearts, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

WE STAND

**PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*Feel free to greet your neighbors with a word of peace.*

WE SIT

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

The Church's One Foundation

Words by Robert H. Schmidt and Music by Charles W. Rasely

Voices of Faith Quartet

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord, and all the vast creation by His great word outpoured is blest as earth beholding the dawn that follows night, her glorious rays unfolding to all who seek her light.

But what of people dwelling in corners of the earth, where none have heard the telling of Christ the Savior's birth, and how their souls enlighten when naught but dusk can reign? O Lord, how canst Thou brighten the lives so sad and vain?

Now hark ye to His holy word that ye may know and understand. "I will gather you out of the countries where in ye are scattered, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant. And I, the Lord, will be your God, and ye shall no more be prey to the heathen, but ye shall dwell safely, and none shall be afraid." In His great word abounding, in love and hope and joy, a hymn of praise resounding, all faithful souls employ. Now sing we all united to Thee, great God on high; all life by hope is lighted, Thy glory fills the sky! The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord, her glorious rays unfolding to all who seek her light!

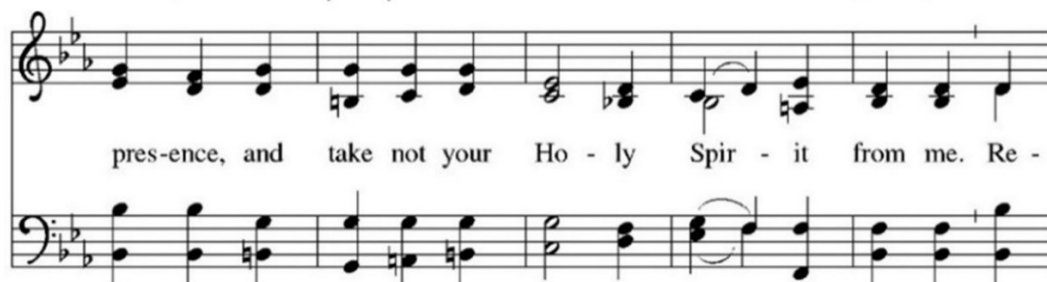
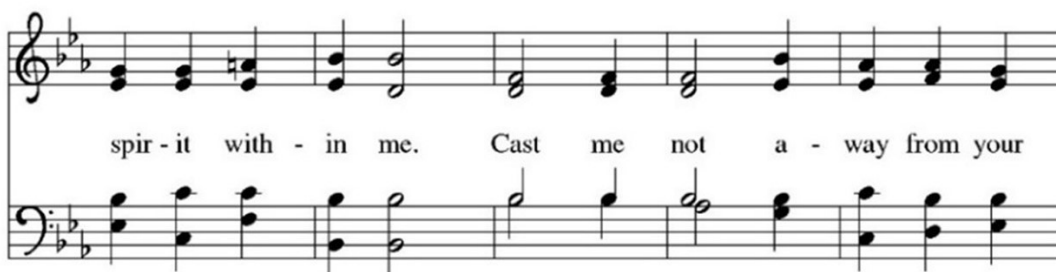
## OFFERTORY

The offering is collected at this time. Online giving is available at [www.faithlutheransrq.com](http://www.faithlutheransrq.com).

We deeply appreciate your support of Faith Lutheran's ministries.

When the offering plates are brought forward, the congregation stands and sings.

### WE STAND We sing together Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*



## OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: 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.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*We sing responsively*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are simple, using quarter and half notes, with slurs indicating phrasing. The lyrics are written below the notes.

## PREFACE

*The presiding minister sings*

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,

al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are simple, using quarter and half notes, with slurs indicating phrasing. The lyrics are written below the notes.

and by his glorious resur - rec - tion

opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.

And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,

we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license # \_\_\_\_\_.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*We sing together*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: 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: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: 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.**

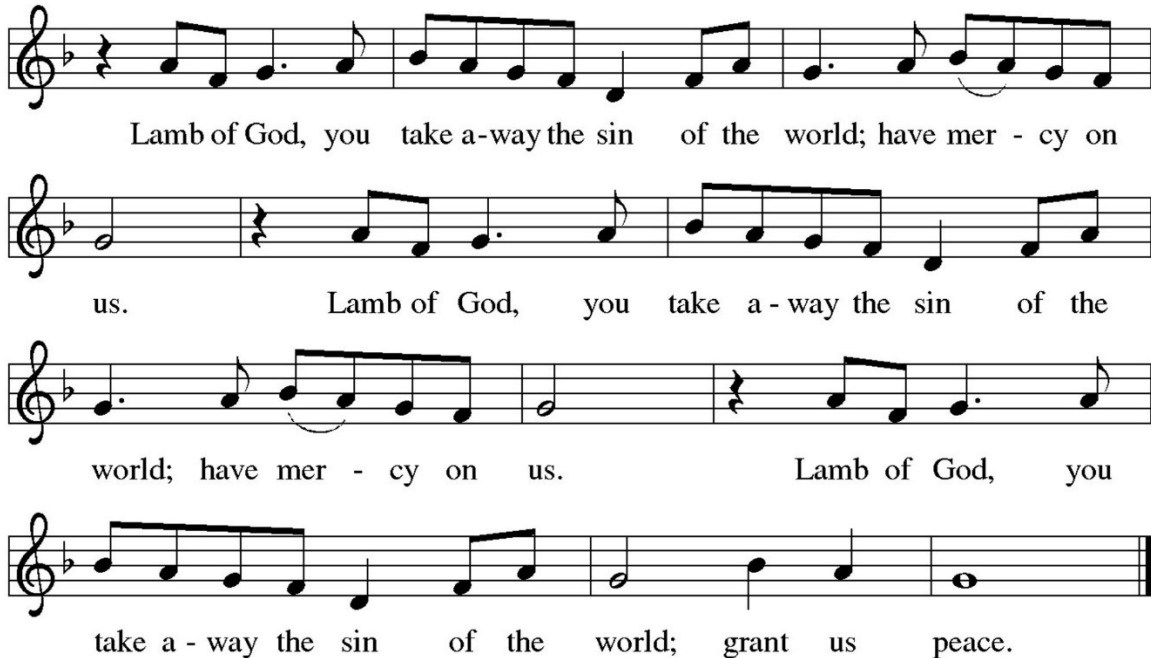
**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.



*We sing together*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

*WE SIT*

*Everyone is welcome at the Lord's table.*

## **COMMUNION ANTHEM**

The Kingdom of God

Arr. Vicki Tucker Courtney  
Voices of Faith Quartet

John saw the heaven and earth made new, the first had passed away, the holy city coming down, the new Jerusalem. And God Himself shall dwell in us, and wipe away all tears. There is no sorrow, pain or death throughout the coming years. "Behold, I make all things new," these faithful words are true. To him who overcometh sin, on earth with God shall rule. In beautiful Jerusalem, God's glory gives it light. All kings and nations walk in it, "For there shall be no night."

## **COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you ... The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*WE STAND*

## **TABLE BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**C: Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

## NUNC DIMITTIS

*We sing together*



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

## BLESSING

P: The God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

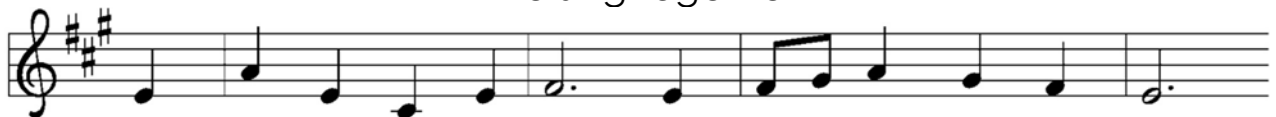
C: Amen.

## SENDING SONG

### Rise Up, O Saints of God

ELW 669

*We sing together*



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.  
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C: Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

Trumpet Voluntary

Gordon Young

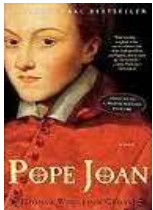
From sundaysandseasons.com. | Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000587. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress.

---

## Welcome, Visitors!

We are so glad you have joined us for worship. Please let us know that you Visited by filling out a Visitor Card located on the table near the entrance. Kindly give the card to an usher or place it in the offering plate.

---



### Readers Club Meets Tomorrow

Readers Club will meet at **2 p.m., tomorrow, Monday, Sept. 25, in the library** to discuss *Pope Joan* by D.E. Cross. To learn more, contact Kathy Schilio, [schilmo@yahoo.com](mailto:schilmo@yahoo.com). Please join!

---

## Men of Faith Bible Study on Hiatus, Prayer Breakfasts Continue

Men of Faith Bible Studies are on hiatus until mid October. But all men are invited to meet as usual for breakfast and prayer at **8:30 a.m. this Tuesday, Sept. 26, and also Oct. 3 at Skillet's, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail.**



---

## Let's Pray Together

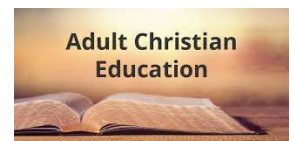


Join in prayer at **10:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the chapel.** We pray for ourselves, loved ones, those in need, our church community, the larger community, our nation and the world. We conclude with Holy Communion. Can't attend in person? Please join via Zoom: **Meeting ID 871 4720 3661, Passcode 041291.**

---

## Adult Forum Resumes Today

Adult Forum begins meeting today between the two services, **9:10-9:50 a.m., in the conference room.** The group will focus on Lesson 1: When the Rabbi Says "Come" of the "That the World May Know" video series. On future Sundays, study will continue with Volume 6 of In The Dust of the Rabbi: Learning to Live as Jesus Lived.



## Bereavement Group Meets Wednesdays

The Bereavement Group meets at **1 p.m. Wednesdays in the chapel**. If you or a friend can use help bearing the burden of grief, this group is for you. There is strength in community.



---

## Still Needed: Spiral Notebooks

We still need 60-70 page spiral notebooks to complete school kits for Lutheran World Relief. Could you consider donating one or more notebooks? Place donations in the basket in the narthex.



## Stitch 'n' Chatter Starts New Season Oct. 5

Attention ladies and gents: Pick up your hooks and needles for a new season of Stitch 'n' Chatter, Oct. 5. The group gathers 1-2:30 p.m. each Thursday in room 212. For info, contact Doris Anne Prieur-Lucia, 941-266-8101.

---

## Consider Donating to Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Pastor Eric often speaks with people about aid they require. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund allows him to help financially, when necessary. If you are able, consider a donation so the vulnerable can receive help.



## Flowers Grace the Altar, Honor Loved Ones

Please consider donating altar flowers in honor of a special occasion, in memory of a loved one, or to glorify God. The cost is \$30 for one vase or \$60 for two. Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church with "altar flowers" in the memo line. Check the altar flowers donation board in fellowship hall to see if your desired date is available. If not, please choose an alternate date. **The next open date is Sunday, Oct. 1.** Your name and dedication will be published in the bulletin on your selected Sunday. To make a dedication:

- At church, complete an Altar Flowers envelope with payment, and place it in the offering plate. **Indicate your wish to keep or donate the flowers on the donation board in fellowship hall.**
- By mail, send payment with a note indicating your desired date and dedication, and if you want to keep the flowers or donate them.
- By email or phone, contact the church office with your desired date and dedication, and whether you want to keep or donate the flowers. Pay through the Faith website, [www.faithlutheransrq.com](http://www.faithlutheransrq.com).

## **September Stewardship Message**

**One of the best things we can do with our time  
is to spend time alone each day with God.**

*"In the morning, O Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning, I lay my requests  
before you and wait in expectation."*

Psalm 5:3

### **From Your Stewardship Team: Prayer Provides Power**

It's no stretch of the imagination to think that if Jesus were alive today, he would make staying in touch with his heavenly Father a priority. He would find time to pray.

Before choosing the 12, Jesus spent the night in prayer. He met alone with God regularly early in the morning right up to his crucifixion. He lived out the truth of Psalm 5:3 (above). Other Bible characters did, too. Moses, Paul, Daniel, Elijah and David spent significant time in prayer to seek the will of God. So did Martin Luther, who said, "I have so much to do today that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer." He determined that his business and busy-ness would not hinder his relationship with God. If Martin Luther, Moses, Paul, Daniel, David and Jesus all spent time alone with God, what does that say to us? Could it be that this was why they had such an impact on their world and ours?



Do you want to be effective in serving the Lord here at Faith? Do you want to do more than go through the motions of Christian service? Do you want your efforts to make an impact on people for the sake of the Gospel and for eternity? Then realize that your strength and power come from the "power room" of spending time daily in the Lord's presence so you will have all you need for the day ahead. *Thank you, Lord, for sending your Spirit, our helper and guide, to find the strength to spend time with our Lord. Amen.*

---

### **Lutheran World Relief Rushes Aid to Those in Need**



It is heartbreaking to watch the news out of Morocco, where a powerful earthquake was unexpected and deadly; in Libya, where a devastating flood swept lives away; and in Maui and other locales where wildfires burned property and lives.

You can help Lutheran World Relief rush aid to those devastated by the disasters. Give online at [give.lwr.org](https://give.lwr.org) or mail a check to Lutheran World Relief, P.O. Box 17061, Baltimore, MD, 21297-1061.



## ***Faith Food Pantry Needs You***

The Faith Food Pantry needs your help on Thursdays! New and current tasks, which are listed below according to the time volunteers should arrive, are easy but important. Interested? Questions? Contact Karen Naulty, 406-334-1063 or knaulty@yahoo.com. Better yet, stop by on Thursdays!



**9 a.m.:** Unload the delivery from All Faith's Food Bank.

**9 a.m.:** Prepare for shoppers.

**1:45 p.m.:** Pick up fresh bagels from Brooklyn Bagel; sort and bag them.

**3:30 p.m.:** Sort and bag paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, etc.

**4 p.m.:** Separate plastic bags, which will receive frozen foods.

**4 p.m.:** Create a welcome and info sign using markers and a dry-erase board.

**4:30 p.m.:** Move food to the covered entryway outside the food pantry. Replenish it, as necessary.

**4:30 p.m.:** Register and check in neighbors.

**4:30 p.m.:** Help in the pantry.

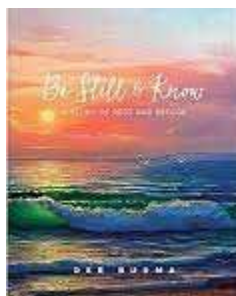
**4:30 p.m.:** Carry bags of groceries for neighbors.

**4:30 p.m.:** Remove trash and break down cardboard boxes.

**The pantry also needs food and toiletries. Place donations in the barrel in fellowship hall. Thank you!**

---

## ***Women's Bible Study Resumes Oct. 3***



G.I.F.T.S (Growing in Faith Through Scripture) Women's Bible Study resumes meeting **9:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesday mornings beginning Oct. 3 in the conference room.**

The group will delve into the study by Deb Burma, "Be Still and Know -- a Study of Rest and Refuge" beginning with session 4, page 91.

Questions? Contact Peggy Ragan, pragan12@aol.com or 941-302-7722. All women are welcome!

## Plan to Attend Concert for Ukraine Oct. 6 at Faith

Faith Lutheran is a stop on the worldwide tour, "United for Ukraine," a fund-raising concert of Ukrainian song in the USA. **Plan to attend at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 6, to enjoy wonderful music and to support the Ukrainian cause.**



## WORSHIP AND SERVICE CALENDAR

### Worship Services

Sundays at 8 a.m. in person &  
10:15 a.m. in person and live streamed at  
[www.faithlutheransrq.com/live-service](http://www.faithlutheransrq.com/live-service)

### Sunday, Sept. 17

Online views	38
8 a.m. in person	27
10:15 a.m. in person	90

### Next Sunday, Oct. 1

#### First Reading

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32  
The fairness of God's way

#### Psalmody

Psalm 25:1-9  
Remember, O Lord, your compassion and  
love (Ps. 25:6)

#### Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-13  
Christ humbled to the point of death on a  
cross

#### Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32  
A parable of doing God's will

### This Week at Faith

#### Monday, Sept. 25

2 p.m. Readers Club, library

#### Tuesday, Sept. 26

8:30 a.m. Men of Faith Prayer Breakfast,  
Skilllets, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail  
6 p.m. Diversity Voices of Sarasota,  
sanctuary

#### Wednesday, Sept. 27

10:30 a.m. Prayer Group, chapel  
1 p.m. Bereavement Group, chapel  
5 p.m. Congregation Council,  
conference room

#### Thursday, Sept. 28

9 a.m. Food Pantry Delivery and  
Prep, fellowship hall  
4:30 p.m. Food Pantry Prep, fellowship hall  
5 p.m. Food Pantry Open  
6 p.m. Jazzercise, gym

#### Friday, Sept. 29

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym

#### Saturday, Sept. 30

8:30 a.m. Jazzercise, gym  
9 a.m. Diakonia, conference room

#### Sunday, Oct. 1

9:10 a.m. Adult Forum, conference room





## Prayer List



Please remember in your prayers this week:

Marsha Anderson, sister of Gail Murphy  
Rev. Steve Anderson, pastor at  
    Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Jeff & Nancy Arntsen  
Anna Bancroft, 6-year-old  
    friend of Alyene Weaver  
Chuck Banta  
Sean Brett, son of Alyene Weaver  
Sandra Brinker  
Charles Budreau  
Dee Burlingame  
Elise Carmona  
Casey, friend of Faith Lutheran  
Evelyn Conlon  
Family & Friends of Debra Ann Cox,  
    mother of Amanda Bright  
Jordan Demers, cousin of Hannah Boyd  
Eloise Dettmer  
Ken Dixon  
Ryan and Valerie Donahue  
Elizabeth Farmer  
Judy & Robert Ferguson  
Carolyn & Marty Friedman,  
    friends of Marlene Radesk  
John Gallo, friend of April Shettler  
Andrea Gamboa  
Amanda Gerber,  
daughter of Sandy Gerber  
Elaine Graham  
Paula Haas, friend of Eloise Dettmer  
Alyssa Hansen, cousin of Lisa Olsen  
Jeff Hansen, nephew of Joan Searles  
Patricia Head, mother of Wayne Head  
Christiana Holmes  
Mary Janice Holt

Kevin Hooks, son-in-law of  
    Anita and Jon Wooton  
Jesus & Rita Jimenez  
Alf Kirkeeng  
Lois Light  
Paul & Debby Maresch  
Alexis Martincek, 13-year-old  
    friend of Heather Stuebe  
Family & Friends of Bill Masser  
Family and Friends of Tom MacIver  
Judi Melander  
Jeremy & Yvonne Mullins  
James & Virginia Pease  
Fran Perkins  
Wally Pina  
Kristen Pizan  
Doris Anne Prieur-Lucia  
Marlene Radesk  
Fritz Rappold  
Family & Friends of Bob Rickmeyer  
Gabriel Rockwell  
Ted and Carol Rodi  
Floyd Ryder  
Rev. John Spittal  
Family & Friends of Isolde "Issy" Smirnow  
Dianne Stoll, friend of Dorothy Gustavson  
Cathy Stubenvoll  
Ron and Leigh Tarrantino  
Colette Thornbloom  
David Turnbull  
Family & Friends of Christine Urraro  
Scotty Walters, cousin of Jerry Cooper  
Jeff Wardach,  
    son of Dave and Lauren Wardach  
Aylene Weaver  
Jon Wooton

- **Contact [officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com](mailto:officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com)** if you or someone you know would appreciate a **communion visit, hospital or home visit, to be contacted or to receive a card in the mail.**
- **Contact [communications@faithlutheransrq.com](mailto:communications@faithlutheransrq.com)** if you have an **addition to the Prayer List.** Please send updates when prayers are answered.