



Faith Lutheran Church

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

Third Sunday of Easter

8 a.m., May 4, 2025



The disciples make a big splash and eat breakfast with the risen Jesus.

Wading in the water (remembering baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ.

Jesus asks us again and again: Do you love me?

And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him,
bringing the Easter life to others.

***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

All who are 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 Tom Picoli in memory of his beloved husband, Rev. David Wagner, on the first anniversary of David's death.

Ministers

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen
Rev. Marianne Powrie

Lector

Nancy Flanagan

Music Director

Andi Zdrava

Greeters & Ushers

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

Media Team

Kelly Ashlock, Greg Cooper, Kevin Fewell,
Andrea & Sergio Gamboa, Deacon Mark
Greenwood

Sunday School Teacher

Emily Holst

Altar Guild

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

* * * * *

Pastor

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

Assistant to the Pastor

Rev. Larry Wright

Retired Pastors in Residence

Rev. John Hilficker
Rev. Marianne Powrie

Congregational Council

Ann Greenwood, president; Joan Searles,
vice president; Lauren Wardach, secretary;
Anita Wooton, treasurer; Jane Sanks,
assistant treasurer; Jerry Cooper; Quyen Dang;
Julianne Geyser; Mark Nelson; Peggy Ragan;
Deacon Scott Rice

Executive Assistant

Carrie Christenson

- 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.
- Smile! Faith worship services are live-streamed and recorded.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

(pause for reflection)

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: Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In † Christ your sins are forgiven.
You have a place in God's house forever.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN**You Servants of God****ELW 825***First and last verses**We sing together*

1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -
 2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
 4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of
 nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his
 loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the
 pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!
 tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
 an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
 an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

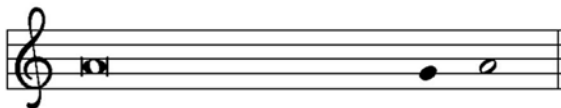
Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: LYONS, attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806

REETING

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*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



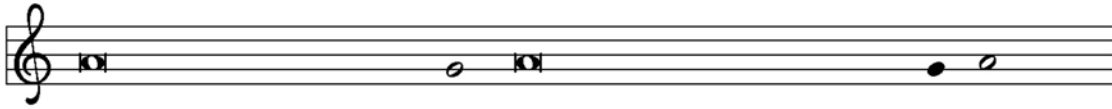
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



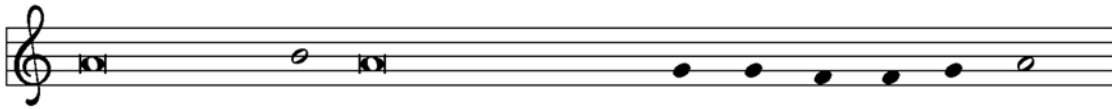
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity 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

Minister sings



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

We sing together



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.



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.



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 Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]

L: A reading from Acts.

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

[⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight."

¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."

¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."]

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 30

L: We read Psalm 30 responsively.

You have turned my wailing into dancing.

C: You have turned my wailing into dancing.

L: ¹I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

²O Lord my God, I cried out to you,
and you restored me to health.

³You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

⁴Sing praise to the Lord, all you faithful;
give thanks in holy remembrance.

C: You have turned my wailing into dancing.

L: ⁵God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁶While I felt secure, I said,
"I shall never be disturbed.

⁷You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."
Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

⁸I cried to you, O Lord;
I pleaded with my Lord, saying,

⁹"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

¹⁰Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me;
O Lord, be my helper."

C: You have turned my wailing into dancing.

L: ¹¹You have turned my wailing into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

¹²Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.

C: You have turned my wailing into dancing.

SECOND READING: Revelation 5:11-14

L: A reading from Revelation.

¹¹Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might

and honor and glory and blessing!”

¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

“To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might
forever and ever!”

¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We sing together

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 21:1-19

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹ After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way.

² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.”

⁶ He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was

naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.”

¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord.

¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.”

¹⁶ A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.”

¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.”

¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

WE STAND

First and last verses - We sing together

1 We who once were dead now live, ful - ly know - ing Je - sus
 2 We were lost in night, but you sought and found us. Give us
 3 He be - came our bread; Je - sus died to save us. On him
 4 Let us share the pain you en - dured in dy - ing; we shall



as our head. Life is o - ver-flow - ing when he breaks the bread.
 strength to fight; death is all a - round us. Je - sus, be our light.
 we are fed, eat - ing what he gave us, ris - ing from the dead.
 then re - main liv - ing; death de - fy - ing, we shall rise a - gain.

5 Jesus, you were dead,
 but you rose and, living,
 made yourself our bread,
 in your goodness giving
 life though we were dead.

6 This is your design;
 in this meal we meet you.
 Be our bread and wine,
 Jesus, we entreat you.
 This shall be our sign.

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909–1972; tr. composite

Music: MIDDEN IN DE DOOD, Rik Veelenturf, b. 1936

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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: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

L: Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. We pray especially for a just peace in Israel, Gaza, Russia, Ukraine and all areas rocked by unrest. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care, especially those on our prayer list and those we name before you now, aloud or in our hearts. *(pause)*. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors, and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places, especially Rev. John Spittal. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: 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.

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



The offering is collected at this time. You also can give online by scanning the QR Code printed here or via the Online Giving page at faithlutheransrq.com. We deeply appreciate your support of Faith Lutheran's ministries.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

As the Deer

Martin Nystrom

WE STAND

We sing together

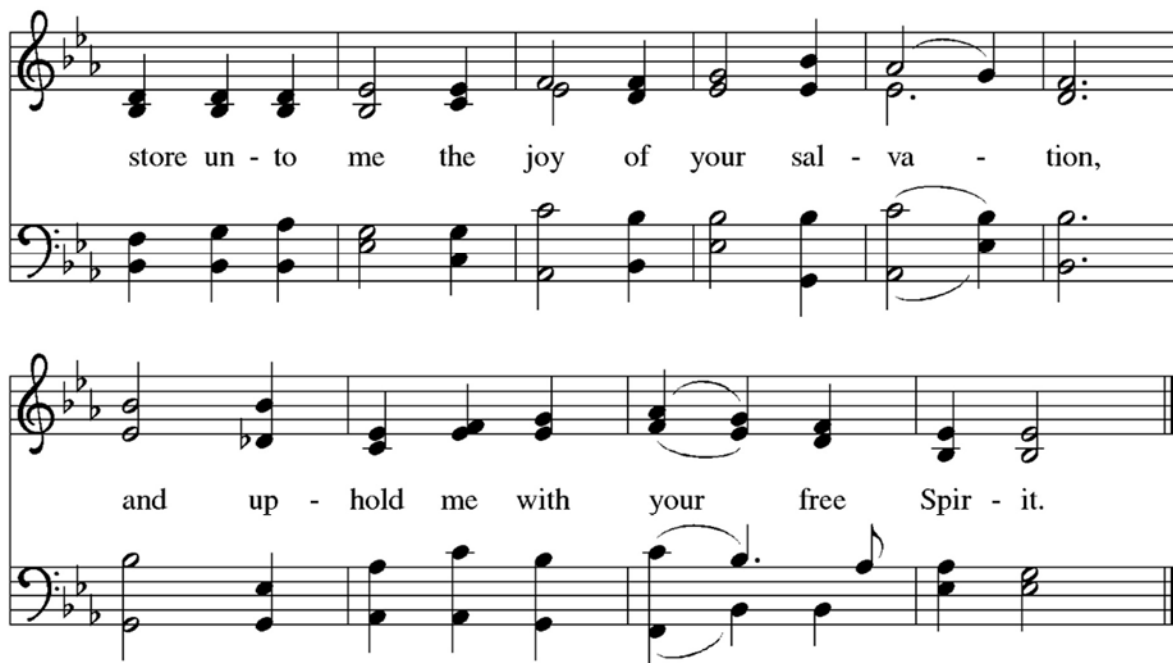
Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Song

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -



store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

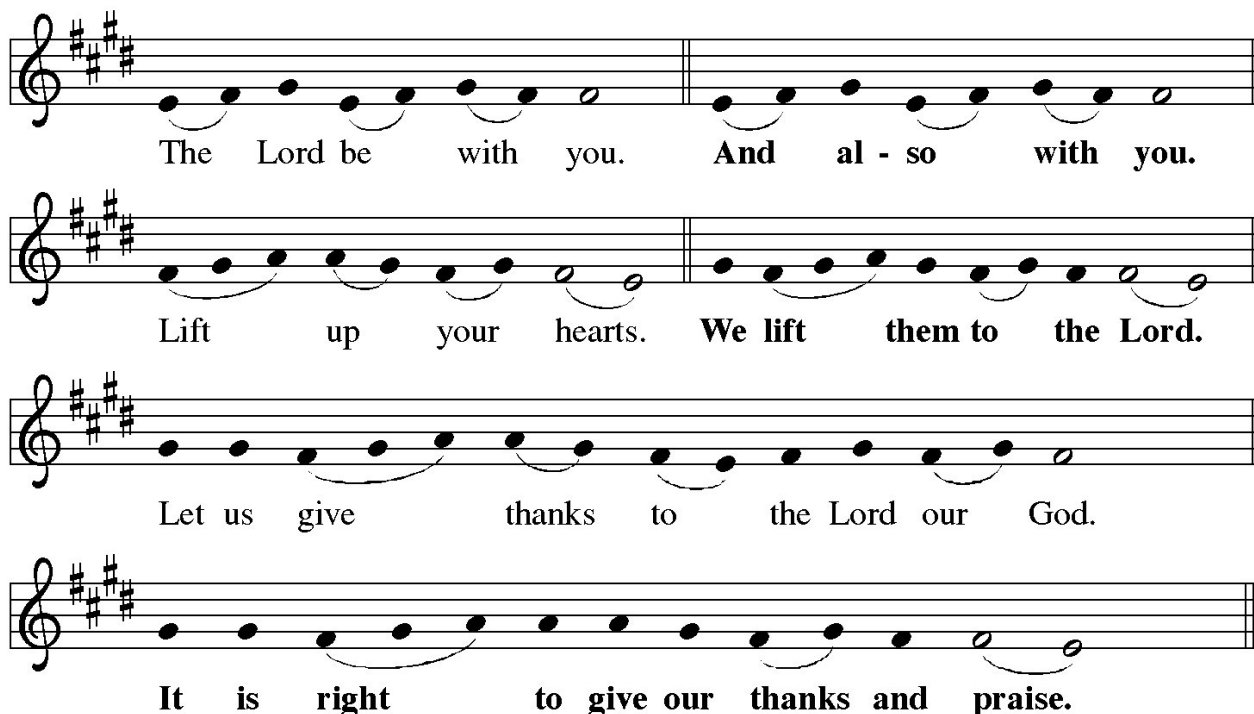
OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. 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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

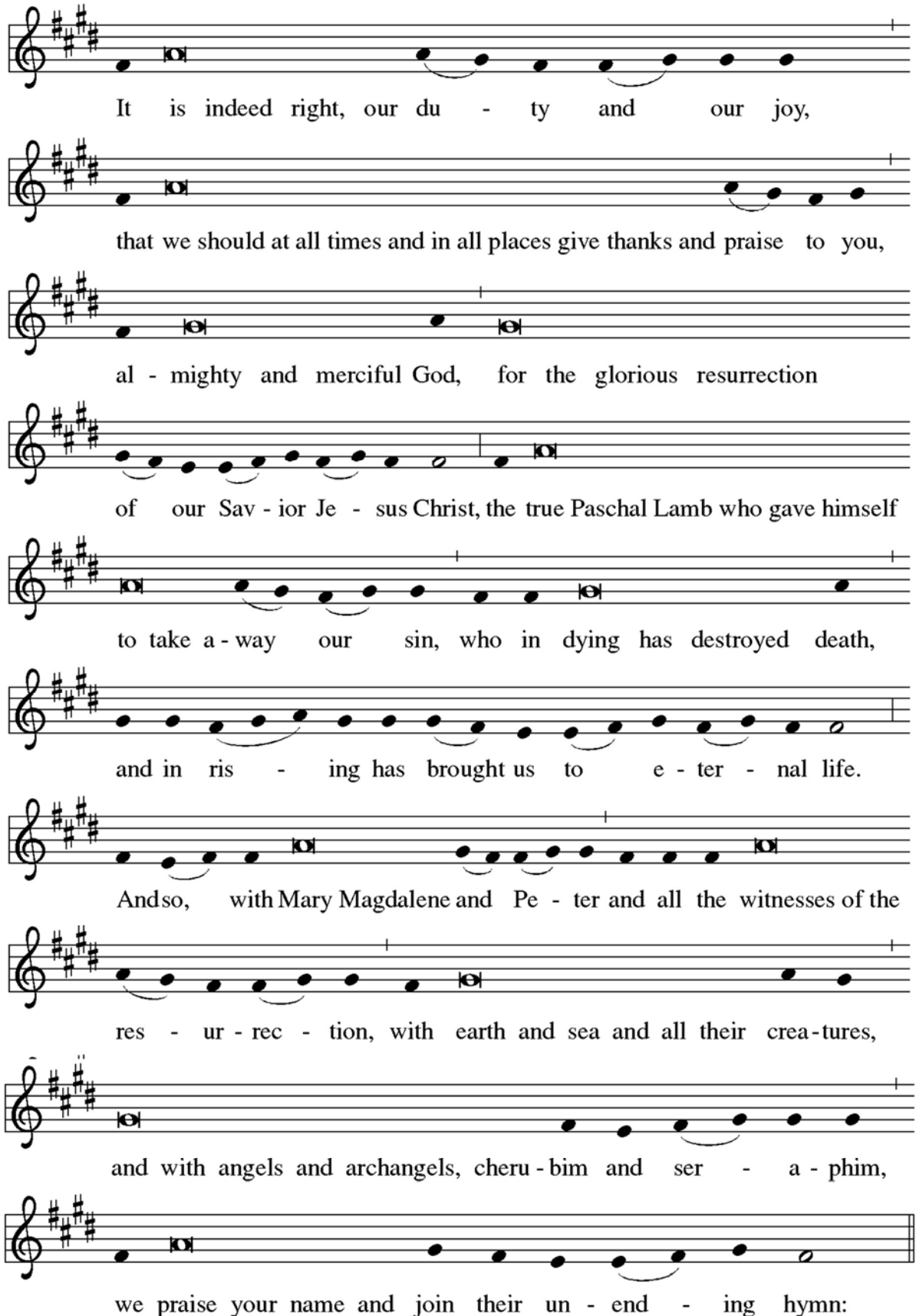
We sing responsively



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.

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, for the glorious resurrection
of our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself
to take a - way our sin, who in dying has destroyed death,
and in ris - ing has brought us to e - ter - nal life.
Andso, with Mary Magdalene and Pe - ter and all the witnesses of the
res - ur - rec - tion, with earth and sea and all their crea - tures,
and with angels and archangels, cheru - bim and ser - a - phim,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

We sing together

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n 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.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy". It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,". The second staff continues with "heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.". The third staff starts with "Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes". The fourth and final staff concludes with "in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.".

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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: Therefore, O God, 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.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

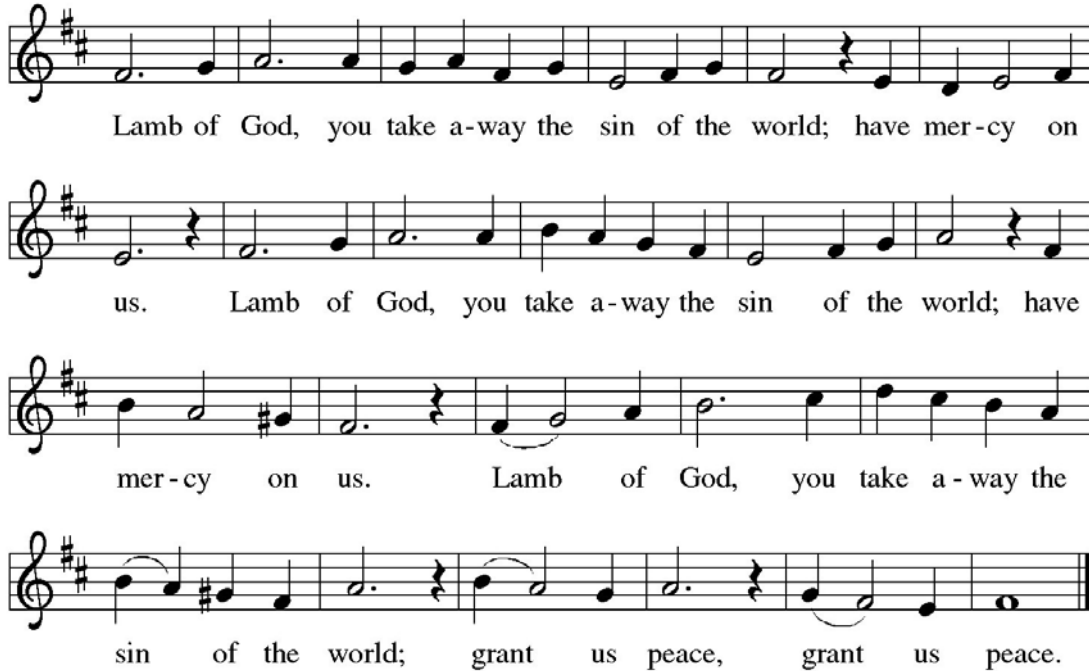
Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

COMMUNION SONG

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, grant us peace.

WE SIT

Everyone is welcome at the Lord's table.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Arr. Kirby Shaw

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: Let us pray. 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: Receive a blessing. 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.

*First and last verses**We sing together*

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
 lies, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Welcome, Visitors!

We are so glad you have joined us for worship. Please let us know that you visited by signing our guestbook and/or 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.

Faith Welcomes New Members During 10:15 a.m. Service Today

Faith is blessed to welcome new members during the 10:15 a.m. service today. If you love Faith Lutheran but have not officially joined the congregation or if you want to learn more about life at Faith, please contact Pastor Eric, pastor@faithlutheransrq.com or 716-352-0055.

Help Assemble LWR Personal-Care Kits After 10:15 a.m. Service Today

You are invited to help assemble personal-care kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) after the 10:15 a.m. service today in fellowship hall. Faith's Women of the ELCA (WELCA) are again sponsoring the effort to provide our brothers and sisters in Christ who are in need with items such as combs, toothbrushes, nail clippers, soap and new towels. Some of the kits will be shipped overseas and some will go to people in the United States who have suffered catastrophic disasters. Thanks for your donations toward this effort and for your help today.

Join in Prayer and Bible Study

- **Adult Forum** meets between the two morning worship services in the conference room. Today, the group will study lesson 1, *Engaging the Mind*, in the "Cultures in Conflict" series.
- **Men of Faith** meet for breakfast and prayer at 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays at Skilletts, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail.
- **G.I.F.T.S. (Growing in Faith Through Scripture) Women's Bible study** meets at 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays in the library to focus on "Leaning on Jesus: A Study of God's Strength." Can't attend in person? Join via Zoom, Meeting ID 867 2113 5300, Passcode 815433.
- **The Prayer Support Group** meets at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the chapel to pray for all in need, our community, nation and world, and to share Holy Communion. Can't be there? Join via Zoom, Meeting ID 871 4720 3661, Passcode 041291.

- **The Bereavement Group** meets at 3:15 p.m. Wednesdays in the chapel. If you or a friend can use help bearing the burden of grief, this group is for you.
 - **The Men's Study Group** meets at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, May 8, in the conference room.
 - **Women of Faith** meet for breakfast, prayer and camaraderie at 8:30 a.m. Monday, May 12, at Skillet's, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail. Questions? See Pastor Marianne or email her, pastorp2.0@gmail.com.
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Donate Altar Flowers in Honor or in Memory

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, choose an alternate date. **The next open date is May 18.** When you purchase altar flowers, your name and dedication appear 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 Altar Flowers option on the Online Giving page at faithlutheransrq.com.

Contact Joan Hirsch, 941-726-7885, with questions or specific requests about who or what organization should receive flowers that you purchased and choose to donate.

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 assist financially, when appropriate. The need currently is great so, if you can, please consider a donation to the fund so those in need can receive assistance. You can give online through the Online Giving page at faithlutheransrq.com, or via cash or check to Faith that is designated to Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Move to the Music During Zumba Class

Zumba begins at 6 p.m. Wednesdays – note the new day! -- in the Community Center (gym). All fitness levels are welcome! It is free for congregation members, and a voluntary donation from non-members is appreciated. Be there to move with the music and join in the fun!

Sign Up to Donate Blood Mother's Day, May 11, at Faith

There always is a need for blood, but the need is critical after many of our neighbors return north for the summer. Your donation on Mother's Day, May 11, at Faith can save three lives and would be a wonderful way to honor your mother.

Faith must pre-schedule at least six donors, so please register if you can donate and if your most recent donation was before March 16 (at least eight weeks before May 11).

Sign up on the sheet on the narthex table. You also can sign up online at donorportal.suncoastblood.org/register.

Mary Circle Meets Tuesday, May 13

Mary Circle will meet for lunch and dessert at noon on Tuesday, May 13, in fellowship hall. Faith's Bold Woman 2025, Linda Burton, will be our featured speaker. Bring your lunch, dessert is provided.

Remembering Rev. John Spittal

Rev. John Spittal, a faithful retired pastor in residence at Faith, joined the church triumphant on April 25. A Service of Resurrection and Life is planned for 10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 17, in the sanctuary, followed by a luncheon in fellowship hall. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers.

Consider Donating to the Faith Memorial Garden

The Faith Memorial Garden, located behind the church building, is the site of special worship services, the final resting place for the ashes of Faith members and friends who have joined the church triumphant, and a place of quiet respite. You can consider donating to help defray the cost of garden maintenance. For those with giving envelopes, there is a special envelope in your packet this month, or you can donate online through the Online Giving page at faithlutheransrq.com.

Watch for Your Year-to-Date Giving Summary

Year-to-date giving summaries for January-April 2025 were:

- Sent May 2-3 via email for those who have opted in to use email communication. Check your spam folder if you do not receive a report. If you want a paper copy, contact the church office.
- Mailed May 3 to those without email addresses or those who have opted out of email communication.

If you have questions or want to update or make changes to your contact information, contact the church office, officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com or 941-924-4664, or Patty McKee, financialsecretary@faithlutheransrq.com or 941-921-3709.

Faith Book Club Meets Tuesday, May 27

Faith Book Club will meet at 2pm on Tuesday, May 27 (note the different day due to the Memorial Day holiday) in the conference room. This month the group will read and discuss *The Last Year of the War* by Susan Meissner.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Offers Summer Garden Camp

Looking for a summer activity for a child aged 7-14? St. Paul Lutheran in downtown Sarasota will offer a weekday Summer Garden Camp June 2-July 25. A fee of \$250/week includes quality snacks, lunch, a journal and gloves. To learn more, contact Rachel Williamson, gardencamp.srq@gmail.com. Flyers are in the church office.

Contact officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com:

- If you or someone you know would appreciate a communion, hospital or home visit; to be contacted; or to receive a card in the mail.
- To add or remove a name from the Prayer List.

Prayer List

Lucy Abbott, sister-in-law of Judy Millard
Dick Allender, cousin of Gerri & Terry Copper
Billy Bajor
Gail Brown
Dee Burlingame
Rick Chauncey, son of Wess Chauncey
Linda Craley, sister-in-law of
 Dick & Jetty Zarfos
Lindsey Dacey
Doug Dahlquist, father of Hannah Boyd
Nancy Dandino
Tyeann Dillon
Ken Dixon, online worshipper
Family & Friends of Joe Dongarra, friend
 of Lois Weaverling
Janet Dullard, friend of Bev Hungate
Mark Evan
Beth Farmer, mother of Lynn Clancy
John Robert Flower, son of Bob & Catherine Flower
Travis Galyon, cousin of Bev Hungate
Anatoliy Gurov
Becky Hilton Heeps, friend of Lisa Olsen
Kevin Hooks, son-in-law of Jon & Anita Wooton
Pete Inkrott
Family & Friends of Joan Bridges,
 sister of Bill Greenaway
Bruce Katz, friend of Nancy Flanagan

Leonard Kotwitz, brother of Janet Falk
Ruth Levy, sister of Joan Hirsch
Juli & Eli Maresch, niece and grand-nephew
 of Patty McKee
Dick Mejchar, brother-in-law of Patty McKee
Judy McMahan, friend of Kristine Ordman
Family & Friends of Judi Melander
Jay Millard, son of John & Judy Millard
John Millard
Bob Miller, friend of Bill Greenaway
Dulce Mogan, friend of Nancy Flanagan
Valerie Nicolls, mother of Pastor Ashley Nicolls
Kathy Ocker, friend of Lisa & Pastor Eric Olsen
Heather Schott, daughter-in-law of Les Lorenz
Kathy Schilio
Stephanie Sebastyn, friend of
 Carolyn Winemiller
Family & Friends of Rev. John Spittal
Norman Stoll, brother of Dottie Gustavson
Leigh Tarantino, friend of Marlene Radesk
Melissa Thompson, cousin of Lisa Olsen
Darren Thomsen, son of John & Tricia Thomsen
Jessica Uebel, cousin of Adele Smith
Carol Wambold
Family & Friends of John White
Dorothy Wolfe, cousin of Adele Smith
Jon Wooton
Rev. Melvin Younger, friend of Bill Greenaway

Worship and Service Calendar

Sunday Worship Services

8 a.m., 10:15 a.m. & 5 p.m. in person.
Morning services live streamed and recorded at
www.faithlutheransrq.com/live-service
and at facebook.com/faithlutheransrq.

Sunday, April 27

Online views	118
8 a.m. in person	40
10:15 a.m. in person	85
5 p.m.	10

Next Sunday, May 11

Acts 9:36-43
Peter raises Tabitha/Dorcas from the dead.

Psalm 23
*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want
(Ps. 23:1).*

Revelation 7:9-17
A white-robed multitude sings before the Lamb.

John 10:22-30
Jesus promises eternal life to his sheep.

This Week at Faith

Monday, May 5

Tuesday, May 6

8:30 a.m. Men of Faith Breakfast, Skillets,
8635 S. Tamiami
9:30 a.m. G.I.F.T.S. Women's Bible Study,
library
6 p.m. Diversity Voices of Sarasota,
choir room and sanctuary

Wednesday, May 7

10:30 a.m. Prayer Support Group, chapel
3:15 p.m. Bereavement Group, chapel
6 p.m. Zumba, community center

Thursday, May 8

9 a.m. Food Pantry Prep, fellowship hall
10:30 a.m. Men's Study Group, conf. room
4:30 p.m. Food Pantry Prep, fellowship hall
5 p.m. Food Pantry Distribution
6:30 p.m. Voices of Faith, choir room

Friday, May 9

8 a.m. Jazzercise, community center

Saturday, May 10

8 a.m. Jazzercise, community center
9 a.m. Diakonia, conference room