



Faith Lutheran Church

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

Third Sunday of Easter

5 p.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.

Minister

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

Assisting Minister

Deacon Scott Rice

Director of Music/Organist

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, Mark Greenwood

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

Congregation Council

Ann Greenwood, president; Joan Searles, vice president; Lauren Wardach, secretary; Anita Wooton, treasurer; Jane Sanks, assistant treasurer; Jerry Cooper; Quyen Dang; Julianne Geysler; 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

WE STAND

SONG: Come, Now Is the Time To Worship

Chorus

Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come just as you are to worship.
Come just as you are before your God. Come.

Verse 1

One day every tongue will confess You are God.
One day every knee will bow.
Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose You now.

Chorus

Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come just as you are to worship.
Come just as you are before your God. Come.

Verse 2

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives.
Willingly our knees will bow.
With all our heart, soul, mind and strength we gladly choose You now.

Ending

Come, just as you are, come.

Brian Doerksen CCLI Song #2430948 © 1998 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire)
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #22316890

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.

SONG: Here I Am To Worship

Verse 1

Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus

So here I am to worship.
Here I am to bow down.
Here I am to say that You're my God,
And You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

Verse 2

King of all days, Oh so highly exalted, glorious in heaven above.
Humbly You came to the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.

Chorus

So here I am to worship.
Here I am to bow down.
Here I am to say that You're my God,
And You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me.

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.

WE SIT

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.

PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 30

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

You have turned my wail - ing in - to
danc - ing, in - to danc - ing.

Psalm 30:11

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

PSALMODY: Psalm 30

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: Refrain

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: Refrain

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

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

C: Refrain

WE STAND

SONG: In Christ Alone

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song,
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe,
This gift of love and righteousness scorned by the ones He came to save.
Til on that cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied,
For every sin on Him was laid here in the death of Christ I live.

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day up from the grave He rose again.
And as He stands in victory sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

Verse 4

No guilt in life, no fear in death - This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.
Til He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend CCLI Song #3350395 © 2001 Thankyou Music
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
CCLI License #22316890

GOSPEL: John 21:1-19

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹After [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

MESSAGE

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

We Who Once Were Dead

ELW 495

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
Text and music © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV., Baarn, The Netherlands. All rights reserved. Exclusive
agent for English-language countries: OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

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

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



There is an offering plate at the entrance of the sanctuary. 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.

WE STAND

SONG: This I Believe (*The Creed*)

Verse 1

Our Father everlasting,
The all-creating One,
God Almighty, through Your Holy Spirit
Conceiving Christ the Son, Jesus our Savior.

Chorus 1

I believe in God our Father.
I believe in Christ the Son.
I believe in the Holy Spirit.
Our God is three in One.
I believe in the resurrection,
That we will rise again,
For I believe in the Name of Jesus.

Verse 2

Our judge and our defender suffered and crucified,
Forgiveness is in You.
Descended into darkness,
You rose in glorious life
Forever seated high.

Chorus 2

I believe in life eternal.
I believe in the virgin birth.
I believe in the saints' communion
And in Your holy Church.
I believe in the resurrection
when Jesus comes again
For I believe in the Name of Jesus.

Ben Fielding, Matt Crocker CCLI Song #7018338 © 2014 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #22316890

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

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

WE SIT

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

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.

SONG: The Cross

Verse 1

You've been trying hard to bear
The weight of all your shame.
And if there's a God up there
You're sure He forgot your name.
When your steps are getting heavy
And hope looks all but lost,
Just bring it all to the cross.

Chorus

Come and see a Savior's love
That would die to make you new.
Nothing you have ever done
Can change what mercy's done for you.
And if you ever wonder
If you're worth so great a cost,
Look up and see the cross.

Verse 2

Who told you grace can't reach
The messed up ones like you?
Has the devil made you believe
The lies he tells are true?
When you're sure that you're the one
Who's wandered too far off,
It's not too late - Just come home to the cross.

Chorus

Come and see a Savior's love
That would die to make you new.
Nothing you have ever done
Can change what mercy's done for you.
And if you ever wonder
If you're worth so great a cost,
Look up and see the cross.

Verse 3

Everybody's got a list at least a mile long
Of every scar and every sin from everywhere that we've gone wrong.
But there's reason for rejoicing, and the reason is because
That list was nailed to the cross.

Chorus

Come and see a Savior's love

That would die to make you new.
Nothing you have ever done
Can change what mercy's done for you.
And if you ever wonder
If you're worth so great a cost,
Look up and see the cross.

Anne Wilson, Jeff Pardo, Jonathan Smith, Matthew West CCLI Song #7233758 © BrentHood Music; Capitol CMG Paragon; Jacobs Story Music; Meaux Mercy; Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; My Story Your Glory Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #22316890

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.

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!
C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

POSTLUDE

Andi Zdrava

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 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 Welcomed New Members Today

Faith was 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.

Honoring Our Neighbors' Faith

What exactly do “we” profess to believe as ELCA Lutherans? How are we different and the same as other Lutherans, Roman Catholics, Greek Orthodox, Presbyterians, Baptists and Methodists? What beliefs do Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh and Baháí practitioners hold dear? What do we hold in common and where do we differ?

Jesus calls us to love our neighbor and to do that to our fullest. We need to take time to understand the faith traditions of our neighbors. This 5-week course will meet this Wednesday, May 7, at 9:30- 10:30 a.m. through Wednesday, June 4. **Please sign up in the narthex if you are able to join us.** We will tentatively meet in the conference room, but will move upstairs if more space is required.

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.

Join in Prayer and Bible Study

- **Adult Forum** meets between the two morning worship services in the conference room. Next week, the group will study lesson 2, *Engaging the Heart*, 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 Skilletts, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail. Questions? See Pastor Marianne or email her, pastorp2.0@gmail.com.
-

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!

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 in order 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 ages 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. Fliers 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

This Week at Faith

Monday, May 5

Tuesday, May 6

- 8:30 a.m. Men of Faith Breakfast, Skilletts,
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

- 9:30 a.m. Honoring Our Neighbors' Faith,
conference room
- 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

Sunday Worship Services

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

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 7:36-43
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.

About Faith Lutheran

Our Mission

Gathered faithfully to love and serve God and all others.

Our Vision

To be an ELCA congregation that displays the true, unending love of Christ. To promote peace, social justice and grace in all we do.

The ELCA

Faith Lutheran Church is part of the greater Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). We are ecumenical, saved by grace and love Jesus.

Subscribe to Receive the Latest News and Updates

To receive the latest news and updates from Faith Lutheran, subscribe to our weekly Friday Update at www.faithlutheransrq.com or email officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com.

