

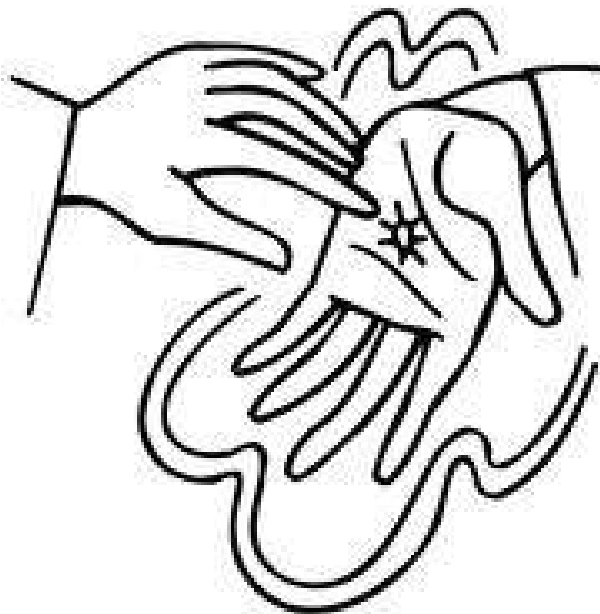


Faith Lutheran Church

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

Second Sunday of Easter

10:15 a.m., April 27, 2025



In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for 50 days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

***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 Eloise Dettmer in loving memory of her mother.

Ministers

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen
Rev. Marianne Powrie
Rev. Larry Wright

**Lector
Crucifer**

Linda Fewell
Deacon Mark Greenwood

**Music Director
Flutist
Vocals**

Andi Zdrava
Julianne Geyser
Voices of Faith Choir

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
Assistant to the Pastor
Retired Pastors in Residence**

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen
Rev. Larry Wright
Rev. John Hilficker
Rev. Marianne Powrie
Rev. John Spittal

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

Interim Executive Assistant

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

WE STAND

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the name of † the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as you are one.

P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN
ELW 384

That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright
We sing together



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the
2 O - Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with
3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in
4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will
this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our
you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!
ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.
e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



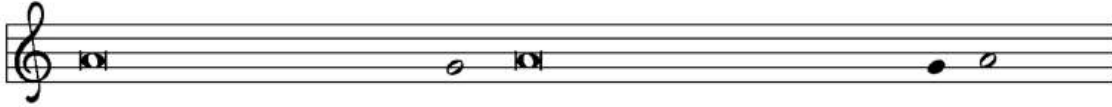
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



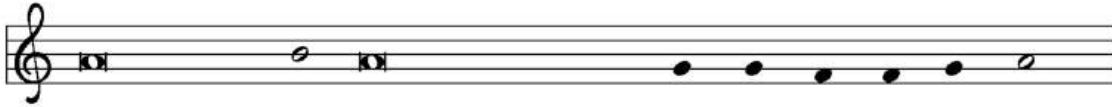
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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

Cantor sings



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

We sing together

All



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. O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath, revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, 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 5:27-32

L: A reading from Acts.

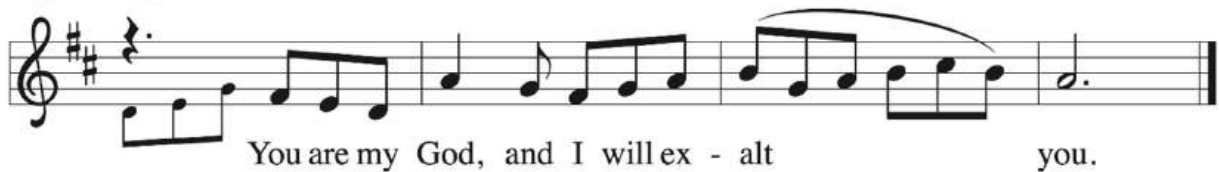
²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 118:28

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



Psalm 118:28

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

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PSALMODY: Psalm 118:14-29

L:¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵ Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:

“The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!

¹⁶ The right hand of the Lord is exalted!

The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!”

¹⁷ I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

C: Refrain.

L:¹⁸ The Lord indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹ Open for me the gates of righteousness;

I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.

²⁰ “This is the gate of the Lord; here the righteous may enter.”

²¹I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.

C: Refrain.

L:²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³By the Lord has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵Hosanna! O Lord, save us! We pray to you, Lord, prosper our days!

C: Refrain.

L:²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless you from the house of the Lord.

²⁷The Lord is God and has given us light.

Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.

²⁸You are my God, and I will thank you;
you are my God, and I will exalt you.

²⁹Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

C: Refrain.

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

L: A reading from Revelation.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We sing together

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

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

P: ¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”

²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

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

WE SIT

WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

ELW 635

Verses 1, 5, 6, 7 and 8

We sing together

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 O sons and daugh - ters, let us sing
 2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day,
 3 An an - gel clad in white they see,
 4 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear;
Insert stanzas 5-8 if desired.
 9 On this most ho - ly day of days,

with heav'n - ly hosts to Christ our king:
 the faith - ful wom - en went their way
 who sits and speaks un - to the three,
 a - mong them came their mas - ter dear,
 be laud and ju - bi - lee and praise:

to - day the grave has lost its sting! Al - le - lu - ia!
 to seek the tomb where Je - sus lay. Al - le - lu - ia!
 "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lec." Al - le - lu - ia!
 and said, "My peace be with you here." Al - le - lu - ia!
 to God your hearts and voic - es raise. Al - le - lu - ia!

After the final stanza

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>5 When Thomas first the tidings heard,
 that they had seen the risen Lord,
 he doubted the disciples' word.
 Alleluia!</p> | <p>7 No longer Thomas then denied;
 he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
 "You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
 Alleluia!</p> |
| <p>6 "My pierced side, O Thomas, see,
 and look upon my hands, my feet;
 not faithless, but believing be."
 Alleluia!</p> | <p>8 How blest are they who have not seen,
 and yet whose faith has constant been,
 for they eternal life shall win.
 Alleluia!</p> |

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: Inspire the church with the breath of your Holy Spirit, that we sing the good news of the resurrection. Inspire deacons and pastors, lay leaders and bishops to boldly proclaim your love for all people. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Preserve the earth as a safe home for all creatures. Restore habitats contaminated by pollution or overuse, strengthen efforts to shape more sustainable communities, and make us mindful of the impacts of our daily lives on the wellbeing of creation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Kindle in the nations a spirit of cooperation and mutual care. Raise up creative and courageous leaders committed to shaping just solutions to complex challenges in our local and global communities, especially in Israel, Gaza, Russia, Ukraine and all areas rocked by unrest. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Embrace all who carry wounds, that they might know your compassion. Draw near to those with chronic pain or anxiety, and all for whom death is near. Comfort individuals and communities suffering in any way, 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: Transform our fear into curiosity and love, especially across differences in race, religion, sexuality, gender identity and economic situation. Unravel stereotypes that lead to discrimination, and destroy oppressive systems that marginalize vulnerable communities. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: We remember the faithful departed from all times and places. Confident that you are the Alpha and Omega, we pray for your wisdom and guidance until our earthly pilgrimage is complete. 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 Let There Be Peace On Earth
Voices of Faith Choir

Arr. Kirby Shaw

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

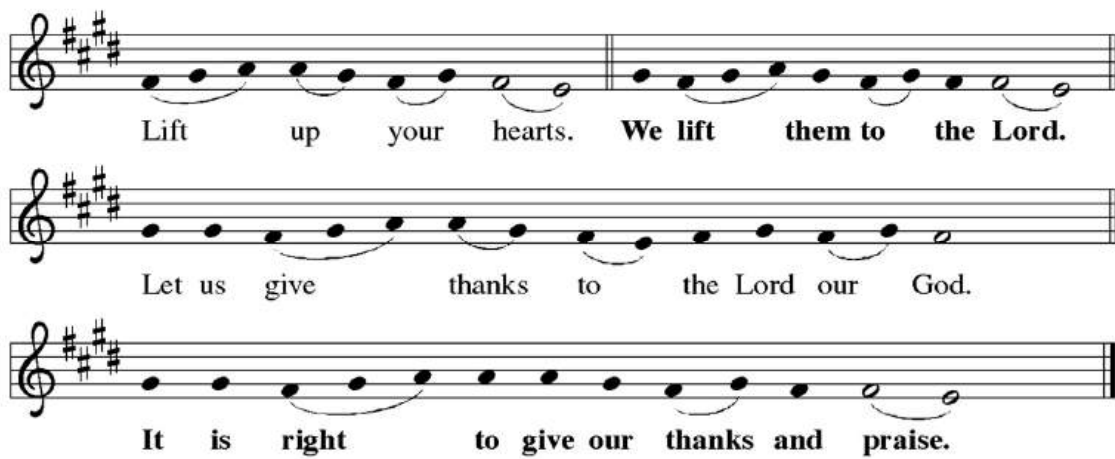
P: Let us pray. Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

We sing responsively

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

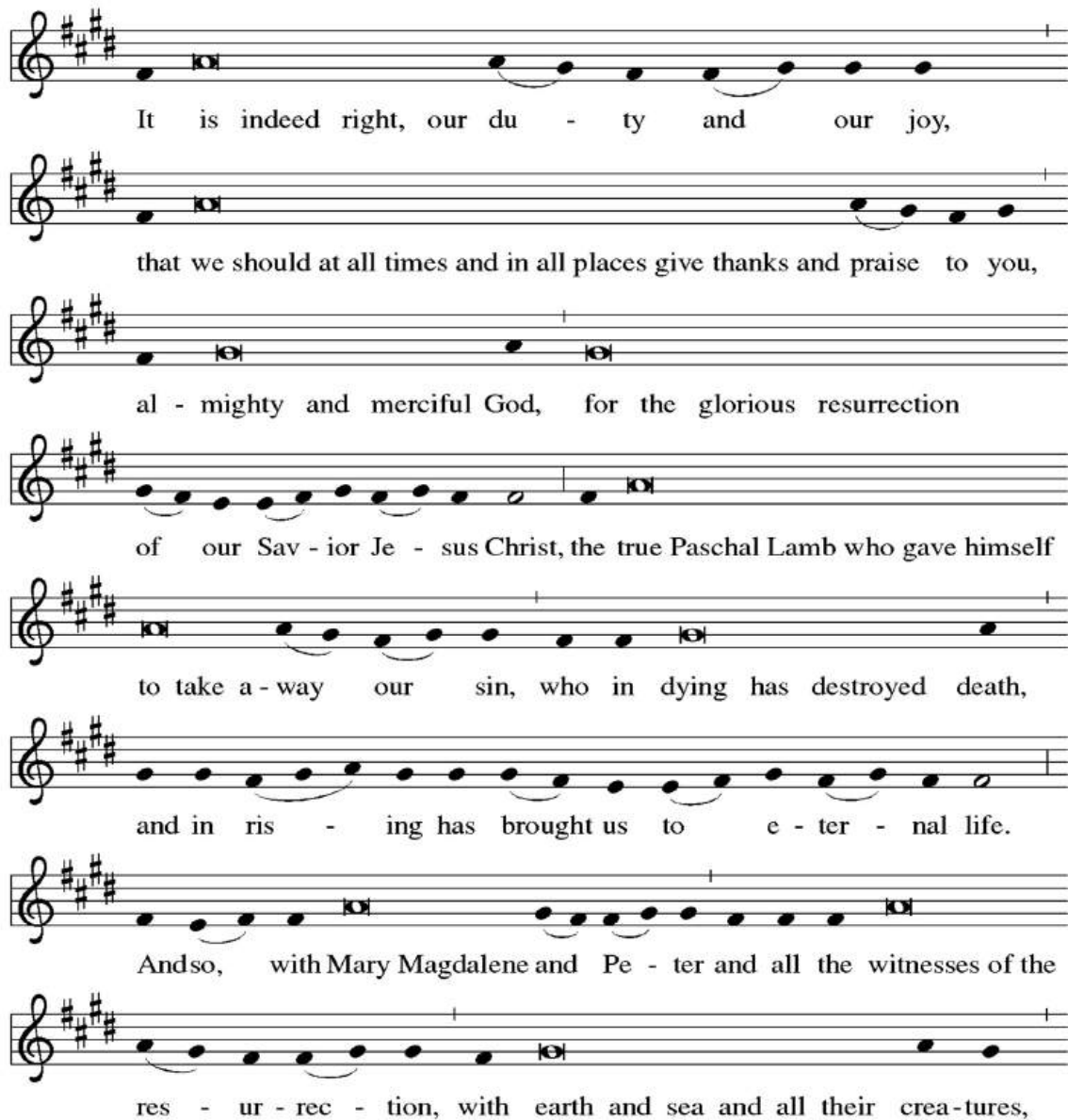


Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE



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.

And so, 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:

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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.

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.**

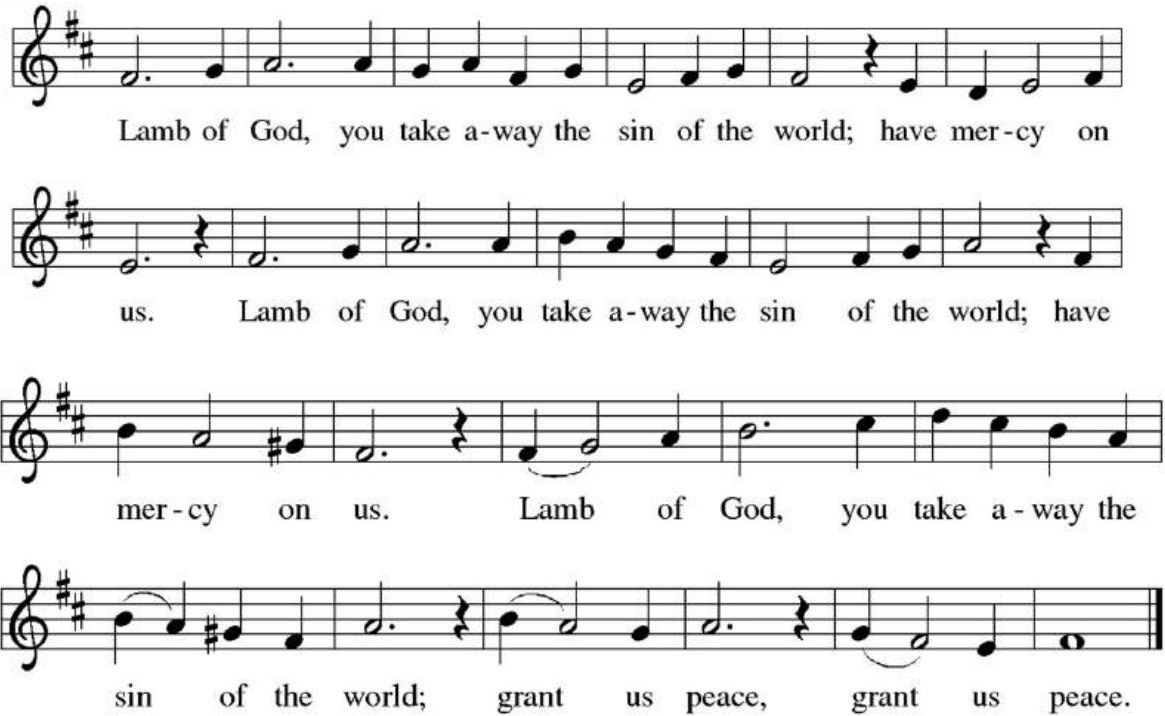
Amen.

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

Dona Nobis Pacem
Arr. James A. Moore
Voices of Faith Choir

Guilio Caccini

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.

SENDING SONG

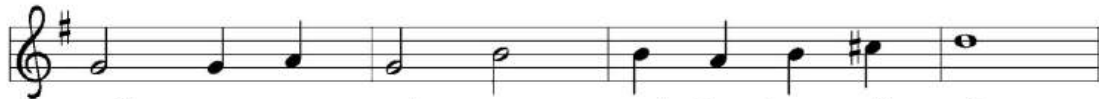
Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

ELW 534

We sing together



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise
2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;
3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,



with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;
for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light.
our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;



once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,
guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;
then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.
that in this house have called up - on your name.
your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.
call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826–1893, alt.
Music: ELLERS, Edward J. Hopkins, 1818–1901

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!

POSTLUDE

Andi Zdrava

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.

Learn about Faith Lutheran Today during Potential New-Member Meet and Greet

Do you love Faith Lutheran, but never officially joined the congregation? Do you want to learn more about Faith's ministry and service opportunities? Do you want to meet Faith's leaders and hear what this special congregation of God's children means to them? If so, join us for a potential new-member meet and greet Q&A during coffee hour in fellowship hall immediately following the 10:15 service today. If you can't make the meeting but are interested in membership, please contact Pastor Eric, 716-352-0055 or pastor@faithlutheransrq.com. Faith will receive new members during the 10:15 a.m. service next Sunday, May 4.

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 5, *Confronting the Empire*, in the "A Clash of Kingdoms" series.
 - **Women of Faith** meet for breakfast, prayer and camaraderie at 8:30 a.m. tomorrow, Monday, April 28, at Skilletts, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail. Questions? See Pastor Marianne or email her, pastorp2.o@gmail.com.
 - **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.
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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 11.** 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.

Readers Club Meets April 28

The Readers Club meets at 2 p.m. on the final Monday of each month. Tomorrow, April 28, the group will discuss *The Gift of Empathy: Helping Others Feel Valued, Cared For, and Understood* by Joel P. Bretscher and Kenneth C. Haugk. Come to join the conversation. Or log in via Zoom, Meeting ID 840 3904 1433, Passcode 182787.

Worship to Go Needs You

Worship to Go needs additional helpers! It's a heartwarming experience in which volunteers bring worship with Holy Communion to people in care. You can participate at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, April 29, at Aravilla Sarasota, 3251 Proctor Road. Volunteers will meet in the chapel and can carpool to the facility (30 minutes prior). To join in, contact Pastor Eric directly, 716-352-0055, or show up at the chapel. No experience necessary!

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.

Help Feed the Hungry at St. Paul Lutheran

From 3 to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 29, be part of the crew that will cook and serve for about 70 food-insecure and homeless siblings in Christ at St. Paul in downtown Sarasota. To volunteer, sign up on the sheet in the narthex or contact the church office.

Move to the Music During Zumba Class

Zumba begins at 6 p.m. Mondays 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.

Coffee Hour Is Important! Please Volunteer!

Coffee hour needs additional volunteers. All you have to do is provide and put out snacks, and clean up afterward. Faith can cover the cost of the snacks if you would like to volunteer but don't have resources to purchase them. Sign up on the sheet beside the coffee pot in fellowship hall.

Joy of Managing God's Blessings: Being Rich Toward God

"Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of your possessions" (Luke 12:15).

In that verse, Jesus tells us, his listeners, that if we store up things only for ourselves and are not "rich toward God," we will have the same fate as the Rich Fool. To be "rich toward God" with our money, we need to acknowledge that God is the source of all that we have and to glorify God through the use of our money.

Dear Lord, help me to be rich toward you in how I view and use my money. Amen.

Thank You

Dear Faith Friends,

Thank you so much for all the wonderful dishes that were so generously given for the luncheon that followed John's funeral service. I truly appreciate and love every one of you! And we so appreciated the generous offer to take leftovers home. I can assure you that they didn't last much longer.

With thankful blessings,

Karen White

Help Assemble LWR Personal-Care Kits After 10:15 a.m. Service May 4

You are invited to help assemble personal-care kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) after the 10:15 a.m. service May 4 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 May 4.

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.

Easter Sunday, April 20

Online views	1,146
7 a.m. in person	55
10:15 a.m. in person	236

Next Sunday, May 4

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]
Paul's conversion, baptism and preaching.

Psalm 30
*You have turned my wailing into dancing
(Ps. 30:11).*

Revelation 5:11-14
The song of the living creatures to the Lamb.

John 21:1-19
*Jesus appears to the disciples at the Sea of
Tiberias.*

This Week at Faith

Monday, April 28

8:30 a.m.	Women of Faith Breakfast, Skilletts, 8635 S. Tamiami
2 p.m.	Readers Club, library
6 p.m.	Zumba, community center

Tuesday, April 29

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
10 a.m.	Worship to Go Prep, chapel
10:30 a.m.	Worship to Go, Aravilla Sarasota, 3271 Proctor
3 p.m.	Feed the Hungry, St. Paul Lutheran, 2256 Bahia Vista
6 p.m.	Diversity Voices of Sarasota, choir room and sanctuary

Wednesday, April 30

10:30 a.m.	Prayer Support Group, chapel
3:15 p.m.	Bereavement Group, chapel

Thursday, May 1

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 2

8 a.m.	Jazzercise, community center
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Saturday, May 3

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

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
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
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
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

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.

