



Faith Lutheran Church

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

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

10:15 a.m., February 16, 2025



Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany.

We would do well to listen closely to whom the “blessed are” and the “woe tos” are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

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

***The flowers on the altar today are given by Patty McKee
in loving memory of Don McKee.***

Ministers

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

**Lector
Crucifer**

Jonelle Lutz
Mike Geysler

**Music Director
Cantor
Flutist
Vocals**

Andi Zdrava
Jesse V. Martin
Julianne Geysler
Voices of Faith Choir

Greeters & Ushers

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

Media Team

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

Sunday School Teacher

Emily Holst

Altar Guild

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

Congregational Council

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

* * * * *

**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

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin. (*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: God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN Let Justice Flow Like Streams

ELW 717

We sing together

1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar-king wa - ter, pure,
 2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
 3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans-ing, sure.
 an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans-lat - ed in - to deed.
 and jus-tice, right, and peace per-vade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926

Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

Text © 1984 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press

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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 together


Refrain




Ky-ri-e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the




u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

CANTICLE

We sing together

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17:5-10

L: A reading from Jeremiah.

⁵ Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.
They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

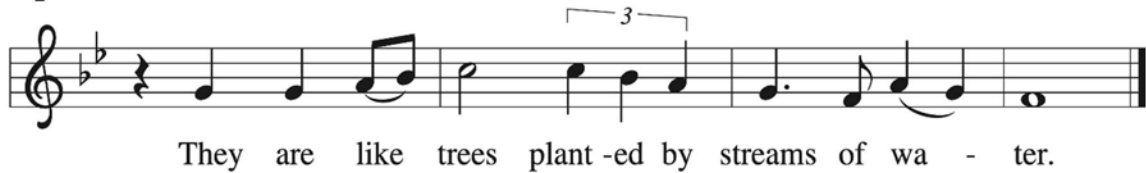
¹⁰ I the Lord test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 1:3

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



Psalm 1:3

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

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PSALMODY: Psalm 1

L: ¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

C: Refrain

L: ³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶ For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

C: Refrain

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

L: A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The word of the Lord.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 6:17-26

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.

¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.

¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

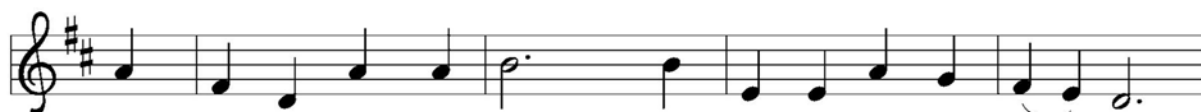
WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

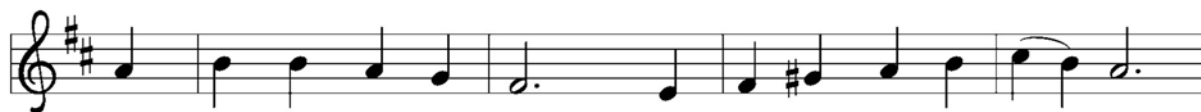
O God, My Faithful God

ELW 806

We sing together



1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,
2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing
3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;
4 When dan-gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;



with - out whom noth-ing is, all per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:
what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—
guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;
help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer-less;



give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in
to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless
but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,
help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,



a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin.
what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess.
then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak.
and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.

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: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world and all creation.

L: Blessed is your church transformed by your Spirit. Give us courage to proclaim to all people the promises made true in the death and resurrection of Christ.

God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Blessed is creation. As earth experiences destruction from harmful practices and climate change, give us courage to help bring about its restoration. Encourage those who work in forestry to be a voice for the hidden places of creation, and provide skills for its conservation. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Blessed are the nations. We pray for presidents, prime ministers and leaders of nations. Grant that their courage will not run dry in the face of challenge, but that they will delight in the fountain of your righteousness. We pray especially for enduring peace in Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, Russia, Ukraine, Haiti, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan and all areas of the world that are rocked by unrest. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Blessed are those in need. Give to all facing illness wise and caring doctors, nurses and therapists. Draw close to those who feel far from you or who are suffering in any way, especially those on our prayer list and those we name before you now, aloud or in our hearts (*pause*). Provide those in need an extra measure of your grace and love. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Blessed is this congregation. Like a tree planted by streams of water, we are nourished by faith in you. Provide courage in times that feel dry, trusting that you sustain us in many ways. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Blessed are those saints who now rest in your peace. Through lives of both sorrow and joy, challenge and triumph, they provide witness of faith in all times. May their lives be a witness to the living. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

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

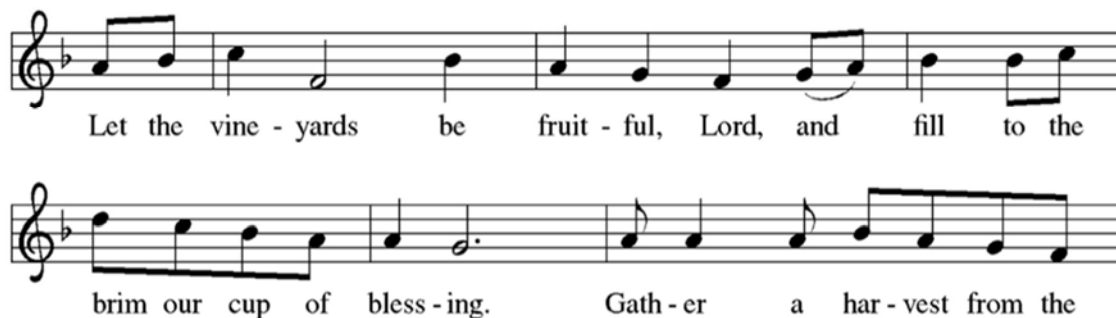
Sing to the Lord a New Song

Don Besig and Nancy Price
Voices of Faith Choir

WE STAND

We sing together

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful
Offering Song



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the

seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the

prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,

and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 2004 Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

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.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

We sing together

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: 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

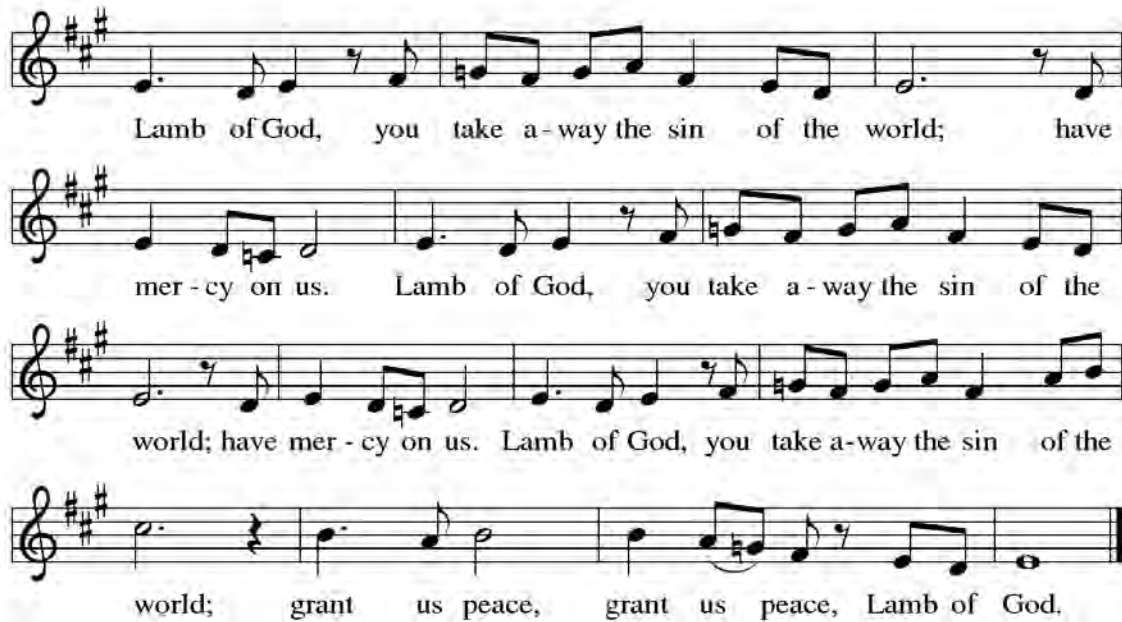
P: The joy of the Lord is our strength.

Come, eat this meal of gladness.

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, Lamb of God.

WE SIT

Everyone is welcome at the Lord's table.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

When You Break the Bread

Ruth Elaine Schram

Voices of Faith Choir

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. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.

In the name of Christ we pray,

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: Amen.

We sing together

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934
 Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934
 Text © 1989 William Whitla.

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DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Andi Zdrava

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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.

Today: Church Budget Q&A Outlines 2025-2026 Details

The Faith Lutheran 2025-2026 Budget Question and Answer session took place between the two morning worship services today in the conference room. See any congregation council member with questions.

This Afternoon: Jazz Service Begins at 5 p.m.

In lieu of our regular contemporary worship service, Sean Fitzpatrick on piano with vocals by Emma Apsel will lead us in a special jazz service at 5 p.m. today. Don't miss this moving experience of worship and music.

Join in Prayer and Bible Study

- **Adult Forum took a break today so all could attend the budget Q&A.** Next week, the group will study Lesson 2, *Decapolis: The Other Side – Jesus and the Man from the Tombs*, in the "Mission of Jesus" series.
 - **Women of Faith** meet for breakfast, prayer and camaraderie at 8:30 a.m. tomorrow, Monday, Feb. 17, at Skilletts, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail. Questions? See Pastor Marianne or email her, pastorp2.0@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."
 - **Adult Bible Study with Pastor Larry** meets for the final gathering of the spring session 9:30-10:30 a.m. this Wednesday, Feb. 19, in the second-floor classroom across from the elevator. Participants sit at the feet of Professor Amy-Jill Levine as they read from study books and the Bible.
 - **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.
 - **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.
-

Worship to Go Needs Your Help

Worship to Go needs additional helpers! You can participate at:

- **1:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 18**, at Angels Senior Living, 5750 Honore Ave.
 - **10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 25**, at Avavilla Memory Care, 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!
-

You Can Bring Small Batteries to Faith for Recycling

You can place small, used batteries in the box on the counter in fellowship hall. Note the sign with the box, which indicates the types of batteries that can be accepted. A volunteer will take them to Staples once a week for recycling.

More Giving Envelopes Ready to Pick Up on Narthex Table

Additional 2025 giving envelopes that weren't available previously now are ready for pick up in the narthex. Questions? Contact Patty McKee, 941-228-1192 (cell), 941-921-3709 or financialsecretary@faithlutheransrq.com.

Orthopedic Surgeon Shares Wellness Tips

Join us as Dr. Richard Crank, board certified orthopedic surgeon, shares information and practices that lead to enhanced wellbeing. Breakfast is served at 9:30 a.m., and presentations begin at 10 a.m. on two upcoming Saturdays in fellowship hall.

- Feb. 22: Bursitis, tendonitis and fasciitis – understanding your options.
 - March 1: Bone health and fall prevention – what can you do?
-

Need a Ride to Church?

Faith will pay for Uber or Lyft to bring you or others to worship or other events. Contact Pastor Eric to make arrangements, 716-352-0055.

Pack Seeds to Help Alleviate World Hunger

Hope Seeds lets you help alleviate world hunger! At 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 25, gather in fellowship hall to package seeds that will be sent all over the world to help people grow food. Sign up on the sheet on the narthex table to indicate that you'll be there.

Plan to Attend the Feb. 23 Annual Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will begin at 11:45 a.m., next Sunday, Feb. 23, following the 10:15 a.m. worship service. All voting members are encouraged to attend either in person, by video, or by phone (call-in):

- Attend in person at Faith Lutheran in the sanctuary. Voting will be anonymous.
- Attend by video using the Zoom program on your computer, tablet or phone. During the meeting, a Zoom coordinator will seek an anonymous vote from each person separately. To connect via Zoom on Sunday at 11:30 a.m. (before the meeting begins), type or copy the following link into your internet browser:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88459156804?pwd=aDscxBRy1NCx9AcG5n915DbHscUt7d.1>

- Attend by phone (voice only) by calling +1 646 558 8656 at 11:30 a.m. (before the meeting begins). You will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID 884 5915 6804 and Passcode 729720. You will then be able to hear and participate in the live meeting. Please note that this option does not allow for anonymous voting. You will be able to vote if you wish, but it will not be anonymous.

Those attending the meeting by video or phone should log in or call at 11:30 a.m. so we can run the virtual side of the meeting with ease, and link everyone appropriately.

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.** If you use giving envelopes, you will find a special Pastor's Discretionary Fund envelope in your packet this month. You also can give online through the Online Giving page at faithlutheransrq.com.

Joy in Receiving God's Blessings: Being a Faithful Steward

"Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy" (1 Corinthians 4:7). God has granted us, his stewards, many blessings, but the decision is ours whether we will use those gifts for the work of the Lord. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God enables us to use our gifts faithfully and joyfully for his purposes. May God help us all to be the faithful stewards that he wants us to be. *Lord, grant me faith to be a committed, joyful steward of all you entrust to me. Amen.*

Pictorial Directory: Have Your Photo Taken Today

Please remember to have your photo taken. Sign up at the studio door at the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you! Questions? Contact Lauren Wardach, LaurenFLCSRQ@gmail.com.

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.**

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 April 6.** 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 of the Faith website, faithlutheransrq.com.

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

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. Join in the fun!

Readers Club Announces Upcoming Selections

The Faith Readers Club meets at 2 p.m. on the final Monday of each month. Upcoming meeting dates and reading selections include:

- Feb. 24: *The Paris Library* by Janet Skeslien Charles, based on a true story set during World War II.
 - March 31: *How We Learn to be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith* by Mariann Budde, exploring thoughts of the Episcopal bishop of Washington, D.C.
- Come and join the conversation. All are welcome.
-

All New Garden Benches Have Been Dedicated

The new garden benches for the Memorial Garden have all been purchased and dedicated in memory of loved ones. Thank you.

Worship and Service Calendar

Worship Services

Sundays at 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, Feb. 9

Online views	232
8 a.m. in person	35
10:15 a.m. in person	126
5 p.m. in person	19

Next Sunday, Feb. 23

Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Joseph forgives his brothers.

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
*The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight
in abundance of peace (Ps. 37:11).*

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
The mystery of the resurrection of the body

Luke 6:27-38
Love your enemies.

This Week at Faith

Monday, Feb. 17

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

Tuesday, Feb. 18

- 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
- 11 a.m. Piano Tuning, choir room
- 12:45 p.m. Worship to Go Prep, chapel
- 1:30 p.m. Worship to Go, Angels Senior
Living, 5750 Honore
- 6 p.m. Diversity Voices of Sarasota,
choir room and sanctuary

Wednesday, Feb. 19

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study with Pastor Larry,
second-floor classroom
- 10:30 a.m. Prayer Support Group, chapel
- 3:15 p.m. Bereavement Group, chapel

Thursday, Feb. 20

- 9 a.m. Food Pantry Prep, fellowship hall
- 9:30 a.m. Finance Committee, conf. room
- 1:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee, 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, Feb. 21

- 8 a.m. Jazzercise, community center

Saturday, Feb. 22

- 8 a.m. Jazzercise, community center
- 9 a.m. Diakonia, conference room
- 9:30 a.m. Brunch & Learn with Dr. Richard
Crank, fellowship hall

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

Pastor Steve Anderson, friend of Jan Phillips
Michele Bajor
Tani Banta
Randy Boid
Barbara Brannan, mother of Kim McDonald
Gail Brown
Arthur Brucato, friend of Karla Lewis &
Michael Leonhardt
Dee Burlingame
Judy Carlsen
Evelyn Conlon
Doug Dahlquist, father of Hannah Boyd
Jeanine Davis (nee Molella), granddaughter of
Karen & John White
Eloise Dettmer
Joe and Joan Dongarra
Beth & Mary Farmer
Andrea Gamboa
Vicki Goffinet
Hope Hall and Family, sister of Faye Adkins
Jeff Hansen, nephew of Joan Searles
Sonja Hickling, mother of Kelly Ashlock
Becky Hilton Heeps, friend of Lisa Olsen
Friends & Family of Marilyn Hirsch
Bob Hurdle, friend of the Kolschowskys & Coppers
Pete Inkrott
Jan and Michele
Jesus & Rita Jimenez
Alf Kirkeeng
Michael Kolschowsky
Leonard Kotwitz, brother of Janet Falk
Lillian Lapenckas
Kevin Lasko
Ruth Levy, sister of Joan Hirsch
Diane Lewis, sister-in-law of Karla Lewis &
Michael Leonhardt
Pat Longo & Ronnie Mojo, friends of
Susan Wakefield
Julie, Eli, Paul & Debbie Maresch, family of
Patty McKee
Kim McDonald

Matt McKelvey, friend of Lois Weaverling
Judi Melander
Jay Millard, son of John and Judy Millard
Alison Nommay, friend of Karla Lewis &
Michael Leonhardt
Terry O'Connell, friend of Marlene Radesk
Meghan Ortega, niece of Lisa & Pastor Eric Olsen
Judy Osborn, sister of Peggy Ragan
Sue Ostrom
Pastor Terry Parker, friend of Max &
Pastor Marianne Powrie
Fran Perkins
Carl Petersen
Richard Keith Radcliffe, brother of
Gail Radcliffe Brown
Annabel Ryan
Floyd Ryder
Robin Ryder, daughter of Floyd Ryder &
sister of Gail Murphy
Lorna Sawyers-Sucra, friend of Jeremy &
Yvonne Mullins
Kathy Schilio
Shirley Schimke
Heather Schott, Les Lorenz's step-daughter-in-law
Becky Sciranko, niece of Alice Rush
Joan Searles
Stephanie Sebastyn, friend of Carolyn Winemiller
Pastor John Spittal
Pamela Spry, mother of Hannah Boyd
Ed & Gail Straight, friends of Nancy Dandino
Tess Stransky, cousin of Lynn Clancy
Kris Sullivan
Leigh Tarantino, friend of Marlene Radesk
Melissa Thompson, cousin of Lisa Olsen
Friends & Family of Tyler Tynefield,
loved one of Dee Burlingame
Jessica Uebel, cousin of Adele Smith
Dr. Patty White
Friends & Family of Paul Wick
Dorothy Wolfe, cousin of Adele Smith
Jon Wooton

