



Faith Lutheran Church

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

8 a.m., May 14, 2023



Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that, in our gathering around the Lord's table, the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

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.

Want to sing today's hymns in harmony? Find harmonized music on the narthex table.



The flowers on the altar today are given by
Cheryl and Dave Cook
in memory of Ruby Revell.



Presiding Ministers:	Rev. Eric Olaf Olson Rev. Larry Wright
Lector:	Sandy Gerber
Director of Music/Organist:	David V. Patrick
Greeters & Ushers:	Thomas & Amanda Bright, Jerry Cooper, Eloise Dettmer, Dottie Gustavson, Grace Kaarre, Alf Kirkeeng, Gail Lidinsky, Judy Millard, Jan Phillips, Scott Rice, Joan Searles, Dave Wardach
Videography:	Andrea & Sergio Gamboa, Mark Greenwood, Kevin Fewell, Greg Cooper
Altar Guild:	Carole Inkrott, Judy Millard, Janet Phillips, Steve & Peggy Ragan, Linda Fewell
Congregation Council:	Scott Rice (President), Ann Greenwood (Vice President) Peggy Ragan (Secretary), Anita Wooton (Treasurer), Amanda Bright, Jerry Cooper, Gail Lidinsky, Mark Nelson, Joan Searles, Lauren Wardach
* * * * *	
Pastor:	Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen
Assistant to the Pastor:	Rev. Larry Wright
Retired Pastors in Residence:	Rev. Marianne Powrie Rev. John Spittal Rev. David Wagner
Interim Office Administrator:	Linda Fewell
Sunday Sexton:	Thomas Bright
Lead Cantor/Music Librarian:	Tom Tryon
Artist in Residence:	Dr. Joseph Holt

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

*Faith has a T-Coil-enabled hearing loop for those whose hearing aid(s) also are enabled.
NOTE: This service is being live-streamed. While we try to avoid filming congregants, it may happen at times.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: Amen.

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

C: Amen.

P: Most merciful God,

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

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

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

ELW 631

*First and last verses**See next page**We sing together*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-'ry
3 Come, Al-might-y, to de-liv-er; let us all thy
4 Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion, pure and spot-less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy
trou-bled breast; let us all in thee in-her-it; let us
life re-ceive; sud-den-ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er-
let us be; let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-



faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion,
find thy prom-ised rest. Take a-way the love of sin-ning;
more thy tem-ples leave. Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing,
ly re-stored in thee! Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,



pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with
Al-pha and O-me-ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a-bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.
its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.
crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy, receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through 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 17:22-31

L: A Reading from Acts.

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.'

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.

³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(when children are present)

PSALMODY: Psalm 66:8-20

L: Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

C: Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

L: ⁸Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.

C: Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

¹⁰For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

¹²You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows —

¹⁴those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.

C: Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

¹⁶Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.

¹⁸If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.

²⁰Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

C: Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

L: A Reading from 1 Peter.

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We sing together.





GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

P: May the words of my mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

Loving Spirit

ELW 397

First and last verses

See next page

We sing together

Loving Spirit



- 1 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—
- 2 Like a moth - er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,
- 3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,
- 4 Friend and lov - er, in your close - ness I am known and held and blessed:
- 5 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—



you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.
feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.
hoist me up up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.
in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres - ence I may rest.
you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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APOSTLES' CREED

P: Let us confess our faith together 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: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

L: God our faithful companion, you promise to never leave us, and to send your Spirit to guide us in wisdom and truth. Send your people into the world to serve as mirrors that reflect and magnify your love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: All the earth sings praises to you. Grant your care to the creatures, plants, and places that are suffering, and equip us to respond to their song. Make us agents of restoration and refreshment for all your beloved creation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to all who are oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Nurturing Lord, you sent your Spirit to grant us peace. Make your presence known to those who feel abandoned or alone, and to all who are sick, grieving or struggling in any way, especially the people on our prayer list and those we name before you now, aloud or in silence. *(pause for responses)* Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You hold us in your loving care. We pray for mothers and mother figures. Console all who long to be mothers, children estranged from their mothers, anyone grieving the death of a mother, and mothers who have lost a child. Support all for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Almighty God, you give life and breath to all things. We give thanks for the apostles and all your saints. Sustain us by your love until we join them in glory. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

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. Online giving also is available at www.faithlutheransrq.com. We deeply appreciate your support of Faith Lutheran's ministries. When the offering plates are brought forward, the congregation stands and sings.

WE STAND

We sing together

Create in Me a Clean Heart
Offering Song

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in B-flat major, 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of staves. The lyrics are: '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.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a focus on the lyrics.

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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Generous God, in this meal, you offer your very self.
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.

In the breaking of this bread, reveal to us the Risen One.

In the pouring of this wine, pour us out in service to the world;
through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (spoken)

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (spoken)

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest!**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P: With this bread and cup, we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

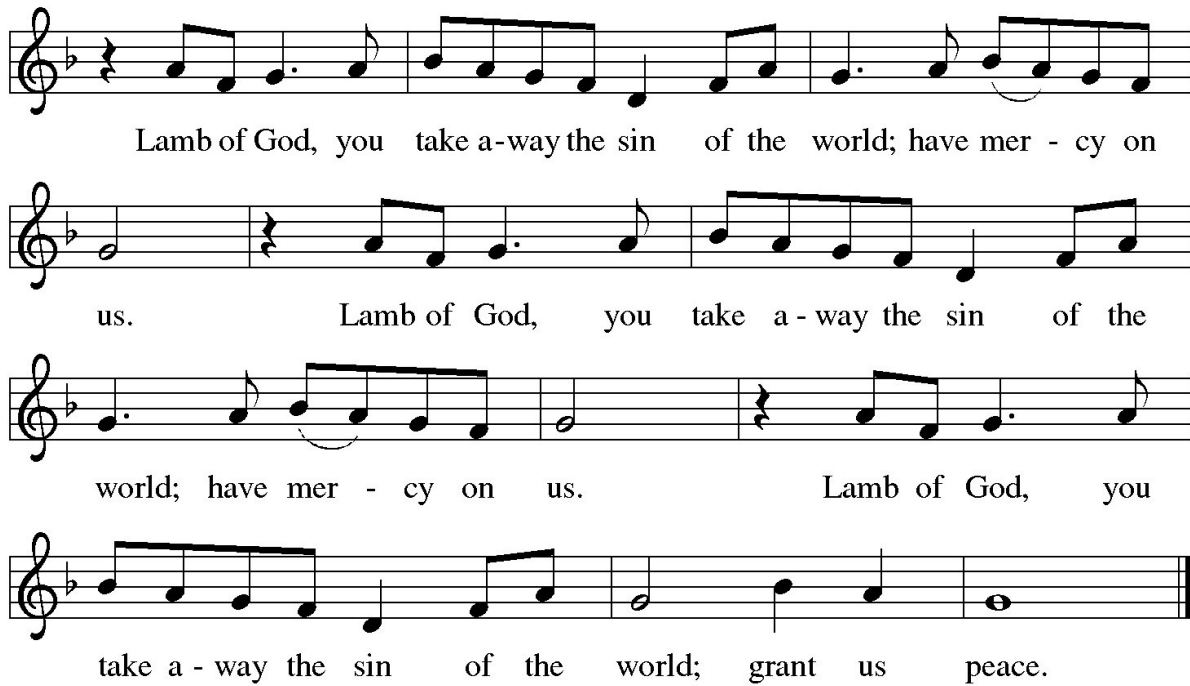
**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
forever and ever.**

Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

We sing together



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

WE SIT

Everyone is welcome at the Lord's table.

COMMUNION

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

WE STAND

TABLE BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The God of all, who raised ☩ Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

C: Amen.

*First and last verses**We sing together*

Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voic - es,
 2 Oh, may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,



who won - drous things has done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,
 the Son, and Spir - it blest, who reign in high - est heav - en,



who, from our moth - ers' arms, has blest us on our way
 and keep us all in grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878
 Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

You Shall Go Out With Joy!

Douglas E. Wagner

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FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Services

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

Sunday, May 7

Online views	40
8 a.m. in person	24
10:15 a.m. in person	120

Next Sunday, May 21, 2023

First Reading

Acts 1:6-14

Jesus' companions in prayer after his departure.

Psalmody

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Sing to God, who rides upon the clouds.
(Ps. 68:4)

Second Reading

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

God will sustain and restore those who suffer.

Gospel

John 17:1-11

Christ's prayer for his disciples.

This Week at Faith

Monday, May 15

Tuesday, May 16

9:30 a.m.	Men of Faith, chapel
12 p.m.	Mary Circle, fellowship hall
6 p.m.	Diversity Voices of Sarasota, sanctuary

Wednesday, May 17

9:30 a.m.	Bible Study, second floor classroom
10:30 a.m.	Prayer Group, chapel
1 p.m.	Bereavement Group, chapel

Thursday, May 18

9 a.m.	Food Pantry Delivery
9:30 a.m.	Finance Committee, conference room
11 a.m.	Executive Committee, conference room
1 p.m.	Stitch 'n' Chatter
1:30 p.m.	Stewardship Committee, conference room
2 p.m.	Food Pantry Pre-Packing
4:30 p.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
5 p.m.	Food Pantry Open
6 p.m.	Jazzercise, gym
6:30 p.m.	Food Pantry Operations

Friday, May 19

8:30 a.m.	Jazzercise, gym
9:30 a.m.	Piano Tuning, sanctuary

Saturday, May 20

8:30 a.m.	Jazzercise, gym
9 a.m.	Diakonia, conference room
1 p.m.	Concert Rehearsal, sanctuary
4 p.m.	Concert for Ukraine, sanctuary

Sunday, May 21

9:15 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, choir room
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Enjoy One Coffee Hour During Summer Months

After Memorial Day and throughout the summer months, we will enjoy one coffee hour at 9 a.m. between services.

May Stewardship Message

All that we have belongs to God.

*"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."
(Psalm 24:1)*

Let Us Pray

Almighty God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your mercy, receive the prayers of your children, and give to the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WELCOME, VISITORS!

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



Men of Faith Meet for Fellowship, Prayer

Men of Faith will meet at **9:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 16**, in the chapel for fellowship, prayer and to study the book of James. All men are welcome.

Bereavement Group Meets Wednesdays

The Bereavement Group meets at **1 p.m. Wednesdays** in the chapel. If you are struggling with grief, this group is for you. Come to find hope and comfort in community.



Brunch Honors Mothering Love Today Between Services



Join us for a special brunch, **9-10 a.m. today** in honor of all who do or have offered mothering love. The brunch replaces coffee hour after the 10:15 a.m. service.

Let's Pray Together

Pray with members of our Faith family at **10:30 a.m.**

Wednesdays in the chapel. We begin with conversation and sharing, and prayer begins at 10:45 a.m. We pray for ourselves, loved ones, those in need, our church community, the larger community that we serve, our nation and the world. We conclude with Holy Communion. If you can't attend in person, please join via Zoom: **Meeting ID 871 4720 3661, Passcode 041291**



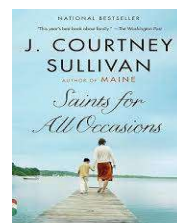
Mary Circle Meets to Plan Events, Build Personal-Care Kits



During Mary Circle's April meeting, members guessed one another's Zodiac signs based on personalities. New member and best guesser Ingrid Velkme won a beautiful orchid. The group will meet at **noon, Tuesday, May 16**, to plan upcoming events and build personal-care kits for Lutheran World Relief. Please bring your lunch; dessert will be provided. See you then!

Readers Club Meets May 22

Readers Club will meet at **2 p.m., Monday, May 22**, in the church library to discuss *Saints for All Occasions* by J. Courtney Sullivan. To learn more, contact Kathy Schilio, schilmo@yahoo.com.



Pastor's Discretionary Fund Needs Your Help

Pastor Eric often speaks with members of the congregation or community about aid they might require. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund provides him the means to help financially, when necessary. **If you are able, please consider a donation so vulnerable people can continue to receive assistance. Thank you!**

Sign Up to Help in the Church Office May 23-June 6



Faith's office administrator will be out of town May 23-June 6. **If you could answer the phone in the church office at any time during that span, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.**

Help Feed the Hungry at St. Paul's Lutheran



From 3 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 30, be part of the crew that will cook and serve for about 70 of our food-insecure and homeless siblings in Christ at St. Paul's Lutheran in downtown Sarasota. **To let us know that you'll be there, sign up on the sheet in the narthex or contact the church office.**

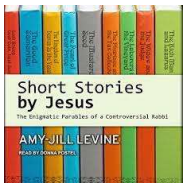
Food Pantry Still Needs Paper Goods and Your Help

Attendance at the Faith Food Pantry is strong! Please:

- **Donate toilet paper, paper towels, facial tissues or napkins.** Those items remain in high demand.
- **Volunteer to help on Thursdays.** We need helpers to **unload the food delivery at 9 a.m.**, and we also need volunteers to **check people in as they arrive 5-6:30 p.m.**



Adult Bible Study Focuses on 'Short Stories by Jesus'



To understand Jesus' parables, Pastor Larry is convening a study on Wednesdays that began April 19 and will conclude May 24. Each session takes place 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the second-floor classroom across from the elevator. Study leader Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt University, explains how original audiences understood the parables, and how new interpretations challenge us. Even if you didn't attend past sessions, please come!

Plan To Be There: Congregational Meeting 9 a.m. June 4

Mark your calendar for a congregational meeting at **9 a.m., Sunday, June 4**, in fellowship hall. We will vote to approve minutes from the 2022 annual meeting and updates to the Faith Lutheran constitution. If you can't attend in person, please join via Zoom: **Meeting ID 871 4720 3661, Passcode 041291**



Confirmation

Confirmation Study Resumes June 18

Confirmation study resumes **at 9 a.m. Sunday, June 18**. During the summer months, the class will meet each Sunday between services.

Consider Donating Altar Flowers



Altar Flowers

Ministry Opportunity

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 vases. Each week, we can have one donor for both vases, or two donors for one vase each. 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 both vases for a date already are sponsored, please choose an alternate date. The next available Sunday is **July 16**.

When you purchase altar flowers, your name and dedication will be published in the bulletin on your selected Sunday. To make a dedication:

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

After the 10:15 a.m. service, the flowers are yours to keep or donate. **Please leave the liner pots at church. The florist picks these up every week to reuse them.** Thank you!



Cornhole Tourney Supports Lutheran Services Florida



Mark your calendars for **June 10** -- that's the date for Cornhole for a Cause in support of Lutheran Services Florida (LSF). Check-in begins at 11 a.m., and tournament play begins at noon at **Hot Sands Tiki Bar and Grill, 600 N. Beneva Road, Sarasota, FL, 34232**. The event is for people

21 or older and is dog friendly.

A registration fee of \$35 per team includes two drink tickets, \$20 per individual includes one drink ticket, or \$10 per team-sub or spectator includes one drink ticket. Food and drink will be available for purchase, and there will be a 50/50 raffle, music, and prize drawings.

You Can Help Enhance Our Worship Experience

Gathering on Sundays to worship God and join in fellowship is important in the life of a Christian. There are many ways in which you can help enhance the worship experience for yourself and others.

If you enjoy singing, **consider joining the Voices of Faith choir.** David Patrick, director of music and organist, or any current member of the choir will be happy to tell you more.



Here are other opportunities to honor God in service at Faith. **Please consider volunteering in one or more of these ways:**

- **Greeter** – Welcome worshippers with a friendly smile and a bulletin.
- **Usher** – Assist with seating guests, collecting offerings, and directing worshippers to communion.
- **Crucifer** – Carry the cross to and from the altar.
- **Acolyte** – Light the altar candles before worship and extinguish them after.
- **Lector** – Read the scripture lessons and the prayers of the day.
- **Communion Assistant** – Assist the pastor(s) in serving communion.
- **Altar Guild Member** – Set up the altar prior to the 8 a.m. service or clean up following the 10:15 a.m. service. Also change the altar paraments in concert with the church seasons.
- **Flower Helper** – Assist with removing the flowers from the altar and distributing them after the 10:15 a.m. service.
- **Tech Assistant** – Operate the lighting, sound, and live-stream recording equipment.

Interested? Please let us know, speak with one of the pastors, or contact the church office. We will make sure you are trained and comfortable in your volunteer role.

Sharing Joy in Worship,

Joan Searles, 941-587-5528

Peggy Ragan, 941-302-7722

Worship & Music Ministry Support/Congregation Council Members

May 20 Concert at Faith Benefits Ukrainian Relief Efforts

"War, Culture and Music," a concert to raise money for Ukrainian relief, is set for **4-7 p.m., Saturday, May 20**, in the sanctuary. Both of the talented concert performers have been honored for their efforts to raise money for the Ukrainian cause:

- **Dr. Taras Filenko**, a noted Ukrainian scholar and pianist, will perform a range of music by Ukrainian composers, and will speak about Ukrainian music, culture, history and the war.
- **Nataliya Bratash**, a Ukrainian vocalist and graduate of the International University of Art and Culture in Kiev, will sing Ukrainian folk songs



Since Russia attacked Ukraine, thousands of people have been killed, and millions have fled the war zone. Hundreds of cities, towns and villages have been wiped out. The courage of the Ukrainian Defense Forces and support from the USA and other allies have allowed Ukraine to resist the aggression. But the people of Ukraine need ongoing assistance.

There is no admission fee to the concert. Free-will donations will benefit not-for-profit organizations that focus on Ukrainian relief: United National Women's League of America (<https://www.unwla.org/>), Brother's Brother Foundation (<https://brothersbrother.org/>), and the Ukrainian Project (<https://www.facebook.com/Ukrainian-Project-108208221807181>).

From Our Brother and Sister in Christ, Mike and Gwen Schell



"Thank you" is not enough to express our gratitude for the love, kind words and prayers that Faith showered us with on May 7. Leaving Faith is not easy for us. For more than 10 years, we have been fed spiritually by Pastor Steve, Pastor Larry, Pastor Bob and Pastor Eric. It has been a joy to serve our Lord at Faith. Jesus calls us all to serve, and we will continue to do that at Messiah Lutheran in Lincoln. We know that under the guidance

of Pastor Eric and the Holy Spirit, Faith will be a blessing to its members and the community. As we return full time to Lincoln, we leave you with Holy Words God speaks to us in Romans 15:13: "May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."



Prayer List



Please remember in your prayers this week:

Judith Adams, sister of Rev. Larry Wright
Rev. Steve Anderson, pastor at
 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Jeff & Nancy Arntsen
Anna Bancroft, 6 years old,
 friend of Alyene Weaver
Chuck Banta
Family & Friends of Kevin Beard
Sean Brett, son of Alyene Weaver
Tommy Bright
Sandra Brinker
Charles Budreau
Dee Burlingame
Michael O. Cannon, father of Kay Cannon
Ray Collins, friend of Joan Zabor
Joan Cotton
Eloise Dettmer
Ryan Donahue
Elizabeth Farmer
John Gallo, friend of April Shettler
Andrea Gamboa
Paula Haas, friend of Eloise Dettmer
Elaine Graham
Alyssa Hansen, cousin of Lisa Olsen
Jeff Hansen, nephew of Joan Searles
Christiana Holmes
Kevin Hooks, son-in-law of
 Anita and Jon Wooton

Mary Janice Holt
Jesus & Rita Jimenez
Katie Kjellberg, niece of Scott Rice
Karen Kolschowsky
Paul & Debby Maresch
Alexis Martincek, 13 years old,
 friend of Heather Stuebe
Bill Masser
Judi Melander
Kristin Mohammed
Jeremy & Yvonne Mullins
Wally Pina
Doris Anne Prieur-Lucia
Family & Friends of Kristina Prozzo
Fritz Rappold
Gabriel Rockwell
Floyd Ryder
Kathy Schilio
Rev. John Spittal
Isolde "Issy" Smirnow
Dianne Stoll, friend of Dorothy Gustavson
Cathy Stubenvoll
Michelle Terrell, niece of Kay Cannon
Colette Thornbloom
David Turnbull
Scotty Walters, cousin of Jerry Cooper
Jon Wooton
Joan Zabor

Contact the church office if:

- You or someone you know would like a **communion visit, hospital or home visit, or to be contacted.**
- You know someone who would appreciate **receiving a card in the mail.**
- You would like to **serve as a Eucharistic Minister.**
- You have an addition to the Prayer List. Send an email with the individual's name to officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com. Please send updates when prayers are answered.