



# Faith Lutheran Church

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

## **Fifth Sunday in Lent**

5 p.m., April 6, 2025



Our God makes all things new. In the first reading, God promises it.

In the gospel, Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial.

In the second reading, Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

***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](http://www.faithlutheransrq.com)

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

**Minister**

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

**Assisting Minister**

Deacon Scott Rice

**Director of Music/Organist**

Andi Zdrava

**Greeters & Ushers**

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

**Media Team**

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

**Altar Guild**

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

\* \* \* \* \*

**Pastor**

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

**Assistant to the Pastor**

Rev. Larry Wright

**Retired Pastors in Residence**

Rev. John Hilficker  
Rev. Marianne Powrie  
Rev. John Spittal

**Congregation Council**

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

**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

### SONG: Come, Now Is the Time To Worship

#### *Chorus*

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

#### *Verse 1*

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

#### *Chorus*

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

#### *Verse 2*

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

#### *Ending*

Come, just as you are, come.

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## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**C: Amen.**

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

*(pause for reflection)*

Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and**

**by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **SONG: Here I Am To Worship**

#### *Verse 1*

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

#### *Chorus*

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

#### *Verse 2*

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

#### *Chorus*

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

Tim Hughes CCLI Song #3266032 © 2000 Thankyou Music

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### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you

are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through 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.**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21**

L: A reading from Isaiah.

- <sup>16</sup> Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,  
<sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
<sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.  
<sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.  
<sup>20</sup> The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people,  
<sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 126:5**

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



Psalm 126:5

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

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**PSALMODY: Psalm 126**

L: 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
then were we like those who dream.

<sup>2</sup> Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.  
Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

<sup>3</sup> The Lord has done great things for us,  
and we are glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup> Restore our fortunes, O Lord,  
like the watercourses of the Negeb.

**C: Refrain.**

L:<sup>5</sup> Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup> Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

**C: Refrain.**

## **SONG: In Christ Alone**

### *Verse 1*

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

### *Verse 2*

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

### *Verse 3*

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

### *Verse 4*

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

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend CCLI Song #3350395 © 2001 Thankyou Music  
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## *WE STAND*

## **GOSPEL: John 12:1-8**

**P:** The holy gospel according to St. John.

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

**P:**<sup>1</sup> Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup> Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this

perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?”<sup>6</sup> (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.)<sup>7</sup> Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial.<sup>8</sup> You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

The gospel of the Lord.

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

**MESSAGE**

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

**HYMN OF THE DAY**    **Take My Life, That I May Be**

**ELW 695**

*We sing together*



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;  
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.  
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.  
Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

*WE SIT*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**P:** Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world and all those in need.

**L:** The church declares your praise, O God. Guide us in the example of Isaiah’s imagination, Paul’s transformation, and Mary’s faith and devotion; that our lives, too, may be poured out in love as we trust in your promises. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**L:** The earth declares your praise, O God. Make a way for the planet’s future in the sea and the wilderness, the mountains and plains, the tundra and wetlands.

Repair habitats and sustainable ecosystems on, above and beneath the ground.

God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: The nations declare your praise, O God. Where religious differences divide, bring together those who worship you in the name of Jesus Christ and those who call to you with different names. Guide interreligious dialogue, that faith may unite rather than divide communities. And we pray for peace in our world, especially in Israel, Gaza, Russia, Ukraine and all areas rocked by unrest. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: The people declare your praise, O God. Restore those whose hope has been dampened through a health diagnosis, job loss or home loss, divorce or death. Bring healing to those in need, especially those on our prayer list and those we name before you now, aloud or in our hearts. (*pause*). May all who weep now sing songs of joy again. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: The gifts of the Spirit declare your praise, O God. We thank you for artists who proclaim the gospel through music, poetry and images that proclaim the new thing you are doing. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: The communion of saints declares your praise, O God. With thanks for John White, Judi Melander, Joe Dongarra and all those who have died, we trust in the one who has made them his own: Christ Jesus, our crucified and risen Savior. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**C: Amen.**

## **OFFERTORY**



*There is an offering plate at the entrance of the sanctuary. You also can give online by scanning the QR Code printed here or via the Online Giving page at [faithlutheransrq.com](http://faithlutheransrq.com). We deeply appreciate your support of Faith Lutheran's ministries.*

## **SONG: This I Believe** (*The Creed*)

*Verse 1*

Our Father everlasting,  
The all-creating One, God Almighty,  
Through Your Holy Spirit  
Conceiving Christ the Son,



Jesus our Savior.

*Chorus 1*

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

*Verse 2*

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

*Chorus 2*

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

Ben Fielding, Matt Crocker CCLI Song #7018338 © 2014 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia  
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**OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray. Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

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

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread, and all are welcome at the Lord's Table.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **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. Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **SONG: The Cross**

#### *Verse 1*

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

#### *Chorus*

Come and see a Savior's love  
That would die to make you new.  
Nothing you have ever done  
Can change what mercy's done for you.

And if you ever wonder  
If you're worth so great a cost,  
Look up and see the cross.

*Verse 2*

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

*Chorus*

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

*Verse 3*

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

*Chorus*

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

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

**BLESSING**

**P:** Receive a blessing. God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, † bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

## **C: Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

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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.

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## ***Remembering the Dearly Departed***

A service of resurrection and life for **John White** will begin at 10:30 a.m., Friday, April 11, in the sanctuary. A luncheon will follow in fellowship hall. Please keep John's wife, Karen, and all of John's family and friends in your prayers.

A service of resurrection and life for **Judi Melander** will begin at 10:30 a.m. Monday, April 14, in the sanctuary. A luncheon will follow in fellowship hall. Please keep Judi's family and friends in your prayers.

Plans for a service of resurrection and life for **Joe Dongarra** are pending. Please keep his wife, Joan, and all of Joe's family and friends in your prayers.

*Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servants, John, Judi and Joe. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own redeeming. Receive them into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.*

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## ***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 3, *The Powers of Darkness*, in the "A Clash of Kingdoms" series.
- **Men of Faith** meet for breakfast and prayer at 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays at Skilletts, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail.
- **G.I.F.T.S. (Growing in Faith Through Scripture) Women's Bible study** meets at 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays in the library to focus on "Leaning on Jesus: A Study of God's Strength." Can't attend in person? Join via Zoom, Meeting ID 867 2113 5300, Passcode 815433.
- **The Prayer Support Group** meets at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the chapel to pray for all in need, our community, nation and world, and to share Holy Communion. Can't be there? Join via Zoom, Meeting ID 871 4720 3661, Passcode 041291.
- **During Lent, the Bereavement Group meets at 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays** in the chapel. If you or a friend can use help bearing the burden of grief, this group is for you.

- **Women of Faith** meet for breakfast, prayer and camaraderie at 8:30 a.m., Monday, April 14, at Skillet's, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail. Questions? See Pastor Marianne or email her, [pastorp2.0@gmail.com](mailto:pastorp2.0@gmail.com).
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## ***Our Journey Through Lent to Easter Continues***

### **Lenten Wednesday: April 9**

Noon Midweek Lenten Worship followed by a common meal, sanctuary/fellowship hall

### **Palm Sunday, April 13**

8 a.m. Celebration Worship with Holy Communion, sanctuary

10:15 a.m. Celebration Worship with Holy Communion and choir, sanctuary

5 p.m. Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion, sanctuary

### **Maundy Thursday, April 17**

7 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion and choir, sanctuary

### **Good Friday, April 18**

7 a.m. Multi-Denominational Stations of the Cross, park at Church of the Redeemer, 222 S. Palm Ave.; take a free trolley to the starting location (see announcement below)

2 p.m. Stations of the Cross, sanctuary

7 p.m. Tenebrae Worship with choir, sanctuary

### **Holy Saturday, April 19**

7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil Part One, parking lot

### **Easter Sunday, April 20**

7 a.m. Easter Vigil Part Two, Memorial Garden

9 a.m. Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt, fellowship hall and playground

10:15 a.m. Easter Celebration Worship with Holy Communion and choir, sanctuary

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## ***Be Among Worshipers at Stations of the Cross Main Street Pilgrimage***

Join 27 pastors and more than 1,000 people from more than 14 denominations for the Good Friday Stations of the Cross Main Street Pilgrimage, April 18. Park at Church of the Redeemer, 222 S. Palm, by 7 a.m. to take the trolley to the Regal Hollywood starting point near Main and Highway 301. Trolleys begin running at 6 a.m. The procession to 14 Stations of the Cross along Main Street will begin at 7:20 a.m and will conclude with morning prayer at Church of the Redeemer. Questions? Email Dr. Tom Pfaff with the Sarasota Ministerial Association, [ChaplainTomPfaff@gmail.com](mailto:ChaplainTomPfaff@gmail.com).

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## ***Mary Circle Hosts, Requests Personal Care Donations***

- **Women of the church, plan to attend the WELCA Mid-Gulf Spring Gathering, Saturday, April 12, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Faith.** It will be a day of fellowship, Bible study and a special presentation by Faith's own Al Ernst. Both continental breakfast and lunch will be served at a cost of only \$10. Sign up on the narthex table to indicate that you'll be there.
  - Mary Circle is collecting personal-care items for Lutheran World Relief. Please place nail clippers, combs, bath-size soap and adult-size toothbrushes in the bin in the narthex. **Soap is the most-needed item.** A Thrivent grant will cover the cost of towels for the kits. If you are unable to shop, monetary contributions are welcome.
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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 4.** 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](http://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.

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## ***Daily Lenten Devotions and Prayers Continue***

The Faith Evangelism Ministry team continues emailing daily Lenten devotions from Luther Seminary with the musical theme "There in God's Garden." Printed devotional booklets also are available in the narthex for people who do not use email.

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## ***Readers Club Meets April 28***

On April 28, the Faith Readers Club will discuss *The Gift of Empathy: Helping Others Feel Valued, Cared For, and Understood* by Joel P. Bretscher and Kenneth C. Haugk. You can purchase the book from [StephenMinistries.org](http://StephenMinistries.org) (not Amazon, which has a similar title, but not this book). Come and join the conversation. Or log in via Zoom, Meeting ID: 840 3904 1433, Passcode: 182787.

## ***Orders for Easter Lilies or Hydrangeas to Adorn the Altar are Due Today***

You can purchase lilies and/or hydrangeas to adorn the altar and honor loved ones on Easter Day. Dedications to your loved ones will appear in the bulletin. The cost is **\$25 per lily plant** and **\$35 per pink or blue hydrangea plant**, and you are welcome to take the plants that you ordered home or donate them following 10:15 a.m. Easter worship. The plants are in limited supply; **orders are due today**. To indicate how many lilies and/or hydrangeas you wish to purchase and to whom you would like to dedicate the plants:

- Use a yellow-bordered Easter Lily giving envelope available in the pew racks, in the narthex and on the altar flowers bulletin board in fellowship hall. Indicate how many of each plant you would like to order, add your dedication, enclose your payment, and place the envelope in the offering plate.
  - Contact the church office, 941-924-4664 or [officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com](mailto:officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com) with your plant order and dedication, then send payment in the mail.
  - Order, indicate your dedication and pay online on the Faith website, [faithlutheransrq.com/online-giving](http://faithlutheransrq.com/online-giving).
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### ***Scam Alert! Beware of False Emails or Text Messages***

Beware of emails or texts from scammers who pretend to be Pastor Eric or another church staff person and ask for money or gift cards. Neither Pastor Eric nor any Faith staff member will ever ask any individual for money, gift cards or any other item via email or text. Please contact the church office with questions about any communication to you personally that appears to come from Faith or its staff.

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### ***LWR Requests Emergency Earthquake Relief Donations***

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) workers in Myanmar and Thailand report that the devastation from the recent earthquake is worse than news reports reveal. Your donation can help LWR deliver water, medical care, shelter and essential supplies to those affected. You can donate at [give.lwr.org](http://give.lwr.org), through the Online Giving page at [faithlutheransrq.com](http://faithlutheransrq.com), or via cash or check to Faith and designated to LWR Earthquake.

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***Like and Follow Faith's Facebook Page,  
[facebook.com/faithlutheransrq](https://facebook.com/faithlutheransrq)***

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## ***Worship to Go Needs You***

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

- **10:45 a.m., Tuesday, April 8**, at The Barclay (formerly Elancé), 3260 Lake Pointe Blvd. (next door to Faith), Tiffany Room.
- **1:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 15**, at Angels Senior Living, 5750 Honore Ave.
- **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!

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### ***The 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.*

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### ***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](http://faithlutheransrq.com), or via a cash or check contribution to Faith that is designated to Pastor's Discretionary Fund.



**Contact [officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com](mailto: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  
Susan Armistead, friend of Patty McKee  
Billy Bajor  
Family & Friends of Michele Bajor  
Gail Brown  
Family & Friends of Dorothy Burkhart,  
friend of Marlene Radesk  
Dee Burlingame  
Rick Chauncey, son of Wess Chauncey  
Linda Craley, sister-in-law of  
Dick & Jetty Zarfos  
Nancy Dandino  
Tyeann Dillon  
Ken Dixon, online worshipper  
Family & Friends of Joe Dongarra, friend  
of Lois Weaverling  
Janet Dullard, friend of Bev Hungate  
Family & Friends of Christine Earp  
Mark Evan  
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, 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  
Family & Friends of Arnie Masters  
Judy McMahan, friend of Kristine Ordman  
Family & Friends of Judi Melander  
Jay Millard, son of John & Judy Millard  
Dulce Mogan, friend of Nancy Flanagan  
Valerie Nicolls, mother of Pastor Ashley Nicolls  
Kathy Ocker, friend of Lisa & Pastor Eric Olsen  
Family & Friends of Judy Osborn,  
sister of Peggy Ragan  
Heather Schott, daughter-in-law of Les Lorenz  
Kathy Schilio  
Stephanie Sebastyn, friend of Carolyn Winemiller  
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

# 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.faihlutheransrq.com/live-service](http://www.faihlutheransrq.com/live-service)  
and at [facebook.com/faihlutheransrq](https://facebook.com/faihlutheransrq).

## Sunday, March 30

Online views	202
8 a.m. in person	30
10:15 a.m. in person	126
5 p.m. in person	25

## Wednesday, April 2

Online views	20
12 p.m. in person	34

## Next: Palm Sunday, April 13

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
*The servant of the Lord submits to suffering.*

Psalms 31:9-16  
*Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit  
(Ps. 31:5).*

Philippians 2:5-11  
*Humbled to the point of death on a cross.*

Luke 23:1-49  
*The passion of the Lord.*

## This Week at Faith

### Monday, April 7

6 p.m. Zumba, community center

### Tuesday, April 8

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  
10:15 a.m. Worship to Go Prep, chapel  
10:45 a.m. Worship to Go, The Barclay,  
next door to Faith  
6 p.m. Diversity Voices of Sarasota,  
choir room and sanctuary

### Wednesday, April 9

10:30 a.m. Prayer Support Group, chapel  
11 a.m. Property Committee, conf. room  
12 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship followed  
by a Common Meal, sanctuary/  
fellowship hall  
1:30 p.m. Bereavement Group, chapel

### Thursday, April 10

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, April 11

8 a.m. Jazzercise, community center  
10:30 a.m. John White Service of Resurrection  
and Life followed by luncheon,  
sanctuary/fellowship hall

### Saturday, April 12

8 a.m. Jazzercise, community center  
9 a.m. Diakonia, conference room  
9:30 a.m. WELCA Mid-Gulf Spring Gathering,  
fellowship hall



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## ***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](http://www.faithlutheransrq.com) or email [officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com](mailto:officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com).

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