



Faith Lutheran Church

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter

10:15 a.m., May 11, 2025



The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

***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

PRELUDE

Guest Musician: Eric Copper

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

WE STAND

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.**

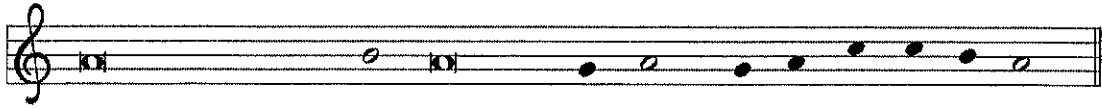
**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

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.



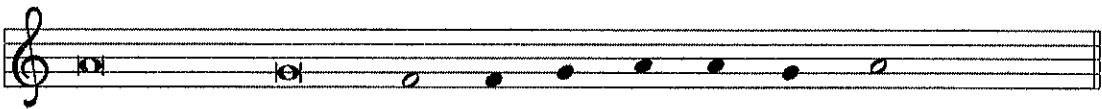
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



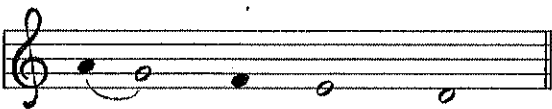
Lord, have mer - cy.



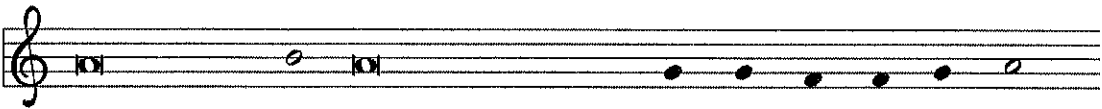
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

GLORIA

Cantor sings



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

Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

L: A reading from Acts.

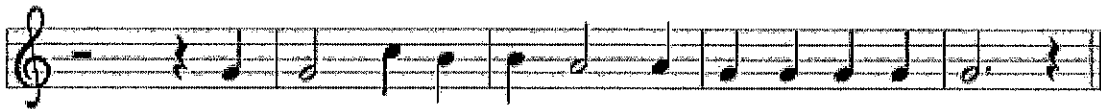
³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM REFRAIN: Psalm 23:1

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



The LORD is my shep-herd; I shall not be in want.

Psalm 23:1

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

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PSALMODY: Psalm 23

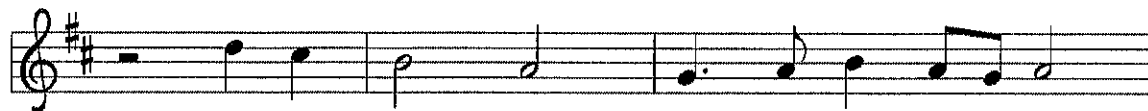
L: ¹The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

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.

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Lord's My Shepherd

ELW 778

We sing together

See next page

WE SIT

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

L: You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You lead all peoples along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. We pray especially for a just peace in Gaza, Israel, Ukraine, Russia and all places torn by unrest. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care, especially those on our prayer list and those we name before you now, aloud or in our hearts. *(pause)*. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children.

Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints, especially Pastor John Spittal, we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection made known to us in Jesus, your beloved child. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

We sing responsively

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

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

We sing together

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

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The first staff contains the first line of lyrics, the second staff the second line, the third staff the third line, and the fourth staff the final line. The music concludes with a double bar line.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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

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

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

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

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

WE SIT

Everyone is welcome at the Lord's table.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

A Communion Meditation

Don Besig and Nancy Price

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. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

ELW 631

We sing together

See next page

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.

Happy Mother's Day!

If you are a mother or someone who shares mothering love, please take one of the pink carnations in the narthex as a heartfelt thank you from your Faith Lutheran family.

Donate Blood Today

There always is a need for blood, but the need is critical after many of our neighbors return north for the summer. Your donation at Faith can save three lives and would be a wonderful way to honor your mother. Walk-ins will be accepted today 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Join in Prayer and Bible Study

- **Adult Forum** meets between the two morning worship services in the conference room. Today, the group will study lesson 2, *Engaging the Heart*, in the "Cultures in Conflict" series.
 - **Women of Faith** meet for breakfast, prayer and camaraderie at 8:30 a.m. Monday, May 12, at Skilletts, 8635 S. Tamiami Trail. Questions? See Pastor Marianne or email her, pastorp2.0@gmail.com.
 - **Men of Faith** meet for breakfast and prayer at 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays. ***This week we will meet at Max's Table, 115 S. Tamiami Trail, Osprey.***
 - **G.I.F.T.S. (Growing in Faith Through Scripture) Women's Bible study** meets at 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays in the library to focus on "Leaning on Jesus: A Study of God's Strength." Can't attend in person? Join via Zoom, Meeting ID 867 2113 5300, Passcode 815433.
 - **The Prayer Support Group** meets at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the chapel to pray for all in need, our community, nation and world, and to share Holy Communion. Can't be there? Join via Zoom, Meeting ID 871 4720 3661, Passcode 041291.
 - **The Bereavement Group** meets at 3:15 p.m. Wednesdays in the chapel. If you or a friend can use help bearing the burden of grief, this group is for you.
 - **The Men's Study Group** will be taking a break for the month of May. Please stay tuned for information about June meetings.
-

Worship to Go Needs You

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

- **10:45 a.m., Tuesday, May 13**, at The Barclay (formerly Elancé), 3260 Lake Pointe Blvd. (next door to Faith), Tiffany Room.
- **1:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 20**, at Angels Senior Living, 5750 Honore Ave.
- **10:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 27**, at Aravilla Sarasota, 3251 Proctor Road.

Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith

What exactly do "we" profess to believe as ELCA Lutherans? How are we different and the same as other Lutherans, Roman Catholics, Greek Orthodox, Presbyterians, Baptists and Methodists? What beliefs do Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh and Baháí practitioners hold dear? What do we hold in common and where do we differ? Jesus calls us to love our neighbor and to do that to our fullest. We need to take time to understand the faith traditions of our neighbors. This 5-week course began this past Wednesday, May 7. Four weeks remain! Join us this Wednesday, May 14, 9:30- 10:30 a.m. in the upstairs classroom. Can't be there? Join via Zoom, Meeting ID 830 7077 7013, Passcode 793244.

Remembering Rev. John Spittal

Rev. John Spittal, a faithful retired pastor in residence at Faith, joined the church triumphant on April 25. A Service of Resurrection and Life is planned for 10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 17, in the sanctuary, followed by a luncheon in fellowship hall. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers.

Watch for Your Year-to-Date Giving Summary

Year-to-date giving summaries for January-April 2025 were:

- Sent May 2-3 via email for those who have opted in to use email communication. Check your spam folder if you do not receive a report. If you want a paper copy, contact the church office.
- Mailed May 3 to those without email addresses or those who have opted out of email communication.

If you have questions or want to update or make changes to your contact information, contact the church office, officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com or 941-924-4664, or Patty McKee, financialsecretary@faithlutheransrq.com or 941-921-3709.

Faith Book Club Meets Tuesday, May 27

Faith Book Club will meet at 2pm on Tuesday, May 27 (note the different day due to the Memorial Day holiday) in the conference room. This month the group will read and discuss *The Last Year of the War* by Susan Meissner.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Offers Summer Garden Camp

Looking for a summer activity for a child aged 7-14? St. Paul Lutheran in downtown Sarasota will offer a weekday Summer Garden Camp June 2-July 25. A fee of \$250/week includes quality snacks, lunch, a journal and gloves. To learn more, contact Rachel Williamson, gardencamp.srq@gmail.com. Flyers are in the church office.

Worship and Service Calendar

Sunday Worship Services

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

Sunday, May 4

Online views	167
8 a.m. in person	28
10:15 a.m. in person	112
5 p.m.	13

Next Sunday, May 18

Acts 11:1-18
*Peter's vision: God give the Gentiles repentance
that leads to life.*

Psalm 148
*The splendor of the Lord is over earth and
heaven. (Ps. 148:13)*

Revelation 21:1-6
*New heaven, new earth: springs of living water
in the new Jerusalem.*

John 13:31-35
*Jesus gives a new commandment: Love one
another as I have loved you*

This Week at Faith

Monday, May 12

8:30 a.m. Women of Faith Breakfast,
Skilletts, 8635 S. Tamiami

Tuesday, May 13

8:30 a.m. Men of Faith Breakfast, Max's
Table, 115 S. Tamiami Trail, Osprey
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, Tiffany
Room
12 p.m. Mary Circle, fellowship hall
6 p.m. Diversity Voices of Sarasota,
choir room and sanctuary

Wednesday, May 14

9:30 a.m. Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith,
upstairs classroom
10:30 a.m. Prayer Support Group, chapel
11:30 a.m. Property Committee, conf. room
3:15 p.m. Bereavement Group, chapel
6 p.m. Zumba, community center

Thursday, May 15

9 a.m. Food Pantry Prep, fellowship hall
9:30 a.m. Finance Committee, conf. room
10:30 a.m. Men's Study Group, conf. room
1:30 p.m. Stewardship Meeting, conf. room
4:30 p.m. Food Pantry Prep, fellowship hall
5 p.m. Food Pantry Distribution
6:30 p.m. Voices of Faith, choir room

Friday, May 16

8 a.m. Jazzercise, community center

Saturday, May 17

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