



Faith Lutheran Church

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

21st Sunday After Pentecost

10:15 a.m., October 22, 2023



When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give to the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in God's service and for the sake of the world.

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 presented
to the Glory of God.



Presiding Ministers

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen
Rev. Larry Wright

Lector

Jim Winemiller

Director of Music/Organist

David V. Patrick

Cantor

Hannah Boyd

Vocals

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, Joan Searles, Dave Wardach

Videography

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

Altar Guild

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

Congregation Council

Scott Rice, president; Ann Greenwood, vice
president; Peggy Ragan, secretary; Anita Wooton,
treasurer; Jane Sanks, assistant treasurer;
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

Director of Family and Child Ministry

Deborah Dornemann

Lead Cantor/Music Librarian

Tom Tryon

Operations Administrator

Jennifer Shaffer

Communications Administrator

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.

NOTE: This service is being live-streamed and recorded. We try to avoid filming congregants, but it may happen at times.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S SERMON

WE STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ☩ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

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: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
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 justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ☩ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Lift Every Voice and Sing

ELW 841

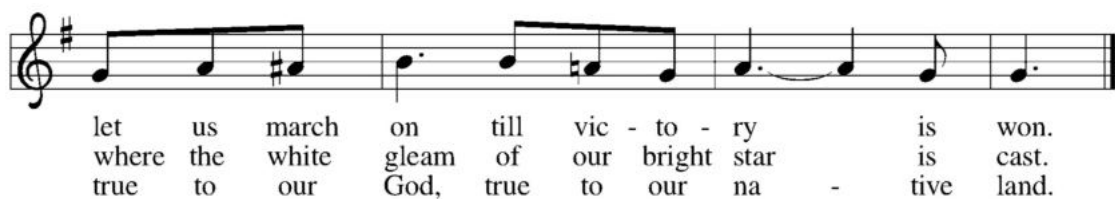
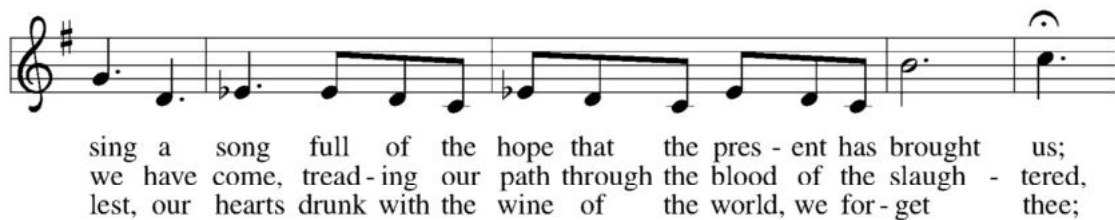
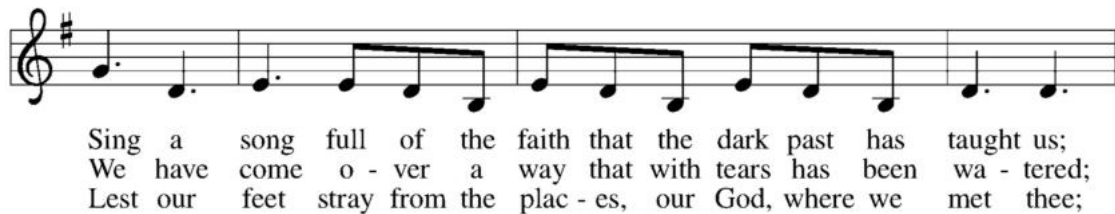
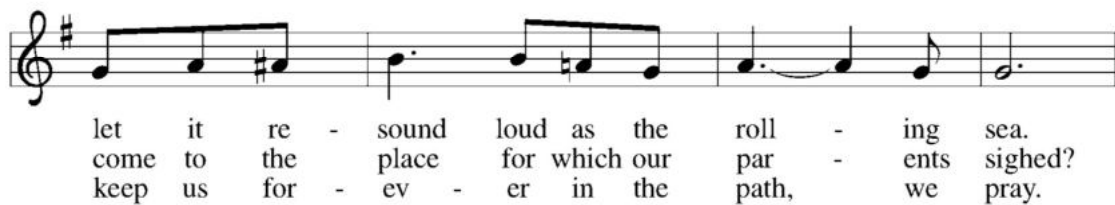
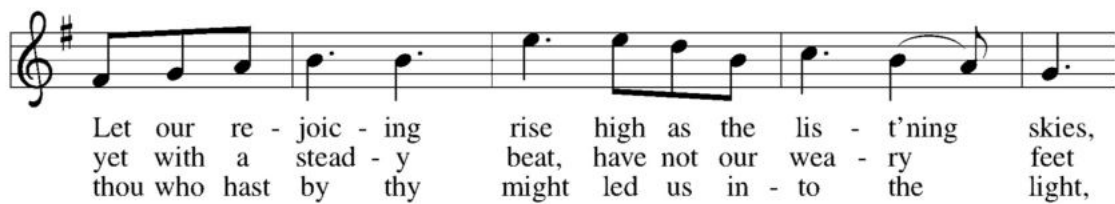
Verses 1 and 3

We sing together

The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'Lift Every Voice and Sing'. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff is for the first verse, and the second staff is for the third verse. The lyrics are written below the notes.

1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,

ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;



Text: James W. Johnson, 1871–1938

Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873–1954

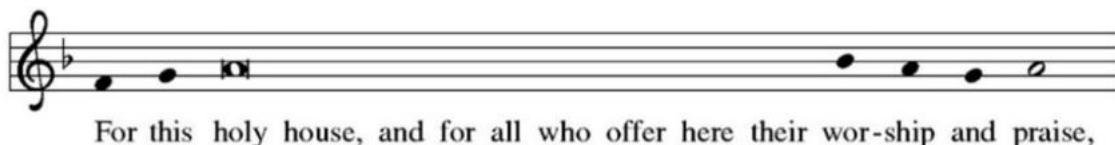
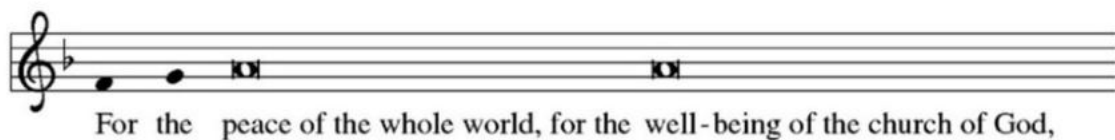
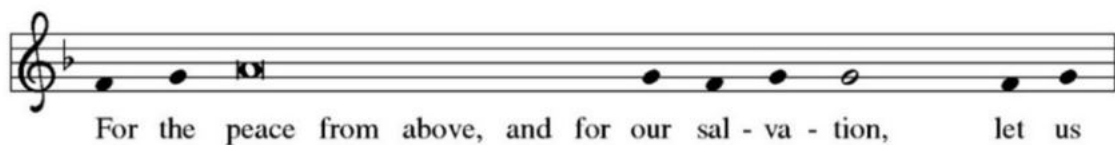
GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

We sing responsively



GLORIA

We sing together



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



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



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



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



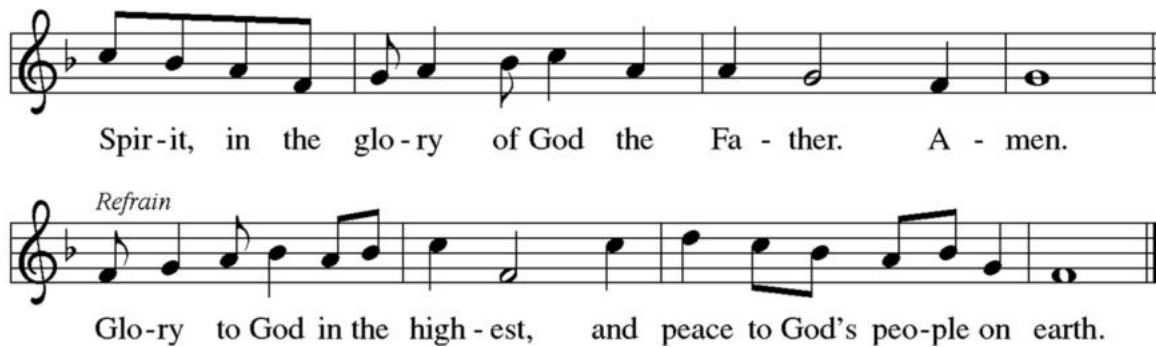
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a - lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

L: A Reading from Isaiah.

- ¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him — and the gates shall not be closed:
- ²I will go before you and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,
- ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who calls you by your name.
- ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.
- ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me,
- ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
- ⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM REFRAIN: PSALM 96: 7

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



Psalm 96:7

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

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PSALMODY: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

L: ¹Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

²Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

³Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.

C: Refrain

L: ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

⁶Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.

C: Refrain

L: ⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

[¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!

The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge
the peoples with equity."

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD,
for you come to judge the earth.

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth.]

C: Refrain

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

L: A Reading from 1 Thessalonians.

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We sing together



GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we

know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality.

¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?"

¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

WE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW 685

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.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.

Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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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: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world and all in need. *(brief silence)*

L: Faithful God, your Spirit animates the church throughout the world and binds believers near and far into the body of Christ. Equip us for the work of faith, and enlarge our hearts for the labor of love. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Creating God, the sea roars, the earth rejoices, and the heavens are glad at the wonder of all you have made. Bless the work of ecologists and conservationists and all those who safeguard the riches of creation. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Sovereign God, your authority is over the cosmos. As you once worked through the ruler Cyrus for the good of your people, accomplish your purposes through the work of elected leaders, public servants and others who wield power over innocent people. Guide them with your wisdom and compassion so that they may quell violence and bring peace to all people who are in harm's way, especially those in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Caring God, your arms enfold all who are lonely, oppressed, despairing, sick and suffering. We especially ask your comfort for those on our prayer list and those we name before you now, aloud or in our hearts. *(pause)* Pour out your abundant mercy on all whom this world has neglected, abandoned and forgotten, that they may know your joy. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Almighty God, our lives belong to you. When earthly idols threaten to lead your church astray, remind us that you alone are the source of our eternal hope. Direct the work of our church treasurer, financial secretary, congregation council, and all who manage financial matters. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

L: Everlasting God, the saints of every age have sung your praise and shared your word. We give you thanks for their witness and pray that we may join them as citizens of your unending kingdom. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
C: Amen.

WE STAND

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Feel free to greet your neighbors with a word of peace.

WE SIT

OFFERTORY

<p><i>The offering is collected at this time. Online giving is available at www.faithlutheransrq.com. We deeply appreciate your support of Faith Lutheran's ministries.</i></p>

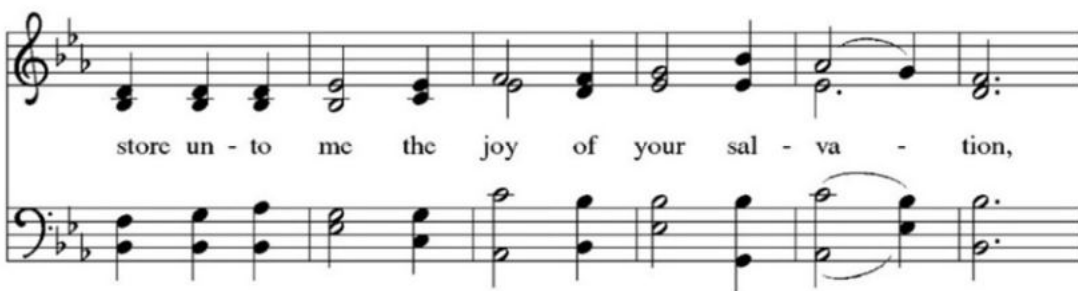
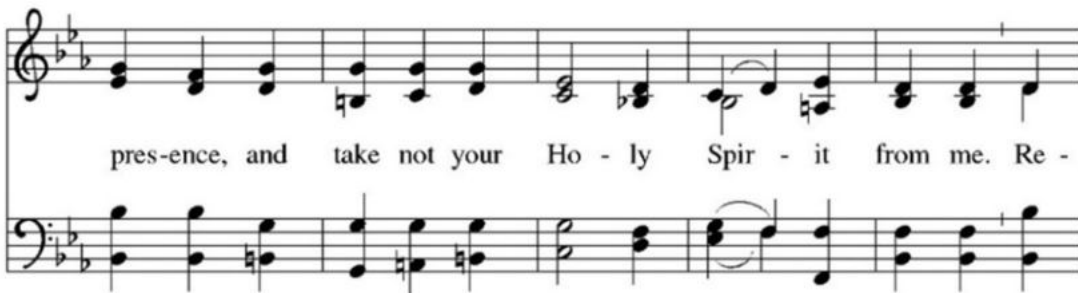
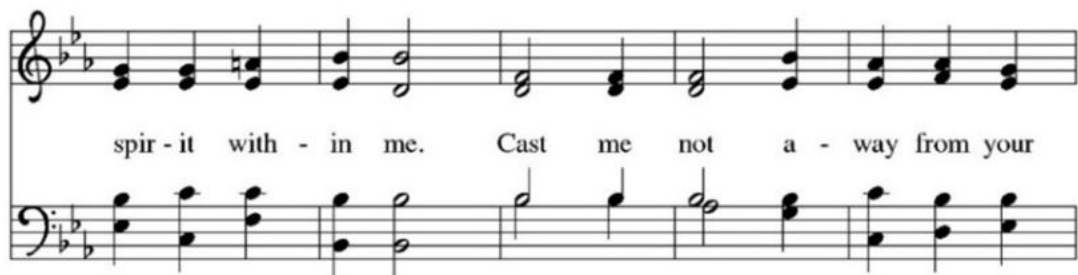
OFFERTORY ANTHEM Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise arr. Mark Hayes

Immortal, invisible, God only wise! In light inaccessible hid from our eyes. Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, your great name we praise. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light. Not wanting, not wasting, but ruling in might. Your justice like mountains high soaring above, your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love. Your life is life-giving to both great and small; in all life you're living, true life of all. We blossom and flourish as leaves and as flowers, then wither and perish but naught dims your powers. So perfect your glory, so brilliant your light. Your angels adore you, all veiling their sight. All praise we now render as your angels do: in awe at the splendor of light hiding you.

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WE STAND

We sing together
Create in Me a Clean Heart
Offering Song



OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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.

This musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four lines of music. The first line has two measures, the second and third lines each have two measures, and the fourth line has one measure. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures. The melody is simple and melismatic, with many notes beamed together.

PREFACE

The presiding minister sings

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,

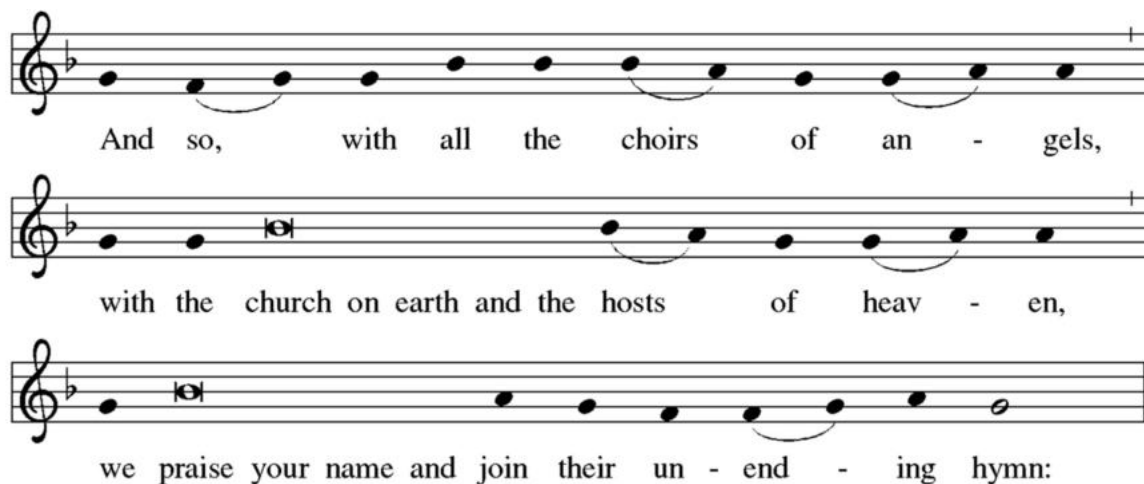
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

and by his glorious resur - rec - tion

opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.

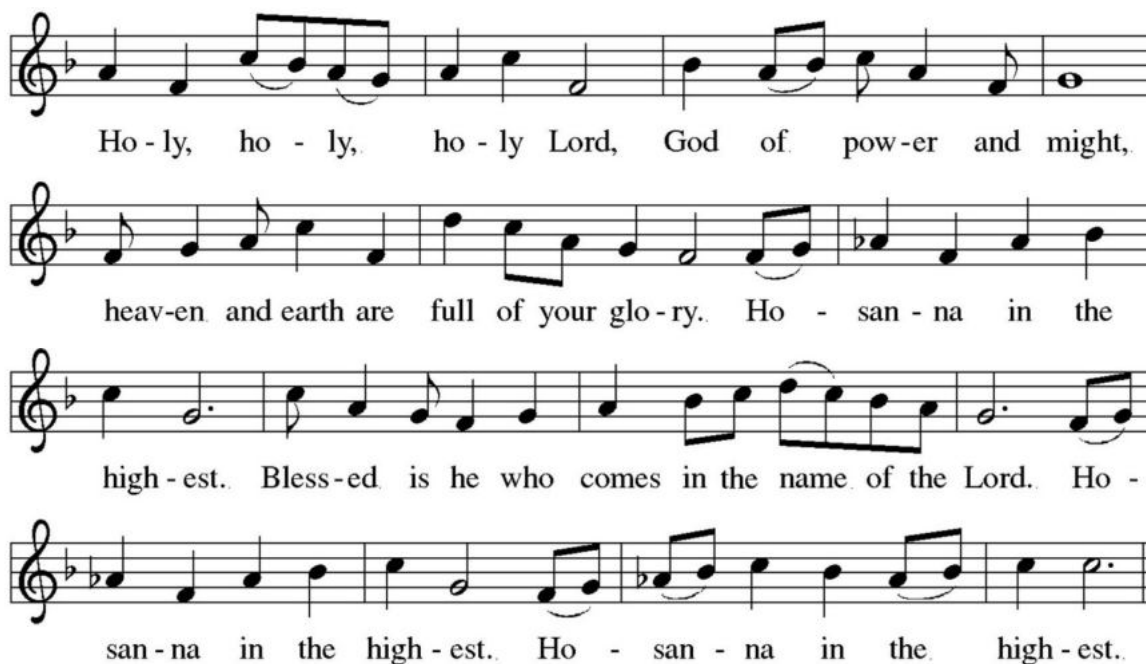
This musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six lines of music. The first line has two measures, the second and third lines each have two measures, the fourth line has one measure, and the fifth and sixth lines each have two measures. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures. The melody is simple and melismatic, with many notes beamed together.



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HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

We sing together



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: 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: Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

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



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.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Come to the Table of the Lord

Words by Sally K. Albrecht, Music by Jay Althouse

Voices of Faith Choir

Come to the table where the bread is broken.
Come to the table where the word of God is spoken.
And take this bread into your life as a token. Come to the table of the Lord.
Come to the table and drink this wine. Come to the table believing in this sign.
Renew your spirit with this food divine. Come to the table of the Lord.
Hungry and thirsty, we come, Lord to Thee. We humbly bow on bended knee.
Come to the table and dwell in God's light.
Come to the table and kneel before His sight.
Join in communion and know His holy might.
Come to the table of the Lord.

Amen.

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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: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS

We sing together



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have prepared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

BLESSING

P: The God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

When Our Song Says Peace

ELW 709

We sing together



1 When our song says peace and the world says war, we will
2 When our song says free and the world says bound, we will
3 When our song says home and the world says lost, we will

sing de-spite the world. We will trust the song, for we sing of God,
sing de-spite the world. We will trust the song, for we sing of God,
sing de-spite the world. We will trust the song, for we sing of God,

who breaks the spear and sword and stills the storm of war.
who o - pens pris - on doors and sets the cap - tives free.
who brings us home at last, and gives a song to all.

Text: Richard Leach, b. 1953

Music: JENKINS, Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962

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DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Fanfare for a New Day

J. Wayne Kerr

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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.

Faith Sunday School Welcomes All Young People



Following the Children's Sermon, Director of Family and Child Ministry Deborah Dornemann and volunteers will show young people to the classroom, where they will learn about the gospel of the day through age-appropriate lessons and fun activities. The children and teachers will rejoin the congregation for Holy Communion.

Deborah will be available after worship to meet with parents and answer questions about the curriculum. Help spread the word about Sunday School! All young people are welcome! Pray for God's blessing on this learning ministry, and give thanks for those who lead it and participate in it!

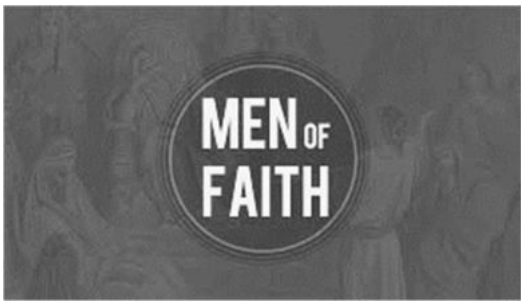
Scam Alert! Beware of False Emails and Text Messages

Scammers have been at it again, so beware of false emails or text messages from anyone who pretends to be Pastor Eric or another church staff person and asks for money or gift cards.



Neither Pastor Eric nor any Faith Lutheran staff member will ever ask any individual for money, gift cards or other items via email or text message.

Be on guard, and feel free to contact the church office to ask about any questionable communication to you personally that appears to come from Faith Lutheran or its staff members.



Men of Faith Bible Study on Hiatus

Men of Faith Bible Studies in the chapel are on hiatus. Stay tuned for news about the next gathering.

Men's Prayer Breakfasts continue on the first and last Tuesday of each month.

Confirmation Class Meets Tuesdays Online

Pastor Eric leads Confirmation Class at 4:45 p.m. Tuesdays via Zoom. Contact him with questions or to receive the Zoom link.



Let's Pray Together



Join in prayer at **10:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the chapel**. We pray for ourselves, loved ones, those in need, our church community, the larger community, our nation and the world. We conclude with Holy Communion.

Can't attend in person? Please join via Zoom: **Meeting ID 871 4720 3661, Passcode 041291.**

Bereavement Group Meets Wednesdays

The Bereavement Group meets at **1 p.m. Wednesdays in the chapel**. If you or a friend can use help bearing the burden of grief, this group is for you. There is strength and hope in community.



Adult Forum Meets Between Worship Services



Adult Forum meets today between worship services, **9:10-9:50 a.m., in the conference room.**

Today, the group focused on Lesson 5, "The Very Words of God," in the "That the World May Know" video series.

Stitch 'n' Chatter Meets Thursdays

Ladies and gents, pick up your hooks and needles for Stitch 'n' Chatter, **1-2:30 p.m. each Thursday in room 212**. For info, contact Doris Anne Prieur-Lucia, 941-266-8101.



Considering Membership? Attend An Informational Coffee Hour After Worship Today



Are you considering membership at Faith? You are cordially invited to an **informational coffee hour after worship today**.

You'll have the opportunity to engage in conversation about membership and ask congregation leaders about life at Faith Lutheran.

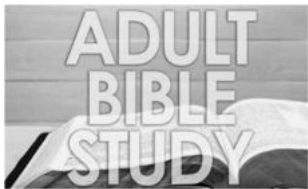
We will receive new members with a warm welcome during worship Nov. 5.

Coffee Hour: Volunteer to Set Up, Clean Up

Coffee hour is an important fellowship ministry at Faith that needs additional volunteers. All you have to do is put out snacks and clean up afterward.



Please sign up to help on the sheet beside the coffee pot in fellowship hall. Questions? Contact Karen Naulty, knaulty@yahoo.com or 406-334-1063; or Denise Kirkeeng, kirkeengd@verizon.net or 941-468-6668.



Adult Bible Study Continues on Wednesdays

Pastor Larry is leading a Bible study on **Wednesdays through Nov. 15**. The one-hour sessions begin at **9:30 a.m. in the second-floor classroom** across from the elevator, and include a DVD lecture followed by thought-provoking discussion. Luther Seminary Professor Dr. Craig Koester shares insights about -- **Acts**: Paul's Calling; **Romans and more**: Paul and the Roman Empire; **I and II Corinthians**: Paul's Letters to a Community in Conflict; and **Hebrews, James and I Peter**: Letters for Sojourners.

All welcome! Light refreshments! Great discussion! Fun fellowship!

Save the Date! Dec. 5 Luncheon Will Honor Endowment Donors

A luncheon honoring donors to the Faith Mission Endowment Fund is set for **11:30 a.m., Dec. 5.**

"Celebrating Generosity" is for all givers, regardless of the size of the donation, who help to fund grants to support new and developing ministries through Endowment Fund donations. We invite **you** to be a part of that perpetual giving fund that supports God's ministries at Faith Lutheran Church.



We have a list of donations to date, but some seem to be missing. If you have donated to the Mission Endowment Fund or would like to, contact Ann Greenwood, 262-490-9917 or agreenwood3@comcast.net; or Scott Rice, 412-551-4549 or scottwrice@live.com.



You Can 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, please choose an alternate date. **The next open date is Sunday, Oct. 29, Reformation Sunday.** 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.
- 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.

October Stewardship Message

We should seek to make the Lord's work a priority in our lives as we seek first God's kingdom and righteousness.

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matthew 6:33

From Your Stewardship Team: The Spiritual Gift of Giving



The subject of spiritual gifts is sometimes surrounded by controversy. Well-intentioned Christian people often debate whether spiritual gifts are for today, how many gifts exist, how to obtain them, who can have them, how they are used, etc.

... there's at least one gift you may very well possess. That's the spiritual gift of giving. It's the ability to contribute material resources to the Lord's work with generosity, frequency and cheerfulness. People with this gift consider giving to be a wonderful opportunity rather than a sacrificial burden. Contributing to needs even makes their hearts stir. You have certainly shown evidence of this gift!

Whether you know it or not, and whether you consider yourself to have the spiritual gift of giving, your faithful support of Faith Lutheran Church demonstrates the earmarks of spiritual giving. By giving of the resources that God has entrusted to you, you make a significant difference for Christ, more so than you might realize. For that, we truly thank you and give God thanks for you!

Women's Bible Study Meets Tuesdays



G.I.F.T.S (Growing in Faith Through Scripture) Women's Bible Study meets **9:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesdays in the conference room.** The group is focusing on "Be Still and Know -- A Study of Rest and Refuge," by Deb Burma. Questions? Contact Peggy Ragan, pragan12@aol.com or 941-302-7722. All women are welcome!

Faith Food Pantry Needs You and Paper Goods



The Faith Food Pantry needs your help on Thursdays! There are tasks for people of every age, stage and ability.

Interested? Questions? Contact Karen Naulty, knaulty@yahoo.com or 406-334-1063. Or stop by on Thursdays! **The pantry also has an ongoing need for paper products (toilet paper, facial tissues, paper towels, feminine hygiene products, etc.). Place donations in the barrel in fellowship hall. Thanks!**



Readers Club Meets Oct. 30

Readers Club will meet at **2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 30, in the library** to discuss *The Five-Star Weekend* by Elin Hilderbrand. To learn more, contact Kathy Schilio, schilmo@yahoo.com. Please join!

Fundraiser Helps Defray Mission Trip Expenses for Fellow Worshipper



Ashley Garlitz, a graduate student clinician in speech therapy who is a Sunday-morning greeter and food pantry volunteer at Faith, is among those who will travel to Grenada this coming February to provide free speech therapy services to those in need.

You can be part of her work for God's children across the globe by purchasing fundraising items from an impressive array of gifts that includes bath and body items; candles; cheese, chocolate, coffee and other goodies; socks, toys; small electronics and more. A generous portion of the sale from each item will help to fund Ashley's work in Grenada.

To participate, register by choosing one of these options:

- Scan the QR Code printed here, or
- Go to <https://needsyour support.org> and enter **group ID KE88S**, or
- Text "fund" to 833-943-1979.



Then shop to your heart's content!

When you check out, be sure to click the drop-down arrow in the box that says "Click Here to Select a Seller," and choose Ashley Garlitz. The deadline to purchase items is Thursday, Nov 9.



Bloodmobile Will Visit Faith Nov. 12

The Suncoast Bloodmobile will visit Faith **8 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12**. All donors will receive a free Culver's "Pint for a Pint" coupon. One pint of donated blood can save three lives, so mark your calendar and **sign up for a donation time on the sheets on the narthex table or contact the Suncoast Blood Center, 1-866-97-BLOOD or suncoastblood.org.**

You Can Help Needy Neighbors Through Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Pastor Eric often speaks with people about aid they might require. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund allows him to assist financially, when appropriate. If you are able, please consider a donation to the fund so those in need can receive assistance.



All Are Invited: Learn How to Avoid Falling Prey to Scams



Have you received phone calls or emails that seem bogus or too good to be true? How about the email “from Pastor Eric” asking you to buy a gift card?

Be there Tuesday, Nov. 14, for a noon lunch meeting in fellowship hall to hear Karen Rushing, Sarasota County’s elected Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller, outline how to

spot scams and avoid falling prey to them. The event is open to all Faith members and guests. Bring your lunch. Members of Mary Circle will provide dessert. Please indicate that you’ll be there by signing the sheet on the narthex table. (If you don’t have an opportunity to sign up, you still are welcome.)

With many years of experience, Karen Rushing is committed to providing citizens high-quality customer service, transparency and effective cost controls. She completed post-graduate work at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and has been honored with numerous awards for excellence.

First appointed by the Florida Supreme Court in 2010, she also serves on the commission that addresses statewide standardization of court-related technology.



Ms. Rushing advised the United States Department of Commerce about developing democracy in Angola, Africa, following the assassination of the country's rebel leader in 2002. She also is on the United Way Suncoast board of directors, and leads a community focus group for Sarasota County Openly Plans for Excellence (SCOPE), an organization focused on inspiring citizens to create a better community.

WORSHIP AND SERVICE CALENDAR

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, Oct. 15

Online views	33
8 a.m. in person	26
10:15 a.m. in person	127

Next Sunday, Oct. 29

First Reading

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
Holiness revealed in acts of justice

Psalmody

Psalm 1
Their delight is in the law of the Lord
(Ps. 1:2)

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
The apostle's tender care for the
Thessalonians

Gospel

Matthew 22:34-46
Two great commandments: Love for God
and neighbor

This Week at Faith

Monday, Oct. 23

Tuesday, Oct. 24

9:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study, conference room
4:45 p.m.	Confirmation Class, Zoom
5 p.m.	Congregation Council, conference room
6 p.m.	Diversity Voices of Sarasota, sanctuary

Wednesday, Oct. 25

9:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study, room 217
10:30 a.m.	Prayer Group, chapel
1 p.m.	Bereavement Group, chapel

Thursday, Oct. 26

9 a.m.	Food Pantry Delivery and Prep, fellowship hall
1 p.m.	Stitch 'n' Chatter, room 212
4:30 p.m.	Food Pantry Prep, fellowship hall
5 p.m.	Food Pantry Open
6 p.m.	Jazzercise, gym

Friday, Oct. 27

8:30 a.m.	Jazzercise, gym
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Saturday, Oct. 28

8:30 a.m.	Jazzercise, gym
9 a.m.	Diakonia, conference room

Sunday, Oct. 29

9:10 a.m.	Adult Forum, conference room
9:30 a.m.	Voices of Faith Choir Rehearsal, choir room
10:25 a.m.	Sunday School, classrooms



Prayer List



Please remember in your prayers this week:

Marsha Anderson, sister of Gail Murphy
Rev. Steve Anderson, pastor at
 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Anna Bancroft, 6-year-old
 friend of Alyene Weaver
Chuck Banta
Sean Brett, son of Alyene Weaver
Sandra Brinker
Charles Budreau
Dee Burlingame
Elise Carmona
Casey, friend of Faith Lutheran
Evelyn Conlon
Jordan Demers, cousin of Hannah Boyd
Eloise Dettmer
Ken Dixon
Ryan and Valerie Donahue
Elizabeth Farmer
Judy & Robert Ferguson
Fin, 2-year-old friend of Gail Lidinsky
Carolyn & Marty Friedman,
 friends of Marlene Radesk
John Gallo, friend of April Shettler
Andrea Gamboa
Amanda Gerber,
 daughter of Sandy Gerber
Elaine Graham
Paula Haas, friend of Eloise Dettmer
Alyssa Hansen, cousin of Lisa Olsen
Jeff Hansen, nephew of Joan Searles
Patricia Head, mother of Wayne Head

Christiana Holmes
Mary Janice Holt
Kevin Hooks, son-in-law of
 Anita and Jon Wooton
Jesus & Rita Jimenez
Alf Kirkeeng
Lois Light
Paul & Debby Maresch
Alexis Martincek, 13-year-old
 friend of Heather Stuebe
Judi Melander
Jeremy & Yvonne Mullins
Judy Osborn, sister of Peggy Ragan
James & Virginia Pease
Fran Perkins
Wally Pina
Kristen Pizan
Doris Anne Prieur-Lucia
Marlene Radesk
Fritz Rappold
Gabriel Rockwell
Ted and Carol Rodi
Floyd Ryder
Rev. John Spittal
Dianne Stoll, friend of Dorothy Gustavson
Cathy Stubenvoll
Ron and Leigh Tarrantino
Colette Thornbloom
David Turnbull
Aylene Weaver
Jon Wooton

- **Contact officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com** if you or someone you know would appreciate a **communion visit, hospital or home visit, to be contacted or to receive a card in the mail.**
- **Contact communications@faithlutheransrq.com** if you have an **addition to the Prayer List.**
Please send updates when prayers are answered.

ABOUT US

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

Would you like to receive the latest news and updates from Faith Lutheran?
Subscribe to our weekly Friday Update at www.faithlutheransrq.com or email us at communications@faithlutheransrq.com.



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