



Baptism of Our Lord
9:30 am worship service

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH | Inviting, Growing, Serving...

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

January 8, 2023

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Faith is a growing faith community in the Aurora area. We're people just like you, who are hungry to know God better. We're looking for the answers to life's tough questions. We're struggling to be better parents, spouses, friends, and neighbors. We don't have all the answers but we're growing as we go.

Faith is a great place to find healing for broken hearts and broken lives. In every Sunday message you'll learn new skills and attitudes to help you live life with the kind of joy that God intends for us. You'll also meet people who are also growing in their journey through the joys and challenges of life. You'll find lots of "walking partners" for your journey here. There are no closed doors at Faith, just lots of opportunities to grow in Christ, friendship, and love.

Faith is a church with a great vision; however, accomplishing a great vision requires the participation of many great people like you. There's a place in our vision for you to use your unique gifts and talents.

CURRENT MESSAGE SERIES : BETTER TOGETHER

Life is better connected

The Gathering

OPENING SONGS *please stand*

Hosanna, Praise is Rising

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You We turn to You

Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You We long for You

Pre- Chorus Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day
In Your presence all our fears are washed away Washed away

Chorus Hosanna, Hosanna
You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna, Hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome you here, Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You We turn to You
In your kingdom, broken lives are made new You make us new

(Pre-Chorus) (Chorus)

(Pre-Chorus) (Pre-Chorus)

(Chorus) (Chorus)

King of My Heart

Let the King of my heart
Be the mountain where I run
The fountain I drink from
Oh He is my song
Let the King of my heart
Be the shadow where I hide
The ransom for my life
Oh He is my song

You are good good oh You are good good oh
You are good good oh You are good good oh

Let the King of my heart
Be the wind inside my sails
The anchor in the waves
Oh He is my song
Let the King of my heart
Be the fire inside my veins
The echo of my days
Oh He is my song

You're never gonna let Never gonna let me down
You're never gonna let Never gonna let me down
You're never gonna let Never gonna let me down
You're never gonna let Never gonna let me down

When the night is holding on to me
God is holding on
When the night is holding on to me
God is holding on

OPENING PRAYER

A: O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Hebrews 10: 19-25

Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Thy Word

please stand

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

When I feel afraid Think I've lost my way

Still you're there right beside me And nothing will I fear

As long as you are near Please be near me to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path *(Repeat)*

Here in the love of Christ I stand.

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A: Calling God, you speak with power to your church. Open our hearts and minds to the new things you are declaring. Strengthen bishops, pastors, deacons, lay leaders, and teachers of the faith. Equip the baptized for your reconciling and redeeming work. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Renewing God, you provide the waters of the earth and in Jesus' baptism you reveal the waters of life. Cleanse and protect oceans, rivers, and watersheds. Bring relief to parched lands and to communities without access to safe water. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Righteous God, you never weary of establishing justice. Increase cooperation and constructive dialogue between nations. Guide local, national, and international authorities to govern with equity, vision, and integrity. We pray for those in military service, for peacemakers, and for our enemies. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Abiding God, your mercy is steadfast. Give sanctuary to people who flee from oppression, war, poverty, and famine. Sustain health care workers, caregivers, first responders, counselors, and all who help and heal. Comfort those who are grieving or experiencing crisis. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Blessing God, in Christ you gather the beloved community. Kindle the gifts of your Spirit in your people. Accompany the newly baptized, those recently ordained, and any beginning a new ministry. Inspire synodical leaders and congregational councils to serve with imagination and wisdom. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Gracious and loving God, we pray for the family and friends of Faith... Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

Joyful, Joyful

please stand

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Liberating God,
 you break the bonds of injustice
 and let the oppressed go free.
 Receive these offerings in thanksgiving
 for all your works of merciful power,
 and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.
 You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,

C: Amen.

The Meal

P: God, you are with us.

C: You are always with us.

P: May we open our hearts.

C: **May we know your presence.**

P: In thanksgiving,

C: **And in deepest honor.**

P: Holy God, we honor you in whom our lives are founded, and in whom our futures lie. We remember and honor also the human searching over the centuries that has perceived your presence in life, and your meaning for all of life.

Above all we honor Jesus, our Christ, whose life and death reveal to us, as his resurrection, the full nature of your being and the potential nature of ours.

We remember that, on the night before his death, Jesus, as he'd always done, gathered his friends for a common meal. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread and gave some to each one, saying:

“Take, eat: This is my body given for you and for everyone.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper he took a cup of wine, and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my blood which is shed for you and for everyone. Drink this in remembrance of me.”

In light of this, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

C: **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ's spirit renews our lives.

P: Holy God, may our hearts and minds be alive to what is sacred in this bread and wine. May they open us to your guidance and to your love for us, for all humankind, and for all life on this earth. This is our hope, our common will, and the expression of our love and trust in Jesus, our Christ.

And now, in the spirit of Christ's teaching, we pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread;
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us;
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE MEAL

P: Come and taste the joy of God!
C: Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION

AN INVITATION

We invite you to share in Holy Communion this morning, regardless of your church background or lack thereof. We believe that God is present in the bread and wine as it becomes the body and blood of Jesus Christ and that this presence is a gift of grace in the lives of those who receive it. All are welcomed to the table enjoy this gift of God's love and mercy. Grape juice is in the center of the communion tray. Gluten free wafers available at usher stand.

COMMUNION BLESSING *please stand*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
C: Amen.

The Sending

SENDING PRAYER

A: Holy One,
we thank you for the healing
that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice,
love kindness,
and journey humbly with you.

C: Amen

BLESSING

P: The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod
† bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

Who You Say I Am

Who am I that the highest King
Would welcome me?

I was lost but He brought me in
Oh, His love for me
Oh, His love for me

Who the Son sets free
Oh, is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes, I am

Free at last, He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me
Yes, He died for me

In my Father's house
There's a place for me
I'm a child of God
Yes, I am

I am chosen not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me not against me
I am who You say I am
I am who You say I am

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Faith!

We are so glad that you have chosen to worship with us today! Have questions about Faith? Wondering how to get connected or get more involved? We'd love to help. No matter where you are in life or how many times you've visited, we're here to guide you towards your next best step. Stop by the welcome center located near the main entrance. If this is your first time at Faith, let us know, we've got a special gift just for you!

NEXT

Sun 1/15 | 9:00 & 10:30 AM

If you've ever wondered how to get involved at Faith, or how to take the next step, don't worry. We've created a simple next step for you. It's a small gathering called NEXT. This informal gathering lasts only about 20 minutes after services and will provide you an overview of our mission, strategy, and environments to help you determine your best next step for continuing your faith journey. Meets fireside

KIDWERKS

Sundays at 9:30 AM

Kidwerks~in person AND online!

Join us as we dive into learning about new virtues each month through stories from the bible so that we can grow in our understanding and relationship with God. To register go to discoveringfaith.com or for more information please contact jenn@discoveringfaith.com

REVOLUTION

Sundays | 5:00 PM

On Sunday Nights at Faith, we've created an event that attracts **middle & high school students just like you**. After all, we figure you want to be wherever your friends are. We make this time as fun and relevant as we possibly can. The goal is for you to leave feeling energized to go out there and tackle another week!

Register online- discoveringfaith.com

UPCOMING REVOLUTION DATES

Sunday 1/8 – Serve

Sunday 1/15 – Groups

Sunday 1/22 – Gathering

Sunday 1/29 - Gathering

2023 DONATION ENVELOPES

The printing company is running very behind in their orders and our donation envelopes have not shipped, as soon as we get them they will be available to you. You may still make donations as they are entered by name, not giving number.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sun 1/29 | 10:45 AM

All members are invited to attend Faith's annual congregational meeting. This year's meeting will be in person and on Zoom, a link will be sent out to members prior. Agenda items will include a review and celebration of 2022, approval of the 2023 spending plan, the election of council members and nominating committee members.

CHILI COOK-OFF

Sat 2/4 | 5:00 PM

All are invited to dust off your crock pot and dig out your famous secret chili recipe. Come join us for the food, fun, and friendly competition as we showcase Faith's best and tastiest chili at the annual Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, February 4 starting at 5PM. To sign up to be a contestant stop by the welcome center. Get ready for some great tastin' Chili!

THE HUB 2023

As we have entered the new year, it's a great time to sign up on The Hub or login to your existing profile page. The Hub is our centralized church system that manages all the information that is pertinent to you and our church.

Your giving is tracked on The Hub. Your volunteer scheduling is done on The Hub. If you need to find someone's address or phone number you can get it on The Hub. The Hub performs countless other functions. You can also make changes to your profile or load a new picture of yourself. Now would be a great time to confirm and/or update your contact information.

Check it out at <https://faith.ccbchurch.com>!

Giving at Faith! As Easy as Click & Give



As followers of Jesus Christ, we embrace irrational generosity. We know it changes lives—ours and the people we're reaching. At Faith, taking action on your generosity is simple. Just scan the QR code with your camera and give. Simple, safe, and secure.

Prayers

If you would like to add someone to our prayer list and have the prayer team pray for them, please contact the church office at [\(630\) 862-3500](tel:6308623500) or send an e-mail prayerteam@discoveringfaith.com

Prayer concerns will be listed for four weeks unless otherwise noted.

Care

If you know of someone who is in need of emotional, physical, or spiritual support, please contact our care team at: careteam@discoveringfaith.com

Pastoral Emergency

In the case of an emergency that requires immediate Pastoral Care, please contact Pastor Rob directly on his cell phone at [\(630\) 248-5515](tel:6302485515).



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