



FOLLOW



LEARNING TO FOLLOW JESUS

Third Sunday after Epiphany
9:30 am worship service

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

January 22, 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 : FOLLOW

No matter what you believe, no matter how you behave, Jesus invites you to ... follow.

The Gathering

OPENING SONGS *please stand*

Come Thou Fount, Come Thou King

Come Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it Mount of Thy redeeming love

I was lost in utter darkness 'Til You came and rescued me
I was bound by all my sin when Your love came and set me free
Now my soul can sing a new song Now my heart has found a home
Now Your grace is always with me And I'll never be alone

Chorus Come Thou Fount come Thou King
 Come Thou precious Prince of Peace
 Hear Your bride to You we sing
 Come Thou Fount of our blessing
 Come Thou Fount come Thou King
 Come Thou precious Prince of Peace
 Hear Your bride to You we sing
 Come Thou Fount of our blessing

O to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness like a fetter Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it Seal it for Thy courts above

(Chorus)

What a Beautiful Name

You were the Word at the beginning One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation Now revealed in You our Christ

Chorus 1 What a beautiful Name it is What a beautiful Name it is
 The Name of Jesus Christ my King What a beautiful Name it is
 Nothing compares to this What a beautiful Name it is
 The Name of Jesus

You didn't want heaven without us So Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great Your love was greater What could separate us now

Chorus 2 What a wonderful Name it is What a wonderful Name it is
 The Name of Jesus Christ my King What a wonderful Name it is
 Nothing compares to this What a wonderful Name it is
 The Name of Jesus What a wonderful Name it is
 The Name of Jesus

Death could not hold You The veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave The heavens are roaring
The praise of Your glory For You are raised to life again

You have no rival You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign Yours is the kingdom
Yours is the glory Yours is the Name above all names

Chorus 3 What a powerful Name it is What a powerful Name it is
 The Name of Jesus Christ my King What a powerful Name it is
 Nothing can stand against What a powerful Name it is
 The Name of Jesus

What a powerful Name it is The Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is The Name of Jesus
What A Beautiful Name

OPENING PRAYER

A: Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

FIRST LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.)

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

I Love You Lord

please stand

I love you, Lord and I lift my voice
To worship You, oh my Soul rejoice
Take joy, my King in what You hear
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear

GOSPEL

Luke 3: 1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

MESSAGE

Opening Act | Pastor Rob

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- A: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
- A: Make your church one in purpose, proclaiming the message of the cross. Help us to work together across differences. Energize ecumenical partnerships, including the World Council of Churches and Lutheran World Federation.
Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.
- A: We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. Bless harvests in the southern hemisphere and fallow fields in the northern hemisphere. Equip farmers to till and keep the earth sustainably.
Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.
- A: In Christ your reign comes near and calls all to repentance. Break the rod of the oppressor in every nation. Dispel the shadow of death in places of war and persecution. Grant us leaders who lift the yokes that burden those in need.
Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

A: Be a stronghold for those in trouble and a rock for all who are afraid. Rouse communities to care for neighbors who need shelter, are facing maltreatment, or are isolated and lonely. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Sustain the ministries of this congregation and all churches in this community. Nurture each congregation's unique witness to your presence; foster mutual respect; inspire our cooperation in loving our neighbors. 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

Give Thanks

please stand

Give thanks with a grateful heart Give thanks to the holy one

Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart Give thanks to the holy one

Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His son.

And now let the weak say I am strong Let the poor say I am rich.

Because of what the Lord has done for us

And now let the weak say I am strong Let the poor say I am rich.

Because of what the Lord has done for us

Give thanks!

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: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift our hearts with joy,
we lift them to the Lord.**

P: We give you thanks, our God,
for that is right and good.

Yes, it is truly good,
our duty and delight,
that we should everywhere
and at all times give thanks.

And so we thank you now,
our holy Father, Lord,
eternal, mighty God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Who came to earth for us in great humility
and by his birth and life has shown your love to us.

C: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
You fill all of heaven and earth; save us, God on high!**

P: Let us praise the One who comes in the name of God.
Praise to you on high!

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, and said, Take and eat; this is † my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, Drink of it, all of you; this is † my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Gracious Father, we therefore remember the sacrifice of our Lord in celebration, as we receive his body and blood with this bread and wine. We rejoice to receive all that he has done for us in his life and death, his resurrection and ascension; and we wait for his coming again to share with us the heavenly feast.

C: Amen.

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.**

Glorious Day

CLOSING SONG

I was buried beneath my shame
Who could carry that kind of weight?
It was my tomb 'til I met You

I was breathing but not alive
All my failures I tried to hide
It was my tomb 'til I met You

Chorus You Called my name and I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day
You called my name and I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day

Now Your mercy has saved my soul
Now Your freedom is all that I know
The old made new, Jesus, when I met You (*Chorus*)

I needed rescue, my sin was heavy
But the chains break at the weight of Your glory
I needed shelter, I was an orphan
Now You call me a citizen of Heaven

When I was broken, You were my healing
Now Your love is the air that I'm breathing
I have a future
My eyes are open, cause when (*Chorus*)

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!

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP: COLOSSIANS

Begins Tues 1/17 | 7:00 PM

Back in the first century the church was dealing a massive challenge that has never gone away...the problem of division. Throughout history, and in every part of the world, people can be divided because of ethnicity, gender, social class, religion, and a long list of other things. The world might be divided over these things, but Christians should not be.

Join us for our 6-part online study group that meets Tuesdays from 7:00 – 8:15pm. Register today either online or at the welcome center.

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!

CHILDRENS MINISTRY VALENTINES DAY EVENT

Fri 2/10 | 6:30 PM

Faith families are invited to attend the Valentines Day event. We will be packing up goody bags and making Valentine's cards to be distributed to our congregation members! Bring your creativity and the children's ministry team will provide the supplies!

MEMBERSHIP AT FAITH

Mon 2/13 & 2/20 | 6:30 PM

This two-part course invites participants to explore the vision, mission and values of Faith, as well as a broad overview of the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective. Participants will also discover their unique gifts and how they can use them in serving others. This course is open to everyone, and is an expectation of those who wish to become members at Faith. Register online or sign up at the welcome center.

GROUPLINK

Wed 2/15 | 7:00 PM

If you are interested in learning how to connect to a community group here at Faith please plan on attending Grouplink. In a community group, people study God's Word together and discuss the issues and challenges of life. It's also where they pray, care for one another, and are missed if they don't show up. Life change happens best in these small groups! Sign up at the welcome center or online.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS REGISTRATION

Registration is now open for preschool classes which will begin Fall 2023. There is a 5% tuition discount for church members. Information and forms for registration are available on the church website discoveringfaith.com/bright-beginnings. Feel free to call the church (630) 862-3500 and leave a message for Jenn at extension 103 or email jenn@discoveringfaith.com.

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 1/22 – Gathering

Sunday 1/29 - Gathering

Sunday 2/5 – Groups

Sunday 2/19 – Groups

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. Please only use the 'Welcome' envelopes for cash donations.

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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