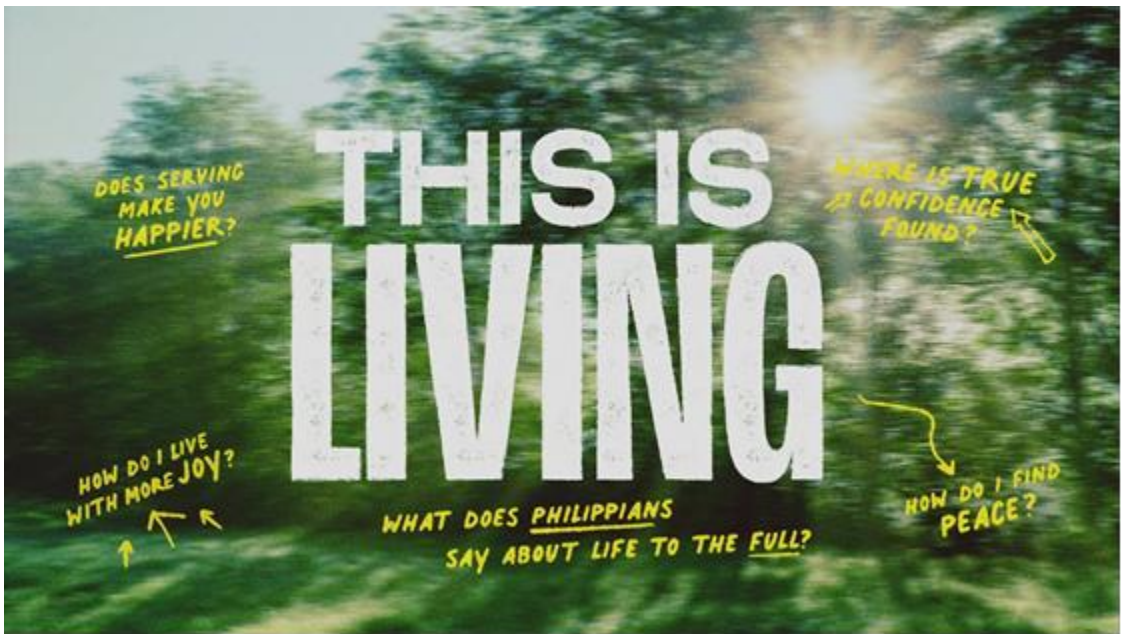




Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Feb 1, 2026

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 WORSHIP SERIES: THIS IS LIVING

What does it look like to live a full life? Join us as discover through Paul's letter to the followers in Philippi Jesus' way.

The Gathering

All Creatures of our God and King

All creatures of our God and King

Lift up your voice and with us sing

O praise Him! Alleluia!

Thou, burning sun with golden beam

Thou, silver moon with softer gleam

Chorus O praise Him! O praise Him!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless

And worship Him in humbleness

O praise Him! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son

And praise the Spirit, Three-in-One (*Chorus*)

All the redeemed washed by His blood

Come and rejoice in His great love

O praise Him! Alleluia!

Christ has defeated every sin

Cast all your burdens now on Him (*Chorus*)

He shall return in pow'r to reign

Heaven and earth will join to say

O praise Him! Alleluia!

Then who shall fall on bended knee?

All creatures of our God and King (*Chorus*)(*Chorus*)

Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love, Amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my share and portion be
As long as life endures (*Chorus*)(*Chorus*)

The Earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, who called me here below
Will be forever mine

Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

READING

Philippians 1: 12-21

I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually resulted in the progress of the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to everyone else that my imprisonment is for Christ, and most of the brothers and sisters, having been made confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, dare to speak the word with greater boldness and without fear.

Some proclaim Christ from envy and rivalry but others from goodwill. These proclaim Christ out of love, knowing that I have been put here for the defense of the gospel; the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but intending to increase my suffering in my imprisonment. What does it matter? Just this, that Christ is proclaimed in every way, whether out of false motives or true, and in that I rejoice.

Yes, and I will rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my salvation. It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way but that by my speaking with all boldness Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain.

RESPONSE

He is Exalted

please stand

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high; I will praise him.
He is exalted, forever exalted, and I will praise his name.
Jesus is Lord, forever his truth shall reign;
heaven and earth rejoice in his holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

MESSAGE

I Choose Joy | Pastor Rob

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: As God’s beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A: God our wisdom, renew the church in the power of the Spirit, that it may do justice, love kindness, live humbly, and boldly proclaim Christ crucified. We pray for social justice and humanitarian aid ministries. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God our righteousness, raise up visionary leaders who serve with integrity and respect human rights. Increase freedom in every nation. Protect educators, journalists, artists, and religious activists who are reviled for speaking truth. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God our advocate, you give hope to all who suffer because of persecution, poverty, or war. Reunite separated families and bring orphaned children to safety. Comfort any who grieve or suffer in any way. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God our blessing, we pray for the children and youth of this congregation, and for parents, grandparents, mentors, teachers, and youth ministers who model love for their neighbor and care for others. 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.

A: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

Holy, Holy, Holy

please stand

Holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning Our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, holy, holy Merciful and mighty
God in three persons Blessed Trinity

OFFERATORY PRAYER

A: God of majesty,
no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you,
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.
Use what we have gathered
to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The Meal

P: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
in the beginning you formed the heavens and earth
and created us in your likeness.
You made us guardians of your good creation and left the earth in our care.
All through our weary years and our silent tears,
you did not abandon us to ourselves,
but sought us out in love.

In the crowning act of love you gave your only Son,
that whoever believes in him will have eternal life.
For you sent Jesus not to condemn the world,
but to save the world from sin.

Through his death on the cross, we who were once far off
have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

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: Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit
upon us and upon this bread and wine,
that we who share this meal may become a holy communion,
the body of Christ in the world.

C: Amen.

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: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Come to the table; taste and see.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION 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. ~~Apple~~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: Radiant God,
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In the sacrament of his body and blood
you have drawn us to your heart.
Send us from this table with delight,
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG

Glorious Day

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

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

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 2/1 | 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 approximately 20 minutes and will provide you with an overview of our mission, strategy, and environment to help you determine your best next step in continuing your faith journey. Pastor Rob and Jenn Richardson, Faith's volunteer coordinator, will be on hand for conversation and to welcome you to Faith. Meets fireside.

SCOUT SUNDAY

Sun 2/8

Scout Sunday will be observed February 8. Faith Lutheran Church's Cub Scout Pack 643 and Scout Troop 508 will be present at both 8:00 and 9:30 AM services to greet parishioners and assist with the service. This is a great opportunity for our congregation and our Scouts to come together.

PANCAKES FOR A PURPOSE

Sun 2/8 | 7:30 AM

Join us in supporting Scouts BSA Troop 508 at their Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, February 8, from 7:30–11:30 AM right here at Faith Lutheran Church.

Enjoy pancakes, sausage, coffee, milk, juice, and fruit while helping fund Scout programs, service projects, and leadership development. \$20 per family | \$5 per individual
Bring your family, bring your friends, and come support our local Scouts—we can't wait to see you! (Pre-registration is advised, www.discoveringfaith.com)

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Tuesdays | 7:00 PM

Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table

In this six-session video Bible study, bestselling author and pastor Louie Giglio unpacks Psalm 23 to offer insight into how to overcome the enemy's lies and find peace and spiritual security in any circumstance or situation. You can find freedom from the battles in your mind if you allow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, to lead the battle. Learn how to find encouragement, hope, and strength no matter what valleys you face.

This 6-week online study is facilitated by Becky Marchiando. Please register online or at the welcome center so that we may send you Zoom credentials required to participate and come join us!

WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Mon 2/9 | 7:15 PM

Unfolding over 6 sessions, Nicki Koziarz walks women through the Book of Ruth, focusing on the Moabite woman's 5 practical habits that kept her eyes on God: Ruth accepted the assignment of refinement, followed through on her commitments despite her feelings, remained open to the movement of God, gave others what she needed, and moved forward in faith. Meeting Mondays at Faith Feb 9 & 23, Mar 9 & 23

TUESDAY AM WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays | 9:00 AM

Esther - Character Under Pressure by Patty Pell.

This nine-session Bible Study looks at the Old Testament book of Esther and how she faced life-threatening pressure to save her people. Through Biblical reflection the study explores how to develop godly character through the contemporary pressures that challenge us today. The workbook will be made available at the meetings (\$8). It is also available in Kindle format. For additional information contact Sue Boozell at sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com.

REVOLUTION

Sun 2/1 & 2/15 | 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! Meets 1st and 3rd Sundays in the auditorium. Register online- discoveringfaith.com

KIDWERKS

Sundays | 9:30 AM

Join us in the auditorium 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 PreK – 5th grade

MEMBERSHIP @ FAITH

Mon Feb 16 & 23 | 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 required of those who wish to become members at Faith! Register on line or at the welcome center.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Wed 2/18 | Noon & 7:00 PM

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

HESED HOUSE SERVING EVENT

Weds 2/18 | 6:30 PM

Faith's next serving opportunity at Hased House is February 18. We will need roughly 5 to 10 volunteers to help with meal setup, serving, and cleanup. Volunteers can conveniently sign up online or at the welcome center. All that's needed is a serving heart. Sign up today! If you have questions about Faith's Hased House ministry, please reach out to the ministry team at hasedhouse@discoveringfaith.com.

A MOMENT FOR MOM

Sat 2/21 | 10:00 AM

THIS MONTH WE ARE MEETING THE THIRD SATURDAY 2/21

This month's speaker is Denika McMillen with the topic 'Bonds - How Our Earliest Relationships Affect Our Current Ones'

A Moment for Mom is a group for moms of kiddos ages 0-10 that meets the 2nd Saturday each month through May 2026. Sessions provide a delicious breakfast and amazing speakers on topics relating to motherhood. We offer affordable childcare while you attend. Our website is ready for you to explore our speakers and costs for the 2025-2026 year. Come join us and other moms to laugh, learn, and connect. Register today and/or reach out to us for more information at www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom.

NIGHT OF FAITH (21+ Event)

Sat 2/21 | 6:00 PM

Join us for a night of fellowship, fortune, and fun! You're invited to a night of food and drinks, silent and live auctions, and our Golden Ticket raffle drawing. Event tickets are \$25/person or \$40/couple. Adults only (21+ event).

Introducing the Night of Faith - Golden Raffle Extravaganza! Exotic cruise? Tropical vacation? That giant TV you've always wanted? Nah, we're going with Cash! That's right! This year, the Night of Faith Golden Ticket Raffle winner will receive cold, hard, cash! \$2000 of it, in fact! Each raffle ticket is \$100. While there are no limits to the number of \$100 tickets any individual can purchase, WE WILL LIMIT total ticket sales to 60 tickets, maximizing your odds at scoring the \$2000 golden prize. Buy 1, buy 2, heck, buy 10, and get in the game before they are gone!

Event and Golden tickets on sale now. Purchase tickets online or at the church between Sunday services. Winner need not be present to win.

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.



Pastor Rob Douglas
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