

"You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "and my servant whom I have chosen."

Isaiah 43

WELCOME

Good morning and welcome to worship at Faith Lutheran!

It has become our custom at Faith to acknowledge "the annual days of the saints" that the Christian Church has long celebrated, when one falls on or very near a Sunday. We do not in any way worship or pray to the saints, as others might, but praise God for his grace and goodness to these men and women and learn from the example of their faith. Today we focus on a divinely inspired evangelist who was guided by the Holy Spirit to chronicle the life and ministry of



the Savior after first chronicling the life and ministry of the Apostle Paul (and the rest of the disciples in the book of Acts). St. Luke was a physician who joined Paul on his missionary journeys and was truly inspired to "write an orderly account for you... so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught." Today we join the church of the ages in praising God for this faithful chronicler of witnesses.

It is our privilege to worship with you. We thank you for joining us. Please worship with us again very soon.

OUR FACILITIES

Our restrooms are located just to the left of the tower entrance. A family restroom is also available there. The members of Faith believe that families should be allowed to worship together. If your young one needs some "time out," we have an audio-equipped children's room just outside of the church doors to your right. If you need anything during the service, please feel free to ask an usher.

LISTENING ASSISTANCE & LARGE PRINT MATERIALS



Large print service folders and hearing assistance devices are available from an usher at your request. Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assist T-loop. If your hearing assist device is T-coil equipped you may switch to T-coil so sound can be transmitted directly to your hearing assist device.

OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE

Faith Lutheran Church still observes the biblical and historical practice of member communion. (This is also often referred to as "close" communion.) If you are not currently a member of our congregation, we would kindly ask that you speak with one of our pastors before communing. We look forward to talking about this very important issue with you!

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O Lord – our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter – we are assembled in your presence to hear your holy Word and receive your precious sacrament. We pray that you would open our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of your Word we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus, and grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

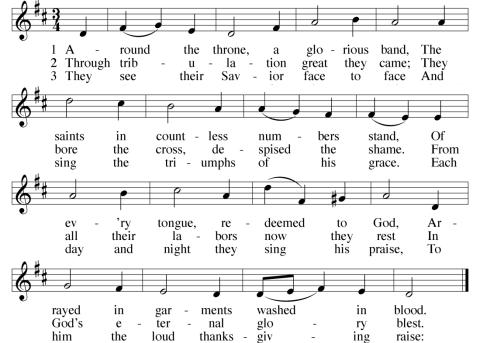
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COVID 19 ACCOMMODATIONS – Following the research and recommendations currently available Faith worship leaders are choosing to significantly reduce the total amount of singing by the entire assembly during the course of each service and also abbreviate our time gathered together. Worship as we've known it and prefer it will return in its full vibrancy when the pandemic is over.

OPENING HYMN

"Around the Throne, a Glorious Band" Christian Worship # 549:1-3



Stand

<u>M</u>inister [M]: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (+) and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

Congregation [C]: And also with you.

- M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is

good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

- M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

- M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:
- C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you called Saint Luke the physician to reveal in his gospel the love and healing power of your Son. Grant that by hearing and believing your Word we may be healed of all sin and serve you with willing hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

THE WORD OF GOD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 43:8-13

The lesson from Isaiah reminds us of the role that first hand eye witnesses played in the formulation of St. Luke's Gospel.

⁸Lead out those who have eyes but are blind, who have ears but are deaf. ⁹All the nations gather together and the peoples assemble. Which of them foretold this and proclaimed to us the former things?
Let them bring in their witnesses to prove they were right, so that others may hear and say, "It is true."
¹⁰"You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me.
¹¹I, even I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior.
¹²I have revealed and saved and proclaimed — I, and not some foreign god among you. You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "that I am God.
¹³Yes, and from ancient days I am he. No one can deliver out of my hand. When I act, who can reverse it?"

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 139b (Christian Worship page 117)

Refrain: I will praise you O LORD, for I am wonderfully made.

O LORD, you created my inmost being;* you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;* your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you;* your eyes saw my unformed body.

Refrain: I will praise you O LORD, for I am wonderfully made.

All the days ordained for me* were written in your book before one of them came to be.

How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!* How vast is the sum of them!

Were I to count them,*

they would outnumber the grains of sand.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain: I will praise you O LORD, for I am wonderfully made.

NEW TESTAMENT EPISTLE LESSON

2 Timothy 4:5-11

Luke is among those whose faithfulness the Apostle Paul acknowledges as he predicts his life and ministry will soon end.

⁵But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

⁶For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day — and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

⁹Do your best to come to me quickly, ¹⁰for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has

gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.

VERSE OF THE DAY

C: Alleluia. Alleluia!

M: How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim salvation.

C: Alleluia!

Stand

GOSPEL

St. Luke 1:1-4; 24:44-53

Isaiah 52:7

Luke lays out his motivation and methodology in assembling a gospel that is an "orderly account" of eyewitness testimony.

¹Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, ²just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. ³Therefore, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

⁴⁴He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance and the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵²Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

After the Gospel, the congregation responds:

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

"For All Your Saints Still Striving" Christian Worship # 552:1, 19, 3

By all your saints still striving, For all your saints at rest, Your holy name, O Jesus, Forevermore be blessed. You rose, our King victorious, That they might wear the crown And ever shine in splendor Reflected from your throne.

For Luke, belov'd physician, All praise, whose Gospel shows The healer of the nations, The one who shares our woes. Your wine and oil, O Savior, Upon our spirits pour, And with true balm of Gilead Anoint us evermore.

Then let us praise the Father And worship God the Son And sing to God the Spirit, Eternal Three in One, Till all the ransomed number Who stand before the throne Ascribe all pow'r and glory And praise to God alone.

SERMON

based on the letter to Timothy & the Gospel Pastor Ed Ungemach

Witness - the Living of a Gospel Centered-Life

After the sermon, the congregation stands to confess:

NICENE CREED

(Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.)

C:	We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
	We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
	eternally begotten of the Father,
	God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
	begotten, not made,
	of one being with the Father.
	Through him all things were made.
	For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
	was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
	and became fully human.
	For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
	He suffered death and was buried.
	On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
	He ascended into heaven
	and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
	He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
	We believe in the Holy Spirit,
	the Lord, the giver of life,
	who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
	who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
	who has spoken through the prophets.
	We believe in one holy Christian* and apostolic Church.
	We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(*The original text here reads "catholic," a word meaning "universal." The Church consists of all believers in heaven and on earth, of every time in history.)

Be seated

OFFERTORY (a musical piece played during the gathering of the offering) & **OFFERING PRAYER**

During the Covid crisis our preference is to gather our offerings electronically or through the mail but for those who do choose to bring offerings with them to worship there is a large offering basket at the main worship area doors for you to drop in your offerings later as you are dismissed from worship.

If you are not a member of Faith, we do not want you to feel obligated to participate in the offering. (God desires cheerful givers - not gifts based on a sense of guilt or obligation.) We gather our offerings during worship, because the Bible teaches that giving is *an act of worship*. Most of our church and school ministry is carried out by what is given in weekly worship offerings. May the Lord bless you, and may he use every one of our offerings to him as a blessing to many others.

Stand

C: We come, O Lord, inheritors from those whose work is done.
Lord, make us now contributors to years beyond our own.
Let faith's enkindled flame not fail; Let love's best gifts increase.
Let hope in Christ's sure Word prevail till earth and time shall cease.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

- M: Eternal God and Father, we give you thanks for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, for opportunities to worship and to grow in faith and knowledge, for occasions to serve and be served, for fellowship with believers in our congregation and in our synod.
- C: Help us to rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and to use them faithfully.
- M: Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, O Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.

C: Awaken us to the opportunities you give to proclaim your message of love.

- M: Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and sacrament bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to witness clearly and to act boldly. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.
- C: Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.
- M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled. *Silent prayer.*
- M: Bless the Church with men and women who are willing to proclaim your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in your care, and let nothing hinder their work. By the

power of the gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.

- **C: Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.** *Special prayers and intercessions will be inserted here as requested.*
- M: Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others, so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.
- C: Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

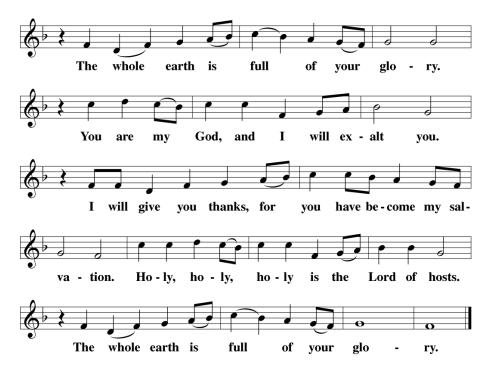
PREFACE

- M: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- M: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to the Lord.
- M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! He sends us the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY







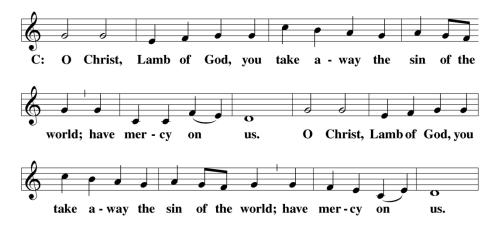
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

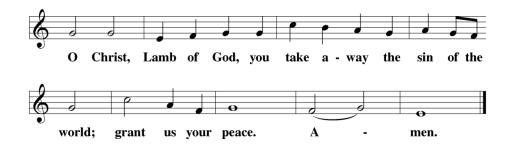
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

- M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD





Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION

no hymns will be sung during distribution

Please note that during the COVID crisis we are practicing a **continuous distribution** pattern. Please follow the direction of the ushers and the markings on the floor. Please extend your hand for the host to be dropped into it. Please proceed to the tables with the individual cups to carefully choose your own while refraining from touching others.

Please place your used cup in the receptacle provided before returning to your seat.

One "dismissal blessing" will be spoken for all who have received the sacrament at the conclusion of distribution.

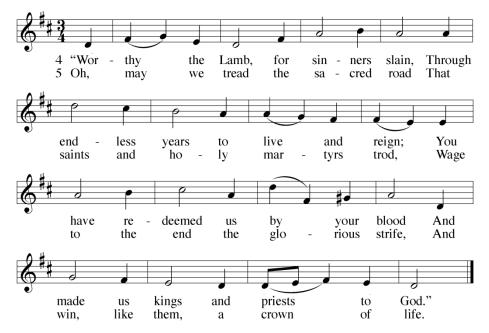
THANKSGIVING

Stand

- M: Now may this true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in the true faith unto life everlasting. Go in peace.
- C: Amen.
- M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
- C: His mercy endures forever.
- M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
- C: We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.
- M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.
 - The Lord bless you and keep you.
 - The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 - The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.
- C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Around the Throne, a Glorious Band" *Christian Worship* # 549:4-5



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If you are new to Faith and have not yet introduced yourself to one of our pastors, please feel free to do so after any worship service. If you would like to receive updates or more information, visit *faithantioch.org* and click on Contact Us.