



FAITH

Lutheran Church

a beacon of God's love, expanding His Kingdom



vertical
connections

beginnings
may 17-18, 2025

Faith Lutheran Church, LC-MS
935 S. Crystal Glen Dr.
Lecanto, FL 34461
Organist: Sharron Royalty

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AS WE GATHER

God the Father encouraged His people to connect regularly with Him in prayer. Jesus spent much time connecting with the Father in prayer as recorded throughout the Gospels. Our relationship with our God is strengthened when we make Him a part of our regular, everyday lives. When Jesus called the disciples to "Follow Me," it was never a part-time position. He was calling them to be ALL-IN. Together, let's walk down the roads of life, sharing all things, the dust, the food, the fellowship, the hurts, the heartaches, the grief, the pain, the loss, and most importantly, the joy of being together always in this life, and forever in the life to come. Please take a moment prior to worship, and reflect on your prayer life, your Vertical Connections with God.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP ONE & ALL WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!!!

If you are looking for a church home, we would be happy to welcome you into the family at Faith. Please connect with Pastor Galligar, or one of our greeters at the Welcome Station.

HOLY COMMUNION Our Lord shares with us His precious Body and Blood in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We invite those who are baptized Christians and who are able to examine themselves on the basis of these three points of the Christian Faith:

- ✚ I believe that Jesus is my only Lord and Savior from all sin.
- ✚ I believe that the true body and blood of Christ is present in the Sacrament.
- ✚ I resolve, with the Holy Spirit's help, to live for my Lord and witness through my actions that He is my Savior.

**** Individual cups in the center ring of each tray are grape juice. ****

Holy Communion Worship Divine Service Three p. 184ff.

OPENING HYMN

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

LSB 411

(please stand)

INVOCATION AND CONFESSION OF SINS

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord, ☩

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sins.

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT

Psalm 98:2–6; antiphon: v. 1

P: Oh, sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

C: His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

P: The LORD has made known his salvation;

C: he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

P: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

C: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

P: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

C: break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

P: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,

C: with the lyre and the sound of melody!

P: With trumpets and the sound of the horn

C: make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

C: 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.

P: Oh, sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

C: His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

GLORIA PATRI





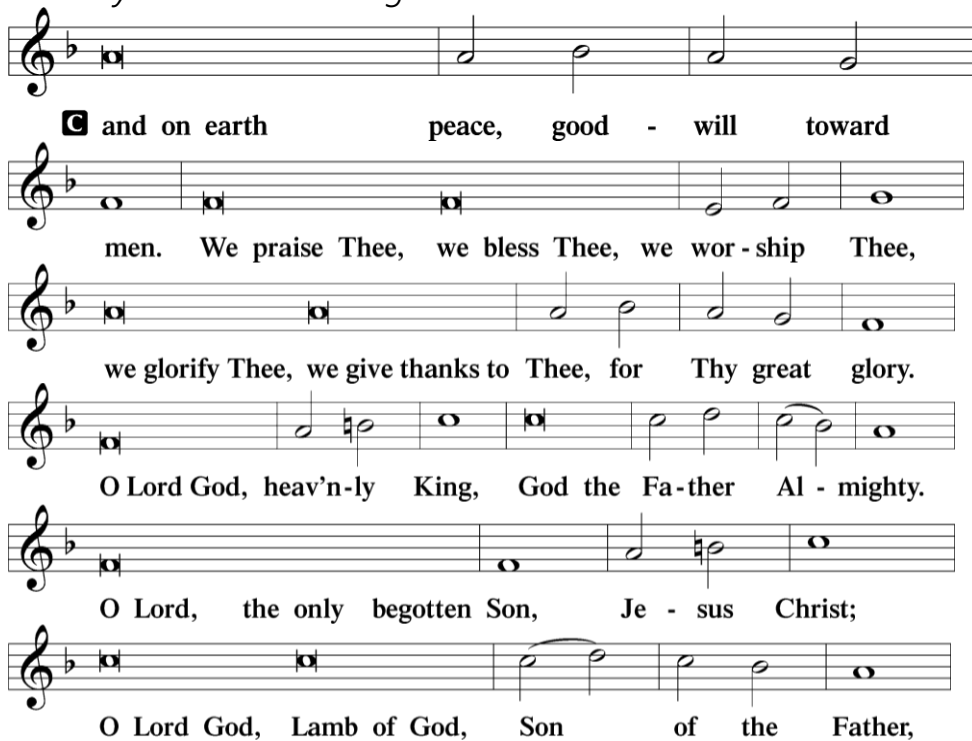
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

KYRIE



GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

P: Glory be to God on high:



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: *The LORD be with you.*

And with thy spir - it.

P: *Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

A - men.

(please be seated)

FIRST READING

Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, "You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them." But Peter began and explained it to them in order: "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.' But I said, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But the voice answered a second time from heaven, 'What God has made clean, do not call common.'

This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.' As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning.

And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Revelation 21:1-7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

L: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL

John 17:1-26

P: *The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.*



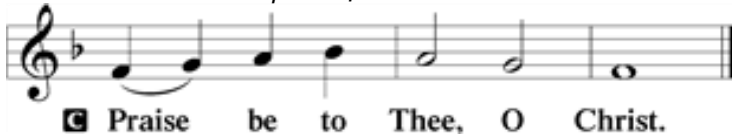
When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

"I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

"I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be

one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose Kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for

the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY *"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"* **LSB 770**

MESSAGE *Vertical Connections: beginnings*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

(please rise and sing).



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and
give us A fore - taste of the feast to come.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

✠ **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT** ✠

P: The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir - it.

P: *Lift up your hearts.*



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P: *Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.*



C It is meet and right so to do.

P: *It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:*

SANCTUS



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



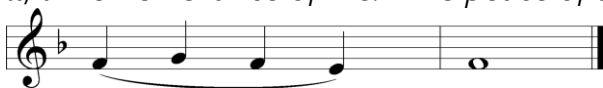
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: 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 the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ☩ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ☩ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." The peace of the Lord be with you always.

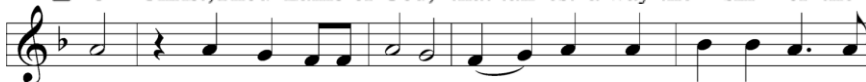


A - men.

AGNUS DEI



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

(please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION & HYMN

"Hear us Father When We Pray"

LSB 773

(please stand)

NUNC DIMITTIS

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de-part in peace ac-

cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre-pared be-fore the face of all people,

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy

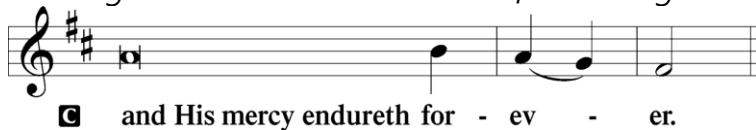
peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



THANKSGIVING

P: *Oh give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.*



POST COMMUNION COLLECT:

P: *We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



P: *The Lord be with you.*



P: *Bless we the Lord.*



BENEDICTION

P: *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you ☩ and give you peace.*



(please be seated)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

LSB 457

SILENT PRAYER

HEARING ASSISTANCE: Please contact an Usher.

HOSPITALIZED OR NEED A VISIT? Contact Pastor Galligar (812) 350-7820 or contact your elder. If you're not sure who your elder is, call the church office 527-3325.

Office hours are 9-12 Monday – Friday

BECOMING A MEMBER – for those wanting to become members of Faith Lutheran Church, please contact Pastor Galligar to schedule a **Faith Chat**. These chats are designed to help us get to know a little about you, how we can serve you, and how you would like to serve the church. They are also designed to help you know more about Faith Lutheran Church and how we serve the community and the Church. These can be scheduled at a time which is most convenient for you.



UPCOMING EVENTS



May 19th through May 25th

MONDAY	8:30 am.	Men of Faith Monday Papa J's Diner
WEDNESDAY	5:00 pm	The Chosen & Potluck Dinner
FRIDAY	9:00 am	Stitch n' Tie (Fellowship Hall)
SATURDAY	4:30 pm 5:00 pm	A Time of Prayer and Reflection Worship, Fellowship time follows
SUNDAY	9:00 am 9:30 am 11:00 am	A Time of Prayer and Reflection Worship Service, coffee & sweets follows Bible Study

THE CHOSEN (Potluck & Discussion) We will meet for a potluck on Wednesday at 5:00 pm and continue following THE CHOSEN with Season 2 episode 7, Reckoning.

 Flowers given by 

John Bechler – “Thank you for all your gifts!”

VERTICAL CONNECTIONS: – is the series we enter into this weekend. Imagine the two most important relationships in your life. The first one, is your relationship with God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This one is the relationship that should drive all the others. If this relationship is healthy and strong, all your other relationships will find themselves in proper perspective. If this relationship is unhealthy or weak, all your other relationships will be troubled as well. God's best for us includes being in close relationship to the One who made us, in His image, the One who redeemed us by His shed blood, and the One who gives us the gift of faith, and dwells in us daily. This VERTICAL CONNECTION is enhanced by an active and intentional communication with God in prayer. **beginnings** – launches us into this series where we will examine the current state of our vertical connections, or prayer life with God.

- ❖ What does your prayer life look like today? (This evaluation is for you only)
 - My prayer life could be better.
 - I pray daily for everything.
 - It seems like God never answers my prayers.
 - I listen often for God's answer to my prayers.
 - My vertical connection to God is constant and ongoing.
 - I have never prayed.
 - I enjoy hearing other people pray.
 - The Lord's Prayer helps me draw closer to Christ Jesus.
 - I pray before meals at home.
 - My prayer life used to be more fulfilling.
 - I pray daily for meals even when I am at a restaurant.
 - Listening for God's response has been a part of my prayer life.
 - I often wonder why God answers my prayers in the way that He does.
 - Watching and waiting for His response is common for me.

- I always tell others that I will pray for them. Sometimes I do, sometimes not so much.
 - I easily pray with others.
 - My prayer connection to God is easy and unforced, He is my Friend.
 - I struggle to pray.
 - Prayer is hard for me.
 - Other people seem to pray so beautifully, my prayers seem weak and clumsy.
 - I just never know what to say in a prayer.
 - When asked to pray out loud with people, I pass.
 - I have never prayed out loud with others.
 - My daily life often does not include prayer.
 - Today, my prayer life is the best it's ever been.
 - I can't remember the last time I prayed.
 - It seems like God has stopped listening, so I do not pray.
 - Because of all He has promised and already done for me, I pray prayers of thanksgiving and praise to Him continually.
 - When I pray, I feel like a beggar on the street, unsure what, if any answer my prayer will bring.
 - When I pray, because of His promises, I know that I will receive His best answer to my prayer, and I move forward knowing He has already answered, eager to discover what His answer is.
- ❖ Through this series, I would like to grow closer to God and connect better with Him through prayer.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- ✚ Praise God the Father for the love of Christ, His Son, praise the Father and the Son together for the gift of the Holy Spirit and the gift of faith, pray to God for hearts fully open to receive all that He intends for us as we connect with Him daily.
- ✚ Health concerns: Dee Breight, Susan Schmidt, Geneva Davis, Debbie Vassel, Bonnie Berg, Vicki Mueller, Edward Monty, Jerry Marquette, Dean Moore, Barry Stern, Debbie Zilm, Kim Malave, Barbara Schenk, George Scalzi, Bill Engelbrecht, Nita Hass, Phyllis Jodis, Aaron Cote, Todd Moothart, Don Jones, Gia Schultz, Harry & Rose Detlefs, Connie Weiss, Margie Budd, Doug Deuchler, Patrick Daley, Andy Borchardt, Katie Arias, Patricia Ulvund.
- ✚ Pray daily for God to lead us as the Body of Christ at Faith Lutheran Church, asking Him to keep us on the path and plan that He has prepared for us.

PRAYER REQUESTS: You may always use the yellow cards in the pews to submit a prayer request. These can be public or private. You may also send in prayer requests directly to the prayer chain via email to prayer@faithlecano.org.

NOTES FROM PASTOR GALLIGAR

- ❖ **Have you been curious?** What does Pastor do all week? Surely it doesn't take 6 days to get ready for an hour on Saturday and Sunday. An average week includes; meetings with members for communion, prayer, counseling, meetings with the council and the boards, private devotions and prayer time, hospital visits for prayer before surgery or after, many, many phone calls, planning and preparing services and bulletins, preparing a message for worship (this can take up to 12-15 hours/week), repenting and asking God for His forgiveness, helping people walk through life with Christ, responding to emails, cards, letters, etc., and many other things. If you would like to spend a day with me and walk through the daily routines, I would welcome the company 😊
- ❖ **Did you know that** – Faith Lutheran Church has been committed to giving 10% of our annual offerings to mission work outside the walls of our church? This has been a part of the DNA of Faith for many years now. Five percent of our annual offerings are

given in support of our Synod, District, and seminaries. And the other 5% has been used to support local missions in and around Citrus County.

- ❖ **Did you know that** - Pastor will pray with you before surgery at the hospital before you check in? Whether it is 5:30am, or later in the day, if his schedule permits, he will be there for you. Please let Pastor know when things come up for you at the hospital, and he will be there.

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEKEND: Saturday 25 Sunday 78 Total 103

Weekly Budgeted Giving

WEEK	ENVELOPES	BUDGET	OVER/UNDER
15	3523	6050	-2527
16	8811	6050	2761
17	3231	6050	-2819
18	8569	6050	2519
19	3456	6050	-2594



The Vanco App is a simple way to manage your giving in support of the mission and ministry of Faith. Use this QR code to connect to the app. For some, this is an easy way to simplify firstfruits giving

☺ Happy Birthday ☺

David Patten, Thomas Adabody, Joanne Fetzer, Joyce Engelbrecht and
Patricia Ulvund



Anniversaries



George & Sandra Cooper, Dale & Lorraine Schluckbier

Welcome Home Children

We are so happy you are with us today at church. And we want you to feel at home here at Faith. If you need anything, tell your mom or dad, or grandma or grandpa, or whoever you came with, and they can let us know and we can help.

- ❖ Please relax and enjoy your time here. Jesus knows that little ones wiggle and squeak sometimes, and it is a joy to His ears, and ours as well.
- ❖ Encourage your parents to help you sit up front by the altar area. That way you'll be better able to see all the stuff that is going on. Most of the action happens up front.
- ❖ Be sure to grab an activity bag from the kid's room in the back of the church. (It's that place with the window that looks into the church.)
- ❖ Be sure to sing along with your parents and the people around you. Jesus loves it when we make joyful noises to Him.
- ❖ When we pray, a lot of times we fold our hands and bow our heads so we can listen better to the prayers. Don't you love it when we pray together?
- ❖ Jesus teaches us a special prayer called the "Our Father", or the "Lord's Prayer". When we pray this one, it's a good time to hold our parent's hand because this is a prayer we pray together.

Please know that while you are caring for your parents, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus' words, *"Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these."* (Luke 18:16) You are a gift to the church, so we will do our best to welcome, smile, encourage, help, and bless you all.



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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen

The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me.

As is the business of tailors to make clothes and cobblers to make shoes, so it is the business of Christians to pray.

To gather with God's people in united adoration of the Father is as necessary to the Christian life as prayer.

The less I pray, the harder it gets; the more I pray, the better it goes.

If I fail to spend two hours in prayer each morning, the devil gets the victory through the day. I have too much business I cannot get on without spending three hours daily in prayer.

No one can believe how powerful prayer is and what it can effect, except those who have learned it by experience. Whenever I have prayed earnestly, I have been heard and have obtained more than I prayed for. God sometimes delays, but He always comes.

Prayer is a strong wall and fortress of the church; it is a goodly Christian weapon.

Grant that I may not pray alone with the mouth; help me that I may pray from the depths of my heart.

God wants us to pray, and he wants to hear our prayers-not because we are worthy, but because he is merciful.

We cannot attain to the understanding of Scripture either by study or by the intellect. Your first duty is to begin by prayer. Entreat the Lord to grant you, of His great mercy, the true understanding of His Word. There is no other interpreter of the Word of God than the Author of this Word, as He Himself has said, "They shall be all taught of God" (John 6:45). Hope for nothing from your own labors, from your own understanding: trust solely in God, and in the influence of His Spirit. Believe this on the word of a man who has experience.

Martin Luther