



Third Sunday of Easter April 26, 2020

Serving us in worship today:

Jim Craver, Pastor

Annette Stout, LeAnne White, Andrew Cave and Roxanne Heckmann, Music

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

PASTOR CRAVER

OPENING HYMN: *"Here I Am to Worship"*

Verse 1

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Verse 2

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor *(Chorus 2x)*

Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross *(Chorus)*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor announces forgiveness in Christ Jesus

C Amen.

FIRST READING: **Psalm 46** *(New Living Translation)*

1 God is our refuge and strength,
always ready to help in times of trouble.

2 So we will not fear when earthquakes come
and the mountains crumble into the sea.

3 Let the oceans roar and foam.
Let the mountains tremble as the waters surge!

4 A river brings joy to the city of our God,
the sacred home of the Most High.

5 God dwells in that city; it cannot be destroyed.
From the very break of day, God will protect it.

6 The nations are in chaos,
and their kingdoms crumble! God's voice thunders, and the earth melts!

7 The Lord of Heaven's Armies is here among us;
the God of Israel is our fortress.

8 Come, see the glorious works of the Lord:
See how he brings destruction upon the world.

9 He causes wars to end throughout the earth.
He breaks the bow and snaps the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

10 "Be still, and know that I am God!
I will be honored by every nation. I will be honored throughout the world."

11 The Lord of Heaven's Armies is here among us;
the God of Israel is our fortress.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 20:24-31

(New Living Translation)

²⁴ One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came. ²⁵ They told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side."

²⁶ Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. "Peace be with you," he said. ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!"

²⁸ "My Lord and my God!" Thomas exclaimed.

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me."

³⁰ The disciples saw Jesus do many other miraculous signs in addition to the ones recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Lisa Owen

HYMN OF THE DAY: *"In Christ Alone"*

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save

Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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SERMON: *"Hope for Today!"*

Pastor Craver

OFFERTORY: *"CREATE IN ME ..."* (LBW PG.96)

PRAYERS

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: *"Here I Am, Lord"* (WOV 752)
(Please see next page)

1

"I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2

"I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

3

"I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

"WORDS OF FAITH" BROADCAST SUNDAYS AT 8 AM ON KWED 1580 AM RADIO

Has been sponsored to the glory of God by Faith Lutheran Church.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Julie Sagebiel	Dorothy Burris	Judy Saunders
Nora Lavelett	Carolyn Sagebiel	Donna Boelter
Kathy Ersch	Ric Landvatter	Dot Day
Gladys Fruehling	Teresa Kiel	Sue Blumberg
Angie Rohde	Pat Sagebiel	Faye Talley
Johanna Lange	Hagan Boysen	

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS:

Month to Date (April): **\$36,683.00**; YTD Offerings and Misc. **\$153,468.45**
(2020 budgeted offerings is **\$549,000.**)

PRAYERS REQUESTED

For the family of Evelyn Hoffman, Faith member and mother of Diane Terp. Evelyn passed through death into Eternal Life on Sunday, April 12 here in Seguin. A memorial service will be held at a later date here at Faith.

For Lacy (Herbold) and Ryan Beran who united in holy matrimony here at Faith on April 11.

TIME FOR A CHECK-IN. HOW ARE YOU DOING?

With the COVID-19 crisis comes a new opportunity for us to connect with and serve one another and our community. To assist in this, **Faith Lutheran Seguin is launching a recurring, weekly survey** to our congregation to get an accurate pulse on how we can be serving you best.

What is the Weekly Check-In? A recurring survey designed to provide our leadership team with a status report on how you are doing with health, relationships, job, finances, and faith in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis. The survey is 20 questions or so long and should only take a few minutes to complete. Why is Faith Lutheran participating? Your wellbeing is our top priority. Participating in this weekly survey will give us insights into our congregation's current needs, ability to serve, and confidence in the midst of navigating COVID-19. We will use your responses to:

- Allocate the resources to those in need
- Tailor our ministry programs
- Inform our sermon focus for the coming weeks

We invite and encourage all adult church attendees of Faith to join us in taking the simple survey to better align our resources to the needs of the congregation. To take the Weekly Check-In, text **FAITHSEGUIN** to **90888** to start the assessment. A new survey (new questions) begins every Tuesday. You may access that week's survey from Tuesday through Monday.

NEWS FROM WOMEN OF FAITH

We have discovered that the Texas District LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League – women from the Missouri Lutheran Church) have a project called Lutheran World Relief STAMPOREE, and they have invited us to support them. This project is saving all cancelled postage stamps. They collect the stamps, sort them and then sell them to dealers. The money is then used to support LWR Project Comfort, which provides funding for the shipping of quilts, kits and clothing to those in need around the world. Over the years this project has provided more than \$40,000 for LWR Project Comfort.

Anyone (so we invite all members of Faith) can participate by saving cancelled stamps (cut ¼" around each edge of the stamp, so as not to damage it). **You actually don't even have to cut the stamps off the envelopes.** Ask your friends, neighbors, and any business that might receive a lot of mail to save their envelopes for you. Then when you have a bag or large envelope full of either envelopes, or stamps that were cut off as indicated, bring them to the small kitchen and place them in the bin for LWR items. They will then be delivered to the LWML Stamporee Chairman in Kyle, TX.

If you want to participate or have questions, please contact Doris Engelhardt for more details.

HELP WITH MASK SEWING

Anyone interested in helping make face masks, please call Margit Thurston at 830-305-0035. "Sewing" will begin Wednesday, April 15 at 9:00 AM in the Activity Center. (Or wherever works at the time) All safety protocols will be in place, including the wearing of gloves, masks, and keeping six feet between individuals. There will also be no more than 10 people working each time. NO Sewing skills are required! Margit assures us it is EASY!

ACTIVITY CENTER RENOVATION

The work in the activity center and hallways leading to the room is well underway! The room has been painted and the kitchen is getting new cabinets! We can't wait for everyone to see it! (Pics below)

SEWING MACHINE

Our Bookkeeper, Debbie Mozikek, is looking for a sewing & quilting all in one machine. If you have any information or ideas for her, please call her at 830-556-7703.

MINISTRY FAIR

Ministry teams, different church groups and a variety of local charity organizations will be able to showcase and advocate for groups on _____ **Time and Talent Cards are available on the Welcome Table in the Narthex.**

VBS REGISTRATION OPEN ONLINE

Registration for Faith Seguin Rocky Railway VBS 2020 is now open! Visit the online registration site at: vbspro.events/p/9f58ad. VBS is scheduled for July 13-17. (Dates are subject to change as we evolve into our "new normal" in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic.)

FAITH'S HOLY LAND TRIP NOVEMBER 2021

If you are interested in visiting the Holy Land, Faith is sponsoring a trip to Israel in November of 2021. Details for this trip are available on our website:

www.faithsequin.org. See the Israel Trip tab, or contact Pastor Jim.

Sermon Notes – Hope for today!

“God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. So we will not fear... Be still, and know that I am God! I will be honored by every nation. I will be honored throughout the world.”

Psalm 46

1. What does God say to us when we are in crisis?

Not what we think He will say!

“Be still, and know that I am God! I will be honored by every nation. I will be honored throughout the world.”

What does this mean?

2. What do we know about our God that allows to have hope no matter our circumstances?

“Be still, and know...”

“God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.”

(Vs. 1)

“The Lord of Heaven’s Armies is here among us; the God of Israel is our fortress.” (Vs. 7, 11)

His Word and reputation tells us to live as people of unwavering hope – all the time!

“I will be honored by every nation. I will be honored throughout the world.” (Vs 10)

3. Applying the Word of God in Psalm 46 to our lives:

- a) Turn your eyes to the Lord, the source of your hope!
- b) Give Him the trust and faith He deserves!
- c) Worship the Lord Who gave Himself for you!