



Sunday, March 21, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Lent

*Serving us in worship today: Pastors: David Mayer, Rusty Bailey;
Lay Reader: Brenda Bloch; Music: Annette Stout; Children's Church: Lisa Owen;
Ushers: Melvin Boelter, Bill Ermel, Clem Howe and Cody Goetz;
AV: Matt Fransen, Diane Gwyther*

Welcome to Worship!

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church, a people who love and follow Jesus Christ, our Lord! We are blessed and honored that you chose to be with us today!

As we worship today, we encourage you to fellowship with other believers in a manner in which you are comfortable. Please be respectful to one another concerning face coverings and social distancing. Feel welcome to join in fellowship on the patio for refreshments following worship.

Children will come forward for a special blessing before meeting for Children's Church. (Ages Pre K through 3rd grade)

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER

Please Stand

OPENING HYMN: "God of Our Life, All-Glorious Lord" LBW 270 Vs .1 & 2

- 1) God of our life, all-glorious Lord,
be now and evermore adored!
Into the op'ning of this day
bring grace and love and peace, we pray.
- 2) Make clear our path, that we may see
where we must walk to be with thee
and ever listen for thy voice,
that we may make thy way our choice.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of your Baptism.

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

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: *If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all wickedness. (1 John 1: 8-9, NLT)*

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most Merciful God,

C: We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all of our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ, he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

A: This is the feast of victory of our God. Alleluia.

C: ♪ Worthy is Christ, the lamb who was slain,
 Whose blood set us free to be people of God.
 Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
 and honor and blessing and glory are his.
 This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might Be to God and Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory of our God, for the Lamb who slain
Has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

You may be seated.

FIRST READING: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

(An "inexpressible gift" -what a blessing! The ways of the world are always opposed to the way of God. We are challenged in every small way to discover the joys of loving others as we regard ourselves.)

⁶The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written,

"He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever."

¹⁰ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. ¹² For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. ¹³ By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others, ¹⁴ while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

A: Here ends the reading.

PSALM: 116:12-19

(What can we offer to the Lord? What does He desire but our thanks, our worship and praise, our love, and our obedience? Psalm 116 is a Psalm of love.)

¹²What shall I render to the LORD
for all his benefits to me?

¹³I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,

¹⁴I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.

¹⁵Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his saints.

¹⁶O LORD, I am your servant;

I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.

You have loosed my bonds.

¹⁷ I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,

¹⁹ in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Praise the LORD!

A: Here ends the reading.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:10-23

(This Epistle stands as a testimony of faith well-lived and a message of hope for all congregations who desire to live a godly life as the body of Christ.)

¹⁰ I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

¹⁴ Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. ¹⁵ And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. ¹⁶ Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. ¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. ¹⁸ I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

²¹ Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. ²² All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household.

²³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

A: Here ends the reading

Please stand for the Holy Gospel.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 6:19-24

(The desire to live the Resurrection life is put in our hearts by God's Holy Spirit. The Sermon on the Mount instructs us in the way, truth, and life; they are the words of our Lord.)

¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

²² "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, ²³ but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

²⁴ "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

A: The Gospel of the Lord.

You may be seated.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH WITH BLESSING

HYMN OF THE DAY "*O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days*" LBW 99 Vs 1, 2, 4

- 1) O Lord, throughout these forty days you prayed and kept the fast; inspire repentance for our sin, and free us from our past.
- 2) You strove with Satan, and you won; your faithfulness endured; lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God's eternal word.
- 4) Be with us through this season, Lord, and all our earthly days, that when the final Easter dawns, we join in heaven's praise.

SERMON: *"The Power of Generosity"*

Pastor Mayer

OFFERING

P: Blessed be the Lord our God of all faithfulness. By your grace we receive all that we need, and in this abundance may we faithfully share with all in good stewardship, this that you have first given us. Receive this offering to the glory of your Holiness and the work of Jesus Christ in the world. Amen.

OFFERTORY: *"Let the Vineyards be fruitful, Lord..."*

C: ♪ Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer.

Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come. ♪

P: Let us pray. Most merciful God,

C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us-ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

C: We give you thanks almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

CLOSING HYMN: *"Father, We Praise You"* LBW 267

(Please see next page)

Father, We Praise You



1 Fa - ther, we praise you, now the night is o - ver, ac - tive and
2 Mon - arch of all things, fit us for your man - sions; ban - ish our
3 All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and e - qual Spir - it, Trin - i - ty



watch - ful, stand - ing now be - fore you; sing - ing, we of - fer
weak - ness, health and whole - ness send - ing; bring us to heav - en,
bless - ed, send us your sal - va - tion; yours is the glo - ry,



prayer and med - i - ta - tion; thus we a - dore you.
where your saints u - nit - ed joy with - out end - ing.
gleam - ing and re - sound - ing through all cre - a - tion.

BENEDICTION

Please wait as the ushers usher you out.

A: Go In Peace To Love And Serve The Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

Have been given to the glory of God by Kirby and Pam Fransen in celebration of Bradley's birthday on the 26th of this month.

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

This week has been sponsored to the glory of God by Ted and Doris Engelhardt in thankfulness for His many blessings.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS:

Attendance on March 14: 94. Month to Date (March): **\$18,548.00**; YTD Offerings and Misc. **\$84,219.00** (2021 budgeted offerings is **\$470,000**)

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Julie Sagebiel	Judy Saunders	Nora Lavelett
Carolyn Sagebiel	Walt Fruehling	Kathy Ersch
Kelton Lange	Dot Day	Gladys Fruehling
Teresa Kiel	Pat Sagebiel	Debbie Lehmann
Dorothy Burris	Donald Jackson	Robert Vogel
Charlie Koehler	Steve Foerster	Tootsie Rodgers
Sandy Wille	Ronnie Glenewinkel	Marcus Jahns
Harold Bogisch	Jody Alexander	Mona Kuehne

WORSHIP COVID PROTOCOLS

As we worship today, please note that the church council has decided to ease the protocol as we transition into a new season of dealing with COVID. We no longer require worshipers to wear masks. We are also opening up the pews in order to accommodate our growing attendance. However, we ask that you practice the use of face coverings and social distancing that you are comfortable with and that you respect the concerns of those who do. We will continue to offer alternatives for worship, i.e. places on campus with TV monitors of the worship stream, in the parking lot by FM radio and live-streaming on Facebook and YouTube.

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Monday, March 22	Prayer Group	10:15 AM (Sanc.)
Tuesday, March 23	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast	7:30 AM (AC)
Tuesday, March 23	Staff Mtg.	9:00 AM
Wednesday, March 24	Joyful Noise	6:00 PM (choir rm.)
Wednesday, March 24	FLY	6:00-8:00 PM (LEC)
Wednesday, March 24	Chancel Singers	6:00 PM (Sanc.)
Wednesday, March 24	Lenten Service	7:00 PM

PRESCHOOL TEACHER POSITIONS OPEN

- **Fulltime Teacher's Aide for Two Year Old Class-** Seeking a loving, patient, and energetic individual who enjoys working with this young age; two years experience in childcare required; 38-40 hrs/week. Position available immediately.
- **5 Day Pre-K Teacher** needed for the 2021-22 school year. Seeking a loving, personable, and mature individual who relates well to children; Bachelor's degree in Education preferred, with two years experience in childcare field; approximately 20 hrs/week. Salary based on education and experience.

Applications for these positions are available in the church office. Contact Director Sharon Stollewerk at 379-7074 if interested or for more information. Resumes may be emailed to sstollewerk02@yahoo.com.

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD

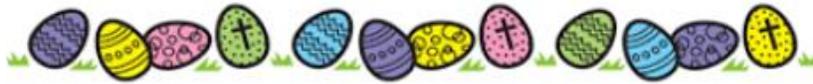
Thank you to those of you who have been dropping off items for the Christian Cupboard. The March item is **Hamburger and Tuna Helpers**, any variety or brand. Total number of items collected for March as of 3/17 is 63.

PERSONAL CARE KITS FOR LWR

Love Circle is preparing Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, please contact Nancy Wieding or Rose Mary Ermel. All items are being purchased in bulk online. Thank you, in advance, for your help!

PRAYER GROUP

Anyone interested in joining for a time of prayer, please join us in the Sanctuary each Monday morning at 10:15 AM. Pastor Mayer invites any and all to join him. Don't feel obligated or intimidated, just come and be a part of this short but powerful time with God.



EASTER EGGS NEEDED

The Christian Education Team is seeking donations of filled plastic eggs and cascarones to make our annual Easter Egg Hunt a success. Please bring filled eggs to the church office **before noon on Friday, April 2nd**. We kindly request candy that is individually wrapped. The hunt will be held on Sunday, April 4, following worship. We appreciate your support in this wonderful ministry for our young people!

HOLY WEEK SERVICES at FAITH

Palm Sunday – March 28, 9:00 AM

Maundy Thursday – April 1, 7:00 PM with Holy Communion

Good Friday – April 2, 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday – April 4, 7:00 AM Sunrise Service on the front lawn. Led by our Youth Ministry students. (Weather permitting)
9:00 AM Service indoors (Holy Communion at both services)

Those who plan to worship on Easter morning are asked to bring a fresh flower with them to church. These flowers will be used to adorn the wooden cross which will be on display during both services.



EASTER LILIES

For those who would like to order an Easter lily to be placed in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday the cost is **\$8.00 per plant**. Deadline for ordering is **5:00 PM on Friday, March 26**. Please leave checks or cash (clearly marked) and the completed form below in the church office. Please place your order soon.

Name: _____

Number of Lilies: _____

In Honor or Memory of: _____
(Please circle one)

Paid: _____