

A dark blue rectangular box containing the text "BUILDING YOUR BEST LIFE" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below the main text is the phrase "The Simple Way..." in a white, cursive script. The background of the box is decorated with a complex, colorful scribble of thin, overlapping lines in shades of purple, pink, green, and blue.

BUILDING YOUR BEST LIFE

The Simple Way...

Time after Pentecost
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

September 7, 2025

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: BUILDING YOUR BEST LIFE

Change is something that most of us know we need, but few of us understand how to get it. We need more than willpower. We need God's power in our lives. In this series based on Galatians 5:22-23, we will explore the qualities that God's Spirit produces in us when we walk with Jesus – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control – so that we can live our best lives!

The Gathering

OPENING SONG

House of the Lord

We worship the God who was
We worship the God who is
We worship the God who evermore will be

He opened the prison doors
He parted the raging sea
My God, He holds the victory

Chorus There's joy in the house of the Lord There's joy in the house of the Lord today
 And we won't be quiet We shout out Your praise
 There's joy in the house of the Lord Our God is surely in this place
 And we won't be quiet We shout out Your praise

We shout out Your praise
We sing to the God who heals
We sing to the God who saves
We sing to the God who always makes a way

'Cause He hung up on that cross
Then He rose up from that grave
My God's still rolling stones away (*Chorus*)

We were the beggars
Now we're royalty
We were the prisoners
Now we're running free
We are forgiven, accepted
Redeemed by His grace
Let the house of the Lord sing praise (*Repeat*) (*Chorus*)

We shout out Your praise
We shout out Your praise
We shout out Your praise

Here I Am to Worship

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

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*)

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

READING

Galatians 5: 22-25

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

RESPONSE

Blessing, Honor and Glory

please stand

Blessing, Honor, Glory to The Lamb
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb

Death could not hold him down
For he is risen Seated upon the throne
He is the lamb of God
Blessing, honor, Glory to the lamb
Holy , Righteous, worthy is the lamb of God

GOSPEL

Luke 14:25-33

Now large crowds were traveling with him, and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A: We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-giving and confront the forces of death. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from rising seas. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Equip them for actions that further the common good. God of grace,

C: receiver our prayer.

A: We pray for those who are sick, hungry, unhoused, or lonely. May they find healing through your love and the care of those around them. Lead us to be your hands and feet in the world. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Gracious and loving God, we pray for the family and friends of Faith... God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

Beautiful Savior

please stand

Beautiful Savior King of creation
Son of God and Son of Man
Truly I'd love Thee truly I'd serve Thee
Light of my soul my Joy my Crown

OFFERATORY PRAYER

A: Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Meal

P: God's love for the world was so great that He gave us His Son, so that anyone who believes in Him should not die but receive eternal life.

We come to this table in need;
We are weak and need strength;
We are broken and need healing;
We are hardened and need softening;
We are poor in spirit and need care.

**C: We give thanks for Your compassion, O God;
We rejoice at Your invitation to share in this meal,
and we receive again Your abundant grace.**

P: So, let's remember how Jesus gave Himself for us;
At supper, on the night of His betrayal, Jesus took bread,
gave thanks, broke it and shared it with His friends, saying:
This is my body, given for you. Take it, eat it, and remember Me.

C: Amen.

P: After supper, Jesus took the cup,
gave thanks and shared it with His friends, saying:
This is my blood shed for you. Take it, drink it and remember Me.

C: Amen.

P: In this bread and in this wine we receive again
the generous, and costly gift of life,
offered to us through the sacrifice of Jesus.
This meal is a proclamation of God's goodness, a thanksgiving for God's grace
and a sharing in God's life.

C: And we will keep celebrating in this way until Jesus returns. 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: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come to this meal of mercy.

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: O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.
We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

Trading My Sorrows

CLOSING SONG

I'm trading my sorrows
I'm trading my shame
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord

I'm trading my sickness
I'm trading my pain
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord

Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes yes Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes yes Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes yes Lord, Amen

I am pressed but not crushed persecuted
not abandoned
Struck down but not destroyed
I am blessed beyond the curse for His
promise will endure
That his joy's gonna be my strength
Though the sorrow may last for the night
His joy comes with the morning

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

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!

KIDWERKS KICKOFF

Sun 9/7 | 9:30 AM

Our Sunday morning PreK – 5th grade children's ministry program is back! At 9:30am we will meet weekly in the auditorium. Registration is now open online at discoveringfaith.com

STUDENT MINISTRIES ORIENTATION MEETING

Sun 9/7 | 10:45 AM

All 6th – 12th grade students and their parents are invited to attend the orientation meeting for Revolution, on Sunday, Sept 7 @ 10:45am in the sanctuary. Come learn about the exciting events planned for this year. Our program, events, mission trip 2026, Middle School Summer Camp 2026, and expectations for our Crossroads/Confirmation program will be covered. For more information contact Pastor Rob.

WOMENS GROUP

Mon 9/8 & 9/22 | 7:15 PM

The Monday Night Women's Bible Study Group will resume on Monday, September 8th. This Fall we will be studying "Encouraging One Another, Women of Faith Bible Study" by Nicole Johnson. In Encouraging One Another, you will explore what Scripture has to say about the value God places on your life and how He notices all that you are doing. You will read passages that will lift your spirit as you hear God speaking His words of encouragement into your life. You will also discover that just as God lifts you up, He wants you to lift up others. We will study 2 chapters per session. You may order the book online at Christianbook.com

We meet bi-weekly at Faith's café & no need to sign up- We'd love to have you join us!

A MOMENT FOR MOM – PLAY DATE

Sat 9/13 | 10:00 AM

Our first session of the new year is a play date at Blackberry Farm, Saturday, September 13, at 10:00 AM. The cost is \$7 per person over 1 year old. Please register on our website by September 5 to receive your Blackberry Farm e-ticket the Friday before the event. Can't wait to see you!

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.

FAITH GOLF SCRAMBLE

Sun 9/14 | 1:00 PM

Join us for Faith's Golf Scramble at 1:00pm on Sept 14 at Springbrook Golf Course 2220 W. 83rd, Naperville, IL 60564. Grab your 4-some or sign up and we will add you to a group (no 5-somes allowed). All are invited so grab your friends and sign up today. Clubs can be rented for an additional fee.

Cost is \$45/per person and includes 9 holes of golf, 1 cart and a bucket of practice balls. In the event of rain, a rain date will be provided or a voucher to use another time.

Scramble golf, prizes and fun await!

REVOLUTION KICK OFF

Sun 9/21 | 5:00 PM

Put it on the calendar and get ready for a great new year of outrageous games, extraordinary worship, and engaging groups as we gather on Sunday Nights for our Student Ministries. Students, 6th-12th grade, are invited to attend this engaging night of growing as followers of Jesus. Student ministries meets the first and third Sundays of the month. Register today at www.discoveringfaith.com/students.

WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Tues 9/16 | 9:00 AM

The Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study will resume their weekly meetings on Tuesday, September 16. All women of Faith are welcome and encouraged to attend. The group meets in the cafe from 9-10:30. This Fall the Bible Study will explore the book of Ruth through Timothy J. Mulders' book Ruth - a Story of God's Redeeming Love. The study covers such topics as God's loving-kindness (hesed), the foreshadowing of Christ, waiting on God's timing, the providence of God, and the redemption of Naomi.

The workbook is \$10 and will be available at the meetings.

For additional information contact Sue Boozell at sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com.

ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Begins 9/23 | 7:00 PM

In the Footsteps of the Savior

Join us on an inspirational journey with Max Lucado through the hills, the dust, and the homes of the Holy Land! Discover, with new eyes, God's heart for his people and his deep love for you.

In this 6-week online study, you are invited to come with Max through Capernaum, Galilee, Bethany, Jerusalem, and more. This online study will be facilitated by Becky Marchiando. Please register at the welcome center or online so that we may send you Zoom credentials required to participate. Come join us!

GROUPLINK

Weds 9/24 | 7:00 PM

If you are interested in learning how to connect to a community group here at Faith please plan on attending Grouplink. In a community group, people study God's Word together and discuss the issues and challenges of life. It's also where they pray, care for one another, and are missed if they don't show up. Life change happens best in these small groups! Sign up at the welcome center or online at www.discoveringfaith.com

COMPASSION WEEKEND IS COMING!

September 19-21

Save the date and get ready to get your serve on at Faith's 13th annual Compassion Weekend. We'll be rolling up our sleeves and heading out to partner with organizations and projects that make a real impact in the lives of people in our community. We are excited to be adding a few new opportunities this year. All sign ups and donation bags are available in the café! You may also sign up on our website www.discoveringfaith.com under Serving. Go... Serve... Love!

Outdoor Sunday Worship

Sun 9/21 | 9:30 AM

Come worship with us for our final outdoor service as we wrap up our Compassion Weekend on Sunday, September 21, we'll be meeting outdoors at 9:30 AM for only one worship service. No 8:00 AM service. Bring your lawn chair or blanket and join us on the lawn. We'll have some outdoor seating as well. You can also attend from your car by tuning into FM 88.3. We'll be live streaming this service as well, if you're unable to make it in person. Come join us!

NEXT

Sun 10/5 | 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 only about 20 minutes after services and will provide you an overview of our mission, strategy, and environments to help you determine your best next step for continuing your faith journey. Meets fireside.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sun 10/5 | 2:00 PM

From kittens to chickens, guppies to puppies, join us for our blessing of all animals great and small. This free event celebrating the Feast of St. Francis is open to the entire community, so come and enjoy this soon to be annual tradition. A short service will be led by Pastor Rob followed by individual pet blessings. Refreshments for pets and their humans will be served. In the event of inclement weather, the blessing will take place in the café. We will also be collecting donations for the Naperville Area Humane Society. Link below for the shelter's wish list. So, bring your pets to be blessed and help us to bless other animals who are in need. <https://www.naperhumane.org/wish-list>

FAITH'S OUTDOOR PROJECT

You're invited to be a part of extending our vision as we look to enhance our property and grounds through our outdoor project initiative. The outdoor project will provide additional opportunities for our community to gather for worship, outdoor events, concerts, weddings, and more.

The project includes three phases. Phase I: Outdoor structure and canopy. Phase II: Landscaping: trees, bushes, flowers. Phase III: Trellis enhancements on patio. Our goal is to raise \$45,000 to complete these three phases. To learn more about the project and/or to donate visit: www.discoveringfaith.com/outdoorproject, or stop by the welcome center and pick up a brochure.

This project has been generously underwritten by the Terry Olson memorial fund. We believe this initiative will have a positive impact on our ministries and mission, and we encourage everyone to get involved. Thank you for your prayers and generosity.

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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