

A vibrant, abstract graphic consisting of numerous overlapping, swirling lines in shades of purple, pink, blue, and green, creating a sense of dynamic movement and energy. This graphic is centered behind the main text.

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 21, 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

Praise to the Lord (Joyful Joyful)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation

Chorus 1 Come, all you hear, now to His temple draw near
Join me in glad adoration

Praise to the Lord, above all things so wondrously reigning
Sheltering you under his wings, and so gently sustaining

Chorus 2 Have you not seen all that is needful has been
Sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you

Chorus 3 Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
If with His love He befriends you

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee
God of glory, Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee
Op'ning to the Sun above *(Repeat)*

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him

Chorus 4 Let the Amen sound from His people again
Gladly forever adore Him

Good, Good Father

Oh, I've heard a thousand stories of what they think You're like
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night
And You tell me that You're pleased and that I'm never alone

Chorus You're a good, good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

I've seen many searching for answers far and wide
But I know we're all searching for answers only You provide
'Cause You know just what we need before we say a word (*Chorus*)

You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us (*Repeat*)

Oh, this love so undeniable
I, I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable
I, I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still into love, love, love (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

READING

Psalm 118: 19-29

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!
O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God,
and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

RESPONSE

please stand

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind but now I see

GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

MESSAGE

Joy | Pastor Rob

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

A: O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and community. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our stewardship of creation would be marked by justice and sustainability. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Holy One, embolden elected leaders to pursue policies of economic justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion. God of grace,

C: receiver our prayer.

A: God of love, motivate our congregation to enact economic justice through tangible action, prioritizing the needs of our community and sharing resources generously through our outreach and justice ministries. 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

All Creatures of Our God and King

please stand

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
O praise Him alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beam
Thou silver mood with softer gleam
Alleluia alleluia alleluia alleluia alleluia

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.

CLOSING SONG

Doxology

Praise God From Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him All creatures here below
Praise Him above Ye heav'nly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

Chorus Praise the Father Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit Now with us
Every moment all our days God be praised
Oh God be praised

Praise God With morning's breaking light
Praise Him Through darkness of the night
Praise Him With every breath of life
Praise Him my soul With all your might (Chorus)(Chorus)

Praise God In face to face we see
The One who died To set us free
The One Who rose in victory
Praise now forever Christ our King (Chorus) (Chorus)
God be praised Oh God be praised (Repeat)

Praise God From Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him All creatures here below
Praise Him above Ye heav'nly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

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!

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 worships, 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

Tuesdays | 9:00 AM

All women of Faith are welcome and encouraged to attend our weekly Bible Study. 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.

WOMENS GROUP

Mon 9/22 & 10/6 | 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!

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 10/1 | 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

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 approximately 20 minutes and will provide you with an overview of our mission, strategy, and environment to help you determine your best next step in continuing your faith journey. Pastor Rob and Jenn Richardson, Faith's volunteer coordinator, will be on hand for conversation and to welcome you to Faith. 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>

KIDWERKS

Sundays | 9:30 AM

Join us in the auditorium as we dive into learning about new virtues each month through stories from the bible so that we can grow in our understanding and relationship with God. To register go to discoveringfaith.com or for more information please contact jenn@discoveringfaith.com PreK – 5th grade

A MOMENT FOR MOM

Sat 10/11 | 10:00 AM

We welcome you to our Moms group for moms just like you! We are hosting moms of children ages 0-10 to come together for a time of learning, laughter, and treats. Cost is \$6/session. Take a moment to connect with other moms, while enjoying a yummy breakfast, hearing from a knowledgeable speaker on topics related to parenting, and build your mom village along the way.

We offer childcare! \$5 per child/session

Our website is ready for you to explore our speakers 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.

SPOOKTACULAR POTLUCK

Sat 10/11 | 5:00 PM

Bring your best spooktacular Halloween themed dish to pass and enjoy Halloween themed music and fun. Costumes encouraged. Everyone is invited!

HESED HOUSE SERVE EVENT

Weds 10/15 | 6:15 PM

We will need roughly 5 to 10 volunteers to help with meal setup, serving, and cleanup.

Volunteers can conveniently signup online or at the welcome center. All that's needed is a serving heart. If you have questions about Faith's Hesus House ministry, please reach out to the ministry team at [hesedhouse@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:hesushouse@discoveringfaith.com).

MEMBERSHIP @ FAITH

Mon 10/20 & 10/27 | 6:30 PM

This two-part course invites participants to explore the vision, mission and values of Faith, as well as a broad overview of the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective. Participants will also discover their unique gifts and how they can use them in serving others. This course is open to everyone, and is an expectation of those who wish to become members at Faith! Register online at discoveringfaith.com or sign up at the welcome center.

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.

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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