

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 28, 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

Everlasting God

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord

Pre-Chorus Our God, You reign forever
Our hope, our strong Deliverer

Chorus You are the everlasting God
The everlasting God
You do not faint You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on the wings Like eagles

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord
(*Pre-Chorus*) (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

Be Thou My Vision (Light Guiding Me)

Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart;
Nought be all else to me Save that Thou art
Thou my best thought By day or by night
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom And Thou my true word
I ever with thee And Thou with me Lord
Thou my great Father I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling And I with Thee one

Chorus I will lift up my eyes
 To my help and my strength
 Till my faith becomes sight
 Be the light guiding me

Riches I heed not Nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance Now and always
Thou and Thou only First in my heart
High King of heaven My treasure Thou art (*Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

High King of heaven My victory won
May reach heaven's joys Oh bright heaven's sun
Heart of my own heart Whatever befall
Still be my vision Oh Ruler of all
Still be my vision Oh Ruler of all

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word

READING

Ephesians 3: 14-19

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

RESPONSE

Seek Ye First

please stand

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And its righteousness
And all these things will be added unto you
Allelu, alleluia

GOSPEL

Luke 16:19-31

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who

might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

MESSAGE

Peace | 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: We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed and rejecting the complacency that comes from wealth. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for those in positions of authority, that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of all people and working to promote peace and prosperity for all. God of grace,

C: receiver our prayer.

A: We pray for people in any need. Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from all that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love. 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

please stand

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore thee;
May I still thy goodness prove.

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

Your Grace is Enough

Great is Your faithfulness, oh God
You wrestle with the sinner's heart
You lead us by still waters and to mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

Pre-Chorus So remember Your people
 Remember Your children
 Remember Your promise, oh God

Chorus Your grace is enough
 Your grace is enough
 Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice, God
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along (*Pre-Chorus*) (*Chorus* x 2) (*Pre-Chorus*) (*Chorus*)

Your grace is enough
Heaven reaching down to us
Your grace is enough for me

Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me

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!

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>

REVOLUTION

Sun 10/5, 10/19 | 5:00 PM

On Sunday Nights at Faith, we've created an event that attracts **middle & high school students just like you**. After all, we figure you want to be wherever your friends are. We make this time as fun and relevant as we possibly can. The goal is for you to leave feeling energized to go out there and tackle another week! Meets 1st and 3rd Sundays in the auditorium. Register online- discoveringfaith.com

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 10/6 & 10/20 | 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

Tuesdays | 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!

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

Our next session, Dr. Jana Richardson will be with us speaking on "Empowered Motherhood: Understanding Your Pelvic Floor". You won't want to miss it!

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.

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 Hased House ministry, please reach out to the ministry team at hasedhouse@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.

Living Generously (through August 2025)

Our mission is simple. Invite people to discover the new life that can be found in Jesus Christ. Because of your financial generosity, lives are being changed. Our budgeted resource needs to live out our mission are not currently fully funded. We would like to invite you to prayerfully consider how you can respond so that together we can enhance our mission impact in our community and beyond. Thank you for living generously.

2025 YTD Revenue \$254,686

2025 YTD Budget \$295,504

2025 YTD Expenses \$312,407

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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