



A Generous Life

following the way

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Christ the King  
9:30 Worship Celebration

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

## **Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.**

November 23, 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: A GENEROUS LIFE**

When you choose to live a generous life you start to change, and so does the world around you. Something incredible happens when giving becomes our idea and not out of a duty or obligation. When you move from awareness to action, miracles happen. Join us as we learn to follow Jesus' lead and make giving a lifestyle.

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## *The Gathering*

### **OPENING SONG**

#### **Come Now Is The Time To Worship**

Come, now is the time to worship  
Come, now is the time to give your heart  
Come, just as you are to worship  
Come, just as you are before your God  
Come

One day every tongue will confess You are God  
One day every knee will bow  
Still the greatest treasure remains  
For those who gladly choose you now

Come, now is the time to worship  
Come, now is the time to give your heart  
Come, just as you are to worship  
Come, just as you are before your God  
Come

One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God  
One day ev'ry knee will bow  
Still the greatest treasure remains  
For those who gladly choose you now

Come, now is the time to worship  
Come, now is the time to give your heart  
Come, just as you are to worship  
Come, just as you are before your God  
Come

Come come just as you are come come

## **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: O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy.  
We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory.  
Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your  
divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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## The Word

### READING

### Colossians 1:11-20

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

### RESPONSE

### Amazing Grace

*please stand*

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

### Matthew 6: 19-24

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

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

“No one 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

Defining Terms | Pastor Rob

### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A: We pray for the church in the world, its leaders, and its mission to share the good news of healing and restoration. Inspire us to embody the beloved community in ways that faithfully witness to the Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: We pray for the trembling mountains and glad streams of creation. Preserve and renew your coastlines, deep seas, forests, and grasslands. Guide all who tend flocks or care for creatures of all kinds. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, or sick. Comfort all in need of your tender care. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: We pray for this part of the body of Christ gathered around word and sacrament. Bring us into authentic community where all ages are valued and experience God’s faithfulness together. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

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

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

## OFFERING

### OFFERING RESPONSE

We Are an Offering

*please stand*

We lift our voices    We lift our hands  
We lift our lives up to You    We are an offering  
Lord use our voices    Lord use our hands  
Lord use our lives they are Yours    We are an offering

All that we have, all that we are  
All that we hope to be, We give to You, we give to You  
We lift our voices    We lift our hands  
We lift our lives up to You    We are an offering

### OFFERATORY PRAYER

A: God of healing and hope,  
you bless those who are hungry,  
promising to fill them with good things.  
Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.  
Nourish us with the abundance of your feast  
and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior,  
now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

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## The Meal

P: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
in the beginning you formed the heavens and earth  
and created us in your likeness.

You made us guardians of your good creation and left the earth in our care.  
All through our weary years and our silent tears,  
you did not abandon us to ourselves,  
but sought us out in love.

In the crowning act of love you gave your only Son,  
that whoever believes in him will have eternal life.

For you sent Jesus not to condemn the world,  
but to save the world from sin.

Through his death on the cross, we who were once far off  
have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: With this bread and cup, we remember Christ's life among us;  
his association with outcasts, his eating with sinners,  
his healing of the sick, his care for the poor.  
Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit  
upon us and upon this bread and wine,  
that we who share this meal may become a holy communion,  
the body of Christ in the world.

C: **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: There is a place for you at the table of God.  
Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

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 to 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.**

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## *The Sending*

### **SENDING PRAYER**

A: God of field and flower, wheat and grape,  
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven  
that gives life to the world.  
Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,  
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who  
hunger and thirst,  
and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

C: **Amen.**

## **CLOSING SONG**

**Forever**

Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King  
His love endures forever  
For He is good, He is above all things  
His love endures forever  
Sing praise, sing praise

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm  
His love endures forever  
For the life that's been reborn  
His love endures forever

Pre-Chorus Sing praise, sing praise  
                  Sing praise, sing praise

Chorus    Forever, God is faithful  
              Forever, God is strong  
              Forever, God is with us  
              Forever

From the rising to the setting sun  
His love endures forever  
And by the grace of God, we will carry on  
His love endures forever (Pre-Chorus) (Chorus) (Chorus)  
(Pre-Chorus) (Chorus) (Chorus)

## **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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## 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!

### **NEW MISSION CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX DRIVE**

#### ***Share God's love this Christmas***

During November, we are collecting shoeboxes filled with gifts for children in Haiti who are a part of our mission partner New Missions. School supplies, hygiene items, toys and other small gifts make a big difference in the lives of Haitian children and their families. You can share God's love this Christmas by packing a shoebox. Stop by the shoebox drive display and pick up your box and gift list today.

### **FAIR TRADE MARKETPLACE – Heavenly Treasures**

**Sundays: Nov 30 – Dec 21**

Faith will once again be hosting a Fair Trade Marketplace on Sunday mornings in the café. Handcrafted products from artisans around the world will be on sale. When you purchase a product, you are helping to enable impoverished artisans to have an ongoing business, allowing them to provide for their families. Visit [www.heavenlytreasures.org](http://www.heavenlytreasures.org) to learn more about the impact you can make. Every product represents a changed life!

### **REVOLUTION**

**Sun 12/7, 12/21 | 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays in the auditorium. Register online- [discoveringfaith.com](http://discoveringfaith.com)

### **WOMENS GROUP**

**Mon 12/1 | 7:15 PM**

This Fall we will be studying "Encouraging One Another, Women of Faith Bible Study" by Nicole Johnson. We will study 2 chapters per session. You may order the book online at [Christianbook.com](http://Christianbook.com)

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

## **WOMENS BIBLE STUDY**

**Tuesdays | 9:00 AM**

The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study will start a new 4-week study beginning November 18. The group will explore the angelic visits surrounding the birth of Jesus with Zechariah, Mary, Joseph and the shepherd in the book The Angels of Christmas ~ Hearing God's Voice in Advent by Susan Robb.

The study will dive deep into the history of the angel Gabriel as well as other angels in the Bible. It will also help us rediscover how God communicates hope and meaning to all people. All women of Faith and their friends are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The workbook is \$12 and will be available at the meetings.

The group will meet in the auditorium on the following Tuesday mornings:

11/18, 12/2, 12/9, and 12/16.

For additional information please contact Sue Boozell at [sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:sue.boozell@discoveringfaith.com).

## **ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP**

**Tuesdays | 7:00 PM**

*The Case for Christmas by Lee Strobel*

In The Case for Christmas, video-based bible study led by New York Times bestselling author Lee Strobel, we'll be digging into the true Christmas story to sort out the fact from the fiction and the hype from the holiness. This Bible study will help us reflect on the gospel story of the birth of Jesus in a focused and group-oriented way that might just change the way that we view the season. This 4-week online study will be facilitated by Becky Marchiando. Please register below so that we may send you Zoom credentials required to participate. Come join us!

## **THE GREAT GIFT EXCHANGE**

**Sat 12/6 | 4:00 PM**

Faith Community Life will be hosting our Annual Holiday Gift Exchange on Saturday, Dec. 6, 2025 from 4:00pm-6:00pm at Eola Tap House (formerly Paulie's Pub) at 444 N. Eola Rd, Aurora, IL (just down the street from Faith next to the new Fire Station).

Please bring a wrapped gift (under \$20). This event is open to everyone. Food and Beverages will be on your own and cake will be served.

Sign up at the Welcome Center or online [www.discoveringfaith.com](http://www.discoveringfaith.com)

Come celebrate the Holidays with our Faith Family and Friends!

## **NEXT**

**Sun 12/7 | 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.

## **A MOMENT FOR MOM**

**Sat 12/13 | 10:00 AM**

The speaker for December is Yolanda Chenoweth, Women's Health NP. Let's talk about the things nobody talks about! A Session about Women's Health . Please use the QR code on our website to ask anonymous questions, that will be answered by our December speaker.

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](http://www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom).

## **LIVE NATIVITY AT FAITH!**

**Sat 12/13 | 6:00 PM**

This year, the spirit of Christmas will be alive at Faith, as we host our annual outdoor Live Nativity on Saturday, December 14th at 6pm.

the Live Nativity. The journey will take you back in time to the birth of our Savior. Shepherds peacefully tend to their flocks, while Mary and Joseph look after the child in the manger. Wise men will come from the East bearing gifts as angels watch over the scene. Faith's Live Nativity features a large cast, choir, live animals and scenery to provide a memorable Christmas event for the entire family.

## **LIVE NATIVITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Sat 12/13 | 6:00 PM**

Save the date for this year's Live Nativity here at Faith! However, many types of volunteers are needed to help make this event a huge success (actors, hospitality, set up, animal control, "Welcomers", photographers.) Sign up today at the welcome center or contact Pastor Rob if you are interested.

## **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](http://discoveringfaith.com) or for more information please contact [jenn@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:jenn@discoveringfaith.com) PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> grade

## **LADIES CHRISTMAS TEA**

**Mon 12/15 | 7:00 PM**

Ladies of Faith are invited to attend or host a table for this elegant and festive holiday evening of tea and desserts. The evening includes music, readings, and a seasonal devotion. Invite your friends and sign up for this free event online or at the welcome center! If you have any questions please contact the church office at [office@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:office@discoveringfaith.com).

## **Living Generously (through October 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.

YTD Revenue: \$322,205

YTD Budget: \$369,373

YTD Expenses: \$382,793

## **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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