



**Sunday, May 21, 2023**

***Seventh Sunday of Easter / Ascension of Our Lord***  
**Mission Sunday and Bluegrass Sunday**

*Serving us in worship today: Leaders: Pastor Dan Cave and Intern Pastor Andrew Cave;  
Lay Reader: Fran Braun; Music: Rolf Sieker Band; Children's Church: Betty Moltz;  
Ushers: Bill Ermel, Cody Goetz, Bill Keller, and Brian Baker;  
AV: Matthew Fransen, Chase White*

**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! Our guests are encouraged to sign the red guestbook located at the Welcome Table in the entry hall. First time visitors, be sure to pick up a red welcome bag in the narthex.

We ask everyone to please complete the attendance sheet in the black folder and then pass it down the pew.

**Children are invited to come forward for a special blessing before meeting for Children's Church. (Ages Pre-K through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade)**

**Prayer Cards**

You will find prayer request cards on the welcome table and in the brochure wall holder in the office hallway. We ask that anyone needing special prayer please fill them out and place cards in the box located on the Welcome Table in the Narthex.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MISSION OUTREACH COMMITTEE PRESENTATION**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*Please Stand*

**INVOCATION**

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

**C:** Amen.

**OPENING HYMNS: "I Saw the Light" and "Keep on the Sunny Side"**

I wandered so aimless life filled with sin  
I wouldn't let my dear Saviour in  
Then Jesus came like a stranger in the night  
Praise the Lord I saw the light.

*Chorus*

I saw the light I saw the light  
no more darkness no more night  
Now I'm so happy no sorrow in sight  
Praise the Lord I saw the light.

Just like a blind man I wandered along  
Worries and fears I claimed for my own  
Then like the blind man that God gave back his sight  
Praise the Lord I saw the light. *Chorus*

I was a fool to wander and astray  
Straight is the gate and narrow the way  
Now I have traded the wrong for the right  
Praise the Lord I saw the light. *Chorus*

*"Keep On the Sunny Side"*

There's a dark and a troubled side of life  
there's a bright and a sunny side, too  
though you meet with the darkness and strife  
the sunny side you also may view.

*Chorus*

Keep on the sunny side, always on the sunny side  
keep on the sunny side of life  
it will help us every day, it will brighten all the way  
if we keep on the sunny side of life.

Oh, the storm and its fury broke today  
crushing hopes that we cherish so dear  
clouds and storms will in time pass away  
the sun again will shine bright and clear. *Chorus*

Let us wake with a song of hope each day  
though the moment be cloudy or fair  
let us trust in our Savior away  
who keepeth ev'ry one in His care. *Chorus*

**BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

**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 say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1: 8-9, ESV)*

*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.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray, Lord God...

C: Amen

### **SONG OF PRAISE: *"We Shall Rise"***

On that Resurrection morning When the trumpet of God shall sound  
We shall rise, (hallelujah) we shall rise.

When the saints will come rejoicing And no tears will ever be found  
We shall rise, (hallelujah) we shall rise.

We shall rise, (hallelujah) we shall rise (amen)

We shall rise, on that Resurrection morning

When those prison bars are broken

We shall rise, (hallelujah) we shall rise.

On that Resurrection morning Blessed God it is to me

We shall rise, (hallelujah) we shall rise.

I'll see the blessed Savior Who so freely died for me

We shall rise, (hallelujah) we shall rise. *(Chorus)*

*(Continued on next page.)*

On that Resurrection morning We shall meet Him in the air  
We shall rise, (hallelujah) we shall rise.  
And be carried up to Glory To our homes so bright and clear  
We shall rise, (hallelujah) we shall rise. (*Chorus*)

*You may be seated.*

**READING: Acts 1:1-11 (ESV)**

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup>And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." <sup>9</sup>And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup>and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

**PSALM 47 To be read responsively (ESV)**

Clap your hands, all peoples!

Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

<sup>2</sup>For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared,  
a great king over all the earth.

<sup>3</sup>He subdued peoples under us,  
and nations under our feet.

<sup>4</sup>He chose our heritage for us,  
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

<sup>5</sup> God has gone up with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.  
<sup>6</sup> Sing praises to God, sing praises!  
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!  
<sup>7</sup> For God is the King of all the earth;  
sing praises with a psalm!  
<sup>8</sup> God reigns over the nations;  
God sits on his holy throne.  
<sup>9</sup> The princes of the peoples gather  
as the people of the God of Abraham.  
For the shields of the earth belong to God;  
he is highly exalted!

## **SECOND READING: Matthew 13:1-23**

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup> And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, <sup>6</sup> but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> He who has ears, let him hear."

<sup>10</sup> Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" <sup>11</sup> And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. <sup>12</sup> For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>13</sup> This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. <sup>14</sup> Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says:

""You will indeed hear but never understand,  
and you will indeed see but never perceive."

<sup>15</sup> For this people's heart has grown dull,  
and with their ears they can barely hear,  
and their eyes they have closed,  
lest they should see with their eyes  
and hear with their ears

and understand with their heart  
and turn, and I would heal them.'

<sup>16</sup>But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. <sup>17</sup>For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

<sup>18</sup>"Hear then the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup>yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. <sup>23</sup>As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

*Please stand for the Holy Gospel.*

**GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20** (ESV)

<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

A: The gospel of our Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

*You may be seated.*

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**MESSAGE:**

*Andrew Cave*

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *"I'm Using My Bible as a Roadmap"*

*Chorus*

There'll be no detours in heaven  
No rough roads along the way  
I'm using my Bible for a roadmap

My last stop is heaven some sweet day  
I'm using my Bible for a roadmap  
The Ten Commandments they tell me what to do  
The twelve disciples are my road signs  
And Jesus will take me safely through. *Chorus*

I'm using my Bible for a roadmap  
The children of Israel used it too  
They crossed the Red Sea of destruction  
For God was there to see them through. *Chorus*

## OFFERING

OFFERTORY: *"Old Time Religion"*

*Chorus*

Give me that old time religion, give me that old time religion  
Give me that old time religion, It's good enough for me  
Makes me love everybody, Makes me love everybody  
Makes me love everybody, It's good enough for me

It was good for Hebrew children, it was good for Hebrew children  
It was good for Hebrew children, And it's good enough for me *Chorus*

It was tried in the fiery furnace, It was tried in the fiery furnace  
It was tried in the fairy furnace, It's good enough for me

It will do when I'm dying, It will do when I'm dying  
It will do when I'm dying, It's good enough for me *Chorus*

It can take us all to heaven, It can take us all to heaven  
It can take us all to heaven, It's good enough for me *Chorus*

**P:** Let us pray. Almighty God,

**C:** you gave your Son both as sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life.  
Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving and to conform our lives to  
his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

## 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.

*Please be seated.*

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION and THE LORD'S PRAYER

### CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion will be served continuously. Our ushers will direct you to two lines down the center aisle. As before, please return via the side aisles.

*If you would prefer to commune from your pew, our communion servers will come to you when the continuous communion is completed.*

### COMMUNION HYMNS: *"Will The Circle Be Unbroken"*

*"In the Sweet"*

*"Over in the Glory Land"*

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

*Please stand.*

### BENEDICTION

### CLOSING HYMN: *"On the Wings of a Dove"*

*Chorus*

On the wings of a snow-white dove, He sends His pure sweet love  
A sign from above (sign from above), On the wings of a dove (wings of a dove)

When troubles surround us, when evils come  
The body grows weak, The spirit grows numb  
When these things beset us, He doesn't forget us  
He sends down His love, On the wings of a dove *Chorus*



When Noah had drifted, on the flood many days  
He searched for land, In various ways  
Troubles, he had some, but wasn't forgotten  
He sent him His love, On the wings of a dove *Chorus*

*"I'll Fly Away"*

Some glad morning when this life is o'er, I'll fly away,  
to a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away.

*Chorus*

I'll fly away, oh glory,  
I'll fly away (in the morning)  
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away. *(Continued)*

When the shadows of this life have grown, I'll fly away,  
Like a bird from prison bars has flown, I'll fly away. *Chorus*

Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away,  
To a land where joys shall never end, I'll fly away. *Chorus*

## **DISMISSAL**

A: Go, make disciples! C: Thanks be to God!

## **SUNDAY MORNINGS AT FAITH**

**Worship Service – 9:00 AM**

*Fellowship on patio following worship*

**Sunday School – 10:15-11:15 AM**

- Pre K-1st Grade in Educational Wing
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade in Education Wing
- Adult Sunday School- "*Christianity: The First Three Centuries*" in Activity Center
  - Lifebridge (Young Adult) meets in the Life Enrichment Center.

## **"WORDS OF FAITH" BROADCAST ON KWED**

Has been sponsored to the glory of God by Bryan and Diane Terp in celebration of our grandson Luke's birthday and of our granddaughter Lily's graduation from Cinco Ranch High School.

## **FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR**

Have been sponsored to the glory of God by Bryan and Diane Terp in thankfulness of our many blessings and in honor of our 48<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

## **WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS:**

Attendance on May 14 was 167; Month to Date (May): **\$19,988.00**; YTD Offerings and Misc. **\$175,597.50** 2023 budgeted offerings is **\$511,000.00**

## **PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

Judy Saunders	Nora Lavelett	Carolyn Sagebiel
Ronnie Glenewinkel	Kelton Lange	Gladys Fruehling
Sandy Wille	Donald Jackson	Brad Flippin
Steve Foerster	Lillian Lippe	Clara Fischer
Birdie Kuempel	Doris Rinn	Candi Andrews
Paul Quello	Bertha Marie Keller	Dale Nauert
Irene Menn	Patti Jahns	

## **POSITION OPENING**

Faith Lutheran Church is seeking a Youth Ministry Leader. Looking for someone who is gifted at teaching the word of God and who can relate well with teenagers. This person would work in partnership with our intern pastor to ensure the youth ministry continues to thrive. Hours would be approximately 20-25 hours a week.

## **PRESCHOOL TEACHER POSITION OPEN**

5 Day Pre-K Teacher needed for the 2023-24 school year. Seeking a loving, personable, and mature individual who relates well to children; Bachelor's degree in education and experience in childcare preferred; approximately 20 hours/week. Salary based on education and experience.

## **PRESCHOOL TEACHER'S AIDE POSITION OPEN**

5 Day Pre-K Teacher's Aide needed for the 2023-24 school year. Seeking a caring individual who relates well to children; Experience in childcare preferred; approximately 20 hours/week. Salary based on experience.

## **GVCCC**

Guadalupe Valley Christian Counseling Center is a non-profit Christian agency supported by area churches. There are cards with contact information available for you on the Welcome Table in the narthex. Faith Lutheran's representatives on the board of directors for GVCCC are BJ Chambers and Mike Burris.

## **SAVE THE DATES**

- **FOOD BANK DISTRIBUTION—Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**
- **VBS TRAINING – Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM**
- **FIELD OF HONOR – June 10<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>**
- **FLY Frio Trip – June 12<sup>th</sup> –June 15<sup>th</sup>**
- **VBS – June 26<sup>th</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>**

## THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Monday, May 22	VDC Ultreya	6:30 (AC)
Tuesday, May 23	Men's Bible Study	7:30 AM (AC)
Tuesday, May 23	Staff Mtg.	9:00 AM
Tuesday, May 23	Game Night at SAL	6:30 PM
Wednesday, May 24	Quilters	9:00 AM
Wednesday, May 24	Prayer Group	10:15 AM
Wednesday, May 24	FLY	6:00 – 8:00 PM
Wednesday, May 24	Hand Bell Choir	6:00 PM
Thursday, May 25	YET	11:30/1:00
Thursday, May 25	Grief Care Group	6:30-8:00 (AC)

### **WORKERS FOR NEXT WEEK**

**Sunday, May 28**-Ushers: Terry Freeman, Vanita Hodge, Kristy Serold, Joan and Ron Vanbeek; Lay Reader: Roxanne Heckmann; Greeters: Bryan Terp, Missy Sagebiel; AV: Andrew Kuehne, Tim Bogisch; Count: Susan Foerster, Joanne Shanafelt; Lock Up: Mark Hazel; Security: Matt Sherwood; Communion set up: NA; Communion clean up: NA; Communion Servers: NA; Communion Aid: NA.

**CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD** Thank you to those of you who have been dropping off items for the Christian Cupboard. Our May items are peanut butter and jelly, any variety or brand. Total number of items collected as of May 10 is 11.

### **INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP AT FAITH?**

If you are interested in finding out more information about Faith, please see Andrew or contact him at 248-687-0485. The next new member class will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, May 21st. **NEW MEMBER MEETING TODAY** following worship!

### **LOVE CIRCLE THANK YOU**

Thank you so much to all who contributed to the personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. It is greatly appreciated! We packed and boxed 77 kits for shipping!