

4-6-25 FULL BULLETIN

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

171 Lewis LN

Hamilton, MT 59840

faithlutheran59840@gmail.com

406-363-2964



LENT

**Welcome to Faith and thank you for
worshipping with us!**

Faith Lutheran Church is a family of God built on love: worshipping, welcoming, learning, and serving in Christ's name. All are **WELCOME!**

Liturgy from "With One Voice" (WOV) Bread of Life, Setting 5 (blue hymnal p.28). ELW refers to the red hymnal.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate One,

C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ,

God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home.

In ✝ Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow”

ELW #327

- 1 Through the night of doubt and sorrow,
onward goes the pilgrim band,
singing songs of expectation,
marching to the promised land.
Clear before us through the darkness
gleams and burns the guiding light;
pilgrim clasps the hand of pilgrim
stepping fearless through the night.
- 2 One the light of God's own presence
on the ransomed people shed,
chasing far the gloom and terror,
bright'ning all the path we tread.
One the object of our journey,
one the faith which never tires,
one the earnest looking forward,
one the hope our God inspires.
- 3 One the strain that lips of thousands
lift as from the heart of one;
one the conflict, one the peril,
one the march in God begun.
One the gladness of rejoicing
on the far eternal shore,
where the one almighty Father
reigns in love forevermore.
- 4 Onward, therefore, sisters, brothers;
onward, with the cross our aid.
Bear its shame, and fight its battle
till we rest beneath its shade.

Soon shall come the great awak'ning;
soon the rending of the tomb!
Then the scatt'ring of all shadows,
and the end of toil and gloom.

GREETING

A: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

Kyrie eleison: **Lord, have mercy.**

Christe eleison: **Christ, have mercy.**

Kyrie eleison: **Lord, have mercy.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service” ELW #712 v 1

**1 Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;**

**consecrating to your purpose
ev'ry gift which you impart.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Let us Pray.

C: Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING

L: A reading from Isaiah 43:16-21.

The prophet declares that long ago God performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, God is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new Exodus.

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,

¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸ Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
²⁰ The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

PSALM 126

¹ When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.
² **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue
with shouts of joy.**
Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things
for them.”
³ The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.
⁴ **Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.**
⁵ Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.

⁶ Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

SECOND READING

L: A reading from **Philippians 3:4b-14**.

Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

After the readings.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

KIDS' TIME

GOSPEL ACCLIMATION

Please stand.

“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”

ELW #512

Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.

GOSPEL: John 12:1-8

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John,
the 12th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard,

anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

After the reading.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "God Loved the World"

ELW #323

- 1 God loved the world so that he gave
his only Son the lost to save,
that all who would in him believe
should everlasting life receive.
- 2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
who was made flesh and suffered death;
all who confide in Christ alone
are built on this chief cornerstone.
- 3 If you are ill, if death draws near,
this truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus rescues us from death;
that is the firmest ground of faith.

4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
forgives all sins that you have done,
and justified by Jesus' blood,
your baptism grants the highest good.

5 All glory to the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
be praise now and eternally!

NICENE CREED

A: Let us confess together the faith of the Church,
using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**C: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate;**

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

**and is seated at the right hand of the
Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,**

and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver
of life,**

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped
and glorified.**

He has spoken through the prophets.

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
Church.**

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

THE PRAYERS

Please be seated.

A: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

The church declares your praise, O God. Guide us in the example of Isaiah's imagination, Paul's transformed identity, and Mary's faith and devotion; that our lives, too, may be poured out in love as we trust in your promises. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

The earth declares your praise, O God. Make a way for the planet's future in the sea and the wilderness, the mountains and plains, the tundra and wetlands. Repair habitats and sustainable ecosystems on, above, and beneath the ground. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

The nations declare your praise, O God. Where religious differences divide, bring together those who worship you in the name of Jesus Christ and those who call to you with different names. Guide interreligious dialogue, that faith may unite rather than divide communities. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

The people declare your praise, O God. Restore those whose hope has been dampened through a health diagnosis, job or home loss, divorce, or death.

Bring healing to those in need (*especially...and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts*). May all who weep now sing songs of joy again.

God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

The gifts of the Spirit declare your praise, O God. We thank you for artists who proclaim the gospel (*especially Albrecht Dürer, Matthias Grünewald, and Lucas Cranach*). Inspire music, poetry, and images that proclaim the new thing you are doing. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

The communion of saints declares your praise, O God. Giving thanks for those who have died, we trust in the one who has made them his own: Christ Jesus, our crucified and risen Savior. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

Amen.

MEAL

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Please stand.

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Gracious Provider,

**C: you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.**

**As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those
treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please be seated

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks ...

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, ...

... almighty, Father, now and forever. **C: Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

**and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

P: All who are hungry, come!
The feast of grace is spread.

COMMUNION

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

COMMUNION SONG(S) “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” ELW #733

- 1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*

COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand.

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

CANTICLE

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone
what God has done.**

**Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's
holy name.**

**Send us with your promises, O God, and lead us
forth in joy**

with shouts of thanksgiving. Amen, amen.

PRAYER

P: Generous Host,

C: you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

BLESSING

Please stand.

P: God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
✝ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

ELW #325

- 1 I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
- 2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
- 3 When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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