

Happy April Birthday Wishes!

4–Shirley Wright, 8–Aaron Hill, 11–Trisha Dunaway, 15–Nate Blakeman, 18–Sue Boyette, 23–Pat Parisot, 29–Inez Miller



**We still have 3 tickets to see The Gaither Vocal Band
Coronado Theater, Rockford Sunday, April 22 at 6pm
\$25 each Sign up sheet is on the board!**

Dine Out

Out to Dinner is Friday, April 20th at 6pm at Jessica's Restaurant, 5091 Edgemere Circle, Roscoe. Sign up deadline is TODAY! Everyone's invited to join us!



Please consider signing up to bring Fellowship treats, or to be a Reader, an Usher, or a Greeter. We need YOU! Sheets are in the hallway. Thank you!

.....



We pray for the homeless, those unemployed and those with mental struggles, our shut-ins, our college students, military families & all who are serving in the military. We pray for our friends, families & loved ones: Aaron, Adam, Al, Alyson & Jarrett, Alyssa, Amber, Angie, Aunt Bettie, Barry & Shelby, Beth, Betty Comins, Betty Bonner, Beverly, Bill, Bob, Bonnie, Boyd, Brayton, Brett, Brian, Cazmyre, Cindy, Claudine, Connie, Dalany, Dani, Dawn, Debi, Denise, Don, Dustin, Eloise, Emily, Gary, Gavin, George, Harriet, Heidi, Ian, Inez, Irene, Isaiah, Jaleena, James, Jammie, Janet, Jean, Jeff, Jerry, Jessica, Jim, Joe Ostrum, John, Julie, Karen, Kathy Mears, Kayla, Kelli, Kenny, Kolton, Kian, Kim, Kris, Linda, Lori, Lyla W., Lyla Williams, Maureen, Mary, Matt, Melissa, Michael, Mike, Nan, Pat, Patricia Sarabia, Payton, Ricky, Roger, Russ, Ruthann, Sharon, Shelly, Steve, Tammy, Tari, Ted, Teresa, Tim, Tina, Tom, Tom & Gale Miller, Tracy, Trisha, Twanna, Vance, Vicki, Vivian, Wilma, Zach, and Zoey.



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ

Sunday, April 15, 2018

Third Sunday of Easter ~ 9:30 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who calls us beloved children, who gathers us into one flock, who guides us into all truth.
- C:** Amen.
- P:** Let us confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *(A brief silence.)*
Faithful and just God,
- C:** **we confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**
- P:** In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent the Son to atone for our sins. In the name of + Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and Inspire you to live for others.
- C:** Amen.



OPENING HYMN Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

P: 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.**

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church

We are happy to have you worship with us today! Join us for beverages, snacks and conversation after worship.

Communion is by intinction. Come forward to receive the bread with an open hand then dip in the wine (dark) or juice (light). Gluten-free wafers are available - indicate to Pastor when it's your turn. If you eat the bread before dipping or drop it, please ask for another piece. You don't have to be a member of Faith or be Lutheran to take Communion. Christ is the host of the meal ~ all baptized believers are welcome.

Offering ~ As always, if you are unable to attend worship, please make sure to catch up with your **offering** next week. Or mail it to the church office and write "offering" on the envelope to be included in that week's offering, seen only by the designated counters. Thanks for being so faithful in giving generously to God's work at Faith Lutheran.

Financials Sunday, April 8 - Week #14

Attendance - 82

Actual Offering	\$1,741.00
Weekly Offering Budget	\$2,176.00
2017 YTD Actual Offering	\$34,502.39
2017 YTD Offering Needed	\$30,464.00

Today's Worship Leaders

- Altar Guild - Carol & Roger Frey**
- Computer Technician - Anne & Rachel Strasser**
- Offering Video - Anne & Rachel Strasser**
- Reader - Dennis Kelce**
- Counters - Roger & Carol Frey**
- Fellowship - Pat Wicks**
- Greeters - Tammy Dunkel and Tina Hatch**
- Musician - Betty Comins**
- Ushers - Doug Congdon & Ray Wendell**
- Pastor - Rev. Dr. Richard J. Meier**



This week's altar flowers are donated by Jean Warn, in memory of her mother, Mavis Wam.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN On Our Way Rejoicing



1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;



Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;



Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,



who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace; Christ is with you!

C: Thanks be to God.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Lord's day. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures: the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. (*A brief silence.*) Holy and righteous God,

C: **you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**
Amen.

Children's Church

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

R: A reading from Acts, the 3rd chapter.

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead.

To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. "And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A Responsive Reading from Psalm 4

R: Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

C: "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"

R: Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; the LORD will hear me when I call.

C: Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

R: Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

C: Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?" Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.

R: You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

C: In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7

R: A reading from 1st John, the 3rd chapter.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.

OFFERING

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~
"What A Friend" by Matt Maher

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, in thee.*

*May we thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive,
And gladly as though blessed us, to thee our first-fruits give.*

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

DIALOGUE

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 and praise to the Lord our God.

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

~ WORDS OF INSTITUTION ~

THE LORD'S PRAYER (MODERN VERSION)

**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.**

P: Creating God, you gave us dominion over every living creature. Grant us wisdom to use our power to develop sustainable farming and housing practices. Slow down our rush to consume. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Merciful God, walk with all refugees who leave their homes to move to safety. Protect them on their journey. Greet them with hospitality. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Compassionate God, you heal us. For all who have not been granted the healing they desire and for all who cannot access the care they need, send social workers, doctors, parish nurses, and other caregivers. Today we pray especially for Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God our provider, you call us to give generously. Bless the finance and stewardship teams of this congregation. Make us joyful givers of the time, talents, and treasures you have first given us. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of our ancestors, in you we have our beginning and our end. We remember all the faithful departed. Enfold in a shield of peace all those who mourn (*especially*). Hold them in your love. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We entrust all our prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them by the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48

P: The holy gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON ~ “Sunday Brunch”

Hymn of the Day

Children of the Heavenly Father

Truggare kan ingen vara



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,

- 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
- 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
- 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil-dren sev - er;
- 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
 nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

2014 Confirmation Creed

We believe in God the Father, who is the Creator of heaven and earth. God loved his creation and said it was good. God has given us life and things to support our life, like plants and animals. God is still creating through people, every time there is new life and more technology. God provides for us by giving us all that we need for daily life.

We believe in Jesus Christ, who is the Savior of the world. He healed many people because he cared about them. He taught many stories and parables to his followers to increase their faith. He died on the cross to save us from our sins. He rose from the dead, and after he rose he commanded us to make new disciples all over the world. Because he loves us, he offers all who believe eternal life. He promises to be with us till the end of the age.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who is the giver of our faith. He gives us spiritual gifts like love, joy, and kindness. He forgives our sins and helps us to live holy lives. The Holy Spirit calls people to become part of the Christian Church, and helps the church to grow around the world. He calls us to serve others in the world, and helps us live in peace with our neighbor.

This is most certainly true. AMEN!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need. *(A brief silence.)* Holy God, we pray for the church and its many expressions. Strengthen the National Youth Gathering planning team. Prepare the hearts and minds of the youth and adults who will experience your love this summer.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**