



The Out to Dinner Group will meet Friday, March 27th at 6:00 PM at the Curve Restaurant, 11189 Forest Hills Rd., Machesney Park. You must be signed up by Sunday March 22nd. All are welcome!



Prayer Requests

We pray for our shut-ins, college students, military service men & women and families, all who are homeless or unemployed, our shut-ins, our friends and family, especially: Evelyn, Nancy, Denise, Sharon, Tim, Austin Wagner and all military/First Responders, Debi, Chancy, Randy, Janie, Tammi, Amanda, Ruth, Marshall, Kate, Shirley, Julia, Irene, Adam, Terri, Debi Nelson, Bonnie Murphy, Gary McGuire & Family, Ryan McGuire & Family, Mikey Murphy, Eric Murphy & Family, Hill Family, Lisa, Bert E., Julie Wright, Reasha Orr, Selena Wright, Laura Hill, Larry, Rich, Tom, Nate, Nap, June, Diane, Heidi, Kenny, Don, Florence, Don, Chuck, Jimmy, Dick, Don, Chris, Violet, Avery, Brad, Jim Steve Larson Family, Bob, Darrell, Becky, Jaleena, Jolynne, Claudine, Sherry Lou, Tina, Tallen Meri, Doug, Leila, Jess, Ann, Pat, Lori, Tracy, Don, Jess, Aaron, Nick, Jered, Brad, Steve, John, Claudine, Pat, Lori, Tallen, Tracy, Don, Jessica, Aaron, Clensey, Tina, Doug, all homeless, unemployed all service men & women, Brett, Brayton, Brian, Bev, Cindy, Jim H., Kelli, Gary, Mike, Marion, Robin, Roger, Lenny, Sue, Tim, Teresa, Zack, Gavin, Barry & Shelby, Alyson, Jarrett, Mandy, Shirley, John, Claudine, Eloise, Sheri, Him, Julie, Zach, Inez, Gail, The Kostmatka Family, Ian & Family, Tristan & Family, George, Vivian, the Nickel Family, Pastor Rick & Helen & Family, the Bonner Family, Carol, Anne Laviolette & Family



MARCH BIRTHDAYS - Enjoy your special day!

1-Mason Rice-Devlin, 7-Aubrey Miller & Hayden Gruenberg, 10-Dennis Kelce, 16-Aaron Miller, 17-Jean Warn, 20-Mike Murphy, 26-Bailey Binder, 28-Melissa Castro, 31-Aly Hatch and Amber Miller



An updated Shut-In information sheet is on the board. Please feel free to take one & send each of them a card & prayers for Easter!



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ
 Sunday, March 8, 2020 - 2nd Sunday in Lent
 9:30 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME



“The Time Change Song” (“God of Grace and God of Glory”)
God of sleep and God of slumber, help us not be late, we ask. Changing clocks one forward number, may we not forget the task. Choir directors, preachers, teachers, all will bless your holy name, if to Sunday church on time we came.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

C: Amen.

P: If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess. *(A brief silence.)* Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

P: Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care. Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sins for the sake of + Christ, leading you from death into life.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN God of Grace and God of Glory



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

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.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: During Lent we journey with all those around the world
 who will celebrate Easter. In today's gospel Jesus tells
 Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the
 font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God
 made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises
 to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are
 sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

C: Amen.



Lent



What is your faith journey?
 Could you share your story with us?
 Pastor Rick will help you organize your
 thoughts & interview you for one of our
 4 remaining Wednesday Lenten services.
 Wed., March 11 - Nicole & Curtis Blakeman

**PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US DURING LENT
 ON WEDNESDAY BEGINNING AT 5:30PM**



We have a Memorial Brick Walkway
 along our front sidewalk. Please see
 form in the narthex for prices & sizes.
 This is a beautiful lasting tribute!

Sunshine Committee

Birthday, Graduation, Sympathy and Get
 Well cards will be sent upon notification.
 Please call Teresa Moffitt at 608-289-2065



**It's time to think about Church Camp for your child!
 LOMC - Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center - is located at
 1834 S. IL2, Oregon, IL. 815-732-2220. We have some
 scholarships available for you - please see Pastor Rick or
 Council President Craig Miller. LOMC offers daily summer
 camps as well as 3 & 5 day overnight camps for children
 and youth from 1st grade to 12th grade.**

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church

**We are happy to have you worship with us today!
Join us in our Fellowship Room for a bite to eat & drink.**

COMMUNION ~ Receive your bread or gluten-free wafer, take a small cup of wine (dark) or grape juice (light). Dispose of your cup in the receptacle on your way back to your seat.

OFFERING ~ If you are unable to attend worship, please make sure to catch up with your offering or mail it in. Thanks for being so faithful in giving generously to God's work at Faith Lutheran.

Financials for last Sunday, March 1 - Week #9

Attendance - 85

Weekly Offering Actual	\$2,973.50
Weekly Offering Budget	\$2,198.00
2019 YTD Actual Offering	\$26,510.50
2019 YTD Offering Needed	\$19,782.00

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Guild - Carol & Roger Frey

Computer Tech - Todd Strasser

Offering Video - Anne Strasser

Reader - Becky Gruenberg

Counters - Carol & Roger Frey

Fellowship - Carol & Roger Frey

Greeters - Cathy & Mike Murphy

Musician - Jo Ann Medernach

Ushers - Doug Congdon &

Curtis Blakeman

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Richard J. Meier



In Case of a Pastoral Need:

Please contact
Pastor Rick Meier
Cell:
815-566-5247
Email:

pastorr1@comcast.net



*Our most sincere
condolences are
extended to the
Bonner family, in their
loss of Ronald Bonner.*

EMPTY EASTER BASKET FOOD DRIVE

Today through Sunday, April 5th
Biggest needs are: canned vegetables
and any cereal, but not oatmeal.

We appreciate your generosity!
Thanks, Teresa Moffitt, Social Ministry



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. (A brief silence.) O God, our leader and guide,
C: in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live
as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises,
that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world
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.



FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

A reading from Genesis, the 12th chapter.
The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.
R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A Responsive Reading From Psalm 121

R: I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

C: **My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

R: The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

C: **Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

R: the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

C: **the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

R: The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

C: **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

A reading from Romans, the 4th chapter.

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") - in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

S 142b



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

CLOSING HYMN "Choral Benediction"

May the light of God shine on us today.
May the light of God shine on us today.
May it show us where to travel,
lead us back if we should stray.
May the light of God shine on us today.

May the love of God live in us today.
May the love of God live in us today.
May the warmth we feel within us,
show in all we do and say.
May the love of God live in us today.

May the peace of God be with us today.
May the peace of God be with us today.
May it guide us and protect us,
as we go our separate ways.
May the peace of God be with us today.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please join us!



LENTEN CALENDAR

Simple Supper



YOU ARE
INVITED!

- ◆ Supper at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Room
- ◆ Followed with Lenten service at 6:30pm
- ◆ There are 4 more Wednesdays:
March 11, 18, 25, and April 1
- ◆ Sign up sheets for food are on the board.
- ◆ Come for supper and/or church.
- ◆ Church provides dinnerware, water & coffee, butter, bread, and crackers.
- ◆ Fill your belly and your soul!

SHARING PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~

“The Father’s House” by Cory Asbury

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*We give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
May we thou bounties thus, as stewards true receive,
And gladly as thou blessed us, to thee our first fruits give.*

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Holy & generous host, you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: We thank you, living God, for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus’ name we pray.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, + bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace.

C: Amen.

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

P: The holy gospel according to John, the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. **“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”**

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON “Born Again”



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *(A brief silence.)* God of rebirth, empower your church throughout the world to be a voice of hope for those who fear judgment or condemnation. Assure us of your faithfulness and give us confidence to proclaim your salvation for all. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of rebirth, your Spirit hovered over the waters and you called creation into being. Nurture and bless all signs of rebirth around us: budding trees and new shoots, thawing lakes and warm breezes, and animals awaking from hibernation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of rebirth, lead the nations in your way of righteousness. Protect those who advocate for the needs of children, migrants, and victims of violence. Give courage to lawmakers, lawyers, judges, and law enforcement officers, guiding them to do justice and to love mercy. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of rebirth, give us a new vision of your healing power among us. Restore hope to those who remain in the depths of depression or despair. Bring mercy and relief to those who are injured, sick, or suffering *(especially)*. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of rebirth, we thank you for the children of this community and for the people and ministries that care for them. Bless new and expectant parents. Console those who have lost children and those whose desire for children remains unfulfilled. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of rebirth, by wind and spirit you call us into life renewed. We give you thanks for all your saints who have inherited your promises *(especially)*. Bring us, with them, into your everlasting kingdom. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.