



**February 21, 2021**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
*Tree of Life*

**We welcome you with open arms and hearts to Faith and thank you for worshipping with us!**

Faith Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered, Bible-reading, welcoming spiritual home for seekers, believers, and everybody between. We're a family of God "because God first loved us." (1 John 4:19) Because you're here, you're part of the family-**welcome**.

If you are new to Faith, we would like to be in touch with you. Please share your contact information with the church office, 406-363-2964, or [office@faithlutheranhamilton.org](mailto:office@faithlutheranhamilton.org).

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## **God Gathers the Body of Christ**

**Prelude**

Susan Peterson, Accompanist

**Call to Worship**

**Welcome**

**AM:** The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**All:** **And also with you.**

*AM: Any prayer requests? Please notify the church office to submit names of those you wish to be included in the prayers.*

## **Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness**

*Tree of Life*

PM: Returning again to the waters of our baptism,  
We begin in the name of the Father and of the Son  
And of the Holy Spirit.

Let us confess our sin before God and in the presence of  
one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

PM: Gracious and merciful God,

**All: We confess to you the truth of our broken lives.**

**We have not trusted your promises or walked in your  
ways. We have hoarded and squandered the gifts of  
your creation. We have failed to welcome the stranger  
and the outcast, or make room at the table for the  
homeless and the hungry.**

**We have neither worked to release the oppressed  
nor admitted our own captivities.**

**Forgive our sin, heal our lives, and set us free  
that we might live with your whole creation  
in justice and joy of your promised future.**

PM: God, who is merciful and kind,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
hears the cries of all who plead for mercy  
and, in these last days, has sent Christ Jesus  
to announce the good news of forgiveness and release  
to all who are bound by guilt or broken by shame,  
that they might praise God and serve the world  
with glad and generous hearts.

For freedom Christ has set you free.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

# Gathering "Beneath the Tree of Life"

# *Tree of Life*

## Refrain

The musical score for the refrain is written on five staves in a 2/2 time signature with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "Come and gath-er be - neath the tree of life. Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of life— root of wis - dom, branch of peace, fruit of heal - ing and re - lease. Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of life."

Come and gath-er be - neath the tree of life.

Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of

life— root of wis - dom, branch of peace, fruit of

heal - ing and re - lease. Come and

gath - er be - neath the tree of life.

Text: Marty Haugen and Susan Briehl; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Music: Marty Haugen; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Verses



1. Here we raise the sav - ing cross of
2. Flow - ing from this tree of grace and
3. Come and drink the wa - ters of sal -
4. Here be - neath the branch - es of your
5. Root - ed in the rich earth of your



Je - sus, sing - ing praise to him who  
pas - sion, Oh how sweet the taste, how  
va - tion, come and die to sin, rise  
mer - cy, we in - voke your name, re -  
Gos - pel, may we bear the fruits your



*To Refrain*  
leads us on from death in - to new life.  
deep and rich the well - spring of your love.  
up to life with - in the Reign of God.  
mem - ber how your love has set us free.  
Word has plant - ed deep with - in our hearts.

Text: Marty Haugen and Susan Briehl; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Music: Marty Haugen; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Greeting

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

**All:** **And also with you.**

## Kyrie

*Tree of Life*

## Kyrie

*Leader*  
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*Assembly*  
Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy. For the reign of God, and for mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy. peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord. For your Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy. peo-ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have Help, save, and de-fend us, O God. mer-cy. A-men.

Text: Lutheran Book of Worship, adapt. Marty Haugen, D. 1950  
Music: New Age Folk and Contemporary, Marty Haugen  
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## **Prayer of the Day**

**AM:** The Lord be with you...

**All:** **And also with you.**

**AM:** Let us pray,

**All: Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **God Speaks to Us in the Word**

### **First Reading**

**Genesis 9:8-17**

Lector: A reading from Genesis, Chapter 9:

*Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.*

<sup>8</sup>God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” <sup>12</sup>God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring

clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

*(Lector: give directions for psalm responses)*

### **Psalm 25: 1-10**

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your ways, O LORD,  
and teach me your paths. R**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the  
day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of  
your goodness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and up right, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

<sup>10</sup>All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

## Second Reading

1 Peter 3:18-22

**Lector:** A reading from the First Peter, Chapter 3

*As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.*

<sup>18</sup>Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

**L:** Word of God, word of life...

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Kids' Talk**

Brooke Kimzey

**Gospel Acclamation**

*ELW page 189*

**Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.**

**Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.**

**Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.**

**Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.**

**The Gospel**

**Mark 1:9-15**

**PM:** The Holy Gospel according to Mark:

**All:** Glory to you, O Lord.



*The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.*

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

<sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

PM: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

Pastor Paul Anderson

**Sermon Song**

“ Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” ” ELW #517

## Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who  
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are  
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son  
 Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we  
 u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.  
 may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.  
 and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
 Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

## The Apostles' Creed (*AM leads*)

*ELW p. 105*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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 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 catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

ELW#752

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

**Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord send your spirit in this place.  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

In Jesus your realm has come near to us in every place and time. Give your church throughout the world a spirit of humility and repentance; teach us to trust always in the good news of your salvation. God of promise, **Hear our prayer.**

You have made a covenant of mercy with every living creature. Protect all the earth's creatures from destruction (*especially . . . here local environmental concerns may be named*). Empower the work of biologists, conservationists, and science educators. God of promise, **Hear our prayer.**

All your paths are steadfast love and faithfulness. Direct the words and actions of leaders in our community and throughout the world, that they may maintain justice for the lowly. God of promise, **Hear our prayer.** Even in the wilderness you are with us. Walk alongside migrants and refugees crossing dangerous lands. Tend to those whose lives feel desolate. Give healing and strength to all who suffer (*especially*). God of promise, **Hear our prayer.**

In the covenant of baptism you claim us as beloved children. Nurture us in our baptismal identity and teach us to live within it for the sake of others. Strengthen this congregation's ministries of care and concern (*especially*). God of promise, **Hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

In baptism you join us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We praise you for all those who have died trusting in your faithfulness. Bring us with them to the fullness of your reign. God of promise, **Hear our prayer.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Offering:** *Tree of Life/ ELW #491*  
“Come Let Us Bring”

**Come, let us bring the warm and fragrant bread. (2x)**  
**Broken here so all God’s people might be fed. (2x)**  
**Come, let us bring the sweet abundant wine. (2x)**  
**In this cup we taste the joy of love divine. (2x)**  
**Praise be to you who set all people free. (2x)**  
**Blest are they who share the feast of jubilee. (2x)**

### **The Offering Prayer**

AM: Let us pray. Faithful God,

**All: you walk beside us in desert places, and you met us in our hunger with bread from heaven.**

**Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **Pass the Peace**

PM: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

*Take a moment to pass the peace with those around you, and send a message of peace to those listening and watching with you*

# Jesus Comes to Us in His Supper

*Dear members and friends of Faith: as you trust the God you see in Jesus, please be welcome to share his meal. Christ offers here and now his body and blood, his death and resurrection, as a demonstration that God “loves you to death” and is present to, in, and through you now and forever*

*Communion will be served in individual portions.*

## Words of Institution

*WOV page 37*

PM: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection,  
and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,  
that by this Holy Communion we may know  
the unity we share with all your people  
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,  
now and forever.

**All: Amen**

**The Lord's Prayer**                      *Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:2-4*

PM: Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom  
and teach us to pray...

**All: 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.**

**Invitation to Communion**

PM: Jesus draws the whole world to himself.  
Come to this meal and be fed.

**Distribution**

**Table Blessing**

PM: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus  
Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

## **Post Communion Prayer**

AM: Let us pray,

**All: God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **Benediction**

PM: You are what God made you to be:  
created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
chosen as holy and beloved, free to serve your neighbor.  
God bless you + that you may be a blessing,  
In the name of the holy and life-giving trinity.

**All: Amen.**

## **Announcements for the congregation**

**Sending Song**

“Thy Holy Wings”

ELW #613

## Thy Holy Wings

1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,  
 2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast  
 3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.

and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.  
 where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.  
 Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.

Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,  
 Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,  
 Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,

and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.  
 for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.  
 and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite  
 Music: BRED DINA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune; arr. hymnal version  
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# God Sends Us into the World

## Dismissal

AM: Go in peace. Share the good news.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude

*Text for the Brief Order of Confession, Marty Haugen, Tree of Life Setting, GIA Publications, Inc.  
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## ***Pray for our Members and Friends...***

***Please call or email us with your prayer requests.***

### **Prayers for safety and healing:** Madilyn

Farrenburg, Crossman Family, Morry Mitteness, Millie and Erv Unruh,  
Bonnie Montgomery, Linda Bentz, Amber Wood, Amber Lynch.

### **Prayers for comfort:**

**Discovery:** Clara Felton

**The Beehive:** Morry Mitteness, Yvonne Olson

**Valley View:** Ruth Dillon

**Remington:** Betty Swift, Chuck Olson

**Home Nursing Care:** Virginia Rotering, Smitty

**Incarcerated:** George Davis

***This prayer list will be refreshed monthly.***

***Please feel free to resubmit.***

## Thanks to our Worship Assistants!

<b>Today</b>	<b>February 21</b>	<b>February 28</b>
<b>Accompanist</b>	Susan Peterson	Amber Richardson
<b>Call to Worship</b>		
<b>Usher</b>	Emma Mitchell	Sandy Russ
<b>Lector</b>	Emma Mitchell	Sandy Russ
<b>Assist. Min.</b>	Rick Brown	Carl Russ
<b>Video</b>	Tommy Denney	Rick Brown
<b>Projection</b>	Cole Kimzey	Scott Southwick