



March 7, 2021

***3rd 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 are here, you are 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.

Welcome to Faith and thank you for worshipping with us!

God Gathers the Body of Christ

Prelude

Colleen Southwick, Accompanist

Call to Worship

Scott Southwick

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 your 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.

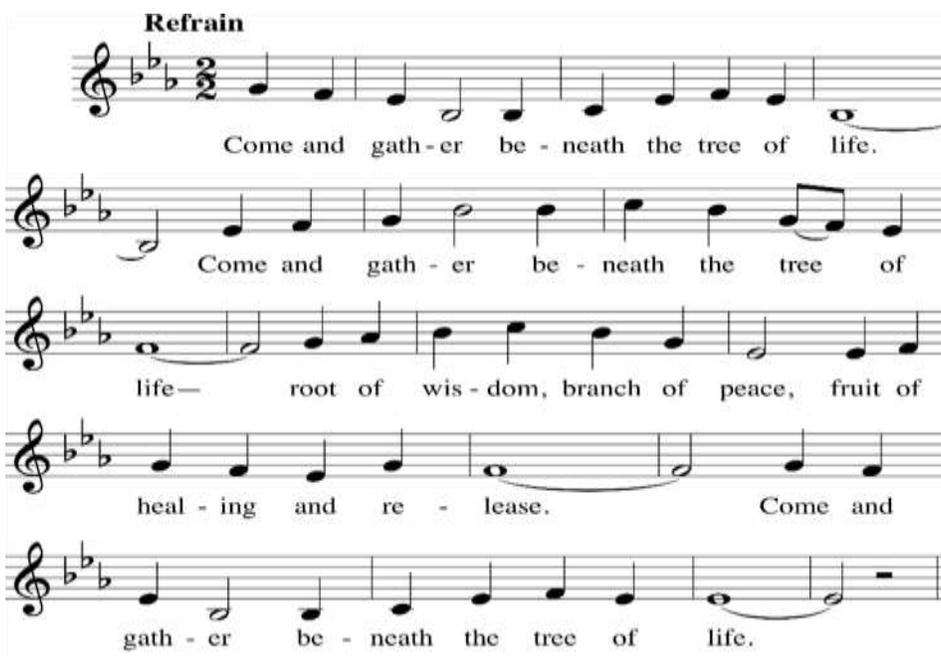
For freedom Christ has set you free.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gathering "Beneath the Tree of Life"

Tree of Life

Refrain



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.

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



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.

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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 (*extended ending*)

Tree of Life

☒ In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

☑ Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all. ☒ 1. For the
☒ 2. For your

reign of God, and for peace through - out the
peo - ple here who have come to give you

world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
thanks, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the

Lord: ☑ Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord: ☒ Help, save, and de -

Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all.

fend us, O God: ☑ A - men.

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

Sing Refrain from “Beneath the Tree of Life” page 3

Prayer of the Day

AM: The Lord be with you...

All: **And also with you.**

AM: Let us pray,

All: **Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only 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 (Spark Bible Page 94)

Exodus 20:1-17

Lector: A reading from Exodus, Chapter 20:

*After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The **Ten Commandments** proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.*

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. ¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Psalm 19 (*Lector: give directions for psalm responses*)

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

**²One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

³Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

**⁴their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the
ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to
the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

⁷The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

**⁸The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb. R

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

**¹²Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Lector: A reading from First Corinthians, Chapter 1:

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Kids' Talk

Josie VanDenburg

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

John 2:13-22

PM: The Holy Gospel according to John:

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

PM: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Pastor Paul Anderson

Sermon Song

“Canticle of the Turning”

ELW #723

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat
 Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
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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.**

There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering (*especially*). Defend victims of crime and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labor.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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

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

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 grace 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 meet 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.

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.

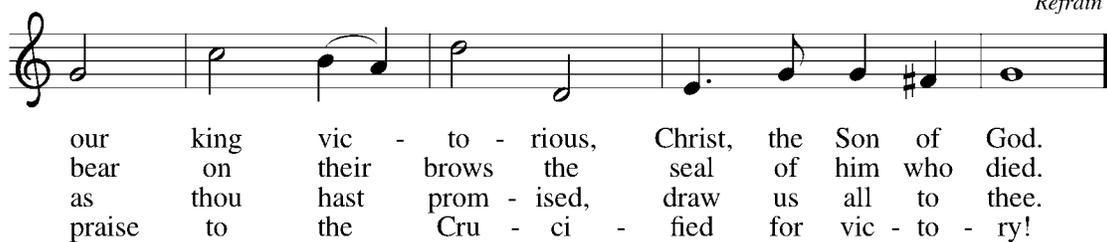
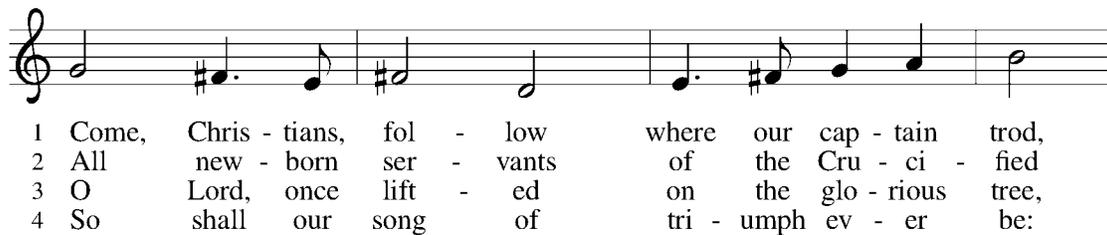
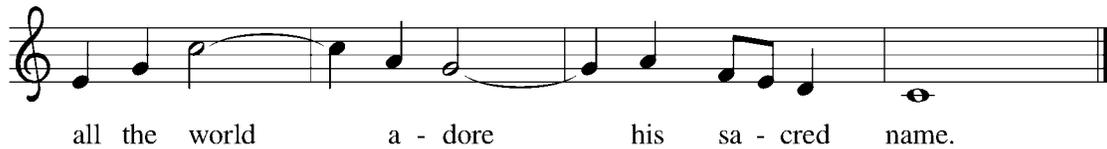
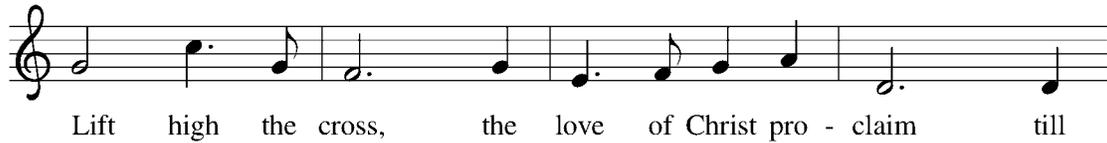
Announcements for the congregation

Sending Song

“Lift High the Cross”

ELW #660

Lift High the Cross



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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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: Shirley McGourty
Celeste Pogachar, Eunice Romo, Madilyn Farrenburg, Morry
Mittiness, Millie and Erv Unruh, Bonnie Montgomery, Linda
Bentz, Amber Wood, Amber Lynch.

Prayers for comfort: Friends and Family of Anne
Meskimen, Traci Flowers and family

Discovery: Clara Felton

The Beehive: Morry Mittiness, Yvonne Olson

Valley View: Ruth Dillon

Remington: Chuck Olson

Home Nursing Care: Virginia Rotering, Smitty

Incarcerated: George Davis

Please let us know if you are having surgery or know of someone who is, or if you or someone you love is in the hospital. We are here to help support in any way we can, especially with prayers.

***This prayer list will be refreshed monthly.
Please feel free to resubmit.***

Thanks to our Worship Assistants!

Today	March 7	March 14
Accompanist	Colleen Southwick	Amber Richardson
Call To Worship	Scott Southwick	Pastor Paul Anderson
Usher	Jane Mason	Judy Wilson
Lector	John Trangmoe	Liz Jameson
Assist. Min.	Scott Southwick	Rick Brown
Video	Rick Brown	Tommy Denney
Projection	Will Heitmann	Scott Southwick