Serving in the Lord's House Today

Pastor: Seth Hoeppner **Message:** Richard Lowe

Music Coordinator & Clavinova: Becky Roell

Organist: Judy Grove

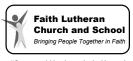
Audio Visual: John, Ella & Madeline Mock

Reader & Communion Assistant: Richard Lowe & Pastor Hoeppner

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Neil Rand PhD Church & School Secretary: Kristin Walter Ministers: All the People of Faith

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"Raise up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from his ways." Froverbs 22:6



<u>Mission</u>

Faith Lutheran Church and School exists to worship, serve and grow in Jesus Christ

Faith Lutheran Church and School

March 20, 2024 God on Trial Sympathy

When we feel that the world is against us, it is east to feel self-pity. We make ourselves the victims and wallow in our trouble. Jesus refused to do that, though. Rather, he felt compassion for those he knew would suffer after him and even forgave those crucifying him. Likewise, rather than pitying ourselves, we feel pity for those who have no idea of the destruction that awaits them and want them to know the Father's forgiveness.

Welcome and Announcements We Share in the Peace of the Lord

Opening Song — Go to Dark Gethsemane (vs 1-2) - LSB #436

Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r; your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with Him one bitter hour; Turn not from His griefs away; Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned; Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs His soul sustained! Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.

Confession and Sins —

P: In the name of our God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden.

C: Amen. I confess that I am by nature sinful. I am guilty of many sins. I am distressed by the sins that trouble me. For all this I am sorry. I pray for forgiveness. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love.

P: Jesus says to his people, "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this? **C: Yes, I believe**.

P: By the authority of Christ, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Psalm Prayer — Lord, we bow down to you in thankful praise. You have made your ways known to both lowly and great on the earth. You have not abandoned the work of your hands, but instead you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Passion History —

Sermon Hymn — Go to Dark Gethsemane (vs 3-4) - LSB #436

Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet, mark the miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete. "It is finished!" hear him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

Early hasten to the tomb where they laid His breathless clay; All is solitude and gloom. Who has taken him away? Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

Sermon — By Richard Lowe

Offering — In response to hearing the Good News, we take a moment of reflection to give thanks to God.

Prayer —

P: O God our Father, by your mercy and might the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light.

C: We place into your hands our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes, knowing that only what you bless will prosper.

P: To your great love and protection we commit each other and all those we love, knowing that you alone are our sure defender; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer —



Blessing —

P: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn — My Faith Looks Up to Thee (vs 3-4) - LSB #702

While life's dark maze I tread and griefs around me spread, be Thou my guide; Bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away, nor let me ever stray from Thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream shall o'er me roll, blest Savior, then, in love, fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!