

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
A Congregation of the ELCA

28200 Portsmouth Drive, Sun City, CA 92586 * (951) 679-1518

Email: faithlutheranmenifee@gmail.com

Guest Pastor: Pr. Shane Freiberg

OFFICE HOURS: Tues & Thurs 8:30 - 5:00; Fri 8:30 - 12:30

Worship Plan for Sunday, June 29, 2025 * Third Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME TO FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, where grace and love abound. While we wait and prepare for a new pastor, we invite you to participate fully in the vibrant life of the congregation, and to join us in prayer as we continue to serve God and God's people during this time of transition.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Enriching lives through faith and God's grace.

MEMBERS & GUESTS: Please fill out a worship attendance card found in the pew racks. Prayer requests may be included on the reverse side for one Sunday or bulletin publication.

INVITATION TO BAPTISM: We would like to extend to you the blessing of Baptism and encourage you to contact the church office to be baptized.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

We welcome all God's children to be fed at Christ's table. We invite all Christians, believing that Christ is truly present in Holy Communion, through the presence of God's Holy Spirit, to come forward and be renewed in the relationship, the covenant, God establishes with us in baptism. If, in coming forward, you choose not to receive the Sacrament, we ask you to fold your hands over your chest so you may receive a pastoral blessing. The Sacrament will be brought to those unable to come forward to the altar (notify an usher). Available upon request: gluten-, wheat-, corn-, dairy-, and soy-free wafers.

CHILDREN'S COMMUNION: Families are encouraged to come to the rail together during the distribution. Children may receive Communion or a special blessing from the Pastor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School for children of all ages is immediately following the Children's Chat. We are currently on summer break.

CELL PHONES: Please silence your cell phones before Worship.

Following worship, ALL are invited to join us for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

Introduction to the day

We have no good apart from God. That makes Jesus' call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, and patience. This is freedom to not be imprisoned by anything that would keep us from the fullness of the life God has given us. This is the path of life.

GOSPEL MESSAGE: Moving in Love

Participating in divisive discourse has become pervasive in this culture, particularly on social media platforms. Conversations regarding religion and politics can swiftly escalate into full-blown battles, and it can be challenging to remain cordial and reflective when confronted with false dichotomies and personal attacks around social issues.

In today's gospel reading, the siblings James and John quickly want to retaliate with violence and aggression against the village that rejects Jesus. However, he rebukes them for their fury. The brothers appear to have disregarded the fact that when Jesus commissioned them earlier with the other disciples to spread the good news, he instructed them that if they encountered rejection, they should merely "shake the dust off [their] feet as a testimony against [the rejectors]" and move on (Luke 9:5). Dusting off their feet was not only for the sake of nonengagement but also for their safety. What good would the news be if every rejection led to violence and war?

It's not easy to dust off our feet and move on when we are engaged in passionate debates. But how do we translate this action into a life-giving practice of discipleship? We practice this spirit of reconciliation during worship when extending peace to our neighbor. We engage in loving discourse when we pray and share a meal around Jesus' table.

Our engagement as disciples is steeped in the reminder that Jesus came to bring abundant life and love into the world. Finding ways to stay connected to one another while balancing the moments that call for dusting off one's feet and moving on is not simple or easy. Gatherings and connections within and outside of worship allow us to practice God's abundant grace and mercy, whether by stepping away or by moving in close for the sake of care and love for neighbor and self.

Please stand for the Processional

PROCESSIONAL: *Lift High the Cross* (ELW 660)

Copyright Holder: Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP)

Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

AM: WELCOME

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church where grace and love abound! A special welcome to those of you here for the first time, to those joining us online, and to our guest pastor, Pr. Shane Freiberg. During this season of Pentecost, we celebrate all the ways in which the Holy Spirit moves us and empowers us to strengthen our relationships with our generous God and with our neighbors locally and globally. As our search for a permanent pastor moves forward, so does our ministry together. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate in all that goes on here at Faith.

AM: ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers were provided by Nancy Randolph, celebrating Robin's birthday. Communion Assistants are needed! We need volunteers to help serve communion beginning July 6th. Training will take place this Tuesday, the 1st at 1:00pm at church. Please see Marlene Rosselli to sign up.

The church office will be closed on Friday for Independence Day.

Saturday, the 5th from 9:00-12:00 will be our first "drop off" event. On the first Saturday of each month, we will be open for you to drop off donations for Soles4Souls, the Linus Project and The Lions Club. See Candy Pellechio for more details.

For the month of June, we are collecting hearty soups (i.e. Progresso, Chunk Campbell's) for the Cupboard. So far, we have collected 67 cans.

This is the last week for Christmas in July, so if you haven't visited our patriotic giving tree, now is the time! The donated gift cards will be given to local veterans in need of food and transportation to appointments. Choose which kind of gift card from the tree you'd like to donate.

Do you have any recycling to get rid of? The Stewardship Team is collecting recyclable bottles and cans for the Fellowship Hall Sound System. See Kathy Kent.

For more information and a complete monthly calendar, contact the church office.

P: SILENCE

Let us take a moment of silence to quiet our hearts and minds and prepare for worship.

P: GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

P: GREETING

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

And also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made,
let us rejoice and be glad in it!

AM: PLEASE TURN TO HYMN 556

Please stand as you are willing and able.

GATHERING SONG: *Morning Has Broken* (ELW 556)

Copyright: Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates; Music: Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress; Sources: Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965; Music: Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version

P: CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.


God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

P: PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S CHAT

P: WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

LECTOR: FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

¹⁵ Then the LORD said to [Elijah,] “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.” ¹⁹ So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. ²⁰ He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.” Then Elijah said to him,

“Go back again; for what have I done to you?” ²¹ He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AM: PSALMODY: Psalm 16

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.**

³ But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵ O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸ **I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Amen.

LECTOR: SECOND READING: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. ¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. ¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For

what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

P: GOSPEL: Luke 9:51-62

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵¹ When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³ but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" ⁵⁵ But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then they went on to another village. ⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." ⁵⁹ To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." ⁶⁰ But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹ Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." ⁶² Jesus said to him,

"No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

AM: PLEASE TURN TO HYMN 798

Please stand as you are willing and able.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Will You Come and Follow Me: The Summons (ELW 798)*

Copyright Notice: Text © 1987 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.1358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Sources: Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949; Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949; Music: Scottish traditional; OneLicense #M-402221

AM: APOSTLE'S CREED

We continue as we confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

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.

Please be seated for the Prayers of Intercession

PASTOR AND ASSISTING MINISTER: PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

Guide your church, O God. Anoint us for service and make us messengers of your peace. Emboldened by the witness of Christians throughout history, send us to proclaim your reign come near. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Protect this world, O God. Watch over fields and fruit trees, foxes and birds, the pleasant land beneath us and the sun and moon above. Keep us mindful of the rich inheritance you have given us in the natural world. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Counsel our leaders, O God. Make them steadfast in seeking justice and unable to be shaken as they pursue peace. Lead them by your Spirit to listen and respond to the people they govern. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Uphold all who suffer, O God. Give refuge to those of us who know rejection, and shelter to those of us who have nowhere to lay our heads. Bring any who are sick into your healing presence, Monte Anderson; Arnette Calkins; Sandy Chandler; Vicki Crow; Eleanor Diaz; Doris Hays; Sarge Hunter; Patsy Loughboro; Donna McCain; Jean Miles; Sandra Miller; Thordis Moe; Carol Morris; Michael Myers; Esther Neumen; Marilyn Rieti; Amy Sinclair; Joyce Stromberg; Diana Ward; the homebound; the emergency responders; and those grieving and anticipating surgery or tests. At this time, we also pray for those we name aloud or silently in our hearts. Give all your fullness of joy. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Set free this assembly, O God. Grow your Spirit's fruits within us and within our congregation's ministries. Set our faces always on you, that we might live in the freedom to which you have called us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, be with us and guide us during this time of discernment. Fill our leaders with your wisdom. Keep us mindful of the work you would have us do. Lead us and guide us, O Lord, to be about the work of your kingdom even as the search for a new pastor continues. Bless all who have taken on extra responsibility, and fill them with a sense of your love and presence. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Embrace all your saints, O God. We thank you for the faithful departed. Let us rejoice that you do not abandon us to the grave but lead us on the path of life. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

P: PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

P: OFFERING

Let us remember at this time of Offering, that all we have and all we are given are gifts from God. Our offerings of time, talent and treasures are expressions of gratitude to God for all we have received. May we show abundant gratitude.

AM: OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please feel free to either listen to our musical offering or sing along

MUSICAL OFFERING: *Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal* (ST. OLAF CHOIR)

CCLI Song# 322330; © Words: Public Domain; Music: 1971, 1978, 1986 The Sacred Music Press; Administrators: Music Services, Inc., Public Domain; CCLI License No. 111573116– Streaming License: 22384499 Size A

P: GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 152)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: PREFACE (ELW p. 153)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*ALL SING*)

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

P: THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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 upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

P: INSTRUCTION FOR COMMUNION

As you are comfortable, you are invited to come forward to receive communion. All of God's children are welcome to Christ's table.

Gather at the altar rail to receive the communion elements or if you wish to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. You may commune yourself once you've received the communion elements. Please commune the bread first, turn over the vessel and then carefully open the grape juice. A gluten-free option is available upon request. Please deposit empty cups in the provided baskets on your way back to your seat.

If you would like communion brought to you at your seat, indicate by raising your hand for the Assisting Minister to see and they will bring communion to you.

P: INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

DURING DISTRIBUTION:

I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord

CCLI SONG No 5321315; Author: [Brian Arthur Wren](#); © 1971 Hope Publishing Company ; CCLI License No. 111573116– Streaming License: 22384499 Size A

As the Grains of Wheat (ELW 465)

Copyright Holder: GIA Publications, Inc.; Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: Marty Haugen; OneLicense #M-402221

Eat This Bread: Jesus Christ, Bread of Life (ELW 472)

Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

P: COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

AM: PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people.

Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

P: BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

P: PLEASE TURN TO HYMN 677 (We will sing "a capella")

Please stand as you are willing and able.

SENDING SONG: *This Little Light of Mine* (ELW 677)

Copyright Holder: Augsburg Fortress; Sources: Text: African American spiritual; Music: African American spiritual: Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress

AM: DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AM: INVITATION

We would like to invite guests and visitors to come and meet us in the narthex as you exit so that we can welcome you, and you can join us in the Fellowship Hall for cookies, coffee and conversation.

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Monday, the 30th: Council meets at 1:00

Tuesday, July 1st: Worship & Music meets at 10:00; Communion Assistant training begins at 1:00

Thursday, the 3rd: Snip 'N Stitch begins at 9:00

Friday, the 4th: Independence Day

Saturday, the 5th: Donation Drop Off 9:00-12:00

Sunday, the 6th: Worship begins at 9:30 with Pr. Rex

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, #M-402221 and CCLI License #11573116, #A-22384499. Images from sundaysandseasons.com used with permission from Augsburg Fortress.

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.