



For everyone who exalts
himself will be humbled, and
the one who humbles himself
will be exalted.”

Luke 14:11

WELCOMING OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

GATHERING

Prelude

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE AND FACE THE BAPTISMAL FONT

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen!

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Together we pray,

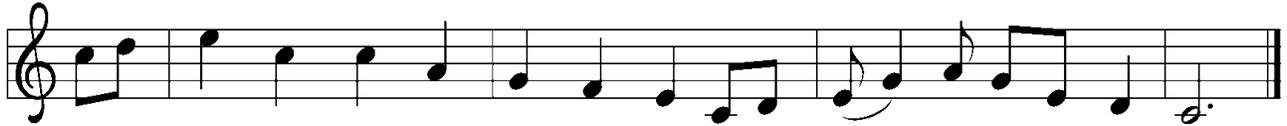
C Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

P Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

C Amen.



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu-nion find;
 3 Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com-mu-ni-ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
 his ser-vice is the gold-en cord close bind-ing hu-man-kind.
 All chil-dren of the liv-ing God are sure-ly kin to me.
 all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

THE GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

P Together we pray,

C **O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Refrain



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.



Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;



send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!



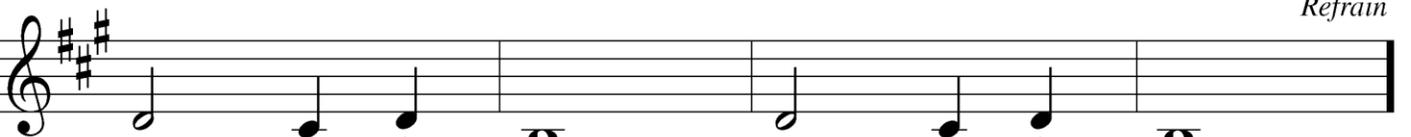
1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the



dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,



set us free by the truth you now bring us.



Shine on me, shine on me:

Refrain

WORD

FIRST READING

Proverbs 25:6-7

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great;
⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

The word of God.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

¹Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence,

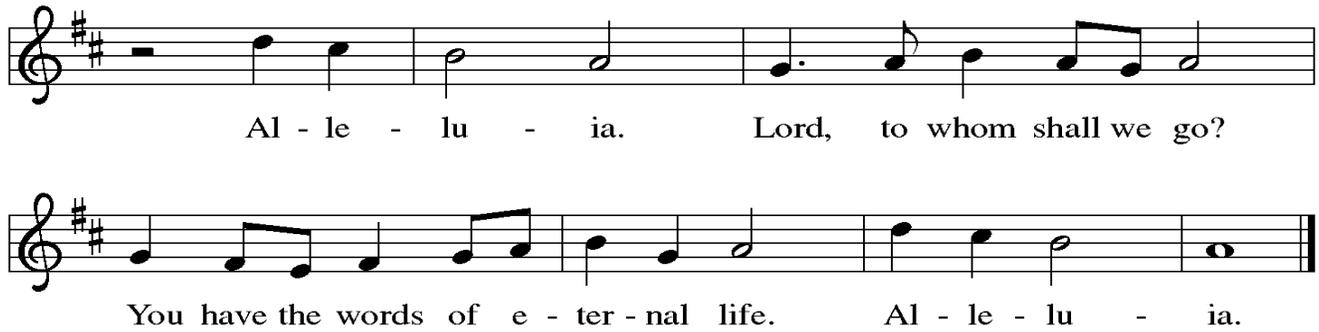
"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.
What can anyone do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The word of God.

Thanks be to God.

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE



GOSPEL

Luke 14:1, 7-14

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Hardenstine

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

THE APOSTLES' CREED

A Together we confess our faith,

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. 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

A Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

each petition concludes...

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

P Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.
Amen.

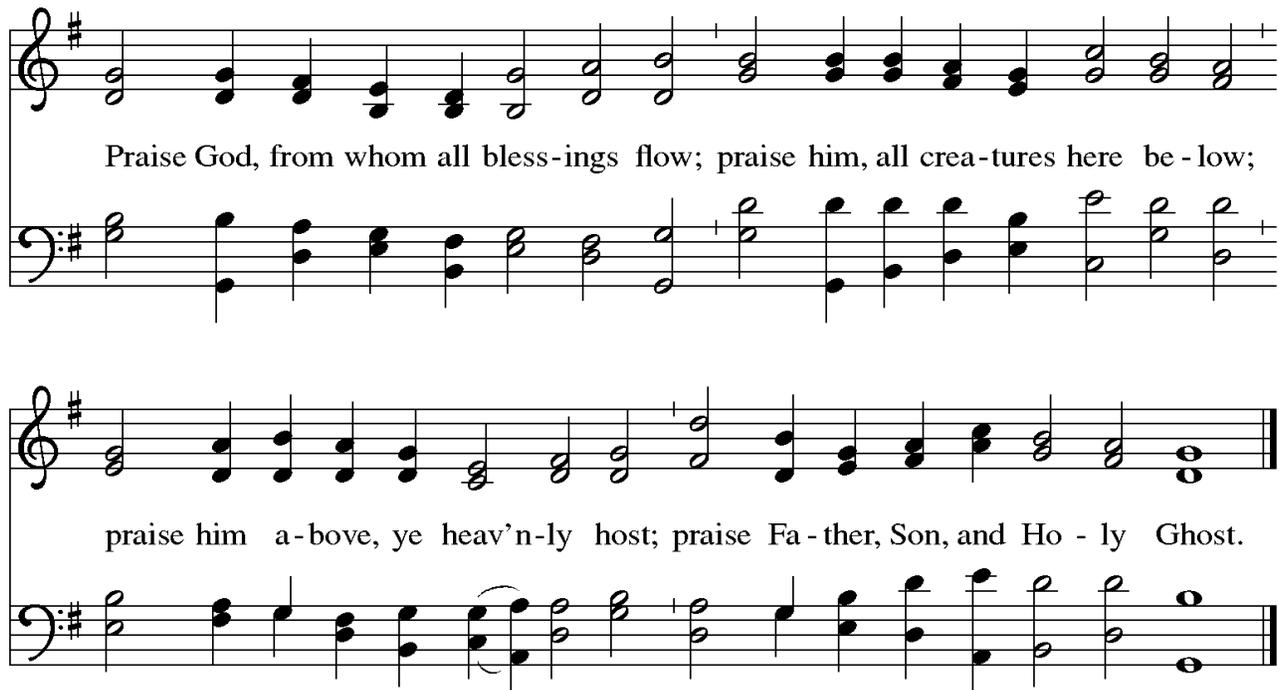
SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING

In thanksgiving for God's blessing, we respond with our tithe and offering



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;

praise him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

OFFERING PRAYER

A Together we pray,

C God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE MEAL

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

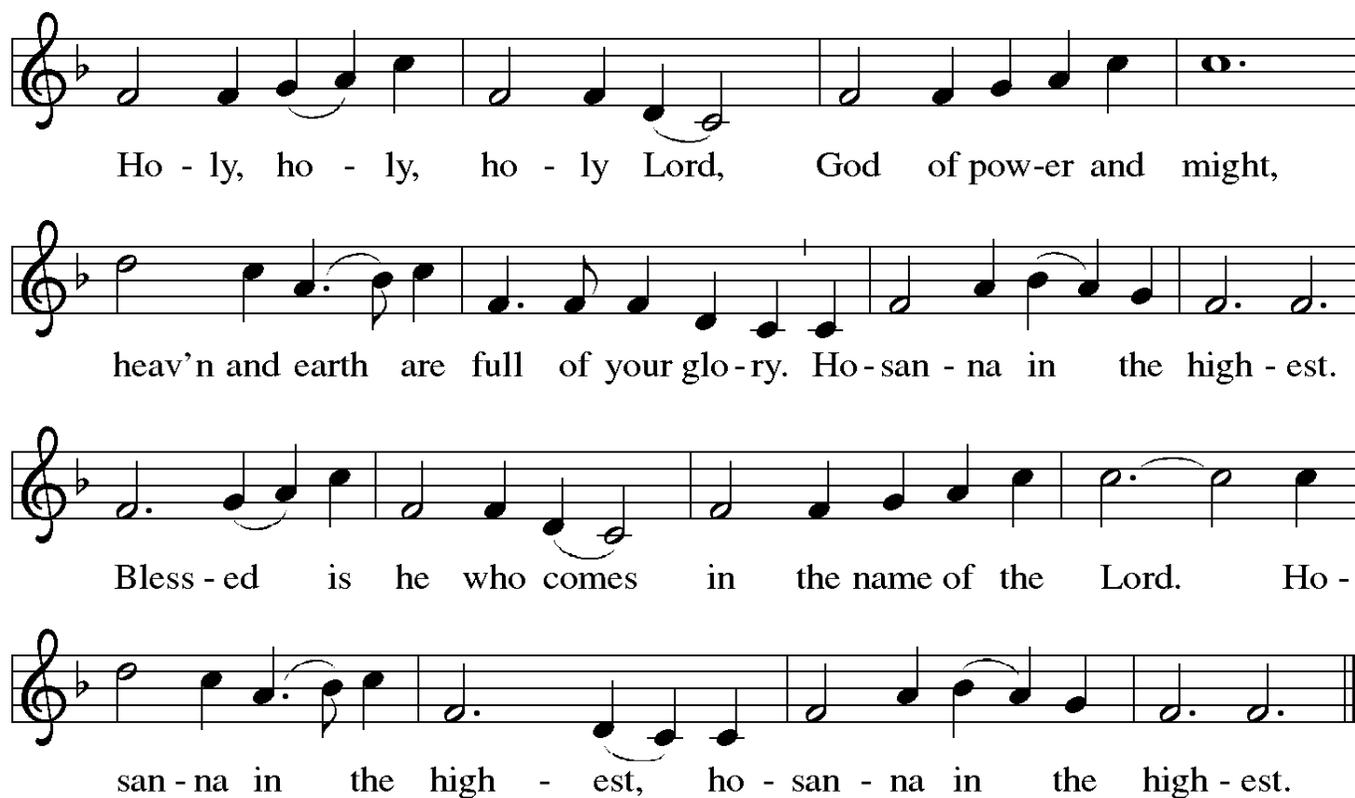
P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P 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. You pour out your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

A Together we pray,

C 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.

DISTRIBUTION

As we celebrate the meal of our Lord, all are invited. If you are a guest and regularly commune at your church, you are welcome to commune here. For children who are not communing, please keep your hands folded and you will receive a blessing.

Both wine (red) and grape juice (white) are available at communion. If you prefer grape juice to wine, please raise an index finger when the server comes to you.

If you require a gluten-free wafer, notify the server.

If you are unable to come to the altar rail and would like to receive communion in your seat, please notify an usher.

after all have communed

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C **Amen.**

A Together we pray,

C **Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

P The God of peace, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

C **Amen.**



1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -
 2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
 4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of
 nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his
 loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the
 pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!
 tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
 an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
 an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Faith's Weekly Announcements
Welcome to all of you attending this morning!

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar this morning were provided by:

- ~ The Schultz family, in loving Memory of Russ Schultz on what would have been his 95th birthday.
- ~ Neal and Noma Schattauer in memory of Eunice.

Only 2 weeks!

September 11 is "God's Work Our Hands Sunday," and we are collecting donations for our camper (homeless) ministry this year. If you plan to participate, it would be helpful to have your check, with a notation of "camper ministry", by next Sunday. This will help us tally the total amount given and announce it on the 11th.

Thank You

Mary Lou Fitzgerald wants to thank the 4 volunteers who stepped up to help with the pictorial directory. You can find more details on the directory in upcoming bulletins – keep watching for your opportunity to be included.

Want to be a Stephen Minister?

We will be offering a class on Stephen Ministries in the fall. If you are interested in participating, see or call Lou Taylor or Linda Ovitz. They can also answer any questions you might have about the ministry.

Food Pantry

This week the food bank especially needs macaroni and cheese. Please leave all donations in the designated container in the narthex.

Help Yourself

There are a few Christian books in the narthex each week for anyone who would like to take them. We change them every few weeks. Please take as many as you like.

Attendance Last Sunday: 45

WE PRAY FOR...

Gary Wilkins
Kaylyn Nagel
Bill Linsberg
Jack Myers

Tom Jackling
Lou Taylor
Chris Hoops
Harv Claussen

Dave Deitrich
Harold Schultz
Bob Ash
Cyndy Hoops

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Every week day morning	6:30 am	AA meets at church
Monday	8:00 pm	AA meets at church
Tuesday	7:30 am	Work Crew
	9:00 am	Lutheran Chicks
Wednesday	1:00 pm	OLT

Serving Today

Altar Guild: Linda Ovitz

Lector/ Worship Assistant: Kathryn Gallagher

Ushers: Noma Hickok & Debby Porter

Our thanks to Pastor Autumn Hardenstine for filling in while Pastor Armen was on Sabbatical. This is the last Sunday of the Sabbatical.

Faith Lutheran Church of Rotonda

551 Rotonda Boulevard West – Rotonda West, FL 33947
(941) 697-3313

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Pastor Brian Armen, Cell (814) 248-0133

Secretary Office Hours: 9:00 Am – Noon (M-F)

PASTOR'S OFFICE: 10:00 – 1:00 (M-TH) AND BY APPOINTMENT

www.alivingfaith.org

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Our Guiding Principle: GOD'S GRACE WINS....

As we WORSHIP Jesus as our Lord and Savior

As we LOVE one another, welcoming everyone

As we SERVE, inspired by the Holy Spirit

As a deep FAITH is taught and caught

As we make WITNESS and MISSION our life