



**For where your treasure is
there your **heart** will be also**

Luke 12:34 NKJV



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 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
 2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
 3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space:
 known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;
 chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you;
 probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,
 May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;



great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
 fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
 great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

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 **Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through 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!



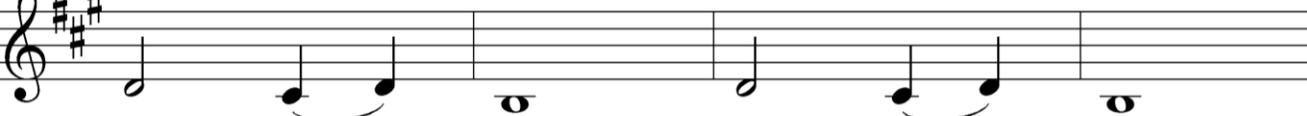
1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the



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



set us free by the truth you now bring us.



Refrain

Shine on me, shine on me:

WORD**FIRST READING***Genesis 15:1-6*

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.”
²But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”³ And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.”⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.”⁵ He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.”⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The word of God.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval.³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going.⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.¹¹ By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised.¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth,¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.¹⁵ If they had been thinking

of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The word of God.

Thanks be to God.

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia." The lyrics are written below the notes.

GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-40

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P The Gospel of our Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Hardenstine

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

HYMN

Blessed Assurance

ELW 638



1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

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.

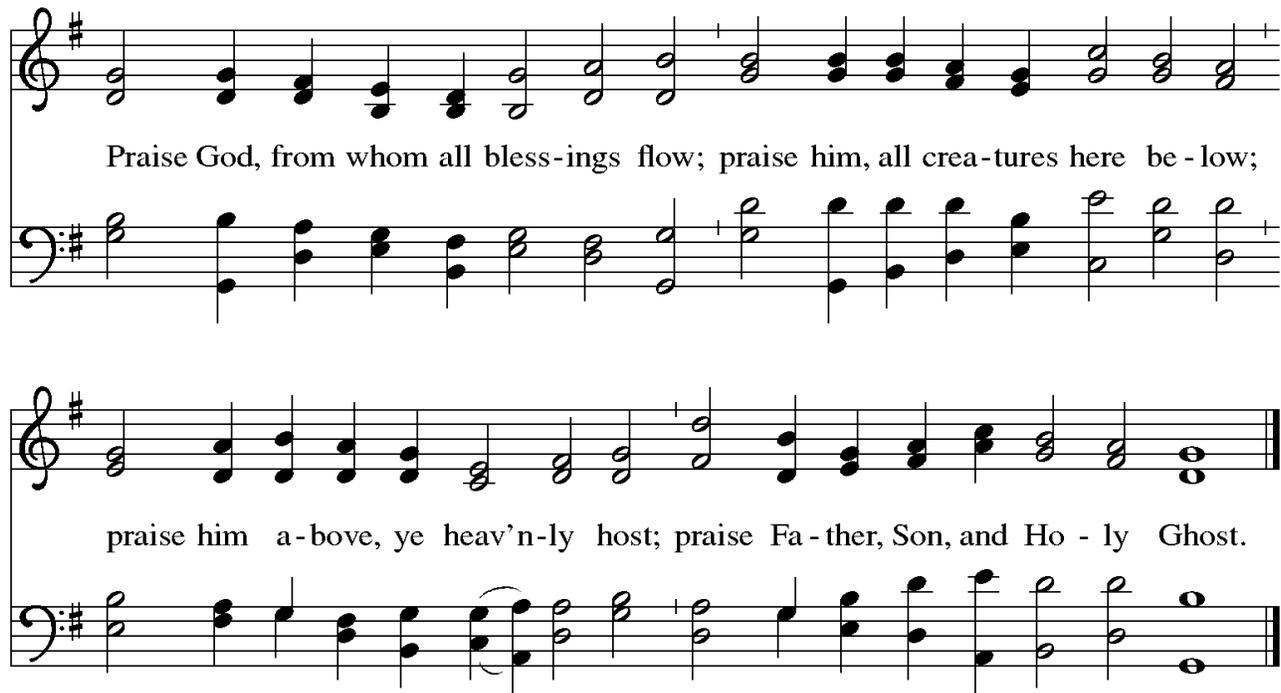
SHARING OF THE PEACE

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 blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy 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 The God of A - br'ham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;
2 The God of A - br'ham praise! At your su - preme com - mand
3 The God of A - br'ham praise! Your all - suf - fi - cient grace
4 Your prom - ise you have sworn; I on your oath de - pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love—
from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.
shall guide me all my pil - grim days in all my ways.
I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, to heav'n as - cend.



“I Am the One I Am”—by earth and heav'n con - fessed;
I all on earth for - sake—its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r—
You deign to call me friend; you call your - self my God!
I shall be - hold your face; I shall your pow'r a - dore,



I bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.
and you my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.
And you will save me to the end through Je - sus' blood.
and sing the won - ders of your grace for - ev - er - more.

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!

Next Sunday

Next Sunday, August 14, will be Barb Manke's last Sunday with us. We will be enjoying a coffee hour after worship to celebrate her and wish her "goodbye." Please plan to join us.

August Ladies Luncheon at Ken & Barb's

On Wednesday, August 17th, at 11:30 am, the Ladies of Faith Lutheran will meet for lunch at Ken & Barb's. Located just off Placida Road, south of the Lemon Bay High School (Remember the old Blue Lagoon? That's the place!) A popular restaurant in Englewood, they carry a variety of foods guaranteed to appeal to all. We will order from the regular menu. **Please note** a 20% service fee (tip) will be added to each guest check by the restaurant. Please sign up if you will be able to join us!! Deadline is Sunday, August 14th. If you have questions call Kathie Wiley (941-662-5383). Looking forward to seeing you!!

Food Pantry

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

Help Yourself

The church was recently given a large number of Christian books to share. We have been putting a few in the narthex each week for anyone who would like to take them. There is a new batch available this morning. Please take as many as you like.

Attendance last Sunday: 50

Looking Ahead...

Again this year, we will be participating in *God's Work Our Hands Sunday*, an initiative of the ELCA. In other years we supported Undie Sunday and had a wonderful response! Your participation is requested in the form of monetary gifts (cash or checks) with a notation of *camper ministry*. These gifts will be used to replenish funds for our camper ministry, which is used to feed the homeless on Tuesday evenings. Large jars of peanut butter and jelly may also be given. All gifts should be received before Sunday, September 11, so we may celebrate "Gods Work Our Hands"!

Co-chair Needed

Mary Lou Fitzgerald has volunteered to serve as co-chair of the pictorial directory preparations. She needs someone else to serve as the other co-chair. Not a lot of work needed, but we have to be prepared if we are to create a current directory.

WE PRAY FOR...

Gary Wilkins	Tom Jackling	Dave Deitrich
Kaylyn Nagel	Daryl Cox	Bobbie Myrick
Lou Taylor	Bill Linsberg	Jack & Kathy Myers
Harold & Linda Schultz	Harv & Alma Claussen	

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

Serving Today

Altar Guild: Linda Ovitz

Lector/ Worship Assistant: Jim Taylor

Ushers: Gene & Verna Newlon

***Our thanks to Pastor Autumn Hardenstine for filling in while
Pastor Armen is on Sabbatical.***

Faith Lutheran Church of Rotonda

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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*