

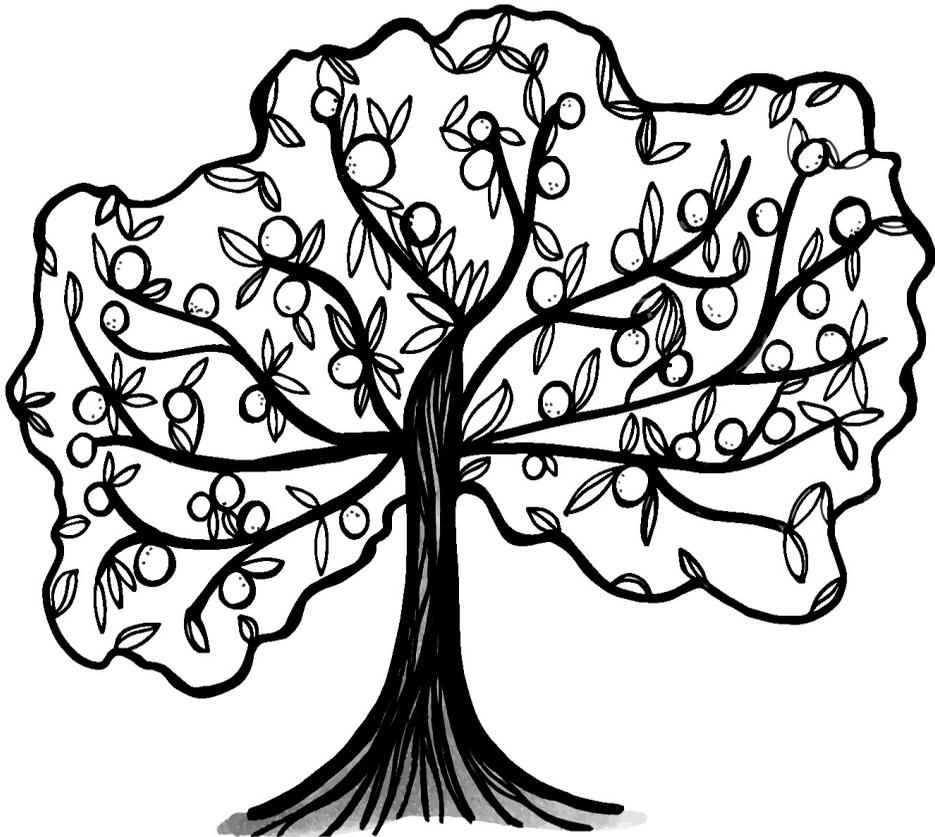


**Faith Lutheran Church**  
LEAVENWORTH, WASHINGTON

**Service of Holy Communion**

Sunday, February 22, 2026 + 9:30am

First Sunday in Lent



*Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.*



**WELCOME** to worship! Living in God's Amazing Grace, we envision Faith Lutheran Church as a diverse beacon of hope, healing, and reconciliation in a broken world. Faith Lutheran aspires to be a public church, empowering parishioners to become God's servants in Christ's commission to share the Gospel message of good news to the poor, healing to the sick and broken, and justice to the oppressed.

We aspire to be a transformational church and meet the changing needs of sacramental worship, congregational nurture, and ministries of peace, mercy, and justice as called by the Holy Spirit.

**MISSION:** As disciples in Christ, we are called to incarnate the gracious, healing, and reconciling presence of God through sacramental worship, congregational nurture, and ministries of peace, mercy, and justice for all Creation.

**WORSHIP** is the heartbeat that feeds our life together as a community. In the **GATHERING**, we participate in God's radical welcome extended to all people. In the **WORD**, we hear and ponder stories that have nurtured and shaped our faith. We share a **MEAL** that makes God present to us at a table wide enough for everyone to find a place. And in **SENDING** we go into the world to love and serve God by loving and serving our neighbors and Creation.

**GOD LANGUAGE:** Believing that no one name or description of God is ever complete, Faith Lutheran practices using many words and images to describe the Holy One who exists beyond human language. In our worship we try to balance images that are human and ecological, gendered and non-gendered, hierarichical and egalitarian. We encourage you to notice how different images affect your experience of worship and invite you to choose language that both liberates and challenges you.



We gather on the unceded ancestral lands of the šnpəšqʷáwšəxʷ (P'Squosa) people, who are still here. We are grateful for their stewardship and care for this land.



Faith Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Founded in 1909, this church has been a spiritual home to residents of the Wenatchee River Valley for over 115 years.



As a Reconciling in Christ congregation, we strive to provide a safe and healing environment where people of any race, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socio-economic status can be nourished in their journey of faith.



We practice an Open Communion, which means all are welcome at the Lord's Supper, including non-Lutherans and small children. There are small individual cups with red wine as well as clear grape juice in each tray.



Children are always welcome in worship at Faith Lutheran. Feel free to wiggle, make noise, or play in worship as needed.



Postures are a way we engage the body in worship. These movements (sitting, standing, making the sign of the cross, shaking hands during peace) are optional. You may engage as you are comfortable and able.



Two single-stall restrooms are available in the separate Fellowship Hall building located next to the sanctuary.

If there is something that we can do to make worship more accessible to you, please let us know by talking to or emailing Pastor Aaron ([pastor@faithleavenworth.org](mailto:pastor@faithleavenworth.org)).

## GATHERING

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

### WELCOME + PRELUDE

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS



1 We con - fess that we can-not do it all on-ly by our  
2 We con - fess that we can-not free our-selves on-ly by our  
3 We con - fess that we can-not find our way on-ly by our



lone - some, on-ly by our lone - some.  
lone - some, on-ly by our lone - some.  
lone - some, on-ly by our lone - some.



There is space be - tween where we put a wall on-ly by our  
And de - spite our best we get o - ver-whelmed on-ly by our  
Please, for - give our sins, re - ig - nite our flame, on-ly by our



lone - some, on-ly by our lone - some.  
lone - some, on-ly by our lone - some.  
lone - some, on-ly by our lone - some.



Won't you knock down all the walls that we built sta - ble?



Tip them o - ver and re-store them in - to stur - ty din - ner ta - bles.

*During worship elements marked with an \* asterisk, the assembly may take a posture of prayerful attentiveness. This usually looks like standing, although it may look different for each person.*

God's steadfast presence and love abound. Through faith – that courageous trust which flows from God – you are swaddled in the loving justice of God's Beloved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, all your sin is forgiven. You may trust courageously in the truth of this forgiveness. The Spirit of the God Triune dwells in you, abides with you, and overflows through you: abundant life incarnate. Amen.

## \* GREETING + PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Lord God, our strength, **the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**WORD**

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

## FIRST READING

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

*Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.*

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. The serpent said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



*Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,  
and whose sin is | put away!*

***Happy are they to whom the Lord im- | putes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there | is no guile!***

*While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,  
because of my groaning | all day long.*

***For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.***

*Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my guilt.  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord."*

*Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.*

***Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.***

*You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.*

***"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;  
I will guide you | with my eye.***

*Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,  
or else they will | not stay near you."*

***Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the Lord.***

*Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the Lord;  
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.*

*The psalm is offered as a corporate response to the first reading. As the ancient word "psalm" means "song," we sing this section with a "psalm tone" (chanted line).*

## SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

Just as sin came into the world through one human, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of

*Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.*

the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the trespass of one, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the gift is not like the effect of the sin of one human. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the trespass of one, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one, Jesus Christ. Therefore just as the trespass of one person led to condemnation for all, so the act of righteousness of one person leads to justification and life for all. For just as through the disobedience of one the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of one the many will be made righteous.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glo - ry to you, O Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ.

*The alleluia may be sung once before the gospel reading and once after. All may stand to greet the gospel.*

\*GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But Jesus answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took Jesus to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'God will command the angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to the devil, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, and said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to the devil, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve God alone.'" Then the devil left Jesus, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.*

## SERMON SONG

This Joy that I Have

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*As each petition ends with* God of grace,  
*The assembly may respond* **receive our prayer.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

La paz de Cristo  
 sea siempre con ustedes.  
**Y también contigo.**

The peace of Christ  
 be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## OFFERING

When We Are Tested (Purple Book 922)

## OFFERING PRAYER

O God, maker of heaven and earth, **your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Beloved, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*After sharing the words of peace in Spanish or English, you are invited to share a greeting of peace with others. You might offer a wave, handshake, or bow. Take care to observe one another's personal boundaries.*

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Community announcements and music may accompany or follow the gathering of the offering.*



*This QR code can be used to make a contribution to Faith Lutheran Church online.*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



And the ta-ble will be wide. And the wel-come will be wide.



And the arms will o - pen wide to ga-ther us in.



And our hearts will o-pen wide to re - ceive.

And we will come as children who trust there is enough.

And we will come unhindered and free.

And our aching will be met with bread.

And our sorrow will be met with wine.

And we will open our hands to the feast without shame.

And we will turn toward each other without fear.

And we will give up our appetite for despair.

And we will taste and know of delight.

And we will become bread for a hungry world.

And we will become drink for those who thirst.

And the blessed will become the blessing.

And everywhere will be the feast.

**\* *And the table will be wide...***

**\* LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Mother/Father/Creator  
in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,**

**Madre/Padre/Creator nuestra/o  
que estás en el cielo,  
santificado sea tu nombre.**

*The Lord's Prayer may be recited  
in these or other translations/  
forms. Our unity in Christ does  
not require uniformity.*

your kingdom come.  
 Your will be done,  
 on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins  
 as we forgive those  
 who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial  
 and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power,  
 and the glory are yours,  
 now and forever. Amen.

Venga tu reino.  
 Hágase tu voluntad,  
 en la tierra como en el cielo.  
 Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.  
 Perdona nuestras ofensas  
 como también nosotros perdonamos  
 a los que nos ofenden.  
 No nos dejes caer en tentación  
 y líbranos del mal.  
 Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder  
 y tuya es la gloria,  
 ahora y siempre. Amén.

*We practice an open communion  
 which means that you don't need  
 to be a member of our church, or  
 believe a certain thing, or be a  
 certain age in order to come.  
 Everyone is welcome at the table,  
 which is set by God.*

## COMMUNION

## Grace Upon Grace

All:

Grace up - on grace, mer - cy up - on mer - cy,  
 peace up - on peace, giv - en for you.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Beloved, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## \* BLESSING

God, who calls all things into existence,  
 Jesus Christ, who redeems us,  
 and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,  
 † bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

## \* SENDING SONG

first time through **L:** O God, You have called us to ven tures where we can not see the  
 second time through **C:**

4  
 end, By paths ne-ver yet tak en, Through per ils un known.

9  
 Give us good cour- age Not know ing where we go, To

13  
 know that your hand is lead- ing us Wher ever we might go.  
 love is sup- port- ing us

17  
 A - - - - - men.

\* DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Trust the good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*You are warmly invited to join us  
for coffee hour in the fellowship  
hall after worship.*

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 22	9:30am-10:30am Service of Holy Communion 7:00pm-7:45pm Song Circle
Wednesday, February 25	6:00pm-7:00pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00pm-7:45pm Evening Prayer — Mountain Vespers
Thursday, February 26	6:00pm-8:00pm FLC Council Meeting
Sunday, March 1	9:30am-10:30am Service of Holy Communion 7:00pm-7:45pm Song Circle
Wednesday, March 4	6:00pm-7:00pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00pm-7:45pm Evening Prayer — Holden Evening Prayer
Friday, March 6	6:30pm-8:00pm Earth Stewardship Movie Night

## CONNECT WITH FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

### **Faith Lutheran Church**

224 Benton St, P.O. Box 418

Leavenworth, WA 98826

office: 509-548-7010

email: [info@faithleavenworth.org](mailto:info@faithleavenworth.org)

website: [faithleavenworth.org](http://faithleavenworth.org)

### **Rev. Aaron Musser, pastor**

phone: 605-759-6784

[pastor@faithleavenworth.org](mailto:pastor@faithleavenworth.org)



*Use this QR code to register your email and receive weekly Happenings emails (Fridays) which includes a note from the pastor, announcements, and community prayer requests.*