

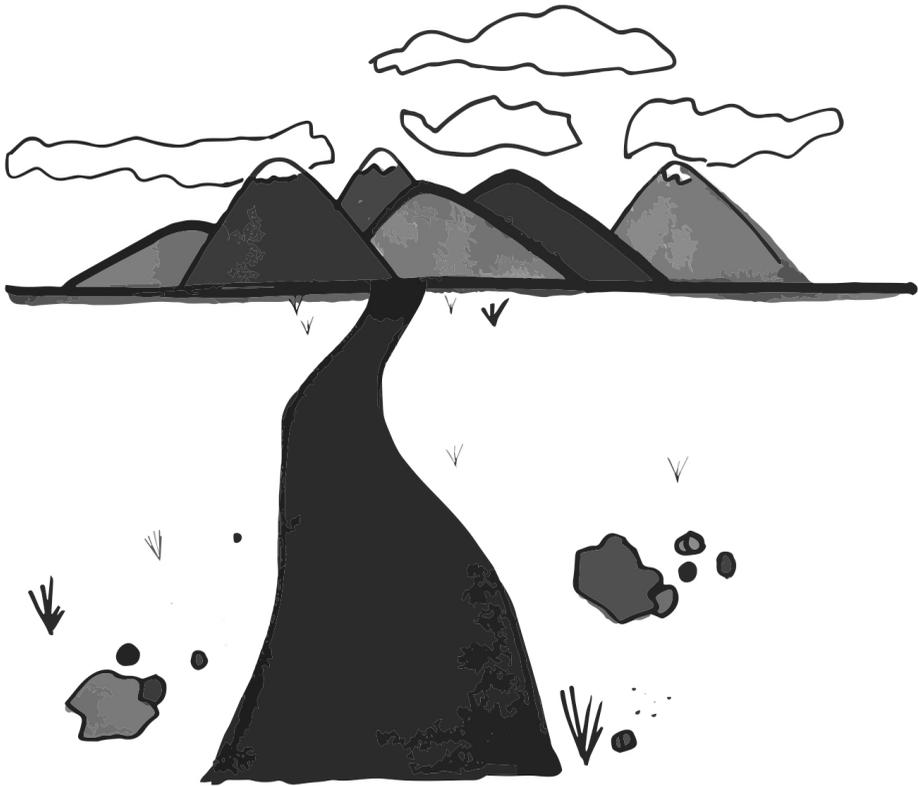


**Faith Lutheran Church**  
LEAVENWORTH, WASHINGTON

**Service of Holy Communion**

Sunday, March 1, 2026 + 9:30am

Second Sunday in Lent



*During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.*



**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 šnpəšq'áwšəx'w (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.**

O God, our leader and guide, **in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world 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 12:1-4a

*God's call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose—that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.*

The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

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

## PSALMODY

Psalm 121



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

*I lift up my eyes | to the hills;  
from where is my | help to come?*

**My help comes | from the Lord,  
the maker of heav- | en and earth.**

*The Lord will not let your | foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.*

***Behold, the keep- | er of Israel  
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep;***

*the Lord watches | over you;  
the Lord is your shade at | your right hand;*

***the sun will not strike | you by day,  
nor the | moon by night.***

*The Lord will preserve you | from all evil  
and will | keep your life.*

***The Lord will watch over your going out and your | coming in,  
from this time forth for- | evermore.***

## SECOND READING

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all Abraham's descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom Abraham believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.*

*A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.*

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

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Judeans. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the dominion of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to Jesus, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the dominion of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to Jesus, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son-of-Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son-of-Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that God gave the Son, the only begotten one, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

SERMON

Pastor Aaron Musser

SERMON SONG

As the Wind Song (Purple Book 943)

INSTALLATION OF LEADERS IN THE CONGREGATION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

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 + ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters (Red Book 445)

## 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.**

## 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.

*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.*

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,  
 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.**

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

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

All:

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

What Wondrous Love (Red Book 666)

*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.*

## 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:**  
second time through **C:** O God, You have called us to ventures where we can not see the

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, 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
Sunday, March 8	9:30am-10:30am Service of Holy Communion 7:00pm-7:45pm Song Circle
Wednesday, March 11	6:00pm-7:00pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00pm-7:45pm Evening Prayer — Mountain Vespers

## CONNECT WITH FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

### **Faith Lutheran Church**

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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.*