

the voice



# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Naples, Florida

**“Let us test and examine our ways,  
and return to the LORD!”**

**Lamentations 3:40**

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August  
2021

*The Voice of Faith is a monthly publication of Faith Lutheran Church of Naples, Florida. Please address comments and articles to: [publish@flcnaples.com](mailto:publish@flcnaples.com). The deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month.*

## Lutheran Worship: God Serves Us

In my lifetime in the English District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, I have been exposed to the “Divine Services” in a variety of Lutheran hymnals:

- Kirchengesangbuch (1847)
- The Evangelical Lutheran Hymnal (1908)
- The Lutheran Hymnal (1941) Note: Ours had the red cover
- Lutheran Book of Worship (1978)
- Lutheran Worship (1982)
- Lutheran Service Book (2006)

Each of these hymnals, showed me the importance of a Biblically informed historical perspective on worship. I am thankful that God’s Word and His holy Sacraments are His precious gifts to us. They are the means of grace the Holy Spirit uses to give us forgiveness, life, and salvation. The main purpose of Lutheran worship is to receive these gifts from God.

In the services of Faith Lutheran Church in Naples, Florida, you will see an order and structure within the worship services. Even though the oldest hymnal I used was about 120 years old at the time I held it in my hands at worship, the basic liturgical orders used at Faith have been around for 2,000 years.

During the summer months, we will be highlighting parts of the liturgy in our worship bulletins. You will see how the liturgy brings us the service of God’s forgiveness in the language we speak everyday but takes us right back to the teaching of God’s Word.

As my first Pastor said: (Deutsche Masse 1526) “Der Herr segne dich und behute dich.” Or as I say here at Faith (LSB 2021), “The Lord Bless You and Keep You”!

God Bless,

Pastor Don

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### Faith Lutheran Church Healing Prayer Team Chapter Order of St. Luke

Hello Faith Lutheran Church Family. It’s official....the International Order of St. Luke Physician (OSL) has recognized the Faith’s Healing Prayer Team as a new healing community Chapter in the organization. As many of you know, with support of Faith’s Pastors, FLC members Randy and Susan Taylor helped begin our Healing Prayer Team just a few years back. It has grown to a dozen members and continues to grow.

Pr. Sam Maconachy has received the OSL training and has been appointed to serve as Team Chaplain. This is the highest office in our HPT and ensures that the work of the Team is fully under Pastoral authority. Team members have all received training from the Order of St. Luke, and with Randy’s continued educational efforts, he has been designated by OSL to be Convener for our Chapter. This means he is qualified to lead training in the OSL’s training focused around the 24 healings of Jesus as recorded in the Gospels. Plans for training additional Faith members are beginning and the first training may occur in October or November. There will be several announcements before the class so we hope you will pray and ask God if He has plans for you in healing-prayer ministry. Thanks be to God for both of them and their devotion to this important ministry.

The FLC Healing Prayer Team meets twice monthly for prayer, continued training, and planning of future events. In addition, there are members available for personal prayer after every Saturday and Sunday service. Anyone with interest is welcome and invited to participate and learn more about this ministry. Just contact Randy or any of the team members. They are all listed, with photos, on the wall in the hallway between the Narthex and the Fellowship Hall.

## Returning to What Matters: a devotional series on Worship and Liturgy

### Introduction

The end of every summer always marks it to be the “time of return.” Returning home from vacation. Returning back to school. Returning to everyday life. I’d venture to say though that this year, more so than ones past, is to be considered a pinnacle return of sorts. We long for bringing things back up to speed after a year and half of testing, relenting (against many peoples’ wishes), halting, pushing (sadly perhaps too much), but hopefully above all...desperate praying. This exact moment we find ourselves in is unique to all the other years and proves to be a true blessing: as we seek to return to “the way things were” we all on some lesser or greater level are doing it with inspection.

*I pray Lord You give us Your wisdom and humility to do so with a bold quietness.*

To this then, we dear church family are at an incredible juncture where God is leading us to bring back into our lives what really matters: returning to the LORD. Worship. Liturgy. Gathering. Fellowship in His saving Name. Not merely with haste but with clarity and deeper appreciation/awareness.

You might’ve already picked up on it here at Faith. Throughout this summer we have inserted back elements of our normal liturgy piece by piece. All done by prayerful design of course. The reason for this is that bringing back the full liturgy helps us to return to the LORD Himself. It is through the liturgy that we are brought into each time a story much greater than the ones we try to write for ourselves. We are reminded of what life is all about: God dwelling amongst His people. You and me!

One of the greatest quotes I came across in my personal reading will always stick with me: “You are what you love” – James K. A. Smith. That is, the things we hold closest. The things we love most, become what characterizes and defines us. Needless to say, what people in this world are so desperately and hurriedly trying to return back to first is a good indicator of what they love most. So much love in things were taken away. Going to movies. Eating out. Sports. Shopping. Going places. Work. Or just simply living under the impression that one can do whatever one wishes. Great love for sure was lost in a lot people in these things. But let it not be so with any of us.

Dear friends, now is the time to return to the love never lost on you despite whatever it is you have experienced, missed out on, or perceivably been robbed of: God’s love for you in Christ Jesus, and through that, loving Him above all things. There’s no better way in being cemented in this love than returning to what matters most. Worship. It is here where we become Who we love: the children of God. In this love flows our primary identity, strength, and purpose. Oddly enough, we have a wonderful means by which we are swept up in this love. It is through the liturgy in our Spirit-driven worship. That’s why we’re intent on bringing it back.

So in my genuine attempt to engender awareness and appreciation for its return I will use the next few Voice articles to highlight the blessings that liturgy give us in its history, meaning, and purpose. All the meanwhile, I pray the LORD guides each of you to return to the first and only love that gives you your everlasting identity: The Father’s love in His Son Jesus. It truly and assuredly happens here every weekend. Can’t wait to see you each time we gather together in Him.

Returning together,

Pastor Sam



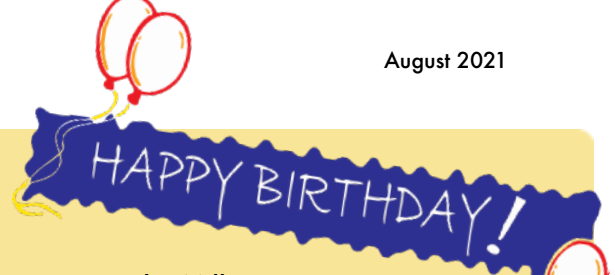
Attention all Youth and Parents,  
mark your calendars!

The first and also mandatory  
meeting for the LCMS National  
Youth Gathering 2022 is

**Sunday, August 8, 4:30 PM.**

The youth eligible are those who  
will be entering high school Fall  
2022, currently in high school, or  
will have recently graduated from  
high school Spring 2022.

Contact Pastor Sam to let him  
know you and your children are  
interested and plan to attend.



Paul Renzi	2	Sandi Herrman	11	Kathy Miller	22
Dennis Goodman	4	Betty Marsit	11	Nick Beres	23
Roger Best	5	Kooper Wise	11	Anna Cheffy	24
Gail Peterson	5	Angela Marceau	14	Paul Wendling	24
Don Carlo	6	Kensi Wells	14	Ashley Inman	25
Denelle Kern	7	Tiffany Renzi	15	Ron Mitchell	27
Lois Poretti	8	Emil Kolberg	18	Warren Opel	27
Dolores Gehrke	9	Sonia Ortega	19	Nicholas Smith	28
Sam O'Hara	9	Bonnie Smith	20	Virgine Lackey	29
Sue Wood	9	Makenna Englund	21	Donald Longshore	29
Joyce Couch	10	Barbara Hildebrandt	21	Emma Sofianos	29
Judy Johnson	10	Chris Sofianos	21	Helen Strahley	30
Adam Pajer	10	Jo Treglown	21	Denny Duebner	31
Alex Pajer	10	Lisa Ahlbrand Twadell	22		

Bill & Angela Marceau	1	Don & Jo Treglown	14
Walt & Vera Berning	4	Barry & Carol Farnam	15
Roger & Donna Jean Christy	5	Dale & Karen Kruse	15
Bill & Mary Anne Miller	6	Paula & Richard Leighton	15
Kathy & Steve Nelson	7	Don & Tina Espiritu	19
William & Mardelle Wuerger	11	Andy & Kim Kammer	20
Bob & Jan Scholie	12	Don & Marie Carlo	27



### Mission of the Month

The mission of Naples Therapeutic Riding Center is to improve the lives of children and adults with special needs through therapeutic riding and other equine-related programs.

From modest beginnings, NTRC has yielded one of the top equine-assisted therapy centers in the south-east region. NTRC now serves more than 700 participants each year and provides more than 9,000 hours of service annually. With a herd of 12 to 14 horses, and the assistance of 350 community volunteers, NTRC is one of the few organizations capable of providing unique equine-assisted therapies to a broad range of children and adults who show increasing benefits due to their interactions with horses. Check out their website at [NaplesTherapeuticRidingCenter.org](http://NaplesTherapeuticRidingCenter.org).



Hello Faith Family

I want to take this moment in time to show bare a vulnerable moment in my humanity (and I want to express my thanks to Pastor Don and one of his sermons for the inspiration of this article) ...

On June 17, 2015, the world bore witness to the terrible shooting of the nine parishioners at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Downtown Charleston. As a Charleston resident at the time, I remember that night quite clearly—sitting in my living room, silent and motionless, I watched the breaking news as the television incessantly flickered from the lights of the emergency service vehicles sitting outside of the church. A harrowing event that rationalizes the message of my article for this month.

Music has the powerful capability to unify all of creation. In the days following the massacre, there was a nationally televised memorial service for the Charleston Nine. The eulogy for Reverend Pinckney and the other victims highlighted a central message about the power of God's grace and unity. In this memorial service, I witnessed one of the most powerful moments of unified humanity in my life thus far. After an extended pause, the crowd, led by Barack Obama, began to sing the first verse of "Amazing Grace." The thousands of people in attendance, all came together, separate but equal, in one collective voice singing "Amazing Grace." This moment, as a result to the horrible shooting, gave birth to a pure instance of human unification through music. Every walk of life, every age, every cultural and societal divide was able to join together in song. Even to this day, when I think about the power and implications of that moment, it brings up overwhelming sentiments and emotions in which I would need several more *Voice* articles to express.

We can see the unifying power of music throughout our daily lives. In each of our services, we all come together as one voice to sing hymns and liturgy, despite the outside influences of personal experiences and abilities. Music connects us to our brothers and sisters in Christ to the left and right of us, and it transcends all tribulations and turmoil we may experience. Although we may not know the person standing beside us, we are still connected together as a child of God's creation through the gift of music. We may not know each other's innermost thoughts, afflictions, or even the triumphs, but we are able to connect to each other as children of God because we are able to join together in music.

You may have witnessed a group of people elatedly singing the lyrics "just a small town girl, livin' in a lonely world" to Journey's hit song *Don't Stop Believin'*; or have possibly seen all of the smiles and bright faces as a crowd throws their arms into synched motion and shouts out, "Y. M. C. A!"; or have been to an sporting event when the opposing crowds join to sing along with the chorus to "Sweet Caroline." These moments, among many others, are opportunities for us to form a bridge between each other and honor God through the gift of music. As Ecclesiastes 4:12 states: "A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken." Music can unify us in ways we cannot fully fathom, but the more we ally ourselves in our musical pursuits (and frankly, all endeavors in our lives), the stronger we are. As with the moment of "Amazing Grace" during the Charleston Nine memorial service, reflecting on the harshest and most terrifying of events, they bonded together in song and their braided cord could not be broken. Dear Faith, sing and sing out together. You may believe your song to be harsh or terrifying, but I assure you that if you do it with your brothers and sisters in Christ your voice will be stronger than ever.

Sing out and sing in unity.

Blessings,  
Matthew

## Rally Day

Start of Bible Study and Sunday School, 9/12, 10:15 AM

Family and Adult Bible Study, Fellowship Hall

Age: Confirmation – Seniors

Youth, Youth Annex

Age: 8 – 11

Younger Youth, LOF PreK4 room

Age: 5 – 7

Preschool, LOF 2-year old room

Age: 3 – 4

Start of Confirmation, 9/12, 5:45 – 7:00 PM

Have a child entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade? Contact Pastor Sam to sign your child up for Confirmation this coming school year.

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Dear Pr. Treglown and the Mission Board of Faith Lutheran,

Thank you! Because of your support we will be able to partner with Lutheran schools to pilot the use of The Despicable Missionary and The Bulletproof Missionary. We have contracted with Natalie Valle, a Lutheran in Marshal, Michigan to be our Schools Project Director. Natalie headed up a home schools group in Michigan for twenty five years. She began her work on June 15. But we need to give her help in her new position.

Your donation to the June Mission of The Month will allow us to test the efficacy of the books in Lutheran schools by providing them to the schools for free.

From emails and comments we have received we believe seventh and eighth grade children who read the books will grow in their faith, in their sensitivity to different cultures in different parts of the world, and in their understanding of and commitment to Christian missions. If that is the case, and pastors and principals of the schools see substantial benefits from using the books, we will introduce the mission books to more schools. Pictures and letters from the schools will be shared with Faith Lutheran.

May our Lord continue to bless Mission of the Month, and the mission committed people of Faith Lutheran Church.

In Jesus,

Rev. Robert Scudieri

President, Mission Nation Publishing

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Lambs of Faith Preschool starts Tuesday, September 7, 2021.

The week before the parents will be attending Parent-Teacher Conferences from Monday, August 30, 2021 through Friday, September 3, 2021

## Calligraphy and Coupons

We are in need of a calligrapher. Throughout the year we have certificates and such that need this beautiful printing. If you or anyone you know can help us out please call the office 239-434-5811.

Through our community outreach program we are collecting goods to fill boxes and needs for many programs. We have a very talented member who is the queen of couponing and saves us lots of money by using coupons. It's a great opportunity for stewardship without leaving the comfort of your home. The most used coupons are for food and toiletries, however we will take all coupons you can come up with. They can be store coupons or general coupons. The organizations that we collect items for are: St. Mathews House, Abused Women Shelter, AVOW hospice, Homeless Veterans, Wounded Warriors backpacks and Laces of Love. So please consider clipping and ask friends and family to also join in to help this great cause. Once you have the coupons please bring them to church and deposit them in the big wooden box in the hallway.

Happy clipping!

Elaine MacIntosh - Director of Stewardship

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## Children's Sermons

Your pastors at Faith are excited to announce that we will be starting up children's sermons in September! Every fourth Sunday at the 9:15 and 11:00 AM services we want to encourage all families to bring their children up to the front of the church with the pastor to hear a message special for them. Jesus said: "Let the little children come to e and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 19:14). How thankful and overjoyed we are to be able to share our Lord's love in such a special way to all our blessed and beautiful children here at Faith.

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## Sunday school helpers needed

As we continue to grow as a family here at Faith, we always welcome any one who would like to help join our Sunday School team of helpers. If you are interested please contact Pastor Sam. Thank you and God's blessings be with you



# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Naples, Florida



Faith Lutheran Church is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. We strive to be a friendly, family oriented church united under the goal of enriching our community through the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Faith Lutheran Church  
4150 Goodlette Rd  
Naples, FL 34103  
(239) 434-5811

[faith@flcnaples.com](mailto:faith@flcnaples.com)  
[www.flcnaples.com](http://www.flcnaples.com)

## Weekly Worship Opportunities:

Saturday:

5:00 p.m.

Traditional

Sunday:

8:00 a.m.

Traditional

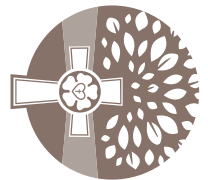
9:15 a.m.

Contemporary

11:00 a.m.

Traditional

Holy Communion will be served every Saturday and the first and third Sundays of every month



FAITH  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Naples, Florida

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

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