

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to welcome and unite God's people to nurture faith through the Gospel, and provide opportunities and commitment to serve Christ through our Ministry within the congregation and the community.

Faith Lutheran Church
3501 E. Highland Rd., Highland, MI 48356 (248-887-5550)
Church E-mail—office@faithhighland.com Website—faithhighland.com

If you are in need of prayer or pastoral care, please contact pastor or your assigned elder.
Rev. Jonathan Moyer jmoyer@faithhighland.com 248-887-5550
No office business hours during shelter in place order - messages are monitored daily

✝ ✝

Palm Sunday

April 5, 2020

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Announcements

EASTER VIGIL: It might come as a surprise but for many centuries the most important church service of the year was the Easter Vigil, on the Saturday between Good Friday and Easter. This multi-part liturgy lasted through the night and included the lighting of the Paschal Candle, baptism and first communion of catechumens, and culminating at dawn with the Easter celebration. A major portion of this service was on readings of the Old Testament that focused on God's faithfulness and mercy throughout history. I've divided up those readings into blocks of time on Saturday so that you and your household can commit to a time of prayer and devotion knowing that throughout the day, your brothers and sisters in Christ are engaged in prayer, too. Go to faithhighland.com/vigil to learn how to participate.

Please join me and your Faith Family as we approach the Easter season reminded of our Lord's faithfulness and confident that He hears us when we pray! -Pastor Moyer



NEIGHBORHOOD WITNESSING DURING HOLY WEEK Here are [twelve fun and creative ideas](#) to share the Gospel with your neighborhood while still following social distance guidelines! Pick a few, try it out, takes pictures, and tell us how it goes!

SEEN GOD LATELY? - We'd still love to hear from you! God is truly at work in the world as unstable as it is. We just don't always notice. Think about His presence in your life. Where have you seen God at work?

Dan and Linda Brown are traveling back to us from Florida and were sent on their way provisioned by friends with masks, disinfectant wipes, and cookies! God is blessing them through the kindness of others.

Pastor has been hearing from classmates that have fallen out of touch but are reconnecting for encouragement and prayer in these difficult times of ministry. He's also grateful for the prayers and support from the Faith Family.

PORTALS OF PRAYER are available at church. There is a box outside the main entrance. Wash your hands and help yourself! Also available online: [Portals of Prayer in Times of Trouble](#)

TEACH US TO PRAY: While sheltering at home, spend some time in prayer and in God's Word and try to grow in some faithful disciplines and habits. Here are some online resources to incorporate into your time with God:

- [Daily Prayer for Individuals and Families](#)
- [When from Death I'm Free:](#) Devotional Journal for Holy Week
- [Lutheran video conference on the topic of prayer](#)

CONFIRMATION HOUSEHOLDS: Continue to gather your family regularly around God's Word in prayer (see links above!) Also check out this [new tool to help you with memory work](#). Contact Pastor with questions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FAMILIES: We've witnessed many creative ways during this unusual time for Jesus-sharing with our youngest disciples. This week, try some of these or share your favorite ideas!

- Make your own [Palm Branches](#) (Pictures would be awesome!)
- A [craft, snack, and experiment](#) for learning about Holy Week
- [Coloring Pages](#)
- [Happy Times](#) Preschool Magazine

DO YOU NEED HELP? Dear Faith Family, during these uncertain times you or someone you know may be facing some challenges and you don't know where to turn for help. We want you to know we are here for you. It's hard to imagine all the challenges that folks are enduring in these uncharted times, but we are here, anxious and ready to assist you. If you or another Faith member need assistance, please reach out to the Outreach committee via Bonnie DeLor at bdelor@comcast.net or phone at 248-568-1942. Stay home, be safe and be well.

CAN YOU HELP? These days are filled with opportunities to share God's love and serve our neighbor. We pray the Lord prepares your household to be like the light of a city on a hill in these gray and latter days. As you are able, consider supporting our partners in ministry.

- Sewers at Faith are preparing masks for area medical facilities but are in need of ¼" elastic. Please contact Connie Redman at [248-887-4475](tel:248-887-4475)
- The Luke Project 52 Clinic is still endeavoring to serve expectant moms with prenatal care and the love of Jesus and they the Body of Christ's ongoing support. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Recent and upcoming Birthdays

3 Virginia McDonnell
8 Karen Tardich
9 Bill Kiley

Anniversaries this week

Lee and Melynda Penny (Apr 8, 1978)
Scott and Paula Swackhamer (Apr 8, 2000)

Consider phoning or mailing those who do not have the means to join in online worship—

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Marilyn Dicks | Jean Donley | Ruby Richards |
| Jack & Leah Nicholas | Joe Hostman | Virginia McDonnell |
| Marjorie Cannon & Betty Chopp | Mickey Detrick | |
| Barbara Steele | Gail Lowe | |

Please Remember in Your Prayers—

Beccie Oltesvig

Larry & Connie House

Jean Donley

Virginia McDonnell

Lori Flores

Megan Mars

Tracie Smith

Chuck & Mary Jo Behr

Andrea Blumberg

As well as our family, friends & neighbors—

John Carlton

Ron Carr

Vic Quigley

Kevin & Amanda Burger

Steven Winters

Stephanie Edmonds

John Koke

Deb Noonan

Stefanie Clifford

Marvin Petsch

Pat Avery

Madeline McGrath

Rev. Al Eppen

Laurie Karaska

Tim Nolan

John Harada

Rev. Rich Tino

Gregg Steigerwalt

Kristen White

Rick Prueter

Dale Mabel

Ron Flora

Adam Hassig

Terry

Cynthia

Pam

Kelly

Rich

Bobby

Stephanie (inoperable cancer -
granddaughter of
Andrea Blumberg)

Order of Worship

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

L In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

L Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

L Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

L I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

L Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

L Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Collect of the Day

L Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 50:4–9a

L A reading from Isaiah, chapter 50.

⁴The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.

Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face
from disgrace and spitting.

⁷But the Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

⁸He who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who is my adversary?

Let him come near to me.
⁹Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 118:19-29

¹⁹Open to me the gates of | righteousness,*
that I may enter through them
and give thanks | to the LORD.
²⁰This is the gate | of the LORD;*
the righteous shall enter | through it.
²¹I thank you that you have | answered me*
and have become my sal- | vation.
²²The stone that the builders re- | jected*
has become the | cornerstone.
²³This is the LORD's | doing;*
it is marvelous | in our eyes.
²⁴This is the day that the | LORD has made;*
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.
²⁵Save us, we pray, | O LORD!*
O LORD, we pray, give | us success!
²⁶Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*
We bless you from the house | of the LORD.
²⁷The LORD is God,
and he has made his light to shine up- | on us.*
Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,
up to the horns of the | altar!
²⁸You are my God, and I will give | thanks to you;*
you are my God; I will ex- | tol you.
²⁹Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good;*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!

Epistle

Philippians 2:5–11

L A reading from Philippians, chapter 2.

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and

under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 12:12–43

L A reading from John, chapter 12.

¹²The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" ¹⁴And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵"Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. ¹⁷The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

²⁵Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

²⁷"Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. ³⁴So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" ³⁵So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. ³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."

When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. ³⁷Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, ³⁸so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

"Lord, who has believed what he heard from us,
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"

³⁹Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said,

⁴⁰"He has blinded their eyes
and hardened their heart,
lest they see with their eyes,
and understand with their heart, and turn,
and I would heal them."

⁴¹Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him. ⁴²Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Apostles' Creed

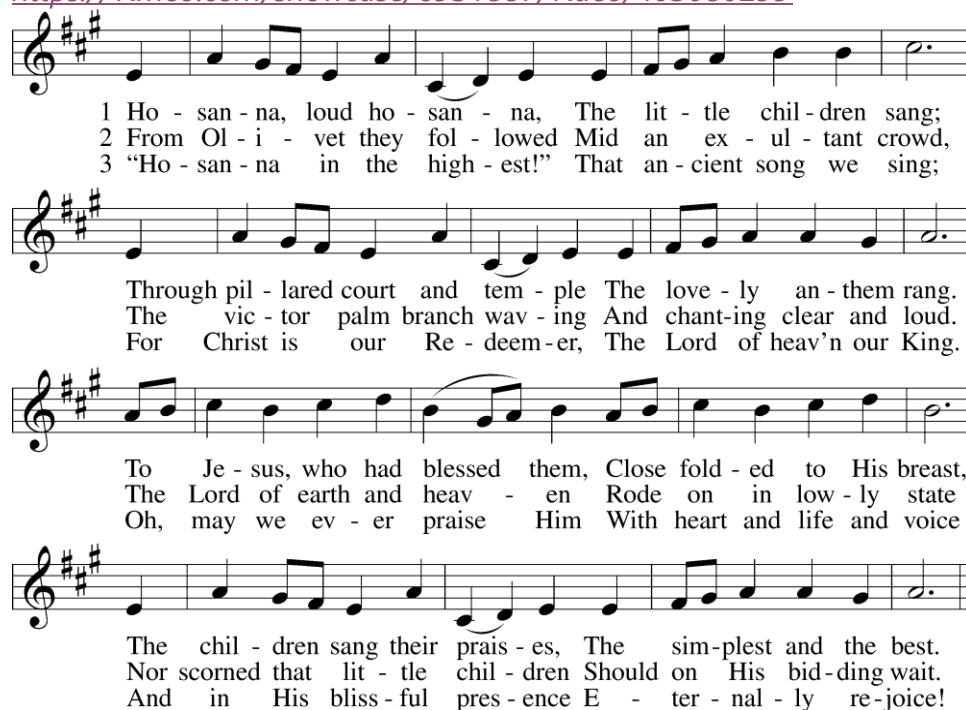
C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

443 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/6931887/video/403080299>



1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, The lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed Mid an ex - ul - tant crowd,
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing;
Through pil - lared court and tem - ple The love - ly an - them rang.
The vic - tor palm branch wav - ing And chant - ing clear and loud.
For Christ is our Re - deem - er, The Lord of heav'n our King.
To Je - sus, who had blessed them, Close fold - ed to His breast,
The Lord of earth and heav - en Rode on in low - ly state
Oh, may we ev - er praise Him With heart and life and voice
The chil - dren sang their prais - es, The sim - plest and the best.
Nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren Should on His bid - ding wait.
And in His bliss - ful pres - ence E - ter - nal - ly re - joice!

Tune and text: Public domain

Sermon - https://youtu.be/dNG-xwUBE_8

Offering

Your contributions are vital to the ongoing ministry of Faith Lutheran Church. Please prayerfully consider your regular tithe and offering through faithhighland.com/give

Offertory *Sung or Spoken*



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

We pray for the Church, that the Lord would defend her against all her enemies and keep her true to Jesus Christ by the power of His Word and Spirit:

Gracious Lord, keep Your scattered Church in Your mercy, that she may endure the assaults of the evil one and remain faithful for the sake of those numbered within Your Kingdom and those who have not yet heard the Gospel and been brought to faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for all pastors, for all church-work vocations and for all the baptized in their vocation as God's people:

Almighty God, by Your Spirit You have gathered us as Your Church and promised that wherever two or three are together in Your name, there You are in our midst. Do not allow stress or disaster to distract us from the particular vocations into which You have called us to serve in the Church, home and community. Grant to us every gift and blessing needful, that we may honor our calling and serve You to the best of our ability; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for those preparing for Baptism, for the newly baptized, for those being catechized as children and adults, and for those joining our congregation:

Almighty Father, Your Word will not return to You empty but will accomplish Your purpose. Hear us on behalf of those who have heard Your Word, who are being baptized into Christ and joining the fellowship of our congregation, that they may keep the faith with holy and joyful hearts trusting in Christ as their Savior; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for the government, for all in authority over us, and for our own lives as citizens and neighbors:

O mighty Lord, You have established the kingdom of the left and hold accountable all those who govern in this and every place. Guide our president; the members of Congress; the governor of this state; and all who make, administer and judge our laws, that they would serve nobly and wisely, pursuing the path of justice and protecting the citizens entrusted to them. Give them the wisdom and strength needed to bring our world out of crisis and back to stability; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for an end to violence and terror, for those imprisoned, for the troubled in mind, and for those who suffer any afflictions of the body:

Merciful Lord, Your grace is sufficient for all our needs, and You have promised to be the strength of the weary, the hope of those who fear, the healing of the ill, the fullness of those disabled, and the peace of all who are distressed. Hear us on behalf of our nation and the world suffering pandemic and isolation. We pray especially for _____ and all whom we name in our hearts, that they may be well supplied by Your grace in every time of trouble; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

We pray for those not yet of the Kingdom, that God would make us bold to speak the faith to them and that hearing, they might believe:

Everlasting Father, it is Your will that all should be saved and come to the knowledge of Your Son by faith. Give to Your Word success and deliver from error all those who live in darkness and fear, that they may walk in the light of the Lord Jesus and have confidence for the trials of this world and hope for the world to come; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

We pray for the earth to be fruitful, and for our good use of all the fruits of the earth:

Blessed Lord, You give food to the hungry and provide for all our needs in this mortal life. Grant to us a grateful heart and knowledge to use wisely and well all that You have entrusted to our care. Bless those who work to make, prepare, deliver or serve our daily bread, and give relief to those whose work has been halted; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

We pray for our unity of doctrine and faith, and for strengthening through the means of grace:

Holy Lord, as once Your Son was welcomed with palms and hosannas, help us to welcome Him who comes to us in Word and Sacrament. Guard us against false teaching and help us to discern truth from error, that none may be led astray or lost from the fellowship of Your Son. Look with kindness on all who are separated from Holy Communion and comfort them with Your promises, especially that they are never distant from the mystical body of Your Son, the communion of saints; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

L Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to 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.

Benedicamus

L Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

C Amen.

Hymn to Depart: 427 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/6931887/video/403873271>



The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the third staff.

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing Light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure By the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred
ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -
love up - on my way, From the cross the ra - diance
cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no

sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.
mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.

Tune and text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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