

# Welcome to Faith Lutheran

Sunday, April 2, 2017

F I F T H

# Sunday in Lent



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## **Active Living**

Martha and Mary lament to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here” (John 11:21). They want the past to be different, but the past is history and cannot be changed. It is as dead as Lazarus in the tomb. In response to Jesus’ comfort, Martha confesses an eventual resurrection. Jesus responds, “I am the resurrection and the life,” a statement of the present (John 11:25). Resurrection living is no longer about some after-death, ethereal future but rather is about life in the present.

Jesus goes to the tomb and demands that the stone be removed. He calls Lazarus out, not into a cloud-hopping distant life but back into the midst of life in Christ’s present presence. It is not about protection or safety but about life that boldly enters into the sharp corners and edges of living.

Jesus’ call to “come out!” reaches into the death-darkened tomb and calls Lazarus and us into the light of life where we can leave behind the stench of our “if only” ways of living. At Jesus’ call and command, and with the help of our faith communities, the prejudices and insecurities that bind us are released so that we may fully engage the world.

In the waters of baptism, our “if only” ways are drowned and we are raised up in Christ into resurrection living. The Holy Spirit empowers our baptismal living, inspiring us to speak words of hope and life into places that know only despair and hopeless death. In Christ’s presence we are unbound, released, and called into new ways of living in the resurrection life of the Messiah who breaks into the world, conquering the paralysis of death and creating active living for the sake of the world.

**Sunday, April 2, 2017**

5 Lent

## **Introduction to the day**

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome new sisters and brothers at the baptismal font, as we renew our baptismal promises.

*If hearing assistance is needed, please ask an usher for a personal PA receiver.*

*The ushers also have large print copies of today's worship folder available.*

*If it will be difficult for you to stand along with the congregation during any part of the worship service, please feel free to remain seated.*

*There is a nursery available during the worship service for those who wish to use it. It is located at the end of the hall beyond the coat racks.*

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.*

*Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.*

## **Prayer Requests**

## **PRELUDE**

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

arr. Dale Wood

*The pre-service music signals the beginning of the worship service. Silence during the pre-service music enables worshipers to prepare for worship through quiet meditation.*

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## GATHERING

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

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

God of heaven and earth,  
you come in close and make us yours.  
Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin,  
embrace your forgiveness,  
and seek the way you set before us in your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.  
*The assembly may kneel or stand.*

Merciful God,  
**forgive us.**  
**Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break free.**  
**We have spoken when we should have kept quiet.**  
*Silence.*

Merciful God,  
**We were silent when we should have said something.**  
*Silence.*

Merciful God,  
**We acted when we knew better.**  
*Silence.*

Merciful God,  
**We were still when we know we should have moved.**  
*Silence.*

Merciful God,  
**For the wrong we have done,  
 for the good we have failed to do,  
 have mercy on us,  
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
 Amen.**

People of God, look to the ✝ Son,  
 given to heal you and set you free  
 because God loved the world so much.  
 Take hold of life—eternal life!  
**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG**

*Oh For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

#886

**GREETING**

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.**

**KYRIE**

Kyrie



1, 3	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
2	Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.
1, 3	Lord, . . . . . have mer - cy.	Lord, . . . . . have mer - cy.
2	Christ, . . . . . have mer - cy.	Christ, . . . . . have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, . . . . . have mer - cy.	Lord, . . . . . have mer - cy.
Christ, . . . . . have mer - cy.	Christ, . . . . . have mer - cy.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

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## WORD

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

### FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

*Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the Lord."*

A reading from Ezekiel.

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and

the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: Romans 8:6-11**

*For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.*

A reading from Romans.

<sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**




# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*


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## Open our eyes, Lord




D G<sup>2</sup> G Em<sup>7</sup>/A A<sup>7</sup>

O - pen our eyes, Lord; we want to see




G/D D A/C# Bm D/A GM<sup>9</sup>

Je - sus, to reach out and touch



Em A<sup>7</sup> G/D D<sup>2</sup> D

him, and say that we love him.



DM<sup>7</sup> A/G G Em<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup>

O - pen our ears, Lord, and help us to



G/D D A Bm<sup>7</sup> D/A GM<sup>9</sup>

lis - ten. O - pen our eyes,



Em<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup> D

Lord, we want to see Je - sus.

## **GOSPEL: John 11:1-45**

*Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." <sup>5</sup>Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup>after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup>Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." <sup>11</sup>After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." <sup>13</sup>Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup>For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup>Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

<sup>17</sup>When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup>Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup>When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that God will

give you whatever you ask of him.”<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”<sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,<sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”<sup>27</sup> She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

<sup>28</sup>When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”<sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him.<sup>31</sup> The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.<sup>32</sup> When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.<sup>34</sup> He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”<sup>35</sup> Jesus began to weep.<sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”<sup>37</sup> But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.”<sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?”<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me.<sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”<sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

<sup>45</sup>Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

*The assembly is seated.*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## **SERMON**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*The Word of God is Source and Seed*

***ELW #506***

*The assembly is seated*

## **PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS**

*The presiding minister begins.* Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Joanna O'Brien, united with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome into the life and ministry of Faith Lutheran Church.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

*The presiding minister continues.*

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.**

## **ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS**

In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

*The presiding minister addresses the new member.*

Do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

*Those being welcomed respond.*

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for this new member in Christian living?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

## **WELCOME**

*Those being welcomed face the assembly. The pastor addresses the assembly.*

Let us welcome our new member to this community of faith.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to the entire world.**

*The congregation gives acclamation and thanks.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need.

*Prayers of intercession are prayed.*

*To each petition, the assembly responds:*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers, and the assembly responds:*

Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated.*

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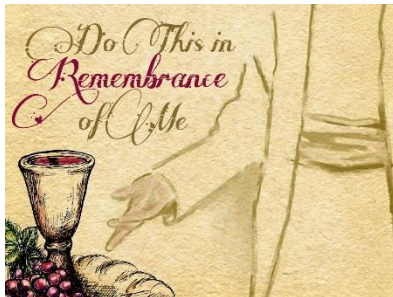
## MEAL

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

## OFFERING

Chancel Choir “This Do in Remembrance of Me” (Hunnicuttt)



## OFFERING RESPONSE

### Change My Heart, O God



Change my heart, O God; make it ev-er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953

Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa

Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

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 call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, 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:



# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

## Vs. 1



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,  
2 Gracious Fa - ther, gra - cious Fa - ther, we're so blest to be your  
3 Pre - cious Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus, we're so glad that you've re -  
4 Ho - ly Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it, come and fill our hearts a -  
5 Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, . . .



Lord God Al - might - y; and we lift our hearts be - fore you as a  
chil - dren, gra - cious Fa - ther; and we lift our heads be - fore you as a  
deemed us, pre - cious Je - sus; and we lift our hands be - fore you as a  
new, . . . Ho - ly Spir - it; and we lift our voice be - fore you as a  
. . . . . hal - le - lu - jah; and we lift our hearts be - fore you as a



to - ken of our love, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly.  
to - ken of our love, gra - cious Fa - ther, gra - cious Fa - ther.  
to - ken of our love, pre - cious Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus.  
to - ken of our love, Ho - ly Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it.  
to - ken of our love, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text and music: Jimmy Owens

Text and music © 1972 Bud John Songs, Inc., admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing



## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you. You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock. We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world. Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen**



## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,  
let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father 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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Return to God with all your heart.  
Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

## **COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
Amen.

# COMMUNION SONG

LENT

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## Lamb of God Your Only Son



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and  
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y  
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a  
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.  
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre-cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

# CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

**ELW #338**

# CONGREGATIONAL SONG

## Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

### *Prayer of St. Francis*



1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.  
2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.  
4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.



Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your love;  
Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope;  
It is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned,

*Last time to coda* ♪



where there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord;  
where there is dark - ness, . . . . . on - ly light;  
in giv - ing of our - selves that we re



and where there's doubt, true faith in you.  
and where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.



3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so



much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be



un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be

*D.C. (stanza 4) al coda*



loved as to love with all my soul.



ceive, and in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

*The assembly stands*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven.  
Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for  
justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of  
grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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## **SENDING**

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

## **BLESSING**

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth,  
and claimed us as children of the light,  
strengthen you on your journey into life renewed.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor

and give you ✝ peace.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

*In the Cross of Christ, I Glory*

*ELW #324*

## **DISMISSAL**

Marked with the cross of Christ,  
go forth to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

"Ciacona"

Johann Krieger

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Welcome to worship, brothers and sisters in Christ! May our various voices joined in praise bless the name of the Lord.



Pastor	Ellen Schoepf	<a href="mailto:prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org">prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org</a>
Secretary	Katie Love	<a href="mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org">klove@faithlutheranokemos.org</a>
Director of Christian Education		Melinda Schultz
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

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March 26, 2017 Attendance: 122

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Serving Faith	April 2	April 9
Acolyte	Anja Guenther	Clayton Wenzel
Altar Care	Gretchen Bills & Gail Barricklow	
Communion Assistants	Anja Guenther	Clayton Wenzel
	Ken Schoepf	
	Heidi Nussdorfer	
Greeters	Ken & Karen Whitmyer	Ken & Ellen Milne
Lay Assistants	Ken Schoepf	Passion Sunday
Readers	Heidi Nussdorfer	Passion Sunday
Ushers	Walter & Brenda Kopf	
Nursery	Alexis Hereza	Corey & Kim O'Brien

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Faith Family & Friends

April 2, 2017

Log onto Faith's website [www.faithlutheranokemos.org](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org) 24/7 for updates

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### DEADLINES

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Sunday worship folder announcements—Tuesday of each week  
Submit to Katie at [klove@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org)

*May Faith Family News newsletter—*

**Please submit by Monday April 17**

Submit to Katie at [klove@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org)

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### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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Please lift up in prayer this week:

- ✠ Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne, Harry Nawrock, Harold Sollenberger and Ken Whitmyer.
- ✠ Friends and family—  
Harriet, Pat Belonga, Todd Barricklow, Greg Beckwith, Carol Coyer, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Allie, Heather, Al, Lilly, Sai Eshwar Lingamgunta, Jenn Leitch, Jeanne and Leonard, Tom Brown, Susan Heft, Pat Hillberg & Family, Dennis Cobler, John Joseph Lanzetta, Bethany Robison, and the White family. Please keep Rich Weingartners mother, Sally Weingartner and his sister Lani Yearicks in your prayers.
- ✠ Our mission partner congregation—Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- ✠ Those in military service—Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks, Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.
- ✠ Samaritas children who seek adoption—Giovanni, Jessica, LeeAnn and Valerie. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friend.

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### NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

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As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Pastor Marcia Schultz and the congregation of Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Edmore, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.



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**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

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**Weekly Offering**      **03/26/17**      Year-to-date as of 02/28/2017

Loose Cash	\$ 109.00	Income	\$45,183.54
Loose Checks	\$ 25.00	Expenses	<u>\$47,663.11</u>
Flowers	\$ 10.00	Net Income	<b>-2479.57</b>
World Hunger	\$ 20.00		
Lenten Service	\$ 21.80		
Sunday School	\$ 11.33		
Youth			
Retreat	\$ 563.00		
Bottle Return	\$ 76.20		
March Meal	\$ 410.00		
Caring Comm. Easter	\$ 50.00		
Lois Sollenberger Mem.	\$ 325.00		
Shirley Jirele Mem.	\$ 25.00		
Capital Repairs	\$ 20.00		
General Fund	\$2730.00		
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$4396.33</b>		

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**ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS**

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Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Ann Mayer in celebration of Tim Mayer's 34<sup>th</sup> birthday.

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**THIS WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS**

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\*\*Easter Flower Order forms are available at the end of the worship folder. Due Date: **TODAY** \*\*

**New Member Sunday, No Sunday School**

10:00 a.m.      Worship  
11:30 a.m.      Worship Committee Meeting

Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>

Worship folder announcements deadline  
Noon:              Study in Pastor Ellen's office

Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>

7:30 a.m.      Men's Study  
9:30 a.m.      Quilting and Samaritas ACTION  
6:00 p.m.      Dinner Begins  
6:15 p.m.      Faith Bells  
7:15 p.m.      Worship Service  
7:45 p.m.      Choir Good Friday Practice  
8:10 p.m.      Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>

Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION



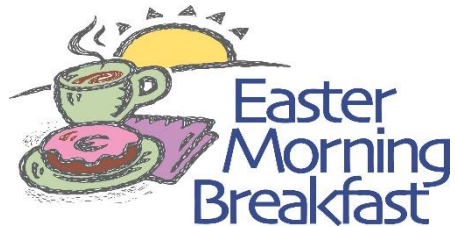
## Are You Able?

The Property Team has scheduled our Spring Clean-up for Sunday, April 23 after worship service. We hope to do some trimming, mulching and planting. Gloves, shovels, pruners, trimmers, extension cords, wheelbarrow, etc. would be good to

bring with you. To help celebrate Earth Day which is Saturday, April 22, the Green Team will be participating in the Spring Clean-up effort. For all those who are staying to help, a light lunch will be served following worship. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex so we know how much food to prepare for all who will be helping to clean up our church yard. Thanks for your help.

## Easter Breakfast

**Sunday April 16th  
@ 9 a.m.**



Hosted by the Membership Development Committee.

**We will provide beverages, please sign up for a dish to pass on the Membership board in The Narthex**





# Food Collection

Help Pack the Easter Basket Food Drive Bags on  
Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7p.m.

## EASTER BASKET FOOD DRIVE

My children, we should love people not only with words  
and talk, but by our actions and true caring.

1 John 3:18

The Caring Committee is sponsoring the annual Easter Basket Food Drive. Meridian Township Human Resources Dept. provides us with the names of 20 families that need a little extra help. Faith members are blessed to be able to help by providing any/or all the items listed below.

Cereal	Peanut Butter
Muffin Mix	Boxed Desserts
Juice	Easter Candy
Boxed Potatoes	Easter Egg Coloring Kits
Tuna	Mac & Cheese
Canned Fruits and Vegetables	

Cash donations help with the purchase of the hams, eggs, and milk for the families. **The delivery date is Sunday, APRIL 9.** Please see the sign-up sheet on the information board in the narthex.

Thank you for your support, care for others and prayers as we do HIS work in the community.

## **What are those Laundry Baskets for??**

### **ARROW TREE FOOD PANTRY**

The Caring Committee is launching a community outreach program to help support the Arrow Tree Apartment complex across the street from Faith Lutheran Church. Pastor Ellen and Katie Love have been in contact with the apartment complex manager, Janice, and she has expressed the need for non-perishable food items for some of the residents.

We will be collecting food items in baskets in the lower main church entry, as an ongoing project. Members can drop food items at any time in the baskets. Janice from Arrow Tree will come over and pick up the food items, or Pastor Ellen and Katie will deliver them. Janice will be responsible for distributing the food items on an as needed basis to residents and will store the extra items. Pastor Ellen and Katie will be in contact with Janice as needed.

Suggested items needed: SOUP, MAC & CHEESE, CEREAL, OATMEAL, PASTAS, PEANUT BUTTER, HEALTHY SNACK BARS, TUNA, CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ETC.

Thank you members of Faith Lutheran for your continued help and support as we reach out to help those in need.

**Let us stop saying we love people; let us really love them and  
show it by our actions  
1 John 3:18**

## **CAREGIVERS SUPPORT Group Meeting**

Join us at 11:30am for a light lunch and discussion. All are Welcome!

Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>: Allie Phillips – Self Empowerment Coach and master energy therapist. The place where energy laws and healing come together for people and pets.

Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>: Kristin Creighton, Fahrenheit Massage will speak on Self-Care tips for the Caregiver and Free Chair Massage.

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## **Stay Connected!**

Want to know what is happening at Faith Lutheran? Stay connected online:

Website - [faithlutheranokemos.org](http://faithlutheranokemos.org)

Facebook - [facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos](https://facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos)

## **Your Faith Journey Podcast**

- iOS - <http://bit.ly/faithios>
- Android - <http://bit.ly/faithandroid>

You also will find the audio available on the Faith Lutheran Website under worship:

Sermons - <http://faithlutheranokemos.org/sermons/>

Special Music - <http://faithlutheranokemos.org/category/special-music/>

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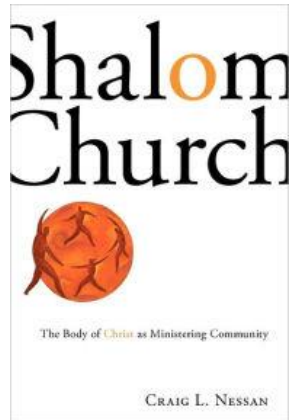
## **Bring the World to Your Home and Heart**

The Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE), founded in 1947, offers high school students from around the world the opportunity to live and study in the United States. Would you consider opening your home to a student? It is a great way for families to learn about another culture, share their lives and culture, and make forever connections. For more information contact Pam Williams at 517-927-7703.



## **Shalom Church Book Study**

Beginning on Tuesday, April 18, we are collaborating with members of St. Paul Lutheran Church to host a Book Study group that will take place at Old Chicago at 6:30 PM. This nine-week book study group will be reading *Shalom Church* by Dr. Craig L. Nesson. Nesson's work addresses the church's deepest identity, shape, and contemporary imperatives in Christ and the tradition of discipling that stems from Jesus' life, work, death, and resurrection. In this work, Nesson adds contextual analysis and describes the four chief ecclesial imperatives that mark Christ's presence in the world today: peacemaking, justice-making, care for creation, and engagement with the other. He then unfolds the real-life implications of this paradigm of Christian community for the local church structure, strategies for partnering, public witness, and interreligious engagement. His work describes what the body of Christ should look like today.



Dr. Nesson will also be the keynote speaker at a Synod Publicly Engaged Church event on June 17 entitled *Lutherans Always Reforming*. This event will take place at University Lutheran in East Lansing and all are welcome to attend.

If you are interested in participating in the **Shalom Church Book Study**, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. We need to know how many books to order and how people will participate.





### **Easter Egg Hunt**

This fun activity will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup>. We will be having the egg hunt after the worship service. This event is for any child under the age of 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Any of the older children are welcome to help hide the eggs and assist the younger children in locating the eggs.

### **Compassion Sunday**

Join us on April 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> when we will give the congregation updates on the children we currently sponsor through the Sunday School collection, and we will also give out information on how church members can become sponsors as well.



### **Quiche Meal, Youth Fundraiser, April 30<sup>th</sup>, immediately following the Quarterly Meeting**

The Youth will be holding this luncheon fundraiser in the Large Fellowship Hall on April 30<sup>th</sup>. We will have several varieties of quiches to choose from, as well as salad and fruit. We would appreciate any assistance in purchasing the following products to make this luncheon a success. Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex, and thank you for your continued support of the youth group: 7 cartons of eggs (12), 3 gallons of white milk, 5 red onions, 2 bags of frozen chopped spinach (16oz), 2 packages of low sodium bacon, 5 red bell peppers, 1 package of feta cheese (8oz), 5 bags of shredded cheddar cheese (8oz), and 32oz of cubed ham.



**Vacation Bible School** will be held on June 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00-12:00. VBS Sunday will be on June 25<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for volunteers to help out with the various stations and with the groups. This year's theme is "**Maker Fun Factory**"! We will also have some planning sessions and decoration making sessions. The first VBS planning meeting will be on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> immediately following the service. The following dates are for making decorations: Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00 and Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1:00-3:00. Please let Melinda know if you are able to assist with these events in any way.



**Thrivent Action Teams are needed again!!!**

Please apply to help your youth group in a one-time fundraiser, service activity or educational event that can be completed within 90 days. Here are some suggestions for your Thrivent Action Teams: Quiche Meal or Faith Vacation Bible School. Use this link to get started:

<https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-action-teams/> Please see Melinda to get specific details or if you have any questions.

**Important Dates in April**

9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO SUNDAY SCHOOL, SPRING BREAK</b>
14 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup>	Confirmation Lock-In, 6:00pm-10:00am
15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Final Confirmation Review, 1:00-4:00</b>
16 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Breakfast, 9:00am
16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Children sing during the service.</b>
16 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Egg Hunt, 11:15am
21 <sup>st</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Youth Lock-in, 6:00pm-10:00am
23 <sup>rd</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup>	Compassion Sunday
26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Last Trinity &amp; Confirmation</b>
30 <sup>th</sup>	Youth Fundraising, Quiche Meal, 11:30-
12:30pm	



# HOLY WEEK



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>:**

**Palm Sunday**

No Sunday School

Worship 10:00 am

**Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>:**

**Maundy Thursday**

Worship 7:00 p.m.

**Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>:**

**Good Friday**

Worship at St. Katherine's

Episcopal Church 11:30 a.m.

Tenebrae worship with St.

Paul Lutheran at Faith 7:00

p.m.

*The evening Tenebrae Service is a deeply moving participatory experience as choir, congregation, string quartet, oboe, organ, and readings all come together to convey the story of this sacred day. From Latin, the word Tenebrae means "darkness" and commemorates the final hours of our Lord's life on earth, as he suffered death upon the cross. As candles are extinguished, they symbolize the fading loyalty of the disciples and friends of Jesus. The gradual darkening of the church portrays the diminishing light of the world as Christ was departing from it. Members of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Lansing will be joining us for this service*

**Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>:**

**Easter Sunday**

No Sunday School

Worship 8:00 a.m.

Brunch 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt 11:15 a.m.

**CORNERSTONE DOCUMENTARY  
TO SCREEN AT FAITH LUTHERAN  
ON TUESDAY, APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2017  
7:00 p.m.**



*CORNERSTONE*, an inspiring documentary film by award-winning director Debi Lang, touches on Twesigye Jackson Kaguri's moving personal story, which inspired the creation of Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project, a motivated, comprehensive, community-based organization that utilizes a unique holistic approach to not only combat hunger, illness and poverty, but also to educate children, create financial independence, and empower girls and women.

Kaguri's work has earned him the respect of humanitarians worldwide including the United Nations. He received the **2015 Waislitz Global Citizen Award**, was named a **2012 CNN Hero** is recognized in **Time Magazine's Power of One** series, is a **Tedx Talks** speaker and has authored four books including the widely popular "**A School For My Village**".

Spreading awareness of the impact that still exist from the AIDS pandemic through *CORNERSTONE* will motivate viewers to become part of the movement that Nyaka AIDS Orphans Projects has created to empower the grannies who support the orphans in rural villages of Southwestern Uganda."

The *CORNERSTONE* screening will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 25 at Faith Lutheran Church Located on 4515 Dobie Road, Okemos, MI 48864. Admission is free and donations are encouraged with proceeds directed to Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project.

The event will include a meet and greet with Twesigye Jackson Kaguri. A reception and refreshments featuring Ugandan coffee and Nyaka crafts bazaar will follow the screening.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/221940064877963/>



The Green Team will be presenting a showing of the documentary, *Before the Flood*, at Okemos Public Library (4321 Okemos Rd.) on **Sunday afternoon, April 30, beginning at 2:30 PM.**

*Before the Flood*, presented by National Geographic, features Leonardo DiCaprio on a journey as a United Nations Messenger of Peace, traveling to five continents and the Arctic to witness climate change firsthand. He goes on

expeditions with scientists uncovering the reality of climate change and meets with political leaders fighting against inaction. He also discovers a calculated disinformation campaign orchestrated by powerful special interests working to confuse the public about the urgency of the growing climate crisis. With unprecedented access to thought leaders around the world, DiCaprio searches for hope in a rising tide of catastrophic news.

**Following the showing of this documentary, the Rev. Dr. John Schleicher will be leading a conversation and discussion about the movie. Pastor Schleicher is the President of Michigan Interfaith Power & Light.**

**This event is free and the public is invited. Please email Pastor Ellen at [prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org) with any questions.**

**\*\*Fun Fact: One of the producers of *Before the Flood* is Class of 2000 Okemos Graduate, Trevor Davidoski. \*\***

<https://www.facebook.com/events/172008216649497/>

## IN OUR COMMUNITY



Shared Pregnancy Women's Center is hosting its annual Lifesavers Celebration and Fundraiser on Thursday, April 27th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Grand Ledge Opera House. Admission is free! There will be a silent auction throughout the evening, children's crafts, face painting, ice cream sundaes, and a short program at 7:15 p.m. featuring a client testimony and awards presentation. Join the fun and help support Shared Pregnancy so we can continue helping moms, babies, and families in the Lansing area. Go to our facebook page for auction updates and all the details.

## FROM THE GREEN TEAM

Just a reminder: The Boxes in the Foyer of both West Church Doors can be used to recycle department store shopping bags, vegetable bags, dry cleaning bags, mailing bags, as well as grocery store bags. Essentially any plastic bag that is clean and dry can be placed in the big cardboard boxes for recycling. If you have questions, please call Cecelia Kramer [517-349-3297](tel:517-349-3297)



Help set a Guinness World Record by recycling your electronics! Meridian Earth Day Recycling Event is scheduled for April 22nd from 9 to 2 at Chippewa Middle School. Go to [recycle.meridian.mi.us](http://recycle.meridian.mi.us) for further information on additional materials being accepted.

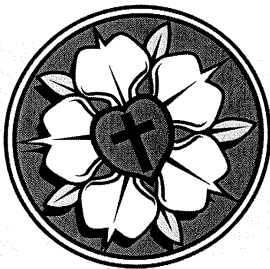
IN CELEBRATION OF THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION

2017 **LUTHERANS**

**ALWAYS**

**REFORMING**

A DAY OF SOCIAL CHANGE CONVERSATION



**SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2017**

**UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1020 South Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI

REGISTER NOW: [MITTENSYNOD.ORG](http://MITTENSYNOD.ORG)

## WORKSHOPS

Immigration  
Criminal Justice  
How to do Advocacy  
Open Hearts. Open Church  
Stewardship of the Environment  
Hunger  
Human Trafficking  
Faith, Sexism and Justice  
Shalom Church

## SCHEDULE

9:00 Registration & Coffee  
9:30 Welcome & Opening Prayer  
10:00 Keynote Speaker  
11:15 Workshops  
12:00 Lunch (Provided)  
1:00 Workshops  
2:00 Workshops  
3:00 Closing Worship

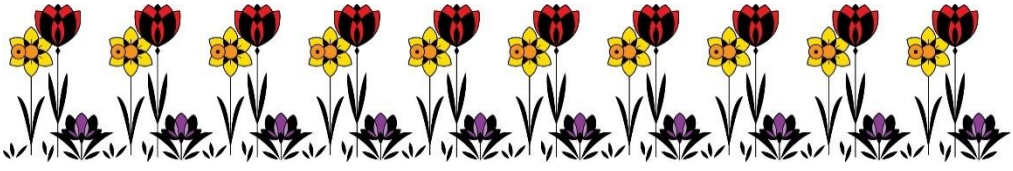
## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Craig L. Nessian is Academic Dean and Professor of Contextual Theology at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. He holds degrees from Michigan State University, Wartburg Theological Seminary, and the University of Munich. Dr. Nessian has authored multiple books, including *Shalom Church: The Body of Christ as Ministering Community*.

FREEWILL OFFERING. BOX LUNCH PROVIDED. CHILDCARE AVAILABLE.

Sponsored by the Synod Publicly Engaged Church Committee





# 2017 EASTER FLOWER DEDICATION

**Order deadline: April 2**

I would like to order the following flower(s) to be placed in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday:

<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>FLOWER(S)</u>	<u>ORDER TOTAL</u>
_____	Daffodil(s) \$10 ea.	_____
_____	Tulip(s)* \$10 ea.	_____

\*Color selection for tulips: Purple Pink Yellow Red

Please PRINT your dedication(s) below:

Name person(s) dedicating:

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In memory of:

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In honor of:

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In celebration of:

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Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church  
Place this dedication form in Connie Nelson's church mailbox  
*Please pick up your flower(s)  
after the late worship service Easter Sunday*