

# WELCOMING OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

---

## GATHERING

---

### Prelude

**PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE**

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

**C** **Amen!**

### **THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

---

**P** Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Together we pray,

**C** **Steadfast and faithful God, you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

**P** Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven. In the Spirit we have strength and life.

**C** **Amen.**



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,  
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,  
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave  
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
 whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;  
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.  
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,  
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.  
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

### THE GREETING

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C** **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

---

**P** Together we pray,

**C** O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## HYMN OF PRAISE THE FEAST OF VICTORY

ELW s148

---

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



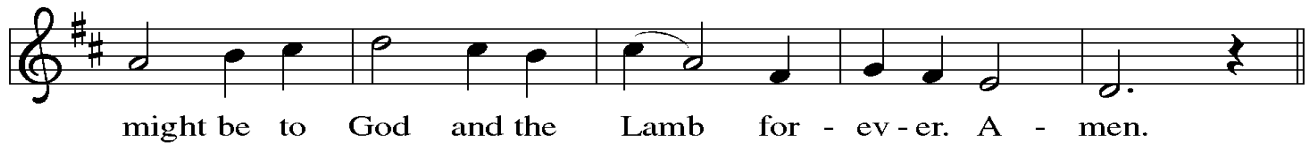
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## WORD

### FIRST READING

*Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24*

<sup>11</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

<sup>20</sup>Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, <sup>22</sup>I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

<sup>23</sup>I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the LORD,

will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

L The word of God.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING:**

*Ephesians 1:15-23*

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

L The word of God.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ALLELUIA**

**ELW s151**



**GOSPEL**

*Matthew 25:31-46*

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>31</sup>“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.

<sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ <sup>41</sup>Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

**P** The Gospel of our Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON**

Pastor Armen

**PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE**



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness  
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed  
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant  
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der  
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.  
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

A Together we confess our faith,  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son,**  
**our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born**  
**of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was**  
**crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the**  
**third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at**  
**the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**



## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

---

A Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*each petition concludes...*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

P We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE (SPOKEN GREETING ONLY)

---

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

---

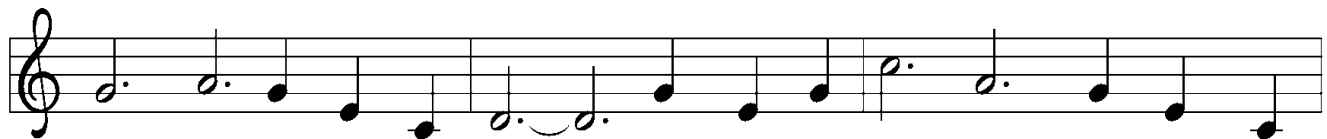
*In thanksgiving for God's blessing, we respond with our tithe and offering*

## OFFERTORY HYMN PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

ELW 689



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.

## OFFERING PRAYER

---

A Together we pray,

**C** God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.

## THE MEAL

---

P The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

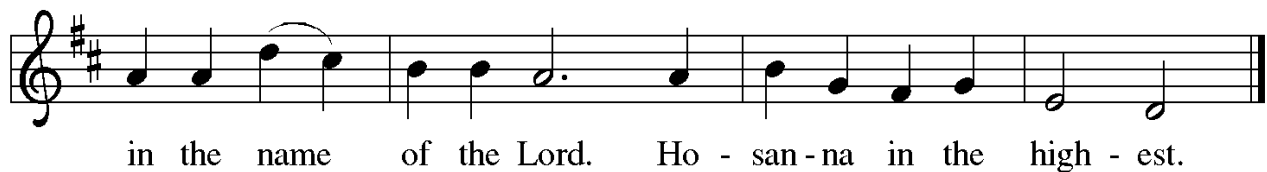
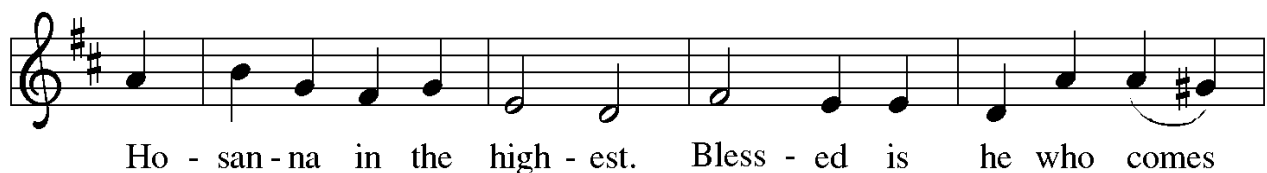
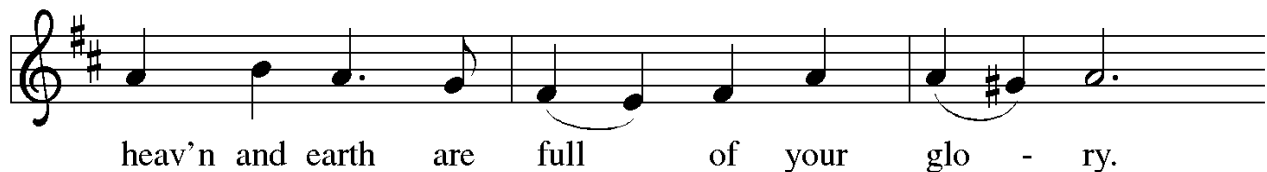
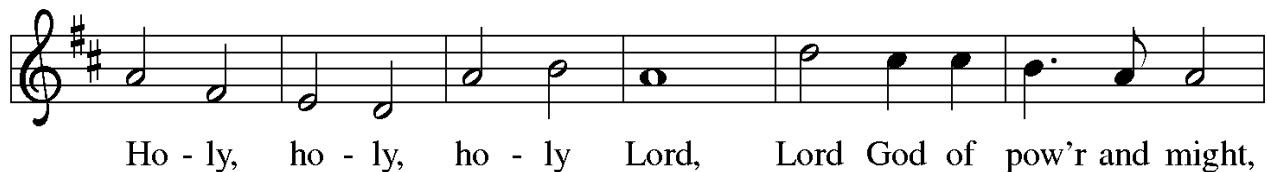
P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

ELW s153



P 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.

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.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

---

A Together we 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.**

## DISTRIBUTION

As we celebrate the meal of our Lord, all are invited. If you are a guest and regularly commune at your church, you are welcome to commune here. For those not communing, please keep your hands folded and you will receive a blessing. Both wine (red) and grape juice (white) are available at communion. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, notify the server. If you are unable to come to the altar rail and would like to receive communion in your seat, please notify an usher.

*after all have communed*

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.      **C Amen.**

A Together we pray,

**C Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. Amen.**

**P** May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

**C Amen.**

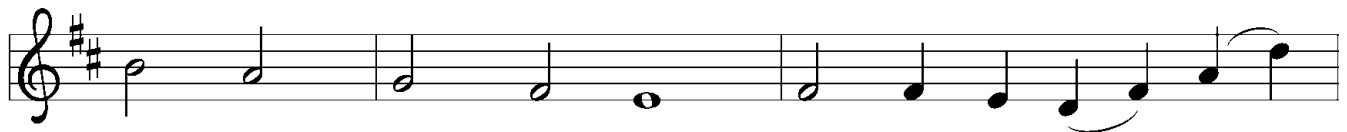
**HYMN**

*Jesus Shall Reign*

*ELW 434*



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his  
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners  
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -  
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -  
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

**DISMISSAL**

**P** Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**

## ***Faith's Weekly Announcements***

*Welcome to all of you attending this morning!*

### **Food Pantry**

This week the food bank especially needs whatever you would like to bring. All donations should be placed in the bin in the narthex.

### **'Tis the Season**

It's time to consider volunteering for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Christmas program, ringing the bell. Our dates are on Mondays, at the Publix at Merchant's Crossing, from 10 am to 6 pm. You serve in 2-hour increments. The sign-up poster is in the narthex, and we still need a few slots filled.

### **Ladies Christmas Luncheon -- December 13th**

It seems like this has become our Christmas tradition! Farlows is located at 2080 S. McCall Rd in Englewood. They have a wonderful menu with lots of seafood and fantastic salads and even a Hot Brown for mid-westerners. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Please come join us at the beginning of the holiday season. If you need more information, see or call Kathie Wiley (941-662-5383).

### **Christmas Flowers**

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for our Christmas decorating, they are \$10 each and there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you like, you may take the flower home after the second service on Christmas day. (Please write legibly as your name and any dedication will be listed in the bulletin.) You can place your checks, marked "poinsettias," in the offering plate.

## **WE PRAY FOR...**

Rosie LaQuay

Debby Lynn Costello

Shirley Rice

Tom Jackling

Stephens family

Verna Newlon

Bruce Grosvenor

Lou Taylor

Emily Hoops

Schattauer family

Joyce Schultz

Art Hanson

Nancy Smith

Jim Hardenstine

## **THIS WEEK AT FAITH**

**Every week day morning**

6:30 am

AA meets at church

**Monday**

8:00 pm

AA meets at church

**Tuesday**

8:30 am

Work Crew

9:00 am

Lutheran Chicks

10:00 am

Grace Bible Study

5:00 pm

Girl Scouts

6:00 pm

Prayer with Grace

**Friday**

Office Closed

## **Serving Today**

**Altar Guild:** Linda Schleede

**Lector/ Worship Assistant:** Dave Woodliff

**Ushers:** Brian Lindhurst, Ken Stephens & Kathie Wiley

## **Your Church Council**

Steve Wolfe (President), Jeff Kamm (Vice President), Jeff Petersen (Secretary), Art Hanson (Treasurer), Ellen Lindhurst, Jim Taylor, Gene Newlon, Larry Bennett, Jay Fisher.

## **Faith Lutheran Church of Rotonda**

551 Rotonda Boulevard West – Rotonda West, FL 33947  
(941) 697-3313

---

---

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Pastor Brian Armen, Cell (814) 248-0133

Secretary: Barbra Davis

Organist: Candace Montesi      Custodian: Cyndy Hoops

---

---

**Secretary Office Hours: 9:00 Am – Noon (M-F)**

**PASTOR'S OFFICE: 10:00 – 1:00 (M-TH) AND BY APPOINTMENT**

*Our Guiding Principle: GOD'S GRACE WINS....*

*As we WORSHIP Jesus as our Lord and Savior*

*As we LOVE one another, welcoming everyone*

*As we SERVE, inspired by the Holy Spirit*

*As a deep FAITH is taught and caught*

*As we make WITNESS and MISSION our life*