



Faith
Lutheran Church
of Rotonda West
Listening • Caring • Serving



WELCOMING OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

GATHERING

**indicates a time to stand if you are able*

Prelude

P We gather in the name of God: Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen!

*HYMN

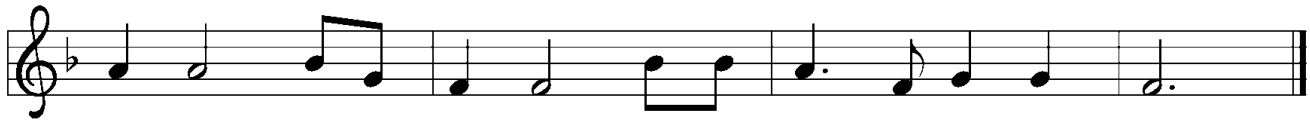
My Lord, What a Morning

ELW 438

Refrain



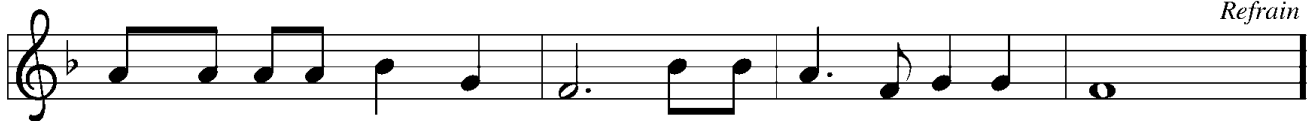
My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be - gin to fall.



- 1 You will hear the trum - pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un - der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,



look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

*THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Together we pray,

C Mighty God, lover of justice, You call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from You. Turn us to seek Your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

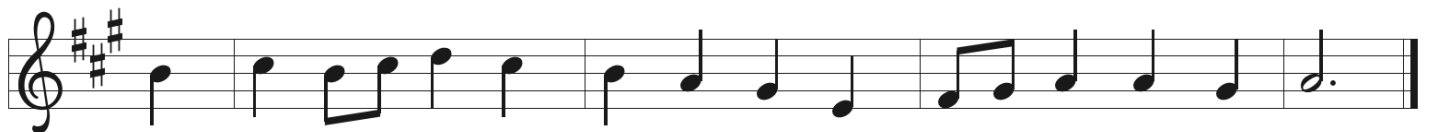
P The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers us in the righteousness of Christ and forgives our sin in **+** Jesus' name

C Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** *Arise, Your Light Has Come* *ELW 305*



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

***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 Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Micah 6:1-8

¹ Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

² Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the LORD has a case against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³ “O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

⁶ “With what shall I come before the LORD
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

L The word of God.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

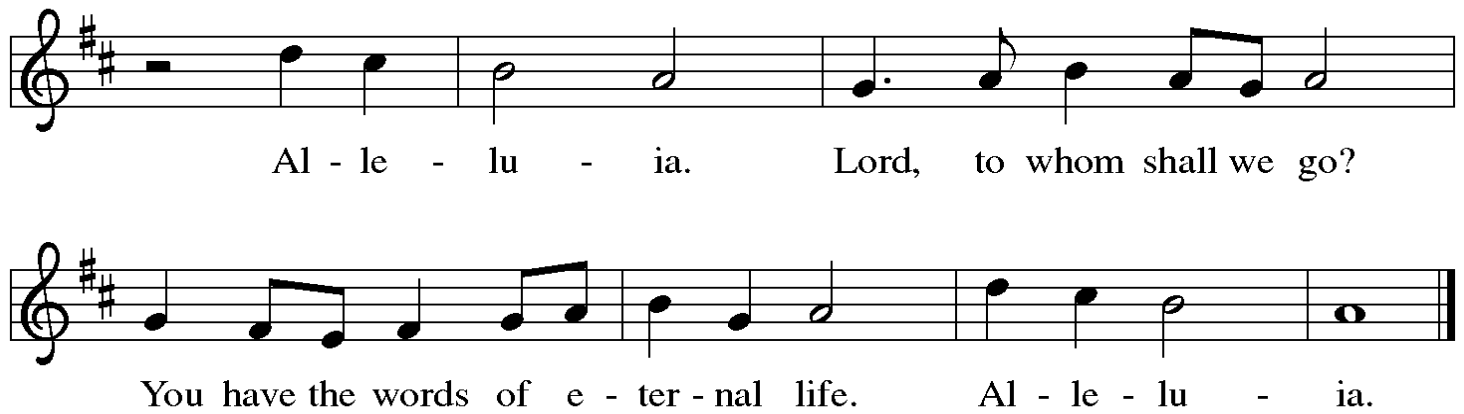
²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom,

²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

L The Word of God.

C **Thanks be to God.**



***GOSPEL**

Matthew 5:1-12

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Estevez



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
 still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
 by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
 stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
 that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

*THE NICENE CREED

L Together we confess our faith,
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church,
the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.
each petition concludes...

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

L Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us,
we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known
to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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** *Accept, O Lord, the Gifts V 1, 3* *ELW 691*



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

L Together we pray,

C God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what You have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal You reveal the wideness of Your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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 him 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 always challenges us to act justly, to offer love kindness, and to walk humbly with you. 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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.

P 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** (*We always pray as Jesus taught*)

P 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.

INVITATION

P Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

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.

P Together we pray,

C Radiant God, we have seen Your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of His body and blood, You have drawn us to Your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of Your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*BENEDICTION

P May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise ✠ bless you now and forever.

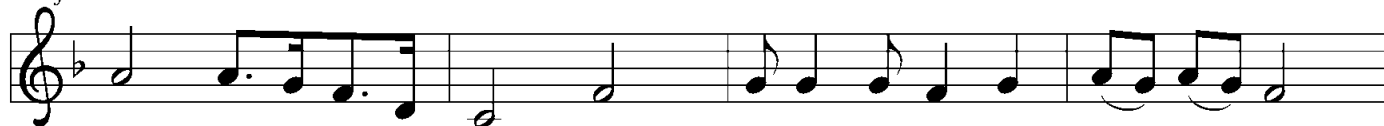
C Amen.

*HYMN

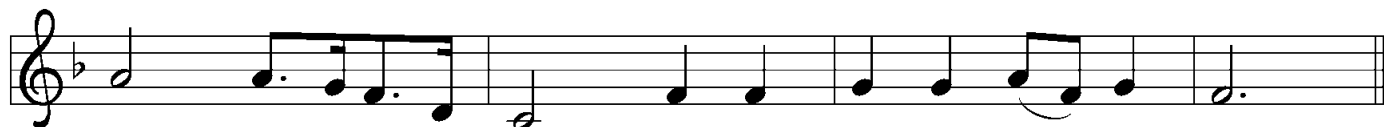
Go Tell it on the Mountain

ELW 290

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Faith's Weekly Announcements
Welcome to all of you attending this morning!

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held this morning after worship. Booklets are available in the narthex. You are encouraged to stay.



A Super Outreach

You probably know, next Sunday, February 8th, is Superbowl Sunday. We would like to celebrate the event by sponsoring a “souper” event, the Souper Bowl of Caring. That week we will be collecting canned soup to be donated to the food bank at our sister church, First Pres. (They have already helped 1000 people this month alone, and there are still several days left in January.) Our Souper Bowl will be a wonderful way to reach out to families in the area who are in need, and also to support First Pres in their outreach efforts. You can bring soup any time between now and February 8th and leave the cans in the basket in the narthex.

Addition: Some of the folks at First Pres will attach a dollar to each can of soup so the outreach goes farther. We will have rubber bands in the narthex in case you wish to do this, or you can attach the bills before you bring the soup.

Sunday School

Sunday school will resume on February 15. We will be studying the book, What is the Bible by Rob Bell. See Jeff Kamm if you need a book.

Want to Join the Family?

We will be welcoming new members into the church family this month. If you are interested in joining the family of Faith, please contact Barbra in the church office either by phone (941-697-3313) or email (office@alivingfaith.org).

Chime Choir

We are getting our chime choir established again this year and would love to have new members. You don't need any prior experience, we will help you learn. Date of the first meeting TBD. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for anyone interested.

February Ladies' Luncheon

Note the new time

Ladies, join us on February 11th at a second NEW place to start 2026: Lipinski's Tavern in Cape Haze. This comes highly recommended by our own Donna Johnson! Located at 3745 Cape Haze Drive (previously Daniels Steak House, then Cape Haze Tavern) and owned by Arthur Lipinski of Arturs Restaurant, it is billed as American cuisine but has Polish items as well. Menu can be viewed online. ***They do not open until 12 noon, so we will be moving our luncheon to 12 noon.*** A 20% service fee will be added to each check. Directions: Take Placida Road south to Cape Haze Drive, turn left and continue past The Links golf course to Lipinski's on your right (approx. 1 mile). We had a great turnout in January, let's do it again! Signup sheet is in the narthex. Deadline is Sunday, February 8th. Hope to see you there!

Coffee Fellowship

Our Coffee Fellowship time has been much appreciated, but to keep it going we need some help. If you are willing to help with set up and cleaning after, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. The more help we get, the easier it will be to continue the fellowship time.

Mark the Date! Friendship Potluck Dinner

On Wednesday, February 11, 6 pm, we will be having a special potluck dinner with others in the church family. It's like the Friendship Tables we've enjoyed over the past few years, but we will all meet in the church instead of individual homes. If you would like to participate, sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex with your name, phone number and which type of food you will be bringing. Food will be set up in the kitchen dining area, dining tables in the nave. Please do not sit with your buddies so when you leave you are more familiar with others in the church family. If you have questions or would like to help, talk to Mary Lou Fitzgerald.

You Are Invited

Musician Tom Renaud will be providing a unique presentation at Christ Lutheran Church, 3:00 pm on Sunday, February 8: "Hymns and Their Histories." You are invited to attend.

Attendance Last Week: 87

Upcoming concerts

Please check the bulletin board in the narthex for details about two upcoming concerts at First Pres in Port Charlotte.

Food Pantry

This week the food bank needs canned soup. Place your donations in the bin in the narthex.

Nametag?

If you would like a nametag, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Your nametag will be hanging with the others the following week.

Looking to Lent

~ Ash Wednesday is February 18th. We will have a 7:00 pm service.

~ There are 5 Wednesdays in Lent. We will have Soup Suppers at 5:00 pm, followed by worship at 6:00.

~ Times for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are TBD.

~ There will be one service on Easter Sunday morning at 10:45.

WE PRAY FOR...

Ginny Linsberg
Debby Porter

Sandy Despreaux
Tracie Thompson

Barbra Davis

Serving Today

Altar Guild: Linda Jasper

Lector/ Worship Assistant: Brian Lindhurst

Ushers: Art Hanson, Don Penrod, Jim Hughs

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Every week day morning	6:30 am	AA meets at church
Monday	8:00 pm	AA meets at church
Tuesday	7:30 am	Men's Breakfast
	8:30 am	Work Crew
	9:00 am	Chicks
Wednesday	3:00 pm	Bible study
Sunday	10:15 am	Coffee Fellowship
	10:45 am	Morning worship

Your Church Council

Jeff Kamm (President), Larry Bennett (Vice President), Jeff Petersen (Secretary), Art Hanson (Treasurer), Gene Newlon, Jim Porter, Dave Woodliff, Sue Baran and Dave Johnsen

Faith Lutheran Church of Rotonda

551 Rotonda Boulevard West – Rotonda West, FL 33947

(941) 697-3313

office@alivingfaith.org

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Pastor: Syl Estevez Secretary: Barbra Davis

Organist: Candace Montesi Custodian: Cyndy Hoops

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

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



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America