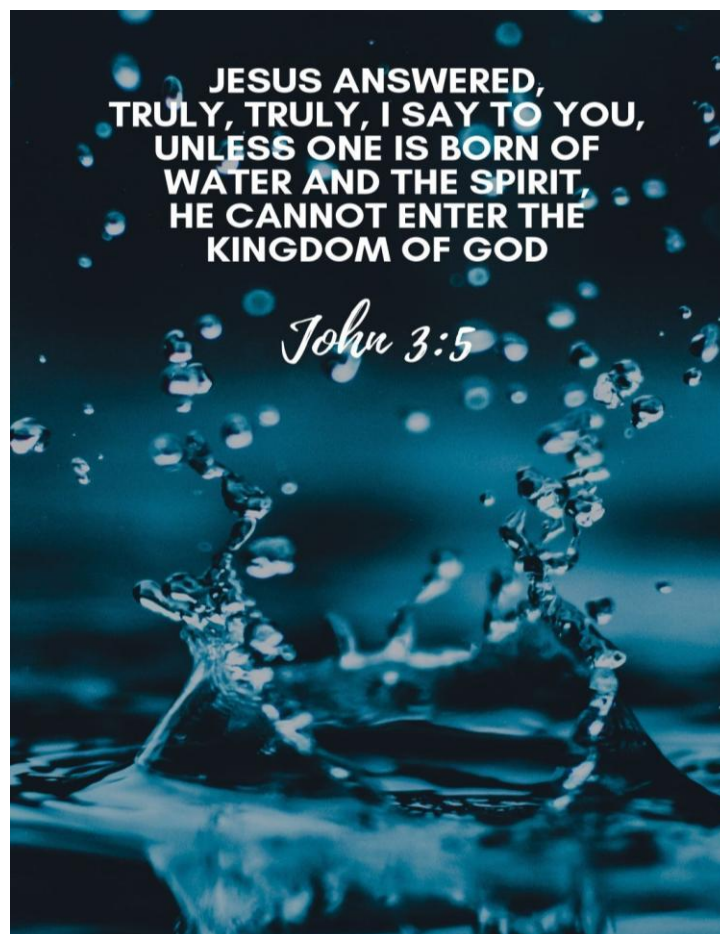




Faith
Lutheran Church
of Rotonda West
Listening • Caring • Serving



WELCOMING OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

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

THE GATHERING

Prelude

*Call to Gather

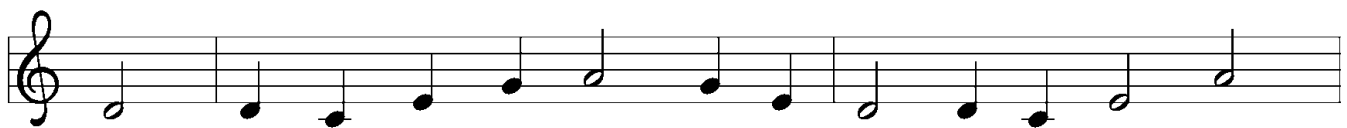
P We gather in the name of God: Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen!

*Gathering Hymn

What Wondrous Love

ELW 666



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

***A BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses. Let us do that responsively.

[Silence is kept for reflection.]

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you.

C Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

C Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit.

C Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers.

C Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world.

C Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life.

C Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.

Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of **✝** Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in

you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.
Amen.

[Please, remain standing if you are able.]

***Hymn of Praise**

Restore in Us

ELW 328



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

***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.**

***THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Together we pray,

C **O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Amen.

[Please, be seated.]

THE WORD IS READ

FIRST READING

Genesis 12:1-4a

¹ The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

^{4a} So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

L The word of God.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

¹ What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the scripture say?

“Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.”

⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵ But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed,

who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

L The Word of God.

C **Thanks be to God.**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL READING**

John 3:1-17

P A reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

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

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

¹¹ “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you

about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

[Please, be seated.]

THE WORD IS PROCLAIMED

Pastor Estevez

*Hymn of Response

God Loved the World

ELW 323



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all
5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

L Together we confess our faith:

C 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.

[Please, be seated.]

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

each petition concludes...

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

L Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Please share the Peace with the person next to you.

THE OFFERTORY

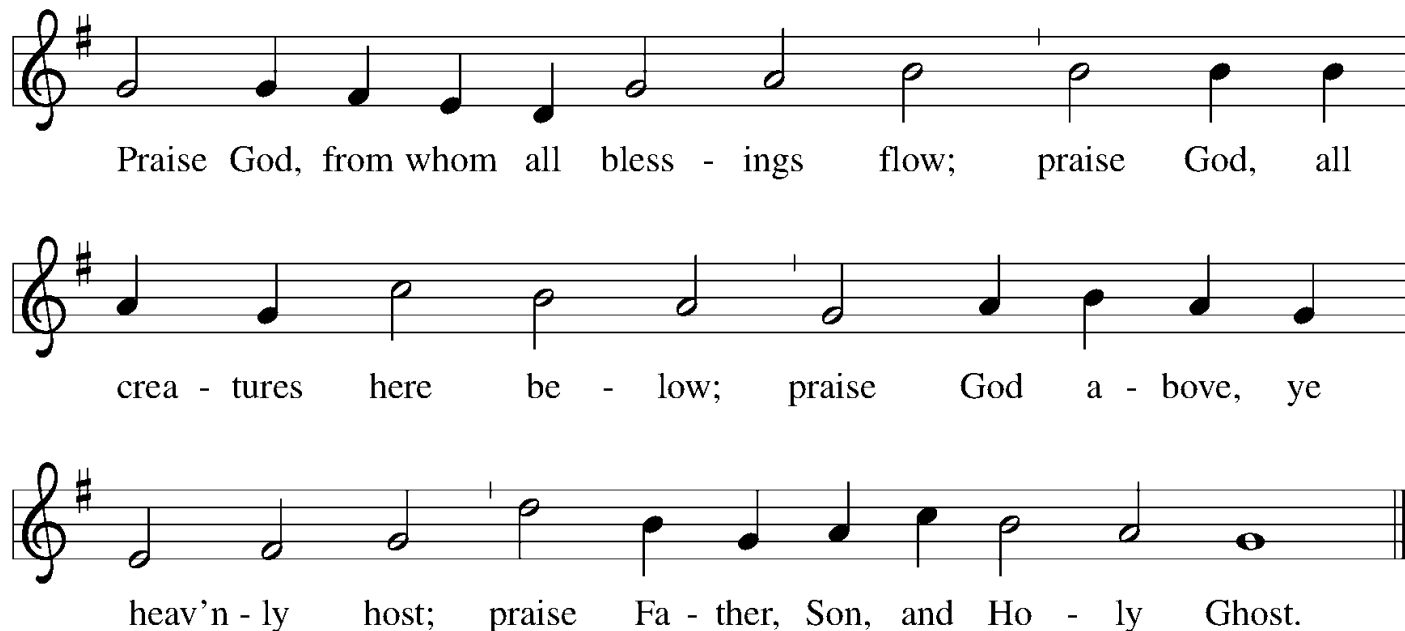
In thanksgiving for God's blessing, we respond with our tithe and offerings.

Offertory Interlude

*Offertory Hymn

Praise God From Whom

ELW 691



The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, the second staff the second line, and the third staff the third line. The music ends with a double bar line.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

*THE OFFERING PRAYER

L Together we pray,

C O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. 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 was lifted up at Calvary and, because of that, whoever believes in him may have eternal 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:

**Sanctus*

Setting 10

ELW 205



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.

***THE INVITATION**

P Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

***THE 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 God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***THE BENEDICTION**

P Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✚ bless you now and always.

C Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

O Jesus I Have Promised

ELW 810



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

***THE DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace, believe the good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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

An Opportunity for Fellowship

We are having soup suppers on Wednesdays during Lent, starting this Wednesday, February 25th. The supper will be at 5 pm followed by mid-week Lenten worship at 6 pm. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex for those able to bring soup (in a crock pot). Dessert is also appreciated. We need 4-5 people each week to provide nourishment. There will also be a sign-up sheet to help us set up and clean up. You are asked to bring a bowl, spoon and (if you like) a sandwich. This is a great time to meet other church friends and enjoy a light supper before the Wednesday Lenten service. Start thinking about your special soup recipe!

Lenten Help Needed

We need ushers to serve just one service (unless you want to do more) during the Wednesday Lenten evenings. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Ladies Luncheon

The March Ladies Luncheon will be held on March 11th, 11:30 am, at Cool Pickle in Paradise, located at 8501 Placida Road, Unit A4, Englewood. (This is in the strip mall just south of Cape Haze Resort -- look for Ace Hardware). They offer soups, salads, burgers, handhelds, baskets and more. Deadline to sign up is March 8th. If you need more information, see or call Kathie Wiley (941-662-5383).

Attendance Last Week: 93

WE PRAY FOR...

Debby Porter
Bob Ash
Shirley Rice

Tracie Thompson
Jim Hughs
Barbara Rodvik

Barbra Davis
Kay Culver

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	5:00 pm	Soup supper
	6:00 pm	Lenten worship
Sunday	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:15 am	Coffee Fellowship
	10:45 am	Morning worship

Serving Today

Altar Guild: Debra Easterday

Lector/ Worship Assistant: Toni Newton

Ushers: Art Hanson & Don Penrod

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