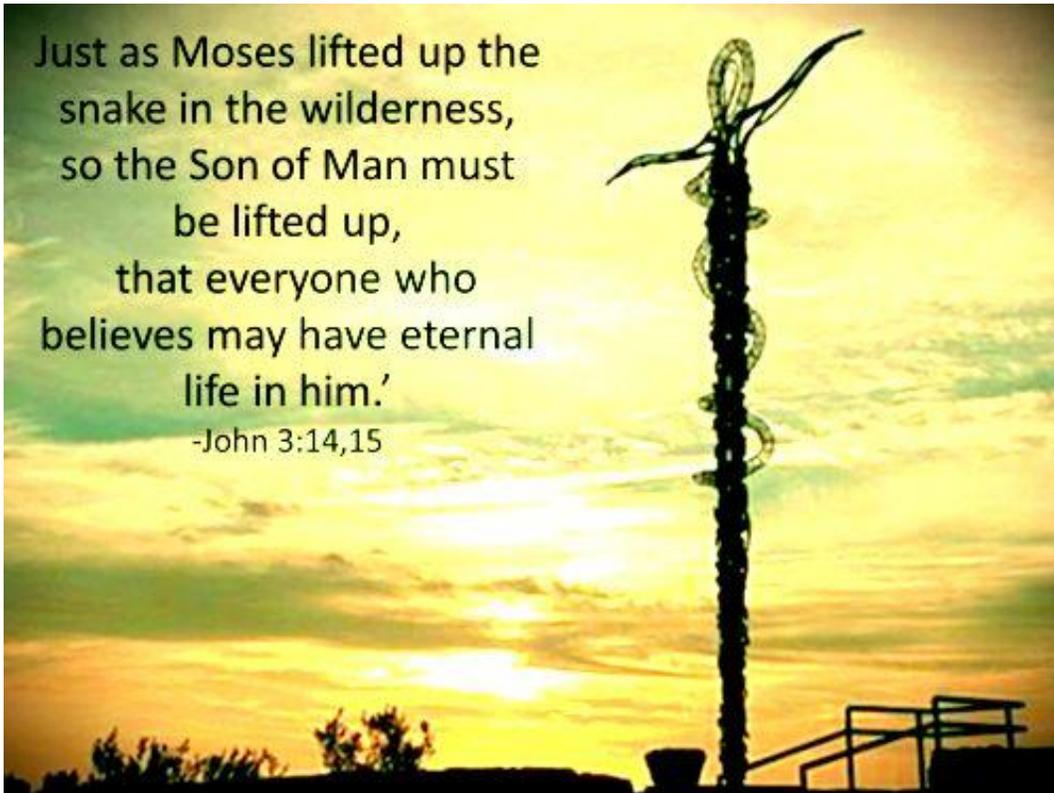




Just as Moses lifted up the  
snake in the wilderness,  
so the Son of Man must  
be lifted up,  
that everyone who  
believes may have eternal  
life in him.'

-John 3:14,15



# WELCOMING OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

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## GATHERING

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**Prelude**

*Adagio*

*Hans Kohler*

*Jeff & Julie Petersen, flutes*

*(PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE)*

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, who journeys with us these forty days, and draws all people together through Jesus.

**C** **Amen!**

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**HYMN**

*Jesus, Keep me Near the Cross*

*ELW 335*

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1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;  
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;  
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;  
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.  
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.  
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.  
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

*Refrain*



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

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## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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**P** Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Together we pray,

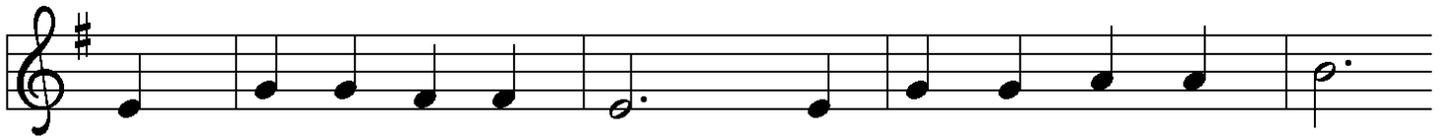
**C** **Holy God, we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

**P** Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

**C** **Amen.**

## **THE KYRIE**

*ELW s203*



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## **THE GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**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.**

P Together we pray,

**C O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **WORD**

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### **FIRST READING**

*Numbers 21:4-9*

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way.

<sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

L The word of God.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING**

*Ephesians 2:1-10*

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ

Jesus,<sup>7</sup> so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast.<sup>10</sup> For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

L The word of God. C **Thanks be to God.**

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

## ACCLAMATION

*ELW S205B*



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

## GOSPEL

*John 3:14-21*

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

[Jesus said:]<sup>14</sup>“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,<sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“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.

<sup>17</sup>“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.<sup>18</sup> Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.<sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.<sup>20</sup> For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed.<sup>21</sup> But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

P The Gospel of our Lord. C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE****HYMN***Lift High the Cross**ELW 660*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,  
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*Refrain*

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.  
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.  
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

**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

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L Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

*each petition concludes...*

L Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

## OFFERING

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

## OFFERTORY HYMN

WOV 732



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and



take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the



joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER AND MEAL

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A Together we pray,

C **God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel.**

**Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.**

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.*

*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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

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.**

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 children who are 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 need 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 Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. Amen.**

**P** Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

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**HYMN**

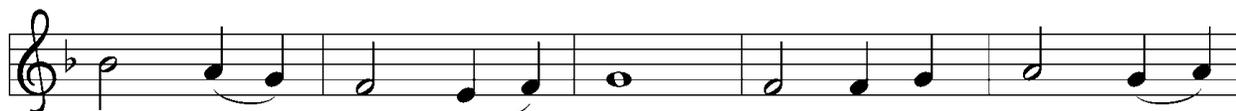
*When I Survey*

*ELW 803*

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1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

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**DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. Serve in love.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**

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

*Welcome to all of you attending this morning!*

### **Join us for Supper Then Worship**

We have soup suppers at 5:00 pm on Wednesdays during Lent, followed by Lenten worship at 6:00 pm. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex for those able to bring soup (in a crock pot). Dessert is also appreciated. There will also be a sign-up sheet to help with set up and clean up. If you are attending, please bring a place setting, bowl and sandwich (if you want one) for the meal. Sandwiches are not provided.

### **Work Crew**

The work crew will return to their summer schedule at 7:30 am this Tuesday and every Tuesday from now on. They would love to have you join them for work and fellowship. Many thanks to the folks who show up every week to keep the church looking good and working well.

### **Looking Ahead**

Next Sunday, March 17, we will have a guest speaker from the Charlotte County 911 system. He will be explaining the Red Dot system and some new developments in the program. He will speak at 9:30 (between services) for about a half hour.

### **Ushers Needed**

We need ushers for the Wednesday evening Lenten services, as well as Holy Week Services. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex. This is a one-time opportunity to try out the job.

### **Food Pantry**

This week the food bank especially needs canned soup. All donations should be placed in the bin in the narthex.

## **Nametags**

If you would like a nametag, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex on the bulletin board. Be sure to write legibly so we get the spelling right. Your nametag will be hanging with the others next week.

## **Ladies Luncheon for March**

The next Ladies Luncheon will be held at 11:30 am, on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, at Paraiso Mexican Grille (located at 2639 Placida Road). We will order off the menu with separate checks. Come for the enjoyment of fellowship and laughter as well as good food! Deadline to sign up is Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex. If you need more information, see or call Kathie Wiley (941-662-5383).

## **Easter Week Services**

We will have Maundy Thursday and Good Friday worship at 6:00 pm. Easter morning, we will offer a 7:00 am sunrise service (outside), followed by an 8:30 and 10:30 service (each inside).

## **Are You Enrolled?**

We send out weekly announcements and prayer requests/updates via email. If you do not receive them but want to, go to the church website ([aliivingfaith.org](http://aliivingfaith.org)), click on the box "Mailchimp email signup," and fill out the form. Submit it and you should start receiving the emails that week.

**Attendance last Sunday: 46 (early) + 48 (late)**

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

Verna Newlon  
Tom Jackling  
Bruce Grosvenor

Lou Taylor  
John Schleede  
Terry Flincheaueh

Shirley Rice  
Nancy Smith  
Sandy Cox

## THIS WEEK AT FAITH

<b>Every week day morning</b>	6:30 am	AA meets at church
<b>Monday</b>	8:00 pm	AA meets at church
<b>Tuesday</b>	7:30 am	Work Crew
	9:00 am	Lutheran Chicks
	11:00 am	Chimes
	5:00 pm	Girl Scouts
<b>Wednesday</b>	11:30 am	Ladies Luncheon
	3:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Soup supper
	6:00 pm	Lenten Worship

### Serving Today

**Altar Guild:** Debra Easterday

#### First Service:

**Worship Assistant/ Lector:** Dave Woodliff

**Usher:** Jim Hughs

#### Second Service:

**Lector/ Worship Assistant:** Ellen Lindhurst

**Ushers:** David & Donna Johnsen, Gene Newlon & Kathie Wiley

## Faith Lutheran Church of Rotonda

551 Rotonda Boulevard West – Rotonda West, FL 33947

(941) 697-3313

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We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Pastor Brian Armen, Cell (814) 248-0133

Secretary: Barbra Davis

Organist: Candace Montesi      Custodian: Cyndy Hoops

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

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