



### Fourth Sunday in Lent March 30, 2025

### **Welcome to Worship**

We are an intentionally inclusive community proclaiming a warm welcome to people of every race, nationality, gender, sexual identity, age and ability into all aspects of our church life. ~ Faith Lutheran Church

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of the Coast Salish people, including the Duwamish People past and present. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the Duwamish Tribe.

### **HELPFUL INFORMATION**

Welcome to worship at Faith Lutheran Church. Everything you need to **follow the service** is in this bulletin.

Please take a moment to fill out the **information card** found in the pew rack. Place the card in the offering plate so we can be in touch with you. **Prayer requests** to be offered during worship can be written on the prayer request card in the pew rack and passed toward the center aisle where it will be collected by an usher during the first hymn.

There are **coffee and treats** in the Library after the service. We would like to welcome you to continued fellowship. **Restrooms** are located on the far side of the Library or down the main stairs. Should an emergency occur an **AED unit** is located in the narthex on the wall by the main entrance. **Masks and sanitizer** are available at both entrances to the Sanctuary.

The **elevator** is located at the top of the stairs in the Narthex. Feel free to **explore** the building and ask questions of the pastors, ushers, or anyone you see! We encourage you to introduce yourselves and hope you feel comfortable here.

**Children** are welcome and highly encouraged to be in worship. We understand that children have the need to move and make sound; which we find to be a joyful and important part of worship. **Blessing Bags** are found near both entrances of the sanctuary filled with activities for children. A **cry room** is available at the back of the sanctuary should you need a brief respite.

Faith Lutheran Church is a lively, caring, and energetic community.

We are so glad you are here!

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

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH\*

### INTRODUCTION

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

P: On our worst days,

C: God is good.

P: On our best days,

C: God is good.

P: When life is consistent,

C: God is good.

P: And when life turns on its head,

C: God is good.

P: Day and night, Monday through Sunday,

C: God is good. God is here. God is love.

P: Hold tight to that good news. Let us worship God!

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Wohl mir, dass ich Jesum habe
WITH REBECCA KEITH, VIOLINIST & MERLE HARRIS, CELLIST\*
Wohl mir, dass ich Jesum habe, O wie feste halt ich ihn,
Dass er mir mein Herze labe, wenn ich krank und traurig bin.
Jesum hab ich, der mich liebet und sich mir zu eigen gibet;

Ach drum lass ich Jesum nicht, wenn mir Gleich mein Herze bricht.

(It is well with me that I have Jesus, oh, how fast I hold him,
That he might refresh my heart when I am ill and sad.
I have Jesus, who loves me and gives himself to me, to be my own;
Ah, thus I will not let Jesus go, even if my heart breaks.)

### CALL TO CONFESSION

P: There's a moment in our scripture today when Jesus turns to Peter, named "the rock" of the church, and says, "Get behind me, Satan!"

I don't know about you all, but that's a pretty bad day for Peter.

It's a pretty bad day when Jesus calls you Satan!

Fortunately, this absurd moment comforts me with the knowledge that even Peter made mistakes. Peter, who was given the keys to Heaven. Peter, Jesus' right-hand man, made mistakes just like me. And still, Jesus chose him.

Knowing that, let us speak honestly with God. For even on our worst days, we belong to God, and that will never change.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Join me in prayer—

P: Holy God,

C: We often find ourselves moving through a world that does not make sense.

Like Peter, we want to yell out, "This should not happen!"

We want to control scenarios beyond our reach.

We want to hold your world in our hands.

Forgive us for the moments when we lead with declarations instead of curiosity.

Forgive us for arguing when we could listen.

Forgive us for fixating on one truth, when we could open ourselves up to many. Soften our hard edges and teach us how to listen.

With hope in our hearts we pray, amen.

### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

P: People of God,

no matter how many times you have dug your heels in, no matter how many fights you have wanted to pick with God, no matter how many times you have disagreed, raged, or clung to what you know instead of embracing holy change—we worship a God of grace.

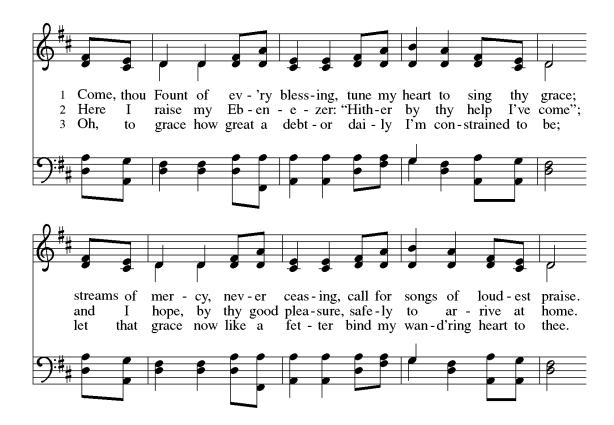
Nothing can separate us from God's love, not even a stubborn attitude or a tense heart. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

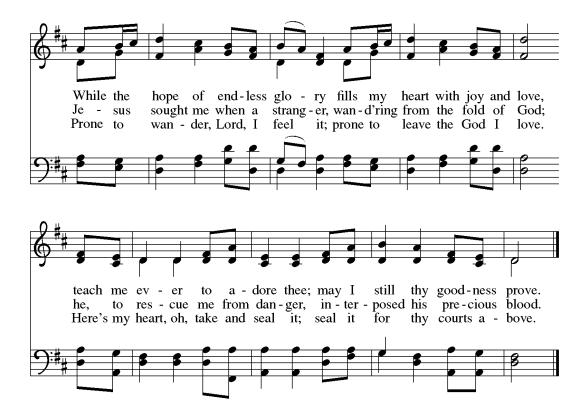
God's love for us will always be deeper than we can imagine. We are seen. We are loved. And we are forgiven. Now follow Peter, and go be the Church in the world. Amen.

### **OPENING HYMN 807**

### Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON





Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813

### **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.

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

C: As followers of Christ, we learn to love and live to serve.

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

P: Listening God,

If we could attach ourselves to you, we would.

We would scribble your scripture onto our tender hearts.

We would weave your good news into the fiber of our being.

We would bind ourselves to you,

but instead,

we wander.

Instead of attaching ourselves to you,

we find ourselves swept up in the business of the day.

Like a seesaw of faithfulness, we move back and forth, up and down,

constantly trying to find you in the midst of it all.

So speak clearly to us now.

Quiet the distractions long enough for us to affix ourselves to your good news.

We are listening.

We are hungry.

We are hopeful.

C: Amen.

He comes to us as One unknown, without a name, as of old, by the lakeside, He came to those men who knew Him not. He speaks to us the same words: "Follow thou me!" and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfill for our time. He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings which they shall pass through in His fellowship, and, as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience Who He is.

~ Albert Schweitzer, from The Quest of the Historical Jesus

CHORALE: O Morning Star, how fair and bright thou beamest forth in truth and light! O sovereign meek and lowly! Thou Root of Jesse, David's son, my lord and master, thou hast won My heart to serve thee solely! Thou art holy, fair and glorious, all victorious, Rich in blessing, rule and might o'er all possessing. ~ Text & music by Philipp Nicolai, harmonized by J. S. Bach English translation by Catherine Winkworth

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

### READING

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble

<sup>3</sup> and gathered in from the lands,

from the east and from the west,

from the north and from the south.

Some were sick through their sinful ways

and because of their iniquities endured affliction;

<sup>18</sup> they loathed any kind of food,

and they drew near to the gates of death.

<sup>19</sup> Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress;

<sup>20</sup> he sent out his word and healed them and delivered them from destruction.

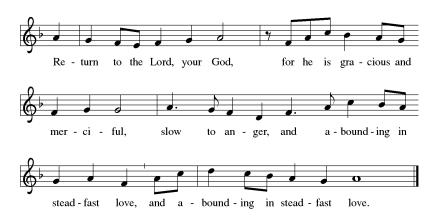
<sup>21</sup> Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.

<sup>22</sup> And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



- P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16th Chapter.
- C: Glory to you, O Lord.

### **GOSPEL**

### Matthew 16:21-23

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup> But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.** 

SERMON Pastor Judy Brennan

**HYMN OF THE DAY 606** Our Father. We Have Wandered HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN Our Fa - ther, we have wan dered and hid - den from your face; And now at length dis cern the e - vil that do, ing we Lord of all the liv ing, both ban - ished and re stored, fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a grace. be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you. giv com-pas-sion-ate, for ing, and Lord, ev - er - car - ing dwell - ing, in ex - ile we rise with fear and shame, haste you come to In meet and home re - joic - ing bring, us now that our trans - gress ing, our faith - less - ness may cease. grant dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call as. our name. glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and peace.

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

P: I believe in a God of second chances,

C: a God who sees through my stubbornness and holds my fear with tenderness.

P: I believe that this God of second chances uses ordinary people like Peter to do good in the world.

C: Therefore, I believe and hope that God can use me too.

P: I believe that from time to time, God invites us to imagine the impossible. I believe that from time to time, God invites us to change our minds.

C: This change is holy and important work, although challenging.
When fear and scarcity plague me,
or when the impossible feels out of reach,
I believe that God meets me with grace and invites me to follow.

P: Thanks be to God for a love like that.

C: Amen.

### **PRAYERS**

R: ...Lord, in your mercy C: ...Hear our prayer.

### **OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY**

### The Holly and the Ivy

TRADITIONAL CAROL, ARR. H. WALFORD DAVIES\*+

The holly and the ivy when they are both full grown;
Of all trees that are in the wood the holly bears the crown.
O the rising of the sun and the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom as white as any flower; And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to be our sweet savior.

The holly bears a berry as red as any blood; And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to do poor sinners good.

The holly bears a prickle as sharp as any thorn; And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ on Christmas Day in the morn.

The holly bears a bark as bitter as the gall; And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to redeem us all.



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: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

P: Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

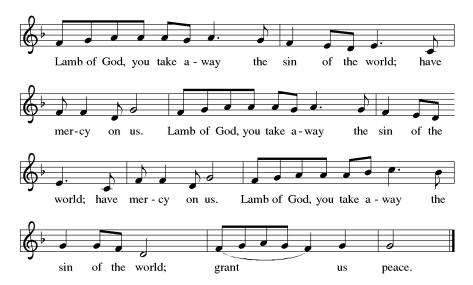
C: Amen.

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

### LORD'S PRAYER

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.

### LAMB OF GOD



### COMMUNION INVITATION

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. All are welcome to this table of grace and forgiveness.

### COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

### COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace now and forever.

C: Amen.

### COMMUNION PRAYER:

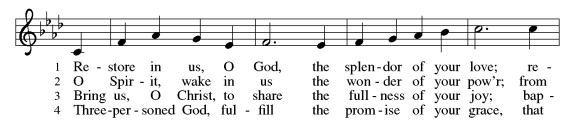
P: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

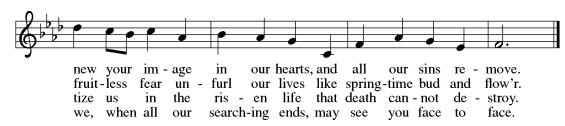
C: Amen.

### SENDING HYMN 328

### Restore in Us, O God

**BAYLOR** 





Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933
Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company.
Music © 1985 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

### **BLESSING**

P: Beloved wanderer,
as you leave this place,
may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve.
May you look for God in every face.
May you find the courage to get out of the boat,
to run to the tomb, and to speak of your faith.

And when the world falls apart, may you hear God's voice deep within, saying, "Take heart, it is I, be not afraid." You are called. You are blessed.

In both your ups and your downs, you always belong to God.
Go now in peace. Go trusting that good news.

C: Amen.

### BENEDICTION RESPONSE

### Jesus bleibet meine Freude

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH\*

Jesus bleibet meine Freude, meines Herzens Trost und Saft, Jesus wahret allem Leide, er ist meines Lebens Kraft, Meiner Augen Lust und Sonne, meiner Seele Schatz und Wonne, Darum lass' ich Jesum nicht, aus dem Herzen und Gesicht.

(Jesus remains my joy, the consolation and sap of my heart, Jesus bars all sorrow, he ist the protecting power of my life, The desire and sun of my eyes, the treasure and bliss of my soul, Thus I will not let Jesus out of heart and sight.)

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.





### IT'S EASY TO GIVE at FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

- 1. Open the camera on your phone.
- 2. Point it at the QR code.
- 3. Touch the yellow 'myvanco.com' button.
- 4. This takes you to our giving page.
  Choose which fund and fill out the rest.



### Scripture Passages For Next Sunday:

Psalm 119:9-6 Matthew 18:15-22

### **TODAY IN WORSHIP**

Preaching: Pastor Judy Brennan; Director for Evangelical

Mission; NWWA Synod

Presiding: Pastor Shannyn Fuerst

Music: David Buice, Merle Harris, Rebecca Keith, Chancel Choir

Reader: Linda Mihalov

Ushers:

Zoom Host: Ruth Foster-Koth

Video Tech: Jamie Estill Altar Guild: Barb Friedhoff

Fellowship: Karren Johnson and Ann Cohan



APRIL Sign Up

Reader/Usher/Fellowship

\*Worship Notes: Today is Laetare Sunday, the fourth Sunday in Lent; it is celebrated as something of a respite from the austerities of the season, a time to look back at the light-filled seasons of Christmas and Epiphany, as well as looking forward to the radiance of Easter.

In some documents relating to this Sunday, it is stated, on this day, the organ may be heard, and so the organ again sounds forth its praise in this morning's service, along with the musical gifts of violinist **Rebecca Keith**, cellist **Merle Harris**, and the Chancel Choir.

The Call to Worship and Benediction Response are verses from J. S. Bach's cantata *Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben* (Heart & Mouth & Deed & Life), first performed in 1723 during the composer's first year as director of music at the St. Thomas Church in Leipzig. The cantata was presented for the Feast of the Visitation, commemorating Mary's visit to Elizabeth in the Gospel of Luke; the cantata's two parts each conclude with a verse from the chorale *Jesu, meiner Seelen Wonne* (Jesus, My Soul's Bliss), fitting texts for a Sunday of confidence and hope!

This morning's anthem features the compositional gifts of **Jane Marshall** (1924-2019), who began composing as a teenager, earned music degrees at Southern Methodist University and subsequently taught at the university, joining the ranks of an influential "Dallas School" of composers mentored by the legendary Lloyd Pfautsch. A noted composer and conductor of sacred choral works, she was also a respected music educator and poet. The lifelong resident of Dallas, Texas began studying piano at an early age; as an adult, she served as an organist and choir director in Dallas, taught in the public schools, and held the position of adjunct professor of church music conducting at her alma mater, Southern Methodist University.

The symbolic text of **The Holy and the Ivy** points from Advent/Christmas to Lent/Passion of Holy Week, and is from the early nineteenth century. **Sir Henry Walford Davies**' arrangement of the carol has been performed around the world in services of lessons and carols for many years. Davies received acclaim both as composer of the popular carol and other choral works, and also as an organist and teacher, his students including such musical luminaries as Leopold Stokowski.

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- +Offertory copyright 1913 by H. Walford Davies

### Acknowledgments

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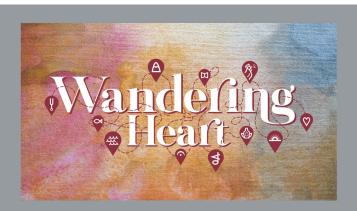


### Holy Week Services:

MAUNDY THURSDAY
April 17 at 7:00p

GOOD FRIDAY
April 18 at 7:00p
Gathering to follow worship

All services will be in person and via zoom. Zoom link is on the website.



### **Wednesdays in Lent**

6:00p Dinner

**6:20p** Children's Learning & Activity Time

7:00p Holden Evening Prayer
(March 12, April 9)
Holden Bless This Night

(March 19, 26, April 2)

Held in the church library & narthex

### AHA / CPR / AED Class

Official American Heart Association (AHA)
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)
Saturday April 12 in the FLC Library

Faith Lutheran Church invites you to register for a complimentary HeartSaver CPR & AED training class using a workbook, video, and manikins with CPR feedback and AED trainers for skills practice. Class size is limited to 4 people for each of two sessions. Class times are 9am and 1 pm. Class duration is 2 - 3 hours depending on registration volume. To register for the class, contact Eileen Reichert, Basic Life Support (BLS) Instructor at 206-930-3276 or in person.



Thrivent Choice Dollars is a program that allows eligible clients with membership to choose where Thrivent distributes a portion of its funding each year. Eligibility is based on insurance premiums and contract values. Choice Dollars are intended to complement, not replace, personal donations to your preferred organizations. You can easily make an online personal donation to any organization enrolled in the Thrivent Choice program, and Thrivent covers the online processing fees for the donation so 100% goes to the organization to help



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### **Healing Creation:**



Sacred Hope in Action

Healing Creation: Sacred Hope in Action Retreat Saturday, April 5th from 9am-3pm, Location TBD

Hope, active in love, provokes us to join in God's work of healing creation. Grounded in the image of the Tree of Life in Revelation, Biblical scholar Rev. Dr. Barbara Rossing will explore how God's creation prompts us into action and calls the church into a more expansive identity.

Rev. Erik Kindem and members of the Peace Lutheran Creation Care Team will explore ways to connect the dots between our worship life and the natural world, as well as offer practical

actions for daily life. Come, be inspired by these, and other leaders whose hearts beat for restorative justice and the healing of God's creation.

### Two ways to find more information and to register.

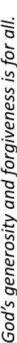
Go to www.lutheransnw.org and look in the events section.

Or CLICK HERE for a direct link.

Faith members use code "LIVEBundle2024" to register for free.

**MARCH 30, 2025 FOURTH SUNDAY** IN LENT





## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	Parable of the forgiving father
Monday	Joshua 5:9-12	The passover at Gilgal
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 5:9-12	The ministry of reconciliation
Wednesday	Proverbs 11:24-25	Be generous
Thursday	Luke 15:1-7	Parable of the lost sheep
Friday	Colossians 1:15-23	The work of Christ
Saturday	Psalm 32	The joy of forgiveness
Sunday	John 12:1-8	Mary anoints Jesus at Bethany

# SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.""

### Luke 15:32 (NRSV)

# PRAYERS AND BLESSING

### A Prayer for the Week:

Merciful God, thank you for restoring us to a loving relationship with you and for sending us out to extend your love to others. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, your goodness is beyond belief; may we receive this food and your love for others with thankful hearts through Christ our Lord. Amen

### A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with a generous heart.



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### HYMIN OF THE WEEK **MARCH 30, 2025**



Реасе





ake a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life. WEEKLY MILESTONES

# CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Have you ever felt judged for a choice you made? Explain.
- How would you describe God's generosity?

### DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32.

shamed by the request of the younger son to take his inheritance early, and the younger son is day there was a culture of shame and honor. The shaming in this parable is clear. The father is shamed by his returning home as a failure. He has done so many things wrong. The older son might be shamed because the father is spending the older son's inheritance on an unworthy divisions. This parable challenges us to examine the generosity of God, let go of our shaming, anger, and judgmentalism. We are to welcome those who in our eyes are not seen as worthy People can easily identify with this reading. It is one of Jesus' best-known parables. In Jesus' brother. He is angry. In our own context, shaming is still a reality but so is anger and family and celebrate with them that God's generosity is for them as well as for us.

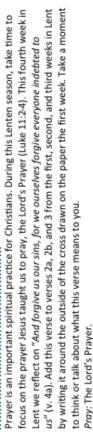
Discuss: How does God's generosity and forgiveness challenge your judgment of a friend? a family member? a neighbor? Pray: Gracious God, you lavish your love on us in ways we cannot see and do not earn; help us to celebrate your goodness to us and to all through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone who has been judged unfairly?

# RITUALS AND TRADITIONS





In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org



Faith Lutheran Church 8208 18th Ave NE; Seattle, WA 98115 www.faithseattle.org