



March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Jesus and Pilate

Welcome to Worship

We are an intentionally inclusive community, proclaiming a warm welcome to people of every race, nationality, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, 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.



WE ARE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

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!

Overview of Scripture

Pilate begins his encounter with the high priests of Jerusalem by making a concession. Although the Jewish leaders have traveled to his residence, they refuse to enter the palace, fearing ritual defilement before Passover. Rather than forcing them to violate their law, Pilate goes out to meet them. This decision is significant. It suggests that Pilate has become accustomed to the particularities of Jewish practice. As a Roman governor, he has learned to make room for the customs of the people he governs. In this moment, he does not require the priests to conform to Roman expectations; instead, he bends to the unique demands of the situation. After a brief legal exchange—during which the priests present a culprit but no clear charge—Pilate agrees to see Jesus. This, too, is a concession. He does not yet know what Jesus has done, but he agrees to hear the case anyway, accommodating the Jewish way of handling the matter. The conversation between Pilate and Jesus is maddening as Pilate opens with a strange question: “Are you the King of the Jews?”

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Preludio

OTTORINO RESPIGHI

GATHERING

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

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

OPENING LITANY

“Yet even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

No matter how often we stray, God calls us back. God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounds in steadfast love.

God loves us and forgives us. God has redeemed us, and we will follow God as long as we live.

Let us worship our righteous and gracious God.



1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our
 2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the
 3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
 5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice
 Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
 may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -

sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me":
 kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
 keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
 be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

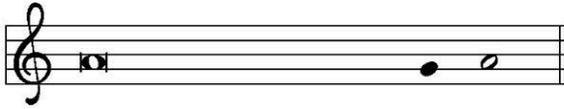
Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
 Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

GREETING

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

And also with you.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



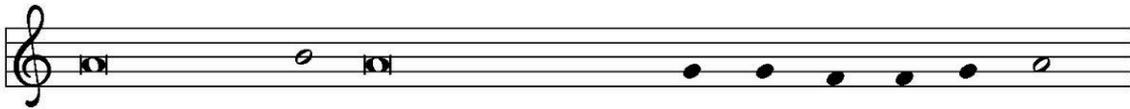
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



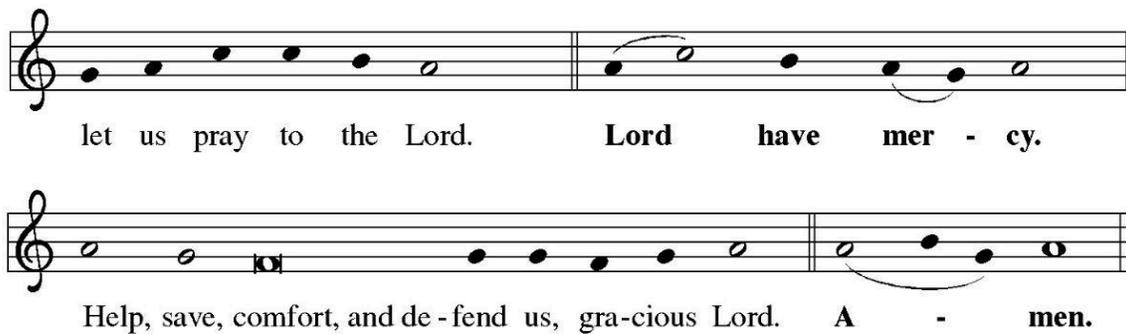
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.
 Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of mercy, deliver us from our fear in which we judge others. We pray for all who are oppressed, imprisoned, persecuted or rejected. To you who have delivered us from slavery we pray for the faith and courage to work for justice and the freedom of your children, and to proclaim the good news of your grace. **Amen**

ANTHEM

The Lord Is My Shepherd

JOHN RUTTER*+

CHANCEL CHOIR WITH REBECCA KEITH, VIOLINIST

*The lord is my shepherd: Therefore can I lack nothing.
 He shall feed me in a green pasture and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
 He shall convert my soul and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his name's sake.
 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 I will fear no evil, for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
 Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me:
 Thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.
 But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
 And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

~ Psalm 23

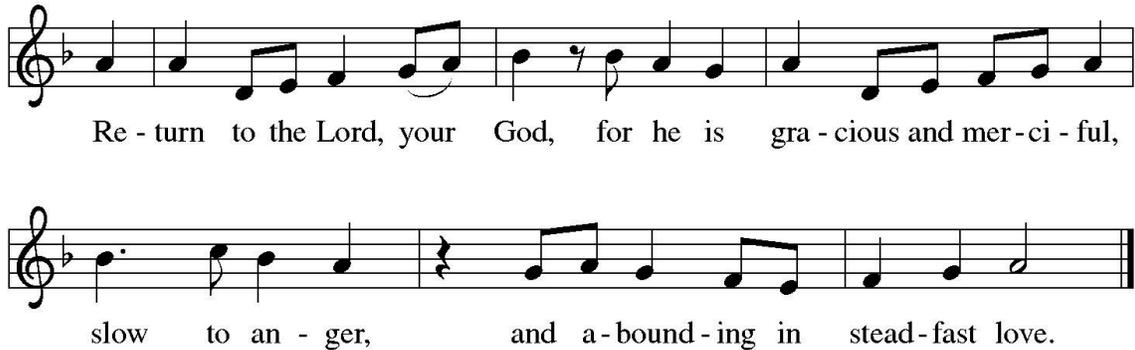
CHILDREN'S SERMON

READING Psalm 145:10-13

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
 and all your faithful shall bless you.
 They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom
 and tell of your power,
 to make known to all people your mighty deeds
 and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
 and your dominion endures throughout all generations.
 The LORD is faithful in all his words
 and gracious in all his deeds

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL John 18:28-40

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 18th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" They shouted in reply, "Not this man but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a rebel.

The Word of the Lord,
Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.

All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.

Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.

Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

PRAYERS

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

...God of grace,
receive our prayer.

...Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Andante

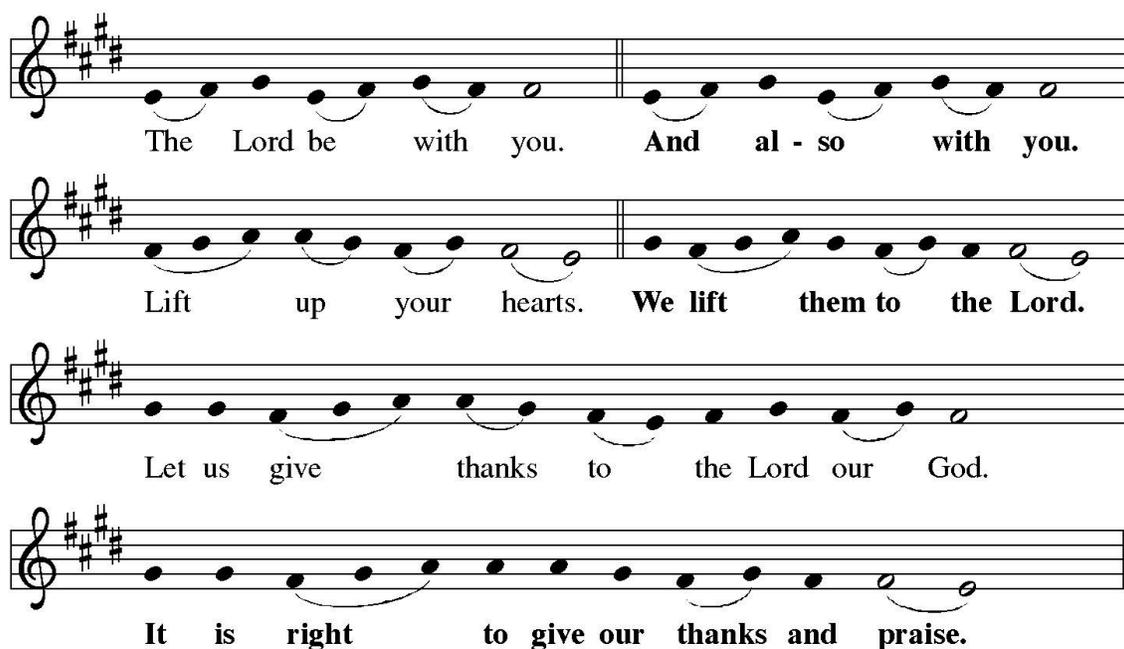
MELCHOIR SCHILDT

OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life.
Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ
our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

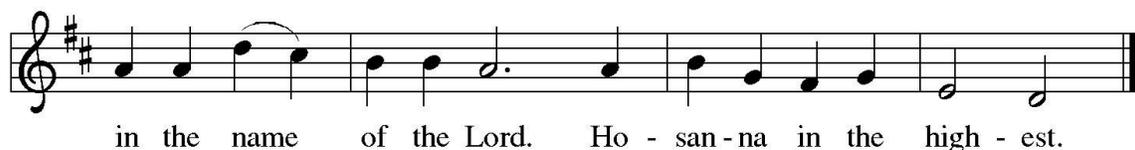
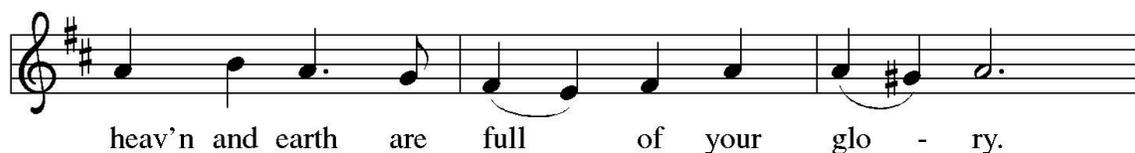
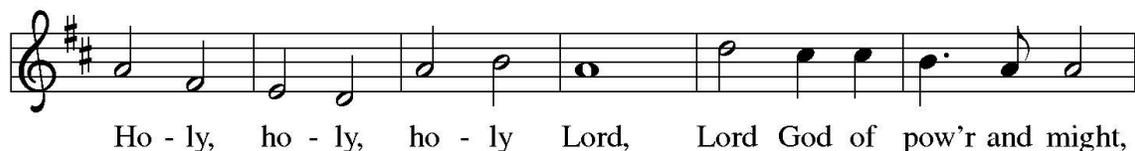
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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:



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.

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. Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORDS 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.**

COMMUNION INVITATION

Taste and see that the Lord is good. All are welcome to this table of compassion and unconditional love.

LAMB OF GOD: HYMN 341

Now Behold the Lamb

NOW BEHOLD THE LAMB



1 Now be - hold the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God, who
2 Ho - ly is the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Why
3 Thank you for the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Be -



bore all my sin, that I may live a - gain: the pre - cious Lamb of God.
you love me so, Lord, I shall nev - er know; the pre - cious Lamb of God.
cause of your grace I can fin - ish the race; the pre - cious Lamb of God.

Text: Kirk Franklin, b. 1970

Music: NOW BEHOLD THE LAMB, Kirk Franklin

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

As we gather for communion, all are invited to come forward to the bottom step near the baptismal font. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please place your hands over your heart as a sign of requesting the blessing. You will receive the bread (host) and the wine or grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available and the baked bread is gluten free. If you are communing from another location, we trust that Christ is present through the Holy Spirit in the bread and the wine/grape juice. Please note the importance of the words of institution and the invitation to communion, holding holy worshipful space within this sacrament.

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

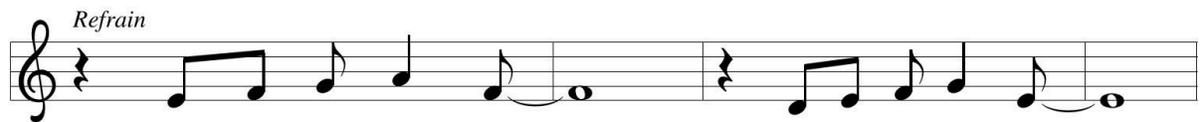
Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

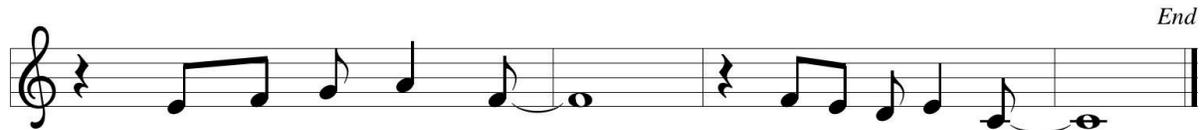
SENDING HYMN 801

Change My Heart, O God

CHANGE MY HEART



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

BLESSING

As you go on your way may Christ go with you.
May he go before you to show you the way.
May he go behind you to encourage you.
Beside you to befriend you,
Above you to watch over,
Within you to give you peace.
In the name of the Father, Son +, and Spirit.
Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *For Thine Is the Kingdom*

BURYL RED+

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.
Thanks be to God!

+ + +

***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 think back to 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**, and the Chancel Choir.

This morning's anthem is from **John Rutter's** *Requiem* that was completed and first performed in 1985; his setting of Psalm 23 – one of the most popular of his compositions – was written in 1976 and later included as the sixth movement of the *Requiem*.

+Anthem copyright 1978, Oxford University Press
Benediction Response copyright 1972, Broadman Press

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Shannyn Fuerst
Music: David Buice, Chancel Choir, Rebecca Keith
Reader: Lynn Krog
Ushers: Eileen Powelson & Bob Dexter
Fellowship: Donna Shy
Altar Guild: Charmaine Haaland
Zoom Host: Debbie Strom
Tech Operator: Mark Strom

NEXT WEEK:

Psalm 146
John 19:1-16a



Brahms *Ein deutsches Requiem* Community Sing & Fundraiser

Join the **Seattle Bach Choir** for a read-through of **Johannes Brahms's *Ein deutsches Requiem***, conducted by **Artistic Director Dan Mahraun** and accompanied by pianists **Rey Chen** and **Al Berg**.

This Lenten-season event is a **fundraiser for the Seattle Bach Choir**.

At approximately **70 minutes**, *Ein deutsches Requiem* is Brahms's largest work. We will use the **piano four-hands version**, first performed at the **1871 London premiere**, and long favored for both public and private performances.

The venue is Faith Lutheran Church, longtime musical home of the late Nan Beth Walton, former Director of Music at the church and a leader of the Seattle Bach Choir. The church now features a **9-foot Grotrian-Steinweg concert grand piano**, an instrument ideally suited to this music.

Lenten Soup Supper & Holden Vespers

Please join us Wednesdays during Lent for a Soup Supper followed by Holden Vespers, all held in the Library.



February 25, March 4, 11, 18 & 25

6pm Soup Supper
7pm Holden Vespers

A sign-up sheet to bring soup or bread is available in the Library. You may also sign up by emailing Sheryl at sheryllschmeling@gmail.com



It is your generous donation that sustains the ministries at Faith Lutheran Church, in our community and in the world. Thank you.

DONATE ONLINE

It's easy.

Scan the QR code below to give via Vanco.



SHELTER LUNCH BUNCH

New Dates for Shelter Lunch Bunch Fans

Have you enjoyed building sandwiches and sides for our Shelter Lunch Bunch program? Or would you like to try it? This program provides 40 lunches on weekends for The Oaks, the enhanced (24-hr) shelter on Aurora which is run by Lake City Partners. We hear these lunches are their favorite lunch of the week, so let's keep it up!

We have secured two new dates and hope to have summer dates soon, too. To sign up click the link in the weekly email or scan the QR code below:

Saturday 4/4
(note this is the day
before Easter)



Saturday 5/23
(note this is Memorial
Day weekend)



Volunteers can provide homemade cookies, help in the kitchen, or deliver the lunches. The start time is 9:30am in the church kitchen and we're usually out the door before 11:00am. SignUpGenius has more details or contact Cyndi at cmusar@comcast.net.

Be kind!

Cyndi & Jim Musar
Shelter Lunch Bunch Main Hosts



Holy Week & Easter



PALM SUNDAY

March 29 at 9:45 am

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 2 at 7:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY

April 3 at 7:00 pm

EASTER

Worship April 5 at 9:45 am

(Breakfast in the Library from 8:30-9:30 am)

Faith Lutheran Church

8208 18th Ave NE

Seattle, WA 98115

faithseattle.org



Easter is fast approaching, which means - Easter Breakfast!

A sign-up to help bring sweet rolls, bacon and deviled eggs will be in the library. Breakfast will be from 8:30 to 9:30 on Easter morning with food service in the narthex and seating in the narthex and library. It is a fun morning to gather early and visit over food and drink before Easter worship!