

# February 18, 2026

## Ash Wednesday

### *The Good Shepherd*

#### **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!

## INTRODUCTION

On Ash Wednesday, we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that "now is the day of salvation." Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

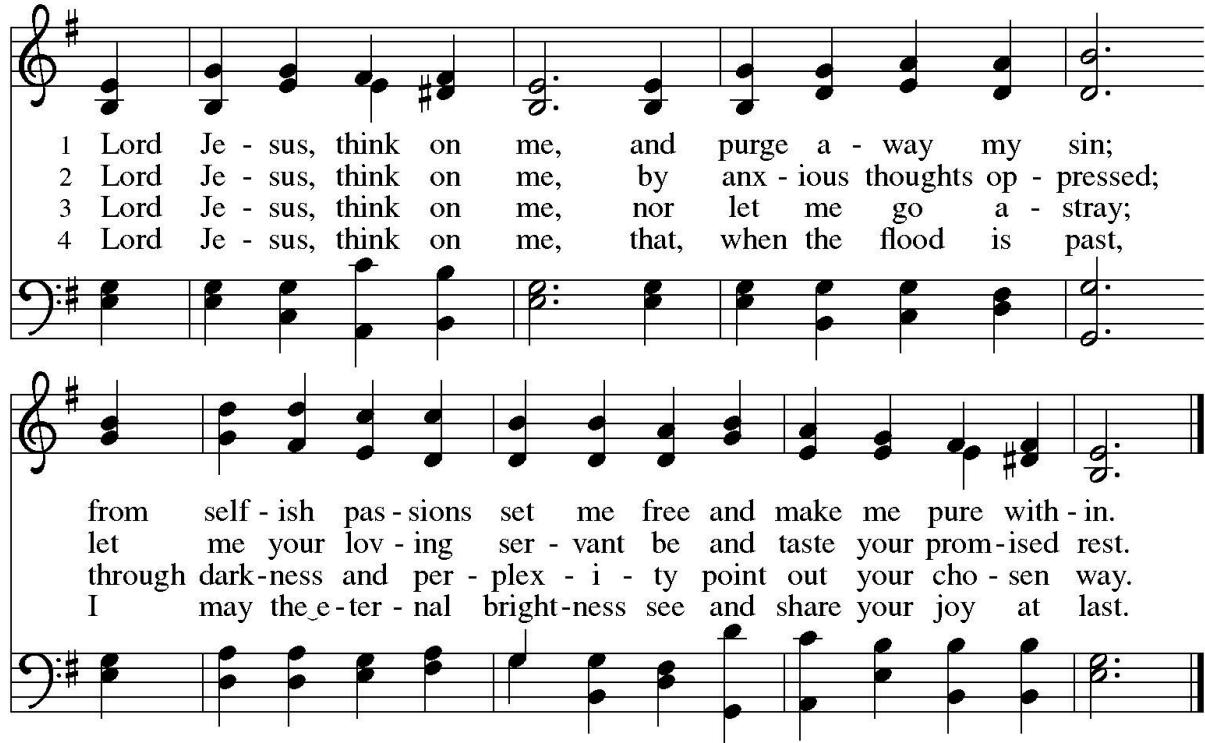
## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP *Hark! A Voice Sayeth, "All Are Mortal"* JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH\*

## INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, <sup>☩</sup> one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.  
Amen.

OPENING HYMN 599 *Lord Jesus, Think on Me* SOUTHWELL



The musical notation consists of three staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle staff is in bass clef, and the bottom staff is in treble clef. The music is in common time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are as follows:

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;  
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;  
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;  
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,  
  
from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.  
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.  
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.  
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, 375–430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808–1896, alt.  
Music: SOUTHWELL, W. Daman, *The Psalms of David*, 1579, alt.

## CONFESSON OF SIN

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.  
*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

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

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:  
Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:  
Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit:  
Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water  
Christ offers: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and  
hope in the world:  
Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to  
come forth to life:  
Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**FORGIVENESS OF SIN**  
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.**

#### **IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

*People may come forward and kneel or stand to receive the ashes. The minister marks the forehead of each person with a cross of ashes, saying, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."*

*Please come forward, as you are able.*

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,  
**that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,  
**bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness 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.**

## FIRST READING Isaiah 58:1-12

*Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked. Sincere repentance will lead to a dramatic improvement of their condition.*

Shout out; do not hold back!

**Lift up your voice like a trumpet!**

Announce to my people their rebellion,

**to the house of Jacob their sins.**

Yet day after day they seek me

**and delight to know my ways,**

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness

**and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;**

they ask of me righteous judgments;

**they want God on their side.**

“Why do we fast, but you do not see?

**Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?**”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day

**and oppress all your workers.**

You fast only to quarrel and to fight

**and to strike with a wicked fist.**

Such fasting as you do today

**will not make your voice heard on high.**

Is such the fast that I choose,

**a day to humble oneself?**

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush

**and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?**

Will you call this a fast,

**a day acceptable to the Lord?**

Is not this the fast that I choose:

**to loose the bonds of injustice,**

**to undo the straps of the yoke,**

to let the oppressed go free,

**and to break every yoke?**

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry

**and bring the homeless poor into your house;**

when you see the naked, to cover them

**and not to hide yourself from your own kin?**

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,

**and your healing shall spring up quickly;**

your vindicator shall go before you;

**the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.**

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;

**you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”**

If you remove the yoke from among you,  
**the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,**  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
**and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,**  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
**and your gloom be like the noonday.**  
The **LORD** will guide you continually  
**and satisfy your needs in parched places**  
**and make your bones strong,**  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
**like a spring of water**  
**whose waters never fail.**  
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
**you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;**  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
**the restorer of streets to live in.**

PSALM

Psalm 23

The **LORD** is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;  
  
he restores my soul.  
He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the **LORD**  
my whole life long.

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 10:1-18

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 605 *Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive*

DETROIT



1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;  
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart  
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:  
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.  
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
 how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!  
 then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.  
 Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

## APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the Virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried;  
 he descended to the dead.  
 On the third day he rose again;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 and he will come 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**

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

*Lead Me, Lord*  
 DIANE MACHATKA, SOLOIST

SAMUEL SEBASTIAN WESLEY\*+

*Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make thy way plain before my face.  
 For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.*

~ Psalm 5:8, 4:8

## OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, **Amen.**

## COMMUNION

*As we gather for communion, all are invited to come forward to the bottom step near the baptismal font. 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.*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

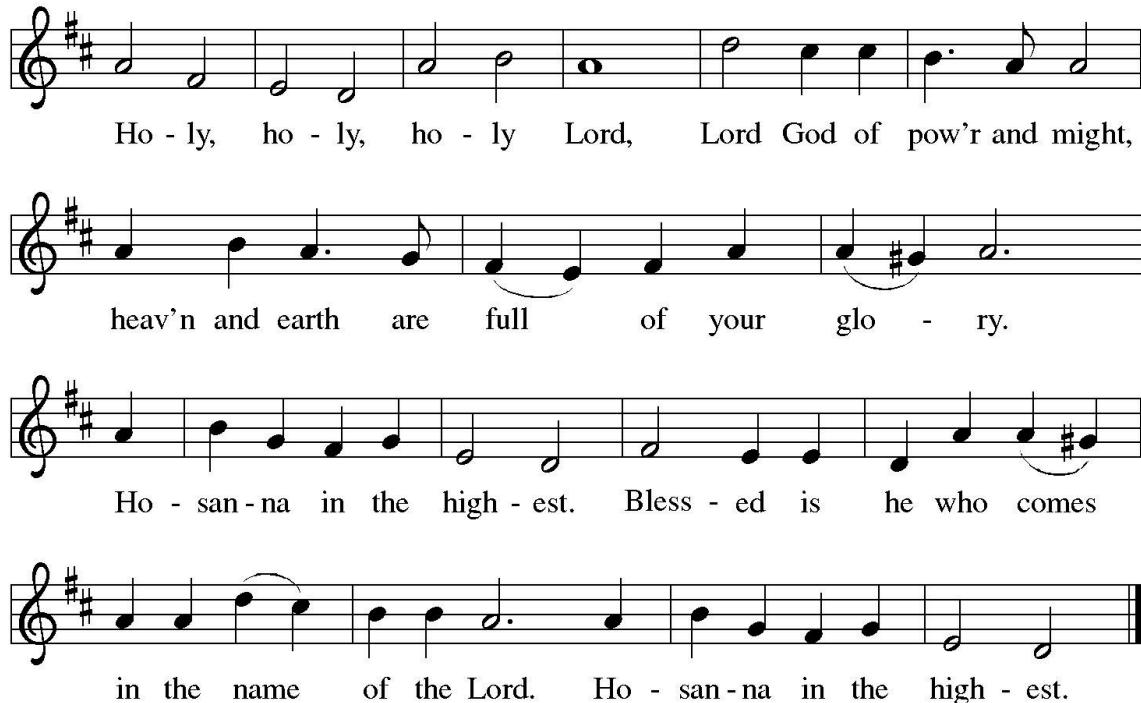
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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:

## HOLY HOLY HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

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.

Let us pray the prayer our Lord has taught us:

### LORDS PRAYER

**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.**

## COMMUNION INVITATION

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ. Come, all is ready, all are welcome.

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

### 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

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**



## SENDING HYMN 629

*Abide with Me*

EVENTIDE

1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - - tide.  
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - - le day;  
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
 earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;  
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see;  
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
 heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.  
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.  
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!  
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

## BLESSING

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.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God!**

+++

**\*WORSHIP NOTES:** The statement of the hymn tune, *Hark! A Voice Saith, “All Are Mortal,”* is as simple and straightforward as the message it brings: All Flesh is Grass. Yet, **Johann Sebastian Bach**’s chorale setting is not grim at all, but more like a lullaby; here, death is not a stark ending of life, but rather a rebirth, the soul rocked gently in the arms of God.

Son of composer Samuel Wesley and grandson of Charles Wesley (author of many hymn texts in Evangelical Lutheran Worship), **Samuel Sebastian Wesley** (1810 – 1876) was a career organist; his middle name was given in tribute to J. S. Bach. Wesley served Hereford Cathedral, Exeter Cathedral, Leeds Parish Church, Winchester Cathedral and Gloucester Cathedral. He was highly regarded both as an organist and as a composer of choral and organ music; his music supports the texts of our hymns *The Church’s One Foundation* and *O Living Bread from Heaven*.

+Offertory copyright 1909, Novello & Company

## TODAY IN WORSHIP

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Shannyn Fuerst

Music: David Buice, Chancel Choir

Reader: Aileen Ida

Ushers: Sharron & Marlin Appelwick

Altar Guild: Aileen Ida

Zoom Host: Debbie Strom

Tech Operator: Rick Brandstetter

## SUNDAY FEB 22:

Psalm 104:27-30

John 11:1-44



## Faith Lutheran Blood Drive

Monday, February 23 12-6pm

Do you know the name Dr. Charles Drew? Considered to be "the father of blood banking," Dr. Drew navigated racism in medicine in the United States to become a pioneer in modern blood storage and transportation practices. In the shadow of WWII, Dr. Drew developed a method to separate and preserve plasma for up to two months. Wartime efforts to save lives on the battlefield under his leadership formed the model for modern blood banking.

In a system of prejudice against Black people, Dr. Drew conducted lifesaving research allowing for blood banking to flourish across the country and the world. But in one of medicine's uglier ironies, he was ineligible to donate blood to the program he made possible.

Until his passing, Dr. Drew was an advocate first for allowing Black donors to give blood and then for ending the baseless segregation of blood based on the donor's race. He died the same year that the American Red Cross ended its policy of segregating blood.

Every two seconds, someone in the United States requires a blood transfusion. These patients receive the blood they need, thanks to the legacy of Dr. Charles Drew. His legacy continues through your generous blood donations ensuring a safe and reliable blood supply for everyone in our community.

Join us for the Faith Lutheran Church blood drive on Monday, February 23. Appointments are available between 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

Scan QR code or click on the link in the weekly email.



# 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](mailto:sheryllschmeling@gmail.com)



freely you  
have received,  
*freely give.*  
—matthew 10:8

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.**

