

May 3, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Paul's Sermon at Athens

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.

WELCOME

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 pastor, 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

Paul arrives in Athens, faithfully proclaims God's good news about Jesus and his resurrection, and rhetorically tailors his presentation of the gospel to his Athenian context. Paul's so-called "missionary journeys" do not follow precise itineraries or strategies as contemporary "mission trips" might. Instead of brief visits, Paul settles down in a community. Once there, Paul provides a faithful and ongoing witness of words and deeds, until he is compelled to move, frequently due to persecution. For today, arriving in Athens, Paul initially proclaims the good news among the Jews in the synagogue. However, the readers' attention is then shifted to Paul's reaction to and distinctive ministry among the Greeks in Athens.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Praeludium in G Minor

GEORG BÖHM*

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism...

Merciful God,
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.

Amen.

1 O Zi - on, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
 2 Pub - lish to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion
 3 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere you meet him,

to tell to all the world that God is light;
 that God, in whom they live and move, is love;
 make known to ev - 'ry heart his sav - ing grace;

that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
 tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion
 let none whom he has ran - somed fail to greet him,

one soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.
 and died on earth that we might live a - bove.
 through your ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

Refrain

Pub - lish glad tid - ings, tid - ings of peace,

tid - ings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion, and re - lease.

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834–1923
 Music: ANGELIC SONGS, James Welch, 1837–1901

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.

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

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

KYRIE

Assistant: In peace, in peace,

Assistant: Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,

Congregation: Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all... (Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)

Congregation: Help, save and de - fend us, O God. A - - - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

ANTHEM

He Comes to Us

JANE MARSHALL*+

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*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

READING Acts 17:16-31

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, "What does this pretentious babbler want to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities." (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means." Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new.

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.'

"Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

**Alleluia, alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL John 1:16-18

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 737 *He Comes to Us as One Unknown*

REPTON



1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -
2 He comes when souls in si - lence lie and thoughts of day de -
3 He comes to us in sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and
4 He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and
5 He comes in truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a -



heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in
part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a -
foam; yet small and still up - on the breeze, a wind that stirs the
birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a life, a death, a
dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but



dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.
cross the sky of night with - in the heart, of night with - in the heart.
tops of trees, a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.
sav - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.
not un - known, our Sav - ior and our Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

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 Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
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.

PRAYERS

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

...Merciful God,
receive our prayer...

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior, **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of the peace as you are comfortable.

OFFERING

With thanksgiving we share our tithes and offerings with God for the work of ministry in the world.

OFFERTORY

Fugue in G Minor

GEORG BÖHM*

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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.

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.

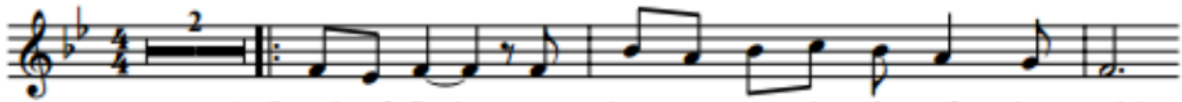
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**



LAMB OF GOD



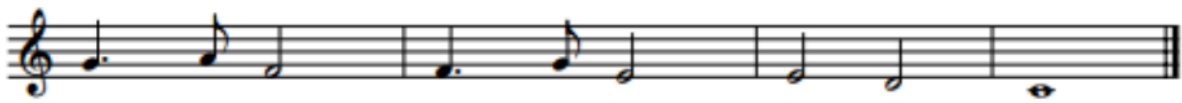
1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus - tice and peace:
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love:



have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Text: ICET; additional text by Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.
Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

COMMUNION INVITATION

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

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

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection, you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
 There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
 But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
 Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
 there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
 and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.
 Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Go now as Easter people, ambassadors of Christ's kingdom of forgiveness, healing and hope, and witnesses of what we know to be true. May the almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *An Ineffable Mystery*

JANE MARSHALL**

...and, as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience Who He is.

SENDING

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

+ + +

***WORSHIP NOTES:** **Georg Böhm** was organist for more than thirty-five years at the *Johanniskirche* of Lüneburg, one of the several key cities – along with Lübeck, Stade, and Hamburg – where the great North German organists developed their art. Böhm’s keyboard *praeludium* employs a variant of the *stylus fantasticus* formal procedure used by other brilliant composer/improvisor/performers such as Dietrich Buxtehude and Nicolaus Bruhns. The first two parts of Böhm’s *Praeludium in G Minor* are heard in today’s worship service; the concluding section will be heard next Sunday.

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.

+Anthem and Benediction Response copyright 1957 by Carl Fischer, Inc..

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Shannyn Fuerst

Music: David Buice, Chancel Choir

Reader: Lynn Krog

Ushers: Linda Mihalov & John Hushagen

Fellowship: Richmond Family

Altar Guild: Charmaine Haaland

Zoom Host: Kathy Brandstetter

Tech Operator: Rick Brandstetter

NEXT WEEK:

Philippians 1:1-18a

Luke 9:46-48



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.





Bloodworks Northwest Blood Drive

Join us for the Faith Lutheran Church blood drive on Wednesday, May 6. Appointments are available between 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

Expectant mothers need blood on hand for a safe delivery. After suffering a life-threatening amniotic fluid embolism, Natasha Erickson received 37 units of blood. She and her daughter are here today because of blood donors. Every 9 minutes in the U.S., a woman like Natasha is at risk of life-threatening bleeding complications during childbirth. Up to 90% of these cases are preventable, but they are on the rise in the U.S., nearly tripling in the last decade. Childbirth should be a safe, fulfilling, and positive experience for every new parent. By donating blood, you can help provide birthing parents with effective, timely care throughout pregnancy, delivery, and postpartum. Save a life. Book your appointment today.

Schedule your appointment today by clicking link in the weekly email or scanning the QR code below:

SCAN QR CODE



May 17 Annual Congregational Meeting Budget Discussion Meetings Sunday May 3rd & 10th following worship

The Annual Meeting and Budget Meeting will take place on Sunday, May 17th following worship.

The congregation will vote to:

- Approve the budget
- New council members
- Nominating committee
- Five mission partners that will receive stewardship funding
- Share current updates for the congregation



If you have suggestions for the mission partners, please submit a suggestion to the office with a few sentences describing the non-profit. (Example: Elizabeth Gregory House, University District Food Bank, etc.)



April 29, 2026

Dear Family of Faith,

Summer is coming soon and there will be a few adjustments regarding summer pastoral leadership. This involves Rev. Liz Colver serving at Faith Lutheran while Pastor Shannyn serves with Wild Grief.

Martin Luther writes often about the different vocations and callings we have in life. Some of these vocations may include being a parent, aunt/uncle, sibling, friend, daily job, volunteer work, and so much more. We are made up of our different callings and vocations, which makes our communities vibrant and diverse in skillsets, service, and resources. Luther's doctrine of vocation teaches that **all work and social roles are divine callings**, through which God works in the world. Our faith is expressed not only in worship but in the faithful performance of everyday duties, making ordinary life a home for God's grace and service to neighbor.

How do we know when we are being called into a vocation? Often, those vocations are so natural they are hard to recognize as callings. Essentially, a calling is where the world's needs and your skill sets intersect in authentic and life giving ways.

One of my recognized callings is to volunteer as a backpack guide for Wild Grief, an organization that works with teens, young adults, and families who have experienced the significant loss of a loved one. In particular, my skill set and calling is to serve with the 4-day teen and young adult backpacking trips. Using my background in Children, Youth, and Family ministry, training as a pastor, interest/experience with the outdoors, and the intertwining of my own profound experience of grief, I serve well. It is life giving to my soul and it serves a need in our world.

Parker Palmer in his book Let Your Life Speak writes, "Vocation does not come from willfulness. It comes from listening." I have listened to the voice of colleagues, friends, and the Holy Spirit as I have been in discernment, conversation, and prayer. I have spoken with the Executive Council and Council about a plan we would like pilot for the 2026-2027 year, where I will drop down to 5/6th time for the next fiscal year.

What this will look like:

July 1st-September 13th (approximately 2.5 months)

- Rev. Liz Colver will serve full time with a focus on community engagement and outreach, as this is a specific skill set she possesses. It is an area where we, at Faith Lutheran, could use some additional training and guidance. Rev. Liz has training and experience that Pastor Shannyn does not. This allows focused time and energy to develop congregational knowledge in an area via preaching, worship, education, and involvement.
- During that time Pastor Shannyn will officiate 2 weddings for church members and go to Camp Lutherwood with the youth.
- Rev. Liz and Pastor Shannyn will be in regular conversation to provide consistency in pastoral care and leadership.
- The finance team has devised a stipend and benefits for Rev. Liz with an even line item (meaning, no extra changes in the pastoral budget) and still provides benefits to Pastor Shannyn year round.
- Pastor Shannyn will be paid for 10 months (5/6th time) but salary will be distributed throughout the year. (This is not a sabbatical. It is reduced time to intentionally volunteer.)

This is an opportunity for Faith Lutheran to have different voices and skill sets worked into the life and growth of our community. It also allows me to lean into one of my callings and be available to volunteer for multiple weeks with Wild Grief, while ensuring that the congregation has strong leadership and attention. The rest of the year will proceed as normal with my full time ministry and work at Faith Lutheran.

It is a joy to continue serving as your pastor. We have been together for almost 10 years and I look forward to more ahead with you. If you have questions please don't hesitate to contact Mark Strom, Council President, or Pastor Shannyn or ask during the Budget Discussions or Annual Meeting.

In the living gospel partnership,
Pastor Shannyn



Presented in collaboration with Faith Lutheran Church

SALISH SEA

EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2026



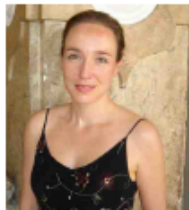
BACH & HANDEL

MAIKE ALBRECHT
SOPRANO

JEFFREY COHAN
BAROQUE FLUTE

HANS-JURGEN SCHNOOR
HARPSICHORD

SUSIE NAPPER
VIOLA DA GAMBA



Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 7:00 PM

Faith Lutheran Church

8208 18th Ave NE in Seattle

\$20 to \$30 suggested donation/a free will offering. all are welcome youth 18 and under always free

www.salishseafestival.org/seattle

