



February 8, 2026

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Healing Stories

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 the Scripture

Stories of healing in scripture can occasionally feel problematic, especially when we look around our own sanctuary, homes, schools, work, and other communities. We see people for who they are and recognize that all abilities and capabilities are beautiful and life-giving. The point of these stories is not to say one ability or one body is better than another, it is to show the healing powers of Jesus in different ways. Remember, the context of history, time, and place is important. People who were differently abled--in any way--had no support, no future, no hope. Jesus' healing comes to us in various ways at various times that are often unexpected or unknown until we reflect back later. Jesus works through other people to care for us in body, mind, and soul.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

There Is a Balm in Gilead

DIANE MACHATKA, SOLOIST

AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUAL
ARR. WILLIAM L. DAWSON*+

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.*

*Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.*

*If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all."*

INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, [☩] one God,
Who is,
Who was,
And Who is to come.
Amen.

OPENING LITANY

Give thanks to Lord, for the Lord is good,
and God's mercy endures forever.
They cried to the Lord in their trouble.
and were delivered from their distress.
God sent for the Word and healed them,
and saved them from the grave.
The Lord is righteous in all their ways,
and loving in all their works.
The Lord upholds all who fall;
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down.
The Lord sustains them on their sick bed,
and ministers to them in their illness.
The Lord is my strength and my song,
the Lord has become my salvation.
Give thanks to Lord, for the Lord is good,
and God's mercy endured forever.

OPENING HYMN TFF 111 *I've Just Come from the Fountain*

HIS NAME SO SWEET

REFRAIN: SUNG BY ALL; VERSES: CHOIR ASKS, CONGREGATION ANSWERS

Refrain

I've just come from the foun-tain, I've just come from the foun-tain, Lord, I've

1 2

just come from the foun-tain, his name's so sweet. O Lord, I've sweet.

1 O broth - er, do you love Je - sus? Yes, yes, I do love my Je - sus.
 2 O sis - ter, do you love Je - sus? Yes, yes, I do love my Je - sus.
 3 O sin - ner, do you love Je - sus? Yes, yes, I do love my Je - sus.

Refrain

Broth-er, do you love Je-sus? His name's so sweet. O Lord, I've
 Sis - ter, do you love Je-sus? His name's so sweet. O Lord, I've
 Sin - ner, do you love Je-sus? His name's so sweet. O Lord, I've

Text: African American spiritual

Music: HIS NAME SO SWEET, African American spiritual

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, give us grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things that should be changed, and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other: living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time, accepting hardship as a pathway to peace; taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as we would have it; trusting that you will make all things right, if we surrender to your will; so that we may be reasonably happy in this life, and supremely happy with you forever in the next. **Amen.**

ANTHEM*I Waited for the Lord*

FELIX MENDELSSOHN+

DIANE MACHATKA & CHERYL PETERS, SOLOISTS

*I waited for the Lord, he inclined unto me, he heard my complaint.**O blest are they that hope and trust in the Lord.*

~ from Psalm 40:1, 4

CHILDREN'S SERMON**READING Psalm 40:1-5**

I waited patiently for the LORD;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
He drew me up from the desolate pit,
 out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
 making my steps secure.
He put a new song in my mouth,
 a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear
 and put their trust in the LORD.
Happy are those who make
 the LORD their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
 to those who go astray after false gods.
You have multiplied, O LORD my God,
 your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you.
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
 they would be more than can be counted.
The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL John 4:46-54, 5:1-18

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 4th and 5th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had changed the water into wine. Now there was a royal official whose son lay ill in Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my little boy dies." Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started on his way. As he was going down, his slaves met him and told him that his child was alive. So he asked them the hour when he began to recover, and they said to him, "Yesterday at one in the afternoon the fever left him." The father realized that this was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." So he himself believed, along with his whole household. Now this was the second sign that Jesus did after coming from Judea to Galilee.

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many ill, blind, lame, and paralyzed people. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The ill man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a Sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who had been cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your mat." But he answered them, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Take up your mat and walk.' " They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take it up and walk'?" Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had disappeared in the crowd that was there. Later Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you have been made well! Do not sin any more, so that nothing worse happens to you." The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. Therefore the Jews started persecuting Jesus, because he was doing such things on the Sabbath. But Jesus answered them, "My Father is still working, and I also am working." For this reason the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because he was not only breaking the Sabbath but was also calling God his own Father, thereby making himself equal to God.

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

SERMON

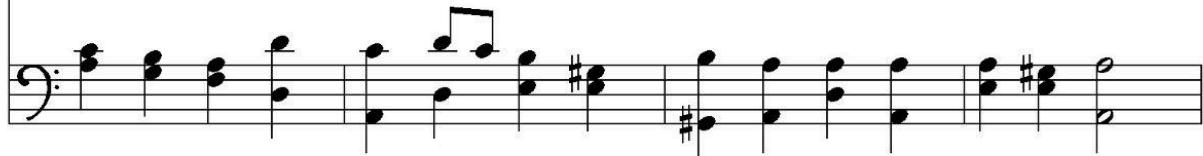


HYMN OF THE DAY *ELW 811* *On My Heart Imprint Your Image*

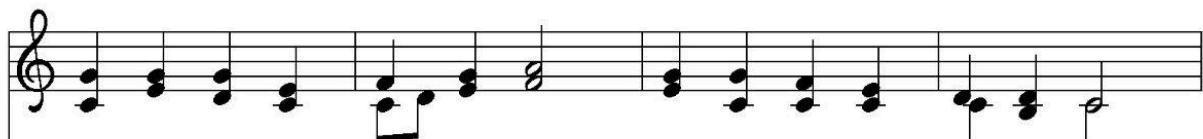
DER AM KREUZ



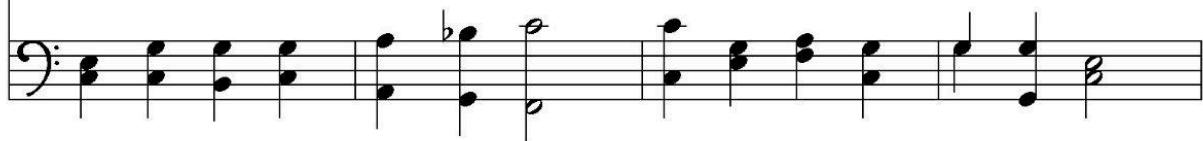
On my heart im - print your im - age, bless-ed Je - sus, king of grace,



that life's trou-bles nor its plea-sures ev - er may your work e - rase.



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



is my life, my hope's foun-da - tion, all my glo-ry and sal - va - tion!



PRAYERS

Let us pray...

Loving God, we give you thanks for the gifts of life on earth, for our human bodies and all you have created. In your great mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, by the wounds of your Son we are healed. Bring your saving health to all people. In your great mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Restoring God, your Son Jesus brought the gift of healing and wholeness. Bring your healing presence now to name/s and all who are in any distress. In your great mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, source of human knowledge, give skill, wisdom, and compassion to all who provide medical care. In your great mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of sustaining hope, we pray for healing of the pain and divisions in our communities, families, and relationships. We lift up all that we feel, all that we hold in our hearts and our bodies, all for whom are hurting, including us (*silence for prayer*). In your great mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sustaining God, you humbled yourself to share in our humanity, and you came to heal all our illnesses. Give gentleness and courage to family members, friends, and caregivers and all who are suffering. In your great mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of great and abundant mercy, with your presence sustain all for whom we pray; drive away their sickness of body and spirit; and give them that victory of life and peace which will enable us to serve you now and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

I Quietly Turned to You

BURYL RED*+

CHERYL PETERS, SOLOIST

...a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed." Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed at that moment.

~ Matthew 9:20-22

*There was nowhere else to turn, and nowhere else to go; my body knew all the pain a body can know,
When I quietly turned to you. Help of the helpless, I turned to you.*

*When no one else would help, and no one else could hear my cries full of anguish, my cries full of fear,
Then I quietly turned to you. Hope of the hopeless, I turned to you.*

*I saw you standing there, I saw the beauty from you beaming,
I saw the peace, the joy, the perfect love that could be.
I saw you standing there, I thought that I was surely dreaming:
For suddenly warmth and love and joy were shining through me,
As you quietly turned to me. Friend of the friendless, you turned to me.*

*Now I know such perfect peace, I feel such sweet release,
Your love let me live again, your love set me free.
Help of the helpless, friend of the friendless, I quietly turned to you, and you turned to me.
~ Ragan Courtney*

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 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:
our Good Samaritan, who tends the wounds of body and spirit
with the oil of consolation and the wine of hope;
the Sun of righteousness, who raises us to life on his healing wings.

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.

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 *ELW 543* *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

AR HYD Y NOS

1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you.
The Lord look upon you with favor,
And give you peace.
In the name of the Father, Son +, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *You Can Tell the Love of Jesus*

WILLIAM L. DAWSON*+

SENDING

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

+++

***WORSHIP NOTES:** **William Levi Dawson** developed the Tuskegee Institute Choir into an internationally renowned ensemble. A composer of instrumental, chamber and orchestral music, he is best known as an arranger of African-American spirituals.

Felix Mendelssohn's skill as a composer is matched by his passionate "Romantic" sensibility; *I Waited for the Lord* – from Mendelssohn's 1840 Symphony No. 2, Op. 52, (*Lobgesang* or "Hymn of Praise") – is an elegant example of that blend of artistic skill with deeply spiritual expression, the soprano soloists leading or descanting above the choir which sings in a larger duet with the soloists.

The Offertory is from *Celebrate Life!* – the "pulpit musical" created by composer **Buryl Red** and actor/poet/playwright **Ragan Courtney**. Originally conceived for youth choir, the quality of the writing – text and music – resulted in the music's rapid adoption by choirs of all age groups and denominations. Its second release in the 1990s garnered the work a new generation of enthusiastic singers, actors and congregational audiences.

Many thanks to this morning's soloists, **Diane Machatka** and **Cheryl Peters**, for offering their musical gifts in worship!

+Call to Worship & Benediction Response copyright 1939, renewed 1967, William L. Dawson
Anthem copyright 1910, renewed 1938, Theodore Presser Company
Offertory copyright 1972, Broadman Press

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Shannyn Fuerst
Music: David Buice, Chancel Choir, Diane Machatka, Cheryl Peters
Reader: John Hushagen
Ushers: Jean & John Bergo
Fellowship: Ann & Peter Cohan
Altar Guild: Donna Shy
Zoom Host: Kathy Brandstetter
Tech Operator: Rick Brandstetter

NEXT WEEK:

Psalm 27:1-4
John 9:1-41

TOGETHER, WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

CREATING COMMUNITY

Faith Lutheran Church | The Library
8208 18th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98115

Monday, February 9th | noon - 8pm
Come and go • All ages welcome

- Meet neighbors & connect in conversation
- Write your elected officials (examples & materials provided)
- Knit or crochet hats, learn or teach (supplies provided or bring your own)
- Make & write cards of encouragement and connection for people in Minneapolis (multiple languages encouraged)
- Make whistle kits & learn how to share them

**6:30pm Zoom with
Pastor Sarah B. (Minneapolis)**
on community organizing, mutual aid &
how we can support and prepare in Seattle.
Zoom link on **faithseattle.org**

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

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



DONATE ONLINE

It's easy.

Scan the QR code below to give via Vanco.



Tuesday Tea Time in the Office

Tuesdays 11:00am - noon *note the day/time change*

You are invited to stop by for a cup of tea and to say hello to Pastor Shannyn and Emily on Tuesdays between 11am - noon. Of course, you are welcome other times during the week as well.

We will have coffee and teas available.

Come and go as you'd like!

In Person or via Zoom

SCAN TO JOIN





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

