



Jesus took her
by the hand
and lifted
her up

MARK 1:31



The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Saturday, February 3, 2024 ~ 5:00 pm
Sunday, February 4, ~ 9:00 am

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

GATHERING

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,

we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant.

Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG "We Come to You for Healing, Lord"

ELW #617

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



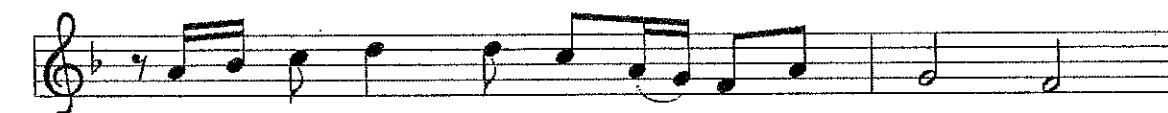
you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

ANTHEM (9:00 am) "All Earth Rejoice With a Gladsome Voice" People of Praise

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

A reading from Isaiah.

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God"?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
²⁹He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c 11

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!
²**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem,**
and gathers the exiles of Israel.
³The LORD heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.
⁴**The LORD counts the number of the stars**
and calls them all by their names.
⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power;
there is no limit to God's wisdom.
⁶**The LORD lifts up the lowly,**
but casts the wicked to the ground.
⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp to our God,
⁸**who covers the heavens with clouds**
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.
⁹God provides food for the cattle
and for the young ravens when they cry.
¹⁰**God is not impressed by the might of a horse,**
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,
¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love. ²⁰Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

A reading from First Corinthians.

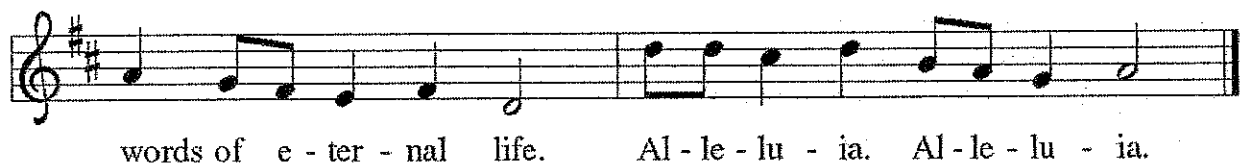
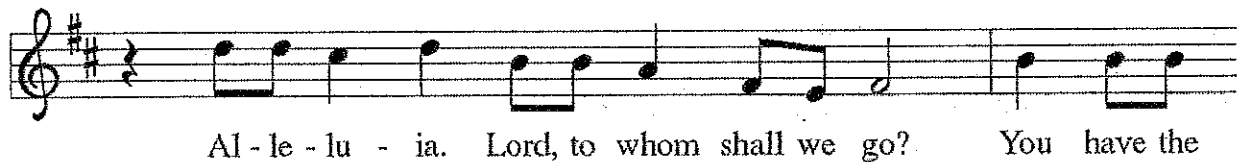
¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Mark 1:1:29-39

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

ELW #773

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 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG "Let the Vineyards"



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble



with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

THE 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... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



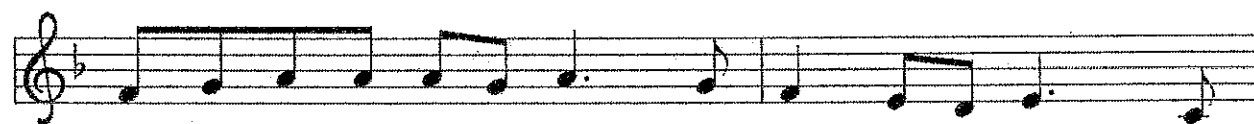
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S 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.

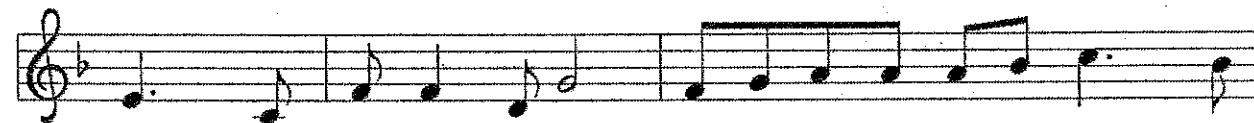
COMMUNION SONG



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



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion may come forward for a blessing.

Saturday, the ushers will direct you to come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread from the pastors. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. Gluten-free wafers are available in the small gold dish on the paten. Those who are worshipping with us online are invited to have bread and wine or juice available for worship, and we will commune you at the end of communion.

Sunday, communion will be distributed at the rail. Please come forward by the center aisle and go to the right side of the rail. Receive the wafer and the wine (lighter color in the outer rings) or grape juice (darker color in the inner rings) and pause a moment before returning to your seat by the side aisle. Communion will be continuous, so as a space opens up, please fill that space. Gluten-free wafers are available in the small gold dish on the paten.

There are baskets at the end of the front pews where you can deposit your cups as you return to your seat.

COMMUNION HYMN

"On Eagle's Wings"

ELW #787

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

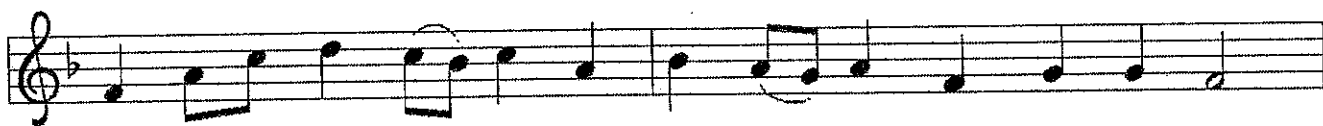
P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

C. Amen.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



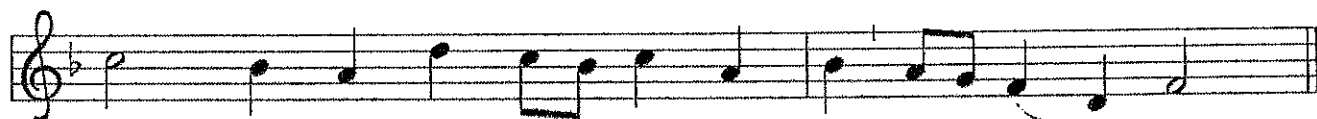
Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Text and music © 1978, 1993 Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING

SENDING SONG "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

ELW #860

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
Thanks be to God.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SHARE IN OUR WORSHIP

	5:00 pm Worship Service	9:00 am Worship Service
Ushers:	Mike & Rita Smith	Connie Braet & Renae Ward
Readers:	Kelly Wyatt	Mary Moore
Communion:	Kelly Wyatt	Mary Moore
Counters:	Mike & Rita Smith	Ken & Sue Oetzmann
Organists:	Teri Wittkowski & Susan Becker	Online Streaming Crew: Lucas Golinghorst, Kevin Zidarich & Scott LaPlante
Choir Director	Sue Becker	Jubilation Leader: Neal Becker

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A Fiercely Tender Love

Think of a lioness; perhaps you've seen one in a nature documentary. Her power is palpable, even through the TV screen. She is strong and fierce, able to expertly take down prey and defend her pride from danger. She is also gentle, grooming her tiny cubs carefully in the afternoon sun. With the same strong jaws she is able both to kill an enemy and to carry her young gingerly by the scruff of their neck. Jesus' power is something like that: just as mighty as it is tender.

Jesus casts out demons relentlessly. In a single evening, he exorcises an entire city's worth! Jesus' power over the demons is so complete that he doesn't even permit them to speak. What are the demons in your own life, or in your community? What forces seek to dominate or control? What systems cause hurt or destruction? Out of God's great love for us, Jesus grapples with each and every source of pain, oppression, and suffering in the world.

With that same power, Jesus gently lifts Simon's mother-in-law by the hand, and her fever is gone. In a tender bedside moment, she is healed personally, intimately, and completely. This woman, ordinary and unnamed in Mark's gospel except by her relation to her son-in-law, is still not so unimportant as to escape Jesus' notice and care. And neither are we.

Jesus bathes us in the waters of salvation and defends us from danger. He feeds us at the table of mercy and carries us tenderly into abundant life. We are protected, healed, and loved by the One who created the cosmos, who possesses power to destroy any earthly power, yet who "gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless" (Isaiah 40:29). Like cubs learning from their mother, we rise and follow so that our lives might show forth that same fiercely tender love.

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of
 2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
 3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
 4 When nights are long with wake - ful - ness, through
 5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in

bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
 reached toward those in pain, come, ris - en Christ, a -
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our

Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
 mong us still with pow'r to heal a - gain.
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824

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Precious Lord, Take My Hand

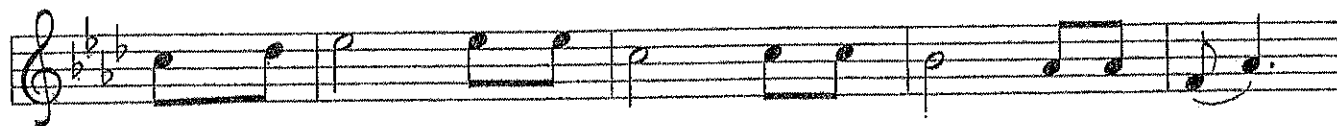
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- 1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
- 2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
- 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
 and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993

Music: George N. Allen, 1812-1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey

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PRECIOUS LORD

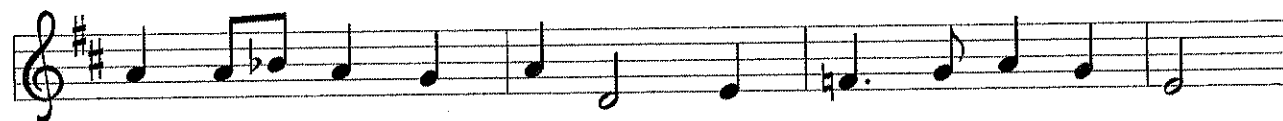
Irregular

On Eagle's Wings

Leader or All



- 1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,



say to the Lord: "My ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain
All



And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

Leader or All



2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no



fear; un-der God's wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.

Leader or All



3 You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by



day; though thou-sands fall a - bout you, near you it shall not come.

Leader or All



4 For to the an-gels God's giv-en a com-mand to



guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will

(Continues on next page)



bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

Final refrain

All



And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.



And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957

Music: ON EAGLE'S WINGS, Michael Joncas

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I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je-sus lift-ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing-ing glo - ry, hal - le-lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

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Text: African American spiritual

Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Senior Pastor Carrie La Plante Pastor Heather Geest

Worship: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 9 am

Telephone: (563) 285-4501 Email: faitheldridge@netins.net



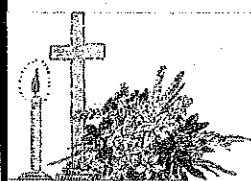
GRACE - GIFTED FAITH - LIVED
CALLED TO SHARE, SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST.

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 3 & 4, 2024

WELCOME TO WORSHIP Today we gather to celebrate God's love and grace as revealed to us through Jesus Christ. For those that might be interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities of the congregation there are some printed materials available for you to take. The materials are located on the counter just inside the east entrance of this building. You can also find more information through the church website at faithlutheranelldridge.com.

CHILDREN are always welcome in worship. Special children's bulletins are available for their use.

VISITOR? CHANGE OF ADDRESS? INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES? HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST? Please feel free to complete the information card located in front of you next to the hymnals and pass the card to the outer aisle during announcements and an usher will pick them up during the call to worship.



Altar Flowers

The Flowers on the altar are given by Chad and Carrie Keppy in loving memory of Carrie's brother and sister-in-law, Matt and Jean Tengman.

If you are interested in providing altar flowers, please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex, or by using the link on our web site, www.faithlutheranelldridge.com



Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these people and all who are in need in our prayers.

Ron McFate	Dan Anderson	Melissa Alden	Kathy Schultz
Sally Puls	Pam White	Sue Vogel	Glen
Jensen Spencer	Jim St. John	Andrew Arp	Kelly
Ann Kuehl	Carolyn Scheibe	Kim Pierce	Vaughn
Madison Russo	Maisie Knutsen	Jeanette Myers	Shawn
Janet Bowman	Carol Marten	Bill Lind	Don
Kathy Stoltz	Jim Schneider	Pam Lueder	Tim
Steve Mixdorf	Ida Weibel	Barb Conklen	Craig
Duane Miller	Ed Stoltz	Jacki Caugherty	Joyce
Henry Storjohann	Judy Knoer	Jim Peters	Roger



Cheeseburger In Paradise



Cheeseburger In Paradise Potluck will return to the Fellowship Hall following worship on Saturday, February 3rd, 2024!!!! The Fellowship Team will provide cheeseburgers, condiments, table service and drinks.

Please sign up by January 24th, 2024, either on the bulletin board or online and include what side dish you plan to bring, so we can plan accordingly for the cheeseburgers!

There will be games for the kids to play (Bags, Hula Hoop, Limbo, Flamingo Ring Toss to name a few). Sign up for Door Prizes: Child and Adult. Other prizes to be awarded: Best Hawaiian/Tropical attire. Who has the palest legs at Faith? – We shall soon find out!

Hope to see you all there – *The Fellowship Team*



Our youth are raising funds for this summer's Youth Gathering Trip with their annual **Super Bowl Sandwich and Caramel Chex Mix Sale**. The order forms are available on the Welcome Center.

Pick-up will be on Super Bowl Weekend, February 10 and 11, around the worship services. Order forms are due by the end of the day on January 31. Subs are \$8 and caramel snack mix is \$12 per gallon. We look forward to helping to provide your Super Bowl Sunday treats, and ***thank you*** in advance for your support.



Ash Wednesday - Wednesday, February 14

It is hard to believe that Lent is just around the corner, but Ash Wednesday is on February 14. Please join us for a soup supper at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall served by our Confirmation Students. We then gather for worship, including imposition of ashes and Holy Communion at 7:00 pm.

If you would like to provide food items for the soup supper, a signup is available online and on the bulletin board.



Join us on Sunday, February 11, for our monthly **congregational breakfast** following the 9 am worship service. It is our hope that these intergenerational congregational breakfasts will be an opportunity for us to grow in faith and in relationship with one another.

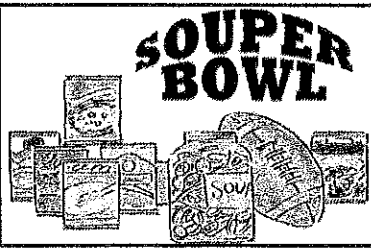
Service in the World Events

Good Gifts Christmas Project

Our thanks to everyone that donated to the Good Gifts Christmas Project. Your gifts will make a difference in the lives of people around the world. We raised a total of \$1449 towards the purchase of many goats, pigs, chickens, bees, clean water, vaccinations and much more. Thank you for your generosity during the Christmas season!

Compassion Children and Missionary Sponsorships

Our thanks to everyone who has sponsored our Compassion children, John and Denisse, as well as our missionary team, the Bencke family, during the past year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Our Compassion children receive support in the form of nutrition supplementation, education assistance, medical checkups and loving Christian care. There are opportunities now available to sponsor an upcoming month for 2024. The sign up form is on the bulletin board and on our website. Thank you for your past and future support.



Souper Bowl Event

Root for your favorite team and support the North Scott Food Pantry by dropping off your canned soup donations Feb. 1st-11th. Place your cans on the side of the football field designated for your favorite team.



It is time for snow removal volunteers! If you are able to help clear sidewalks after a snowfall, please sign up on the sheet in the gathering area or online using the link on our web site:

www.faithlutheranelldridge.com. **Thank you for your help!**



Bread Bakers are needed for table communion. Please signup on the bulletin board if you are willing to help with this ministry. Recipes are available. Please deliver on Friday before noon or by 8:30 the morning of worship.



5pm: 18, 9am: 74 Online: 44, Total: 136

THIS WEEK AT GLANCE



Saturday, February 3	5:00 pm	Worship In Sanctuary & Online
	6:00 pm	Cheeseburger in Paradise
Sunday, February 4	9:00 am	Worship In Sanctuary
	10:15 am	Fellowship Hour
	10:15 am	Sunday School
Monday, February 5	<i>Office Closed</i>	
	6:00 pm	Lions Club
Tuesday, February 6	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Food Pantry
	6:30 pm	VFW Meeting
Wednesday, February 7	5:00 pm	Confirmation Dinner
	5:30 pm	Confirmation Conversations
	6:00 pm	People of Praise
	7:00 pm	High School Youth
	7:00 pm	Resounding Joy
Thursday, February 8	<i>Team Reports Due</i>	
Friday, February 9	9:30 am	Food Pantry
Saturday, February 10	5:00 pm	Worship In Sanctuary & Online
Sunday, February 11	9:00 am	Worship In Sanctuary
	10:15 am	Congregational Breakfast



Pastor Carrie and Pastor Heather are available for Pastoral Care, but we need your help to know when and where that is needed. Please contact us at the church office **Tuesday thru Friday, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm** at **(563) 285-4501**. For after-hour emergencies, please contact **Pastor Carrie at (641) 275-1326** or **Pastor Heather at (563) 639-9606**.