



# The Second Sunday of Easter

Saturday, April 15, 2023 5:00pm Sunday, April 16, 2023 9:00am

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

**PRELUDE** 

"Knowing You"

Jubilation

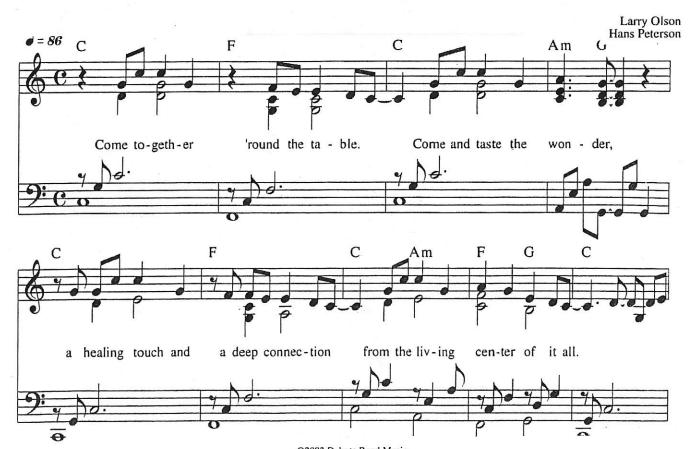
#### **GATHERING**

#### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

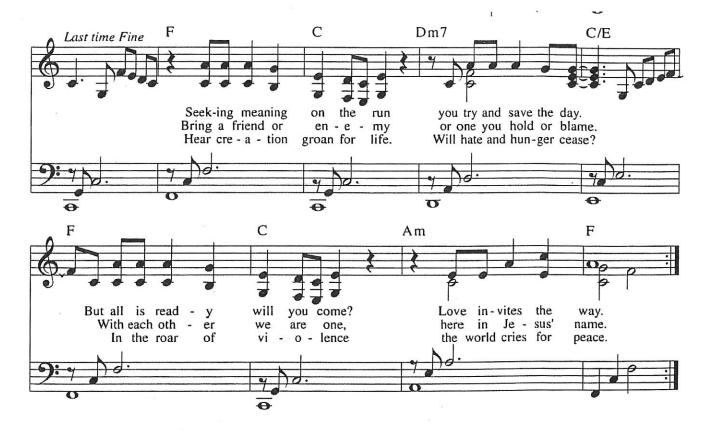
CALL TO WORSHIP

"Round the Table"

vv. 1 & 2



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#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

#### Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

#### Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

Amen.

# GATHERING SONG "Draw Me Into Your Presence"



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#### 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.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

# FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

A reading from Acts.

<sup>14a</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], <sup>22</sup>"You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—<sup>23</sup>this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup>But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup>For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,

for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

<sup>26</sup>therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;

moreover my flesh will live in hope.

<sup>27</sup>For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption.

<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the ways of life;

you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

<sup>29</sup>"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup>Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup>Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,

nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

<sup>32</sup>This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM: Psalm 16**

<sup>1</sup>Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

<sup>2</sup>All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.

<sup>3</sup>But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

<sup>4</sup>I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.

<sup>5</sup>O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

<sup>6</sup>My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.

<sup>7</sup>I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

<sup>8</sup>I have set the Lord always before me;

because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

<sup>9</sup>My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

<sup>10</sup>For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.

You will show me the path of life;

in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

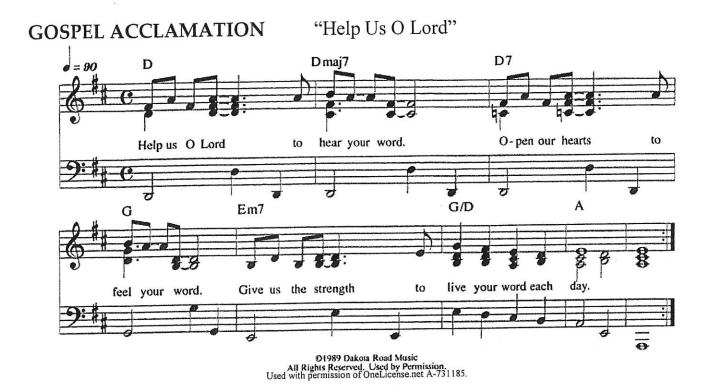
### **SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9**

A reading from First Peter.

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup>Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup>for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John.

# Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

**SERMON** 

**ANTHEM** 

"Once Again"

**Jubilation** 

**CREED** (5:00 pm)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HOLY BAPTISM (9:00 am)

Athena Helene Rogers

ELW pg 227

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all people in need.

Each prayer petition will conclude, "Lord, in your mercy," The congregation responds, "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THE OFFERING



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#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

#### PRAYER OF 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your holy name.

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

#### THE LORD'S 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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.





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#### **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. Please follow the directions of the pastors to receive communion. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion will receive a blessing. Those who are worshiping 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.

**COMMUNION ANTHEMS** 

"As the Grains of Wheat" "One Bread, One Body"

Jubilation

#### POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

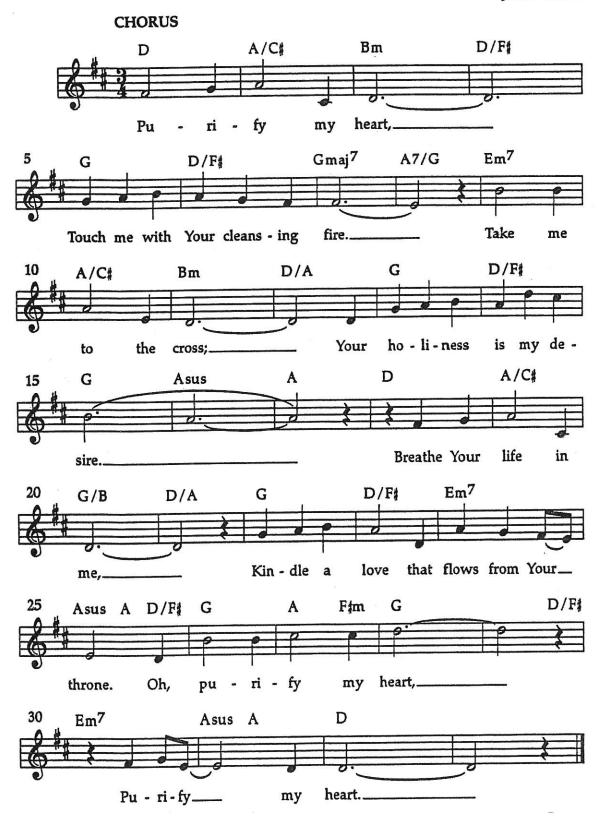
Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

The God of all, who raised + Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

Amen.



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#### **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

#### THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SHARE IN OUR WORSHIP

SATURDAY	5:00 pm Worship Service	
Ushers	Sharon Goldsmith & Joni King	
Reader	Joni King	
Communion Assistant	Sue Braack	
Counters	Gary & Joni King	

SUNDAY	9:00 am Worship Service	
Ushers	Ron & Nancy Meyer	
Reader	Ida Weibel	
Communion Assistant	Mary Moore	
Counters	Kenny & Sue Oetzmann	

Choir Director	Susan Becker	
Organist	Teri Wittkowski and Susan Becker	
Jubilation Leader	Neal Becker	

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# A Wild, Skeptical Hope

Doubting Thomas" is nearly always meant as a pejorative, but Jesus shows up for him. It's easy to forget that Thomas is asking for nothing more than what Jesus has already provided to his friends—showing up for them, in the flesh. When he does the same for Thomas and Thomas exclaims, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28), Jesus responds, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe" (John 20:29). It's easy to hear this as if Jesus were chastising Thomas while he blesses the rest of us, but he does no such thing. He can show up for Thomas and bless the rest of us all at the same time.

Can you even imagine what those days must have been like—those days between the crucifixion and resurrection, and then the days that followed, full to the brim with confusion and grief and rumors and wild, skeptical hope? Two thousand years can make us forgetful, as if those who were present in those moments had the luxury of knowing the entire story all at once, the way we do.

But they didn't. Regardless, Thomas believed in a God big enough to carry his doubts and uncertainty. He trusted that God was big enough to hold all his questions and his hope.

What are the big doubts you carry? What are your questions? What kind of wild, skeptical hopes do you have, that you hardly dare to utter out loud, even to your closest friends? Do they feel any different when you stop to wonder about letting God carry them with you?

Here, at the beginning of the Easter season, God has shown us that very little is truly impossible. Thomas believed as much, and he had the courage to ask for it. Jesus shows up in response to Thomas's bold ask, and through this witness, he blesses the rest of us.

#### FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Senior Pastor Carrie La Plante

**Pastor Heather Geest** 

Worship: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 9 am

Telephone: (563) 285-450l Email: faitheldridge@netins.net

GRACE - GIFTED

FAITH - LIFTED

CALLED TO SHARE SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST



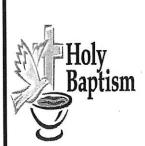
The Second Sunday of Easter April 15 & 16, 2023

**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 **faithlutheraneldridge.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.

Lord, S. Hegr Our Prayer S.	Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these people and all who are in need in our prayers.			
Ron McFate H.O. Nelson Sally Puls Jensen Spencer Ann Kuehl Carol Judge Carolyn Scheibe Madison Russo Janet Bowman	Kathy Stoltz Steve Mixdorf Duane Miller Roger Lewis Ed Stoltz Jerry Schwien Judy Knoer Jan Kluever Melissa Alden	Sue Vogel Andrew Arp Kim Pierce Jeanette Myers Bill Lind Lincoln Regnier Ed Precht Hugh Lickiss Sharon Baker	Glen Kelly Vaughn Mary Lou	



During the Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> worship service, we welcome to our Faith family through the waters of holy baptism, Athena Helene Rogers, the daughter of Doug and Brianna Rogers. Athena's sponsors are Emily and Jacob Hintze, Amy Maxwell, and Kelsey Erichsen.

The rose on the altar is given in celebration of Athena's baptism in loving memory of Mary House, Maddie Mess, and Jackie Snyder.



Our Special Easter offering is designated for Lutheran Disaster Response for "U.S. tornadoes." 100% of our gifts will be used toward helping people in U.S. communities impacted by tornadoes.

# Women ELCA

All women are invited to the Southeastern Iowa Women of the ELCA (WELCA) Spring Cluster 6 meeting on Saturday, April 22, 2023.

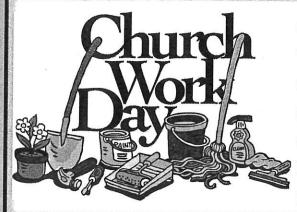
We will meet at **The Vault Coffee & Cafe**, 220 W. Davenport St., Eldridge. The program by **Humble Dwellings** will begin at **10:00 am.** After the program, we will enjoy Dutch Treat lunch (if desired).

Monetary Donations will be collected for Humble Dwellings, Women of Southeastern Iowa Synod, and our Cluster 6. Please bring separate monies for each.

RSVP by April 15 to Barb Spies: <a href="mailto:bjspies68@gmail.com">bjspies68@gmail.com</a> or call/text to 563-676-1238. You can contact Lynda Miller if you have any questions in regards to the meeting.



The Women of Faith are looking for donations of perennial plants, especially hostas, for the Eldridge City Wide Garage Sales on May 20 from 8:00am to 2:00pm. If you need pots for splitting plants or have any extra 9" pots, please call Joni Schneider (285-5829). You can also sell your household items in the church parking lot on May 20. Come join the fun.



# Calling All Hands -BIG or small

We will be holding our annual cleanup day on **April 29th at 8:30 am**. We will be cleaning windows and general yard cleanup. Please come help us keep Faith Lutheran looking beautiful. Your help is much needed and appreciated.

## **Summer Camp at Lutheran Lakeside**

Registration is now open for Lutheran Lakeside Camp this summer. We are planning to attend camp **July 16-21.** There is Junior Camp for



those who have completed grades 3-5 and Confirmation Camp for those who have completed grades 6-8. Adults are invited to join us for the adult mission trip to do work around the camp that week as well. If you have any questions about camp, please contact Pastor Carrie (pastorcarrie@csteldridge.com or call or text 641-275-1326), and she will be happy to answer them!



Faith Lutheran Church invites all children ages 4 – 5<sup>th</sup> to get on a roll with God as a parade of Food Trucks rolls into their neighborhood for the summer's biggest party! Using Matthew 6:11; "Give

us this day our daily bread", children are invited to pray as Jesus teaches. These words serve as a reminder that everything we have comes from God - and our daily needs are met by God.

The fun begins **Sunday**, **June 25**<sup>th</sup> and continues through **Thursday**, **June 29**<sup>th</sup>, **from 6-8 p.m.** at the church, 500 W. LeClaire Rd., Eldridge. Registration will begin in May on the church website at www.faithlutheraneldridge.com.



Maundy Thursday 7pm: 102, Online: 34, Total: 136

Good Friday 7pm: 40, Online: 54, Total: 94 Easter Vigil 5pm: 46, Online 28, Total: 74

Easter Sunday 8am: 151, 10:30:154, Online: 66, Total: 371



# **THIS WEEK AT FAITH**

Saturday, April 15	5:00 pm	Jubilation Worship
Sunday, April 16	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:15 am 10:45 am	Jubilation Worship Fellowship Hour Sunday School Private Event in Fellowship Hall
Monday, April 17	Office Closed	
Tuesday, April 18	9:00 am 1:00 pm 5:30 pm	Quilting Bible Study Food Pantry
Wednesday, April 19	5:00 pm 5:30 pm 6:15 pm 7:00 pm 7:15 pm	Confirmation Meal in Fellowship Hall Confirmation Conversations People of Praise High School Youth Resounding Joy
Thursday, April 20	6:30 pm	Church Council Meeting
Friday, April 21	9:30 am	Food Pantry
Saturday, April 22	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Women of the ELCA event at The Vault Worship
Sunday, April 23	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:15 am 2:00 pm	Worship Fellowship Hour Sunday School Fellowship Event, "Oliver!"

