

4. **Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail, In heaven's joy and peace.**
5. **When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.**

[please stand]

Opening Sentences

Hymnal Page pg. 32

P: O Lord, open Thou my lips.

C: **♪ And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.**

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: **♪ Make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Hallelujah!**

The Invitatory and Venite

pg. 33ff.

P: Oh, come, let us worship the Lord:

C: **♪ For He is our Maker.**

**♪ Oh come, let us sing unto the Lord:
let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving:
and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.**

**For the Lord is a great God:
and a great King above all gods.
In His hand are the deep places of the earth:
the strength of the hills is His also.
The sea is His, and He made it:
and His hands formed the dry land.
Oh, come, let us worship and bow down:
let us kneel before the Lorde, our Maker.**

**For He is our God:
and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;**

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

[be seated]

Hymn: ***“God Loved the World So that He Gave”*** ***Hymn 245***

1. God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save
That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.
2. Christ Jesus is the Ground of faith, Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All that confide in Him alone Are built on this chief Cornerstone.
3. God would not have the sinner die, His Son with saving grace is nigh,
His Spirit in the Word doth teach How man the blessed goal may reach.
4. Be of good cheer, for God's own Son Forgives all sins which thou hast done,
And, justified by Jesus' blood, Thy Baptism grants the highest good.
5. If thou be sick, if death draw near, This truth thy troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.
6. Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To Thee, O blessed Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

Psalm 27:4-6, antiphon: Psalm 25:15

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon
the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.**

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his
tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 42:14-21 (ESV)

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. ¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. ¹⁶And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground.

These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. ¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, “You are our gods.” ¹⁸Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! ¹⁹Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD? ²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. ²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness’ sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14 (ESV)

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

[Please stand and face the pastor in the Nave; a symbol of Christ’s presence among His people..]

Holy Gospel: John 9:1-41 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

C: **♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. ²¹But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world

that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?”⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.”

P: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: **♪ Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!**

[please be seated]

Sermon

“Seeing Jesus”

The Te Deum Laudamus



1 We praise Thee, O God; we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.
 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of - - - Sab - a - oth!
 3 The noble army of martyrs - - - praise Thee;



1 All the earth doth worship Thee, the Father ev - er - last - ing.
 2 Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy glo - ry.
 3 the holy Church throughout all the world doth ac - knowl - edge Thee.



1 To Thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the - powers there - in;
 2 The glorious company of the Apostles - - praise Thee;
 3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Thine adorable true and only Son,
 4 Thou art the King of Glory, - - - O Christ.



1 To Thee cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
 2 The goodly fellowship of the - proph - ets praise Thee;
 3 also the Holy - - - Ghost, the Com - fort - er.
 4 Thou art the everlasting Son - of the Fa - ther.



5 When Thou tookest upon Thee to de - - liv - er man,
6 Thou sittest at the right - - - - hand of God
7 We therefore pray Thee, help Thy - - serv - ants,



5 Thou didst humble Thyself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 In the glory - - - - of the Fa - ther.
7 whom Thou hast redeem-ed - - with Thy pre-cious blood.



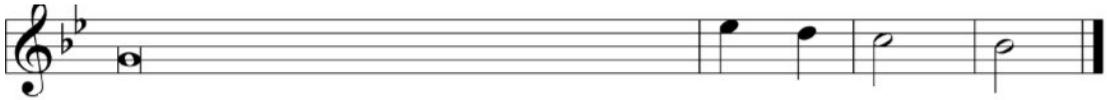
5 When Thou hadst overcome the - - - sharp-ness of death.
6 We believe that - - - - Thou shalt come
7 Make them to be number-ed - - - with Thy saints



5 Thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all be - live - ers.
6 to - - - - be - our Judge.
7 in glory - - - - ever - last - ing.



8 Day by day we - - - - - magni - fy Thee.
9 O Lord, let Thy mercy be upon us, as our trust is in Thee.



8 And we worship thy name ever - - - world with - out end
9 O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

The Prayers of the Day

Blessed Lord, You give sight to the blind, You open the ears of the deaf, and You make the lame to walk. Hear the prayers of Your people on behalf of all people as they have need.

In the darkness of sin and its death, we cry to You, O Lord. Open our ears by Your Word, our minds by Your Spirit, and our hearts by Your grace, that we may know and be thankful for all the blessings You have given to us in Christ, our Lord, especially the gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. Strengthen us in faith, that we may serve You with all our body, mind, soul and strength. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bidden by Your Word, we pray to You, O Lord, on behalf of Your Church and all Your people in every place. Give to us good pastors and servants of Your Word who will preach the full counsel of Your Word and serve us with Your Sacraments. Raise up many more to serve as church workers, and bless those who are now preparing for full-time church work. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Defended by Your grace, we ask You, O Lord, to provide us with good and faithful leaders who will honor the cause of justice in our land, preserve the precious gift of liberty, and protect the lives of those least able to defend themselves. Bless the members of our armed forces and protect them as they defend us, and grant Your blessing to all emergency workers who come to our aid in time of need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Enjoying the riches of Your grace, we ask You, O Lord, to give us generous hearts, that we may share with the poor what You have provided and work for the common good of all. Be with those who are unemployed and in search of honest labor, the underemployed in pursuit of better jobs, and the homeless seeking basic shelter for themselves and those in their families. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Knowing Your healing will and gifts, we pray You, O Lord, to remember the sick in their afflictions, to calm those troubled in mind, and to keep steadfast the dying. Show us Your gracious will, O Lord, and sustain those who are afflicted in body or mind until that day when You will bestow upon us new bodies fit for the eternal life You have prepared for us in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Mindful of Your promise, we ask You, O Lord, to comfort those who grieve and to build up those who mourn with hope for the resurrection. Remembering the faithful who have died in Christ, we pray You to bring us at last to be with them in Your nearer presence, looking forward to that day when we shall join in the marriage supper of the Lamb in His Kingdom without end. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things, O Lord, we pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, asking You to grant our prayers not for our sake but for the sake of Him alone. Teach our hearts to be content with Your will and to trust that You will answer us with what is best for us and at the right time for our need. So do we pray, giving testimony of our confidence in Your gracious favor in Christ by answering with one voice. **Amen.**

The Kyrie

pg. 39

♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The 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.

The Salutation and The Collect for Grace

pg. 40

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ **And with thy Spirit.**

P: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who has safely brought us to beginning of this day, defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: ♪ **Amen**

The Benedicamus and Benediction

pg. 40

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: **♪ Thanks be to God.**

P: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with you all.

C: **♪ Amen.**

Closing Hymn:

“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

Hymn 145

1. **Jesus, Refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary, Savior from the world above,
Oh, how oft Thine eyes, offended, Gaze upon the sinner's fall!
Yet, upon the cross extended, Thou didst bear the pain of all.**
2. **Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,
Tho' we see Thee wounded, bleeding, See Thy thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Thy sinless death hath bro't us Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Thy grace hath taught us Calms the sinner's stormy breast.**
3. **Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for Thee!
May our eyes be ever turning To Thy cross of agony
Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever Dwell the cross, the Crucified!**

Outreach Thought

John 9:1-41: Jesus is the Light of the world! Paul gives you your life story in a nutshell - once you were in darkness, but now you are to walk as children of Light. (Eph 5:8) You are salt. You are light. God has no plan B if we fail. You are His A plan to share the Good News of salvation with the world. You are His means for bringing His Kingdom of life to a dying world. And the One who calls you to be salt and light makes you this promise: I will be with you to the very end of the age. His presence is LIGHT. While we remain distinct from the ways of the world, we dare not lose sight of the fact that we are called to permeate that very same culture with the grace and love of Jesus. How? By being who we are: God's people through and through where we live and living as Light because we live in Christ. That's Christ's mission - and because it's His mission, it is our mission. He lives in us and His light shines through us in our thoughts, words and deeds. May God bless you as children of the Light! Go shine!

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

As of Friday, March 20th, all events at Holy Cross are cancelled until further notice. Please watch our Facebook page and your email for additional updates and information. See additional notes on the last page.

Personal Care Kit Ministry - Once again this year, the Ladies Aid is asking for your donations of soap, bath towels, and nail clippers. These items are made up into little personal care kits that are sent to Lutheran World Relief and distributed to needy people throughout the world. Last year, with your help, we assembled 114 kits. Our goal this year is to assemble 150 kits. Items we need are individually wrapped bars of soap (8-9 oz, individually wrapped), light-weight bath-sized towels (20" x 40" to 52" x 27") - dark colors are recommended, and metal nail clippers. Items may be placed in the basket in the hallway leading to the narthex. In addition, we are accepting monetary donations for the LWR shipping fund. It costs about \$2.65 to ship one kit and about \$2.25 to ship one quilt. If you would like to donate money to the shipping fund, please make a check out to the Ladies Aid and place LWR Shipping Fund on the note line. Deadline for donations is Sunday, April 5th. Thank you in advance for your continued support of the Ladies Aid and Lutheran World Relief!

Easter Lilies: If you would like to give an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one or as a living tribute for the Easter season, please fill out a form (available at church) and give it to Lori Green or drop it off at the church office. Cost is \$15.00 each and payment of flowers should accompany the form. Deadline for ordering is Thursday, April 2nd. If you would like to have an Easter flower other than a lily, you are welcome to get them from the florist of your choice. Call the church office with the information for the flower sheet and make sure your plant is here by 9:00 a.m. on Sat., April 11th. *(Please note, a set amount of flowers are preordered and are available on a first come, first serve basis. Be sure and order yours early. :)*

Attendance Last Sunday

Divine Service: 100 Bible Class: 42 Lent: 51

FAITH LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

COVID-19 Response: We are facing very challenging days ahead and a lot of uncertainty. For now, it is important that we continue to pray diligently for our nations' leaders and scientists and doctors as they work to deal with this virus and work to heal those affected. We need not fear, for the Creator of the Universe is our God and has us in the palm of his hand. We are reassured as we read Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." We have a God who loves us and promises to be with us always. Rest in knowing that our God is a loving Shepherd who keeps his flock safe.

Junior High Game Night which was scheduled for Friday, March 27th is cancelled!

New Student Registration: Registration for the 2020-2021 school year is underway. Two new students have already enrolled and we are looking to add more students to our family. Are you looking for a Christ-centered education, a rigorous college prep curriculum, small class sizes? Schedule a shadow day and check out FLHS!! Call (979) 242-2889 today!

Thrivent Choice Dollars: As a Thrivent member, you have Choice Dollars that allow you to designate where the funds go, and by sending them to Faith, you can help us continue in our mission of Instilling Wisdom Today for Faithful Leaders Tomorrow! The deadline to designate your choice dollars is **March 31, 2020.**

FLHS Annual Good Friday Bake Sale: Faith Lutheran High School will be hosting its 5th Annual Good Friday Bake Sale on April 10 at the Classic Bank parking lot! Cookies, pies, cakes, kolaches, cinnamon rolls, homemade noodles, homemade bread, and more will be available from 8 AM till noon, or until we sell out.

***BAKERS ARE NEEDED!** We need your help! Donations of any type of baked goods or homemade treats are welcome! Thanks for your continued support of Faith Lutheran High School!

Share the Gift of Love: Faith Lutheran High School has a unique role in combining knowledge and God's love in a student's high school experience. We are partnering with families at the intersection of education and faith development. If you would like to support our ministry through a one-time or enduring gift, Thrivent Action Grant, or volunteer your time and talents, please contact Nikki Kueck to learn more.

Mark Your Calendars for These Events

Spring Thing! - **May 13th** - 7pm - FLHS Choir Concert
Golf Tournament - **May 30th**

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR TODAY

Jorge Thomas, husband of Donna Thomas, hospitalized in Austin

Robert Yurk, cousin of Al Jurk, hospitalized

Jana Tindle, daughter of Gerald and Mary Sledge, thankful test results show the cancer hasn't spread beyond the lymph nodes, will start chemo in April

Wesley Cervenka, brother of Debbie Knox, scheduled for surgery this week to put a titanium rod in his back

All those on our continued prayer list

Health and safety for everyone during these uncertain times

Guidance for our national and local leaders in the weeks ahead

March 22, 2020

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, March 22 No Services or Bible Class

THURSDAY Sewing Circle cancelled until further notice

Next Sunday *Fifth Sunday in Lent* — No Services Planned

Pastor Beck is planning to upload abbreviated services, devotions, and other materials to our church Facebook and YouTube pages. You can find them as follows:

Facebook:

Page: Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Group: Holy Cross Warda—Private Group

YouTube: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Warda, TX

Website: www.holycrosswarda.com

In addition, Pastor Beck is available by appointment to meet with you. You can give him a call at the church office at (979) 242-3333 or call or text him at (979) 966-8654. His email address is pastor.dustin.beck@gmail.com. He is glad to meet with you here at church or come to your home.

The Lutheran Hour — March 29

"Labors of Love"

Guest Speaker: Pastor Ryan Tinetti

The plagues described in Exodus show us the wrath of God and the lengths to which God will go to save His people. (Exodus 10)