

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
A Congregation of the ELCA

28200 Portsmouth Drive, Sun City, CA 92586 * (951) 679-1518

Email: faithlutheranmenifee@gmail.com

Guest Pastor: Pr. Shane Freiberg

OFFICE HOURS: Tues & Thurs 8:30 - 5:00; Fri 8:30 - 12:30

Worship Plan for Sunday, May 31, 2026 * The Holy Trinity

WELCOME TO FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, where grace and love abound. While we wait and prepare for a new pastor, we invite you to participate fully in the vibrant life of the congregation, and to join us in prayer as we continue to serve God and God's people during this time of transition.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Enriching lives through faith and God's grace.

MEMBERS & GUESTS: Please fill out a worship attendance card found in the pew racks. Prayer requests may be included on the reverse side for one Sunday or bulletin publication.

INVITATION TO BAPTISM: We would like to extend to you the blessing of Baptism and encourage you to contact the church office to be baptized.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION: Christ is truly present through the power of God's Holy Spirit. We invite everyone to come forward and be renewed in the covenant God made with us in our baptism. All are gladly invited and welcome. If, in coming forward, you choose not to receive the Sacrament, we ask you to fold your hands over your chest so you may receive a pastoral blessing. The Sacrament will be brought to those unable to come forward to the altar (notify an usher). Available upon request: gluten-, wheat-, corn-, dairy- and soy-free wafers.

CHILDREN'S COMMUNION: Families are encouraged to come to the rail together during the distribution. Children may receive Communion or a special blessing from the Pastor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School for children of all ages is immediately following the Children's Chat.

CELL PHONES: Please silence your cell phones before Worship.

Following worship, ALL are invited to join us for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

Introduction to the day

Though the word *trinity* is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

GOSPEL MESSAGE: Mission Partners

In Matthew 28:16-20, often referred to as "The Great Commission," Jesus officially charges his disciples with tasks of teaching, discipling, and baptizing people of all nations and groupings. An assigned task or mission is the classic sense of the word *commission*. But what if we also considered Jesus' charge to his disciples a *co-mission*—a mission together?

In John's gospel, Jesus speaks plainly to the disciples about participating in, continuing, and even expanding upon Jesus' work. Here in Matthew's gospel, the resurrected Jesus declares his cosmic authority, having triumphed over even death, and then he immediately turns around to share that authority with the disciples. Their mission is Jesus' mission: to build an inclusive community of compassion, mercy, and healing.

The work of Christ is shared work. We share it with one another, and we share it with Christ himself. The call to discipleship is always a community endeavor. In the liturgy for baptism, the gathered assembly affirms the newly baptized, saying, "We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world" (*ELW*, p. 231).

Not one of us is tasked with saving the world by ourselves. Only Jesus could and would bear that responsibility, and even he chose to invite others into the work. It is by grace that we are counted among Jesus' disciples. And it is within the community of grace that we continue to proclaim and manifest God's kingdom on earth, as it is in heaven. We look to our community of faith for support,

assurance, assistance, and solidarity as we partner with Christ and one another to bring God's good news to the world.

AM: Please stand for the Processional

PROCESSIONAL *Come, All You People: Uyaimose* (ELW 819)

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AM: WELCOME

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church where grace and love abound. A special welcome to those of you here for the first time, to those joining us online, and to our guest pastor, Pr. Shane Freiberg. During this season of Pentecost we celebrate all the ways in which the Holy Spirit moves us and empowers us to strengthen our relationships with God and with our neighbors locally and globally. As our search for a permanent pastor moves forward, so does our ministry together. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate in all that goes on here at Faith.

AM: ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers were provided by Tom and Judy Brosz celebrating their 49th anniversary, and by Shalonne Stone celebrating her mom's (Sandra Miller) birthday.

Today the next Big Band Concert will be held at 4:00! See the flyer in the Narthex.

Our first ice cream social of the season will be this Wednesday, June 3rd at 6:30!

This Thursday, June 4th come on out at 4:00 for Bingo!

This Saturday, the 6th is Donation Day starting at 9:00 and the Blanket Brigade starts at 10:00.

New Member Orientations will be held June 7th and 14th immediately after the worship service and New Members Sunday will be June 28th. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Tickets are on sale for the annual WELCA Luncheon Fundraiser on Saturday June 20th. It is possible we could sell out, so purchase your \$15 tickets early! See Candy Pellechio.

This quarter Outreach is collecting tuna in bags/cans, small bags of nuts (any kind) and shampoo for MilVet.

For May, we are collecting canned chili, grocery bags, and empty egg cartons for the Community Cupboard. We will be collecting the same items for June.

The Christmas in July Giving Tree will be up from now through July 4th. This year, the recipient will be the women's shelter here in Menifee. More details are available in the Narthex.

You will find more information about what's happening at Faith in the Narthex.

SILENCE

AM: Let us take a moment of silence to quiet our hearts and minds and prepare for worship.

P: GATHERING

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

P: 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.

This is the day that the Lord has made,
let us rejoice and be glad in it!

AM: PLEASE TURN TO HYMN 413

Please stand as you are willing and able.

GATHERING SONG: *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!* (ELW 413, vs. 1, 2, 4)

Public Domain; Sources: Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.; Music: John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

P: CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we

may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

P: PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S CHAT

P: WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST LESSON INTRODUCTION

This text is a magnificent poem tells of God's creation of the world in an orderly fashion during a six day period. It presents a faith statement not a credible

scientific hypothesis. While science may be able to give us plausible understanding of how and when the universe came into being, it cannot take us beyond the mystery of the beginning to God's gracious spiritual purpose as this poem does. That theme is found in the repeated refrain, "And God saw that it was good," after each act of creation, and the final Sabbath blessing in vs. 2:3. The Hebrew word, *tov*, does not imply quality but what God had in mind.

LECTOR: FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1—2:4a

¹ When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ⁶ And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷ So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸ God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. ⁹ And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. ¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. ²⁰ And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹ So God created the great sea monsters and every

living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. ²⁴ And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.” ²⁷ So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” ²⁹ God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. ^{2:1} Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. ² On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. ^{4a} These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM INTRODUCTION

Reiterating the majesty of the creation poem above, this psalm celebrates what God has done and still does in the universe in which we live. More than that, it states how we humans fit into the plan of God as conscious stewards of creation.

Few psalms surpass this one in its exaltation of the sovereignty of God and the manifestation of God's glory in the created universe.

Quickly, the psalmist's attention moves on to the night sky at which one still gazes at in wonder when one can see it clearly without cloud cover or the dulling of artificial light. How infinitely small and insignificant such a view makes one feel. Knowing what we know from the discoveries of modern astronomy and cosmology, does that sense of insignificance not become all the more intense? What place then do human beings have in such a vast universe? Has anyone yet surpassed the spiritual insight of the psalmists answer to his own question in vss. 4-5?

LECTOR: PSALMODY: Psalm 8

¹ O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

² **you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴ **what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?**

⁵ Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶ **You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷ all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,

⁸ **the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

⁹ O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Amen.

SECOND LESSON INTRODUCTION

The Corinthians had many fights among themselves and with Paul. He ends this letter, however, with an appeal to them to put "things in order" and live peaceably with one another so that they may truly experience the love and peace of God.

From earlier passages in both letters we learn how disordered the life of the Corinthian community had become. Conflicts existed between different factions caused by interpersonal rivalries, spiritual arrogance, a lack of sensitivity toward less experienced members, sexual immorality, and possibly some theological differences. The arrival of some other teachers had exacerbated the situation.

The word “communion” is often translated as “fellowship.” It actually means participation in and the sharing of the Spirit which is the love of God communicated to us through Jesus Christ. While this benediction may not express a fully developed doctrine of the Trinity, it certainly describes the experience from which that doctrine arose. It also explicitly summarizes Paul’s urgent desire for his Corinthians friends and so fittingly concludes the letter.

LECTOR: SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

[Paul writes:] ¹¹ Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹² Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. ¹³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

L: Please stand for the gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)

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

GOSPEL INTRODUCTION

Christ announces that God has given Him all authority. He commands them to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. The task seems overpowering, but Christ promises to be with them always.

The command to make disciples by baptizing and teaching states the means the church used from the beginning and still uses to witness to and continue in its faith relationship with the risen Christ. The promise to be with us “to the end of the age” confirms elements of the original message: the ascension of Christ, the

gift of the Spirit as his continuing presence, and the promise of his second coming. Thus the church lives in that ambiguous state of “already” but “not yet.” Baptism is the symbol of this state of grace. The teaching is the way in which those who believe continue to grow in grace and mature into a more experienced discipleship until our transition to life beyond death makes it complete.

P: GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

AM: PLEASE TURN TO HYMN 715

Please stand as you are willing and able.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Christ, Be Our Light* (ELW 715, vs. 1-3)

Written and sung by Bernadette Farrell under the direction of Frank Brownstead

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AM: APOSTLES' CREED

We continue as we confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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.

AM: Please be seated for the Prayers of Intercession

PASTOR AND ASSISTING MINISTER: PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

Holy God, we are in awe of your creative work. Continue that work in your church, making us a new creation that proclaims your presence and love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, nature reveals your power and glory. Protect water sources, vegetation, and wildlife as reminders of who you are. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Redeemer God, you call us to pray for those in authority. Guide our leaders to pursue the work of fostering peace and community. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sustaining God, you are mindful of your people in every circumstance. Heal those who are sick. Provide for all who hunger. Protect those in harm's way. Comfort any experiencing hardship, especially Judy Appel; Susan Bauerle; Ian Berger; Mary Booth; Arnette Calkins; Rich and Sandy Chandler; Jeff Cook; Vicki Crow; Eleanor Diaz; Sandy Evers; Ray Fenstermacher; Frank Harrison IV; Doris Hays; Gina Howe; Sarge Hunter; Sharon Lawyer and family; Donna McCain; Sandra Miller; Carol Morris; Michael Myers; Esther Neumen; Janet Oster; Tina Peteroski; Judi Pietch; Maricar Rodriguez; Amy Sinclair; Joyce Stromberg; Diana Ward; Jeremy Zerfoss; the homebound; the emergency responders; and those grieving and anticipating surgery or tests. At this time, we also pray for those we name aloud or silently in our hearts. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we pray for the children of our church and community. Provide for their needs. Support their caregivers. Nurture their faith. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we give thanks for those who have died and claimed their baptismal promises. Strengthen us to live as they did in communion with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, be with us during this time of discernment as our search for a permanent pastor continues. Bless all who have taken on extra responsibility, especially the Call Committee. Fill all our leaders and members with wisdom and patience. Keep us all mindful of the work you would have us do to further the work of your kingdom. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

Amen.

P: PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

P: OFFERING

Let us remember at this time of Offering, that all we have and all we are given are gifts from God. Our offerings of time, talent and treasures are expressions of gratitude to God for all we have received. May we show abundant gratitude. During the musical offering, the usher will bring the offering plate forward to be lifted up to the Lord.

Please feel free to either listen to our musical offering or sing along

MUSICAL OFFERING: *Amazing Grace* (sung by CeCe Winans)

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AM: OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

P: INSTRUCTION FOR COMMUNION

All of God's children are welcome to Christ's table. Gather at the altar rail. If you wish to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. You may choose from red wine or white grape juice. A gluten-free option is available upon

request. If you would like communion brought to you at your seat, indicate by raising your hand for the Assisting Minister to see and they will bring communion to you.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

DURING DISTRIBUTION: *Come to the Table* (sung by Sidewalk Prophets)

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***I am the Bread of Life* (ELW 475)**

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***Eat This Bread: Jesus Christ, Bread of Life* (ELW 472)**

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AM: PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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

Amen.

P: BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

Please stand as you are willing and able.

SENDING SONG: *Glorify Thy Name*

With Pr. Ken on guitar

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AM: INVITATION

We would like to invite guests and visitors to come and join us in the Fellowship Hall for cookies, coffee and conversation.

AM: DISMISSAL

AM: You have been empowered for ministry.

C: We will share the good news of Jesus.

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Today at 4:00 is the Big Band Concert! Don't miss out!

Tuesday, the 2nd: Worship & Music meets at 10:00

Wednesday, the 3rd: Ice Cream Social begins at 6:30

Thursday, the 4th: Snip 'N Stitch meets at 9:00; Bingo begins at 4:00

Friday, the 5th: Al-Anon meets at 10:30

Saturday, the 6th: Donation drop day is from 9:00-12:00; Blanket Brigade starts at 10:00

Sunday, the 7th: Worship begins at 9:30 with Pr. Rex

THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY:

ASSISTING MINISTER: Mars

LECTOR: Dave M.

COMMUNION SERVER: Karla

POWER POINT: Bill

USHER: Becky

ATTENDANCE: Connie

GREETER: Joanne

ALTAR GUILD: Mars, Debbie

SOUND: Madeline

LIVE STREAM: Maddie



I am with you always

MATTHEW 28:20

To give directly to Faith Lutheran Church
electronically, you may use one of the below
QR codes.

NO FEES
to Faith Lutheran



Zelle
flcfinance1518@gmail.com



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