

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Tel: (519) 753-3833**

**Email: [faithlutheran1@bellnet.ca](mailto:faithlutheran1@bellnet.ca)**

**Website: <https://faithlutheranbrantford.com>**

**7. SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**May 29, 2022**

**Gathering**

**Welcome and Land Acknowledgement *Vicar Bethan***

Welcome to worship at Faith Lutheran Church in Brantford which is located on what was designated in 1784 as the Haldimand Tract, traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. We are committed to talking about and participating in truth and reconciliation.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism *page 119***

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen**

**P:** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
We are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water is poured into the baptismal font.*

**P:** We give you thanks, O God,

**C:** **for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.**

**P:** Through the waters of the flood, you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river, your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

**C: By Water and your word, you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.**

**P:** We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honour and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**C: And, also with you.**

**Gathering Hymn:** ELW #525, You Are Holy. (Sing Through Twice)

You are holy, you are whole,  
You are always ever more  
than we ever understand.  
You are always at hand.  
Blessed are you coming near.  
Blessed are you coming here  
to your church in wine and bread,  
raised from soil, raised from dead.  
You are holy,  
you are wholeness,  
you are present.  
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!  
Sing hosanna in the highest!  
Sing hosanna!  
Sing hosanna to our God!

**Prayer of the Day: Assistant Minister – Gigi Todd**

Let us pray together,

**Oh God, form the minds of your faithful people to you. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen**

**Word**

**First Reading: Acts 16:16-34 Reader – Bill Neeb**

*Info: The owners of a slave girl who used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into prison for "healing" her and, consequently, ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas sing of their faith and they bring the story of Jesus to a jailer and his family.*

**16-18** One day, on our way to the place of prayer, a slave girl ran into us. She was a psychic and, with her fortunetelling, made a lot of money for the people who owned her. She started following Paul around, calling everyone's attention to us by yelling out, "These men are working for the Most High God. They're laying out the road of salvation for you!" She did this for a number of days until Paul, finally fed up with her, turned and commanded the spirit that gripped her, "Out! In the name of Jesus Christ, get out of her!" And it was gone, just like that.

**19-22** When her owners saw that their lucrative little business was suddenly bankrupt, they went after Paul and Silas, roughed them up and dragged them into the market square. Then the police arrested them and pulled them into a court with the accusation, "These men are disturbing the peace—subverting our Roman law and order."

**22-24** The judges had Paul and Silas's clothes ripped off and ordered a public beating. They threw them into jail, telling the jailkeeper to put them under heavy guard so there would be no chance of escape.

**25-26** Along about midnight, Paul and Silas were at prayer and singing a hymn to God. The other prisoners couldn't believe their ears. Then, without warning, a huge earthquake! The jailhouse tottered, every door flew open, all the prisoners were loose.

**27-28** Startled from sleep, the jailer saw all the doors swinging loose on their hinges. Assuming that all the prisoners had escaped, he pulled out his sword and was about to

turn it on himself, figuring he was as good as dead anyway, when Paul stopped him: "Don't do that! We're all still here! Nobody's run away!"

<sup>29-31</sup> The jailer got a torch and ran inside. Badly shaken, he collapsed in front of Paul and Silas. He led them out of the jail and asked, "Sirs, what do I have to do to be saved, to really live?" They said, "Put your entire trust in the Master Jesus. Then you'll live as you were meant to live—and everyone in your house included!"

<sup>32-34</sup> They went to the Jailer's house and told in detail the story of Jesus—the Jailer's entire family listened. The jailer made them feel at home, dressed their wounds, and then was baptized, he and everyone in his family. There in his home, he had food set out for a festive meal.

**Psalm: 97** (Read Responsively) **Reader – Bill Neeb**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is king! Let the earth rejoice;  
let the many coastlands be glad!

<sup>2</sup> **Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;  
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**

<sup>3</sup> Fire goes before him  
and consumes his adversaries on every side.

<sup>4</sup> **His lightnings light up the world;  
the earth sees and trembles.**

<sup>5</sup> The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,  
before the Lord of all the earth.

<sup>6</sup> **The heavens proclaim his righteousness,  
and all the peoples behold his glory.**

**Hymn of Acclamation:** When Our Song Says Peace ELW #709

1. When our song says peace and the world says war, we will sing despite the world.  
We will trust the song, for we sing of God,  
who breaks the spear and sword and stills the storm of war.

2. When our song says free and the world says bound, we will sing despite the world.  
We will trust the song, for we sing of God  
who opens prison doors and sets the captives free.

3. When our song says home and the world says lost, we will sing despite the world.  
We will trust the song, for we sing of God,  
who brings us home at last, and gives a song to all.

**Gospel: John 17:20-24 Reader – Bill Neeb**

*Info: Jesus prays that the life of his followers will be characterized by an intimate unity of identity with God. To be so identified with God means also to share the love of God and companionship of the holy spirit with others.*

<sup>20</sup> "I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, <sup>21</sup> that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, <sup>22</sup> so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. <sup>24</sup> Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

**Sermon Vicar Bethan**

**Hymn of the Day:** All Creatures, Worship God Most High ELW #835

1. All creatures, worship God most high! Sound every voice in earth and sky:  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright; sing, sister moon and stars of night:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and grain:  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Dear sister, water, useful, clear, make music for your Lord to hear:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3. Sing, brother fire, so mirthful strong, drive far the shadows, join the throng:  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Dear mother earth, so rich in care, praise God in colours bright and rare.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4. All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve:  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ bears your burdens and your fears; still make your song amid the tears.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Apostle's Creed: Vicar Bethan**

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 Intercession: Assistant Minister – Gigi Todd**

Trusting in God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the world, the church, and all of creation.

Bless diversity in worship and ministry across all nations and cultures. Unite us in Christ and keep us faithful in our calling to show your love to the world.

Hear us, O God.

**Your Mercy is Great.**

Pour out over all the earth the water of life as a gift. Wash the wounds of creation and restore all living things to wholeness. We pray at this time for those who were hurt in spirit or body during the storm last week that swept over Ontario. Hear us, O God....**Your Mercy is Great.**

Give a spirit of collaboration to leaders of the nations, so that all people know safety security, and dignity. Heal victims and liberate those who are wrongfully imprisoned.

Hear us, O God.

**Your Mercy is Great.**

Come to the aid of your people. Give wisdom and calm to caretakers and refresh all who thirst for love, hope, or healing. We pray especially for Jennifer, Stephen, Bill, Grace, Art, Eberhard, John, Marlene and Ruby, Kirsti, Dave, Gladys and Inge. Hear us, O God

**Your Mercy is Great**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, In Jesus name we pray. **Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer: Assistant Minister – Gigi Todd**

We will now prayer together as Jesus has taught us:

**C: 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**

**Thanksgiving for the Word**

**Canticle of Thanksgiving: p.219**

*Refrain:* Salvation belongs to our God, and to Christ the Lamb, forever and ever.

*Verse 1:* Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe; just and true are your ways, O ruler of all the nations. Who can fail to honor you Lord, and sing the Glory of your name?

*Refrain*

*Verse 2:* For you alone, are the holy one, and blessed is the one whose name is the word of God. All praise and thanks to you, holy God!

*Refrain*

### **Thanksgiving for the Word:**

Praise to you, O God, for your Word of life:  
creating a wondrous universe,  
proclaiming freedom from captivity,  
becoming the song of your people.  
We praise you, O God, for your Word.

**We praise you, O God, for your Word.**

Your Word is made flesh among us:  
with Mary in the garden, you call us by name.  
With Thomas beholding your wounds, you call us to believe.  
With sheep of others folds, we are gathered by your voice.  
Through your Word, you appoint us to bear fruit, fruit that will last.  
We bless you, O God, for your Word.

**We bless you, O God, for your Word.**

By your living Word, we are witnesses of these things.  
Breathe into us your Holy Spirit.  
Open our minds to experience the scriptures.  
Fill us with strength to love, not in word or speech alone,  
but in truth and action.  
With every creature in heaven and on earth  
and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them,  
we join in the hymn of all creation, as  
we thank you, O God, for your life-giving Word.

**We thank you, O God, for your life-giving Word**

### **Sending**

**Benediction** *Vicar Bethan*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you,  
the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favour and give you peace. Amen



**Sending Hymn: When in Our Music God is Glorified ELW #851**

1. When in our music God is glorified,  
and adoration leaves no room for pride,  
it is as though the whole creation cried,  
Hallelujah!
2. How often, making music, we have found  
a new dimension in the world of sound,  
as worship moved us to a more profound  
Hallelujah!
3. So has the church, in liturgy and song,  
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,  
borne witness to the truth in every tongue:  
Hallelujah!
4. And did not Jesus sing a Psalm that night  
when utmost evil strove against the Light?  
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:  
Hallelujah!
5. Let every instrument be tuned for praise!  
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!  
And may God give us faith to sing always:  
Hallelujah!

**Dismissal: Assistant Minister – Gigi Todd**

**A:** The spirit is with you always, Go in Peace, share the Good News!

**Thanks be to God, Alleluia.**