

Faith Lutheran Church

231 Jackson Avenue, Syosset, NY 11791 • 516-921-3330 • www.faithsyosset.org
Pastor Rebecca Sheridan • Cell: 516.281.4418 • pastor.rsheridan@gmail.com

10:00am Worship Service • Sunday, April 28, 2024 • 5th Sunday Easter

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!* ELW 875 (Sung 2x)

PASTORAL WELCOME

Faith's Mission is to preach, teach, and share God's love in Christ.

SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM FOR JAMES DAVID RICKETTS

PRESENTATION

P God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors present the candidate:

S I present James David Ricketts for baptism.

P Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your son baptized into Christ?

S I do.

P As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

S I do.

P Sponsors, do you promise to nurture James in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

S I do.

P People of God, do you promise to support James and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

C **We do.**

The assembly stands.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C I renounce them.

P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C I renounce them.

P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C I renounce them.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C 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 into hell.
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.**

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C 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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P We give you thanks, O God, 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. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and 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. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

You may be seated.

BAPTISM

P James, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

C **You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia!**

P Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain James with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P James, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C **Amen.**

WELCOME

A lighted candle is given to the newly baptized as a representative of the congregation says:

P Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

P Let us welcome the newly baptized.

C **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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: *Forever*, Chris Tomlin

Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King, His love endures forever, For He is good, He is above all things, His love endures forever, Sing praise, sing praise!

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm, His love endures forever, For the life that's been reborn, His love endures forever, Sing praise, sing praise, Sing praise, sing praise!

Refrain: Forever, God is faithful, Forever, God is strong. Forever, God is with us, Forever.

From the rising to the setting sun, His love endures forever, And by the grace of God, we will carry on, His love endures forever, Sing praise, sing praise, Sing praise, sing praise!

Sing Refrain 2xs

GREETING

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God,

you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

Please be seated

FIRST LESSON: ACTS 8:26-40

A The First Lesson is from the 8th chapter of Acts.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

SECOND LESSON: 1 John 4:7-21

A The Second Lesson is from the 4th chapter of First John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



GOSPEL

John 15:1-8



P The Holy Gospel according to John.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

You may be seated

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day: *Now the Green Blade Rises* ELW 379

You may be seated.

FAITH MISSION MOMENT

THE STEWARD'S PURPOSE

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

Holy God, we pray for the body of Christ, the church...God of grace,	hear our prayer.
Life-giving God, we pray for the earth, your good creation...God of grace,	hear our prayer.
Merciful God, we pray for all peoples and nations...God of grace,	hear our prayer.
Loving God, we pray for this community of faith...God of grace,	hear our prayer.
Eternal God, we remember those who have gone before us in death...God of grace,	hear our prayer.
Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.	Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

LET THE VINEYARDS

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, 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, we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the
prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence,
and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

please stand

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here

be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world,

through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. And al- so 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 and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave 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

You may be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

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

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always.

C **Amen.**

Sending Song: *Let All Things Now Living* ELW 881

DISMISSAL

A Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE