

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 29th, 2020

***“Church is not a place; it is who we are.  
Once we realize this, we can be the church anywhere.”***

*We gather to worship together, at this time, in different places. Bottom line, we are worshipping God, TOGETHER! This worship service has been pre-recorded. Worship materials have been sent out. If you are able, please watch the service via the website ([www.faithisle.org](http://www.faithisle.org)) the Faith Lutheran Church Facebook page, or the Youtube link that was emailed to you.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

(Ezekiel 37, John 11)

Coming from places that have seen better days,  
**God bids us to celebrate this day,  
a day full of new possibilities.**

Coming with our breath taken away by grief,  
**the Holy Spirit breathes new life within us,  
renewing our connection with God  
and with one another.**

Coming to worship seeking a hope that will endure,  
**Christ unbinds the fetters that hold us in death,  
speaking in word and sacrament,  
and building community for holy service.**

**SONG- Christ the Life of All the Living**

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Creator God, You created the world out of chaos, and we confess that our world right now is in chaos. It is difficult for us right now to make sense out of what is happening. Illness and death have interrupted our lives. The world human beings created has turned upside down. But You are our constant, O God. You are our compass, O Christ. You are the wind that moves us, O Spirit. Guide us in this time, where we confess we need You more than ever, to be our foundation, to guide our way, and to move us into compassion and love. In the name of Christ, who journeys with us now and always, we pray. Amen.

## ABSOLUTION

Christ came to lead us in paths of righteousness  
and to guide us through our lives.  
Christ is with us in times of danger and times of peace.  
The goodness and mercy of God  
are given to us each and every day of our lives.  
God forgives us for our failings, upholds us in love,  
and leads us to the place  
that Christ has prepared for us.  
Believe in your heart that God loves you  
and forgives you.

## SCRIPTURE

### *Ezekiel 37:1-14*

1The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. 3He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." 4Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. 5Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 6I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

7So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. 9Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." 10I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

11Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' 12Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. 13And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. 14I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

### *Psalms 130*

1Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; 2O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. 3If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? 4Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared. 5I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits; in your word is my hope. 6My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep

watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning. 7O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is steadfast love; with the Lord there is plenteous redemption. 8For the Lord shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

### *John 11:1-45*

1Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. 3So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." 4But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." 5Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, 6after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

7Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." 8The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" 9Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. 10But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." 11After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." 12The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." 13Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. 14Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. 15For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." 16Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

17When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. 18Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, 19and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. 20When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. 21Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." 23Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." 25Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, 26and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" 27She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

28When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." 29And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. 30Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 31The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. 32When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." 33When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. 34He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord,

come and see." 35Jesus began to weep. 36So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" 37But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

38Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 39Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." 40Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" 41So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. 42I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." 43When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 44The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

45Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

## **MESSAGE**

### **SONG- What Wondrous Love is This**

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Praying together in the Spirit, let us pray for the church, the earth, the world, and all who are in need.

Come to the church, O saving God. Even when we cannot assemble together, bind your faithful people into one body. Breathe your Spirit of life into the global church, that despite our valley of dry bones we may rise to praise your name. In our virtual contacts, make each of us into signs of baptismal hope in your merciful might.

Come to the nations and their leaders, O God of peace. Lead the world away from war and violence. Guide those in authority to provide for those in dire need of humanitarian relief. Direct our president and other heads of government to deal appropriately in the face of the agony of citizens, and point them toward useful means for combating this plague.

Come wherever the coronavirus has struck, O compassionate God. Be present to all who mourn their dead; all who have contracted the virus; those who are quarantined or stranded away from home; those who have lost employment; children who cannot assemble for school and parents with needs for child care. Visit physicians, nurses, and home health aides; hospitals and clinics; medical researchers; and the Center for Disease Control.

Come to all in need, O healing God. Unbind all who are held captive by anxiety, despair, or pain. Comfort those around the world who cannot bury their dead. House the homeless in safe places. Show us how to provide some assistance to those who suffer. Accompany those who

seek care in overwhelmed hospitals and clinics. Remember those we name here before you especially Lowell Hillbrand, Sally Maitland, Esther Paulsen, Gene Fransen, Judy Woodson, Ryan, Johnny, Julie Benson, Casey Porsche, Sue Heise, Melanie Comerford, Joyce Benson, Nancy Sammis, Jeffrey A. Moss, Gene McKenzie, Cloe Crayford, Shanna, Mae DuClos, Rose Marie Nutt, Sue Gallion, Toni Strecker, Brian Lemm, Colin, James K. Dyke, Jan Hansmeier, Harvey Exsted, Elyse Rieman & her unborn baby boy.

Out of our depths we cry to you, O loving God. Receive our sorrows and our fears, and hear the petitions of our hearts.

You, O God, are our resurrection and our life. We remember before you all who died in the faith, especially Marjorie Jensen, and the victims of the coronavirus. At the end, bring us and all our beloved dead to see your glory forever.

Into your hands, O mighty God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

## **BLESSING**

## **SONG- Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land**

I encourage you to listen to some other music that fits in well with the worship theme of the day. If you are able, please look up:

Thrive- Casting Crowns  
Resurrecting- Elevation Worship  
Dry Bones- Gungor  
The Blessing- Kari Jobe, Cody Carnes