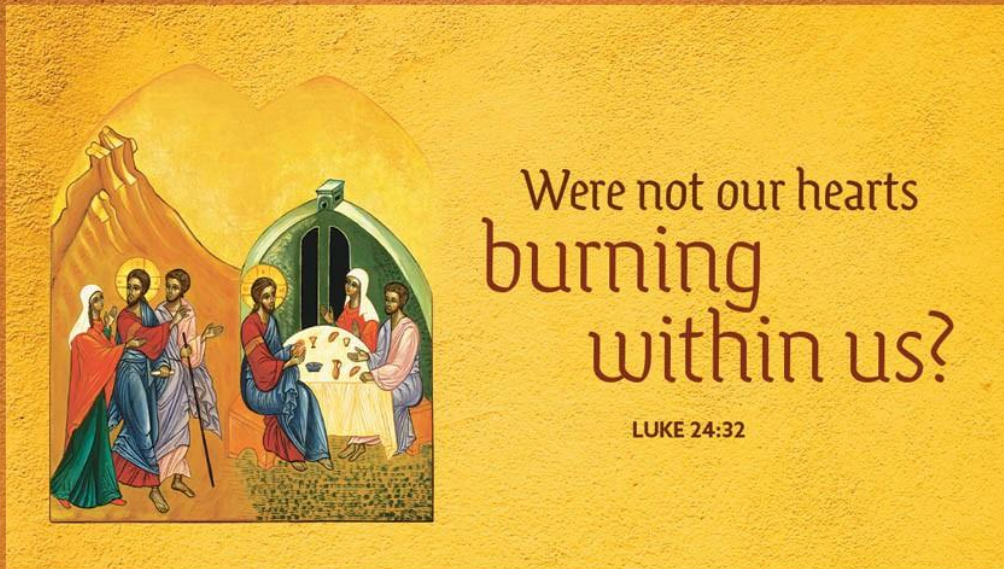


# Third Sunday of Easter



**April 19, 2026**

**WELCOME!**

If you are a visitor, please sign the guest book in the narthex. If you are seeking a church home, we joyfully invite you to join with us; please speak to me, Pastor Jami Possinger.

Holy Communion is open to all baptized believers who trust that the Lord is present for them in His Supper.

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices to fully enter into this time of worship.

## **Faith Lutheran Church**

550 Rt. 940 | PO Box 228  
Blakeslee, PA 18610  
Office 570-646-0309

Email: [faithoffice@faithlutheranblakeslee.org](mailto:faithoffice@faithlutheranblakeslee.org)

Website: [faithlutheranblakeslee.org](http://faithlutheranblakeslee.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Faith-Lutheran-Church-Blakeslee-PA-1721550018126312>

Leader: ..... George Miller  
Lector ..... John Lyman  
Greeters/Ushers: ..... Tom Hutton  
Music: ..... Molly Finkbiner

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Faith Fellowship Team:** Our mission is encouraging interaction, building relationships, and creating a sense of belonging within the congregation and with the local community. If you're interested in becoming part of the Faith Fellowship Team, please contact Sara Cornell at 570-472-5560 or at saracornell10@gmail.com.

**Faith Cookbook:** Recipes can be for appetizers, soups and salads, main courses, side dishes, casseroles and desserts. Please submit your recipe to Sara Cornell or Barbara Laughlin. Include your name with your recipe.

**Altar Service Signup:** Volunteers are needed to set-up, bake bread, and clean up after communion. Please email Jan Frantz at Boris\_fan@yahoo.com to help.

**Bulletin Sponsors and Flower Donations:** Sign-up sheets for 2026 are on the table in the foyer entrance of the church. In-house bulletin for \$10 and \$10 towards silk flowers, or you may bring your own fresh flowers. **Please complete the requisition form with your dedication note.**

## MEETINGS/EVENTS

**AA Meetings:** Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 12 p.m.

**American Red Cross Blood Drive:** May 6, 2026, 1 p.m.-6 p.m. Please call 800-733-2767 to pre-register.

**Bible Study:** Sessions on Sundays, 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Studying Joshua.

**Bible Study:** Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to Noon with Pastor Jami.

**Choir Rehearsals:** Sundays, 8:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

**Faith Library:** Please see one of the "Little Librarians" or Sara Cornell with any donations or questions.

**Faith Book Club:** We are reading, "The Measure," by Nikki Erlick. Discussion will take place on May 17, 2026, at Murphy's Loft following the worship service.

**Faithful Community Quilters:** Second Monday of the month, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**Free Community Lunch:** First Tuesday of each month. May 5) 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Five Loaf House, 133 Firehouse Road, Pocono Pines.

**Pastor Jami Possinger** has weekly office hours. Confidential email: pastor@faithlutheranblakeslee.org or private cell phone: 610-216-9951

*Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's Day.*

## **PRELUDES:**

*Please rise as you are able.*

## **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

**Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever. **Amen.**



# GATHERING HYMN

# THIS JOYFUL EASTERTIDE

1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and  
2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son  
3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the

sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has  
slum - ber till trump from east to west shall  
riv - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my

sprung to life this mor - row.  
wake the dead in num - ber.  
pass - ing soul de - liv - er.

*Refrain*

Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our

faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -

ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

# 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.**

# KYRIE

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.



# HYMN OF PRAISE

## Now the Feast and Celebration

*Refrain*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



*Refrain*  
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



*Refrain*  
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



*Refrain*  
God; to make all things new.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

*Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:<sup>36</sup> “Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19**

*I will call on the name of the LORD. (Ps. 116:13)*

<sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

<sup>2</sup> **for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup> The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup> **Then I called upon the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**

<sup>12</sup> How shall I repay the LORD for all the good things God has done for me?

<sup>13</sup> **I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.**

<sup>14</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people.

<sup>15</sup> **Precious in your sight, O LORD, is the death of your servants.**

<sup>16</sup> O LORD, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

<sup>17</sup> **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people,

<sup>19</sup> **in the courts of the LORD's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

## SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23

*The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.*

<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Optional Repeat*

## GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Luke 24:13-35

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.*

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.

<sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but

their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” <sup>19</sup> He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” <sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” <sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## CHILDREN’S TIME

### SERMON



HYMN OF THE DAY

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the  
2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with  
3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in  
4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to

sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing  
con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will  
this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our  
you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther

eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!  
ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.  
strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.  
e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

## APOSTLES 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick. Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

### PRAYER LIST

*Jim H.; Megan; Larissa; William; Richard Z.; Danielle S.; David S.; Gail and Bob C.; Shirley S.; Michael K.; Florence G.; Prince of Peace, Johnsonville.*

Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal Light, we give thanks for who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of your glorious presence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

### THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

**OFFERING MUSIC:** "Alleluia, Sing to Jesus," Lani Smith, *played by Molly Finkbiner.*

### OFFERTORY SONG

692 **We Are an Offering** (U)

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of four systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in the bass clef. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The lyrics are: "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we".

Chord symbols: F, G, C, Dm<sup>7</sup>, C<sup>2</sup>, C, F, C, Dm<sup>7</sup>, F, G, C, Dm<sup>7</sup>, C<sup>2</sup>, C, F, C, Dm<sup>7</sup>, F, G<sup>7</sup>, Em<sup>7</sup>, A, Dm<sup>7</sup>, Esus, E, Am.

Lyrics: We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we

Chords: Dm<sup>7</sup>, C<sup>2</sup>, B<sup>b</sup>, Dm<sup>7</sup>, F, G

give to you, we give to you. We lift our

Chords: C, Dm<sup>7</sup>, C<sup>2</sup>, C, F, C

voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:

Chords: Dm<sup>7</sup>, C

we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

### OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. Bless us with your goodness and mercy throughout our world. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

### 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.**

## BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

### Abide, O Dearest Jesus

1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, a - mong us with your grace,  
2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, a - mong us with your word  
3 A - bide with heav'n - ly bright - ness a - mong us, pre - cious Light;  
4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings a - mong us, boun - teous Lord;  
5 A - bide, O faith - ful Sav - ior, a - mong us with your love;

that e - vil may not harm us nor we to sin give place.  
and thus now and here - af - ter true peace and joy af - ford.  
your truth di - rect and keep us from er - ror's gloom - y night.  
let us in grace and wis - dom grow dai - ly through your word.  
grant stead - fast - ness and help us to reach our home a - bove.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has five vocal parts (1-5) and a piano accompaniment. The second system continues the piano accompaniment and includes the concluding text. The piano part features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**



**April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – Third Sunday of Easter**

**Prelude:**

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**Gathering Hymn:**

This Joyful Eastertide, Text: George Woodward, 1848-1934, Tune: Dutch folk tune, 17<sup>th</sup> cent., arr. Charles Wood, 1866-1926. © Public Domain.

**Hymn of the Day:**

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright, John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621. © Public Domain.

**Special Music:**

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**Offering Song:**

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**Sending Hymn:**

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**Postlude:**

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**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH



## *Flea Market*

29<sup>th</sup> Annual Faith Fair

**Saturday, August 8  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

We will be selling food and baked goods.

We are pleased to accept the following donations:

- **Gently Used Purses and Jewelry**
- **Gently Used Books**
- **Gently Used Baskets** (to be used for raffle baskets)
- **Raffle Baskets** (filled or unfilled)
- **New themed items** (to fill raffle baskets)
- **BINGO Prizes** (new)

**GET  
READY**

**Of course, the Fair won't be a success without volunteers!** There will be sign-up sheets available. We will need help manning these tables. And, of course, we will need people to help as Ambassadors to spread the word about Faith Lutheran as well as help with set-up and clean-up.

**For more information:  
Sara Cornell – 570-472-5560  
or email: [saracornell10@gmail.com](mailto:saracornell10@gmail.com)**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**