

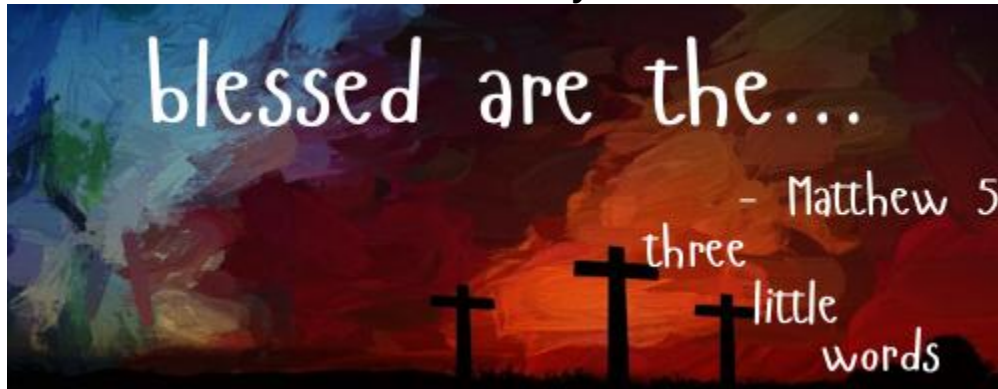
Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches

March 16, 2025

WRDN 1430AM / 107.3FM

Facebook Live @faithandrockcreek

Pastor Bethany Walker



Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Ron Krienke In celebration of Linda's 70th birthday

Confession and Forgiveness

As we ready our hearts for worship in this gathered community let us confess our sins which turn us away from God

Silence for reflection

God is love. Despite being made in God's image we forget to reflect that love to the world. Rather than simply proclaiming the three little words, God loves you, we judge others, we find fault and we place prerequisites on your grace. Forgive us for the ways we try to keep score and keep your kingdom small. Remind us to leave our selfish ways at the foot of the cross so that we might become the hands and feet of Christ for a waiting world.

Children of God, hear these three little words

You are forgiven

In the name of God who creates, Jesus who saves and the Holy Spirit who guides us. Amen.

Opening Hymn

The Glory of These Forty Days ELW 320

The glory of these forty days, we celebrate with songs of praise; For Christ, through Whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed.

Alone and fasting Moses saw, the loving God who gave the law; and to Elijah, fasting came the steeds and chariots of flame.

So Daniel trained his mystic sight, Delivered from the lion's might; And John, the bride groom's friend, became the herald of Messiah's name.

Then grant O God, that we may too, Return in fast and prayer to you Our spirits strengthen with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

God throughout these forty days, you invite us to hear from you three little words at a time. As we reflect on all you say to us through the Holy Scriptures, keep our ears and our hearts open to the message your need us to hear. Make us ready to receive it and believe it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Children's Message

Centering Song [The Porter's Gate - Blessed Are The Merciful \(Official Live Video\)](#)

Welcome the Word

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:1-9

When Jesus[a] saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he

sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he began to speak and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the

kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Shall We Gather at the River WOV 690

Shall We Gather at the River, where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God (refrain)

Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray, we will walk
and worship ever all the happy golden day (refrain)

Ere we reach the shining river lay we every burden down grace our
spirits will deliver and provide a robe and crown (refrain)

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace
(refrain)

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession

God of grace, **Receive our prayer**

Peace

Offering

Offertory Response

Offering Prayer

God of life, all that we have belongs to you. We place these gifts on
the altar in thanksgiving for the ways you faithfully care for us. May

they bless your world. Ready us now to receive Christ's presence at your never-ending feast. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Words of Consecration

As we gather in the sanctuary to worship, Jesus invites us closer still, to this holy table where we receive the bread and the cup, a sacred meal he first shared with his followers just hours before he would go to the cross. On that night, Jesus took bread, broke it, gave thanks and said take and eat, this is my body given for you, do this in remembrance of me. Again after supper Jesus took the cup, gave thanks and said, take and drink, all of you. This is the new covenant in my blood which is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me. As we recall the three little words; take and eat, take and drink, which Jesus first spoke, send your Holy Spirit on this bread and cup now so it might become Christ's body and blood for all who eat and drink of it. Hear us now as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us...

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Distribution

The table is set. Dinner is ready.

Hear these three little words as your invitation to Christ's table:

All are welcome

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks O God, for feeding us once again at Christ's table. May we continue to hunger only for justice and peace as we wait for Christ's resurrection and the new life it will surely bring. In Jesus' name we hope and pray. Amen.

Blessing

Sending Hymn

Blessed Assurance WOV 699

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine, Oh what a foretaste of glory
divine.

Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his
blood.

(refrain)

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day
long;

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day
long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on
my sight; angels descending bring from above, echoes of mercy,
whispers of love. (refrain)

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior, am happy and
blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his
goodness, lost in his love. (refrain)

Announcements and Dismissal Before you go in peace turn to
someone and say these three little words: **Jesus loves you**