

*He will be great and
will be called the
Son of the Most High.*

Luke 1:32



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
309 Fourth Street Northeast
Valley City, North Dakota

Interim Pastor: Jamie Desai

Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith
First Sunday in Advent December 1, 2024
9:30am worship service

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME!

It is good to encounter Christ together. At Faith Lutheran we rise up to:

Worship Christ, Welcome All, and Serve Others because of Jesus.

A special welcome to visitors and guests! May God bless our time together as we celebrate Christ's presence in the bread and wine, the Word of God, and the community we share. Please fill out a welcome card if you have changes: address, phone number, prayer request. Break off the bottom half to place in the offering plate; keep the top as a bookmark and a reminder of worship times.

*Indicates those who are able, please stand. (ELW - Evangelical Lutheran Hymnal)

Prelude

Welcome and announcements

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We have come to celebrate the season of Advent with Jesus.

I have come to join Jesus for the season of Advent.

Let us prepare for the Prince of Peace.

I will prepare for the coming of the Prince of Peace.

Let us open our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child.

I have come to worship the Christ child.

*ADVENT SONG **"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"** vs 1 ELW 240
(*Lighting of the Advent Candle*)

*ADVENT LITANY

The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. One candle shines as shadows lengthen and chaos roars—the dawn of God's kingdom in our midst.

Courage awakens in us, a spark to brighten the way.

Radiant flash and feeble flame break through; a long time coming yet unexpected.

Watching and waiting, we prepare him a room,

Christ is coming to make all things new, and we are opening to the Light.

*ADVENT SONG **"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"** vs 1-3 ELW 257

*CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious Lord God, as we approach the end of the year, life seems so dreary and we feel so weary. We see the reality of the world: hunger, poverty, loneliness, disease, emptiness and despair. But despite our best efforts, nothing seems to change. And we're ready to give up. Forgive us.

In this time of Advent, we pray that you would enable us to watch for signs of where you are trying to break through the tinsel and glitter we use to mask our pain. Help us to face reality with patience and hope instead of becoming indifferent to the world's evil. Empower us to prepare for Christ's coming by cleaning up the clutter of our lives and creating a welcoming space for your presence in our lives.

*WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

The Christ child has looked with favor upon you and through the power of the Holy Spirit, you are a reborn child of God. Therefore, I declare to you: You are an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God!

I am an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God!

SONG OF PRAISE

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

ELW 275

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. **By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS (PB- Pew Bible)

Jeremiah 33:14-16: (PB pg. 821 - Old Testament)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 25:1-10 (please read responsively)

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (PB pg. 218 - New Testament)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation **"Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord"** (acapella) see screen

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

Luke 1:26-38 (PB pg. 58 - New Testament)

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

SERMON

Pastor Jamie Desai

*HYMN OF THE DAY

"What Child Is This"

ELW 296

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, the one who comes before us and goes behind us, creating life and opportunities to love and care for the world. We believe in Jesus Christ who walks with us into real life each day. He is God, yet human like us and experienced all life's joys and pains and challenges like we do. But his love is so great that not sin nor suffering nor even death could stop it. today the love of Jesus lives and continues to bring new life to the world. We believe in the Holy Spirit who comes like the wind and blows in and through us to bring God's

power and light to all the world. The Spirit breathes life into us, the body of Christ we call the church, and enables us to follow the way of Christ. We believe in God, who goes before and behind, with, in and through us, bringing hope and life and newness to the world.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE—Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” vs 1-3

ELW 283

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW pg. 129

The Lord be with you. **And also 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, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**(singing) Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

ELW pg. 130

*THE LORD’S PRAYER

ELW pg. 134

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION - We welcome all the baptized to the meal celebrating the new life we have in Christ Jesus. Come forward as the ushers direct. Please take a cup for communion from the center boxes as you come forward. Start at the middle and fill to the sides. Gluten-free wafers are available. Young children will receive a grape and a blessing. Place your empty cups in the boxes. If you wish to refrain from communion, God knows your heart.

Communion Hymns:

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

ELW 471

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

ELW 276

“Away in a Manger”

ELW 277

“You Are My All in All” (chorus)

see screen

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING SONG

“Joy to the World” vs 1,2,4

ELW 267

*DISMISSAL Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Okay we will!**

POSTLUDE

We depart to serve the Lord

Announcements

Stop in fellowship hall for a cup of coffee or juice and a treat served at 10:30am following worship. It is good to enjoy each other's company and conversation.



Sunday School Information—The kids will be practicing for their Christmas Program during their Sunday School time in December. **No Sunday School today, Sunday, December 1. The Children's Christmas Program will be December 15 during the 9:30am worship service.** We will have our potluck dinner following the program.



The **Christmas Family Giving Tree**—The Mission Team will have the tree set up with local families info for Christmas presents. Each person will receive 2 gifts. The gifts need to be returned **by December 8**. A box to collect items for SMP Health - St. Raphael will also be set up. We will be collecting Men's Undershirts (size Large-3x); Gripper Socks; Men's & Women's Sweatshirts size Large-3X); Lotions; Candy (either Regular or Diabetic). Items for SMP Health-St. Raphael will need to be here by **December 15th**. Thank you for your generous giving.



W.E. (Windy) Rohwedder is turning 100 Years Old! Saturday, December 21, Windy will be celebrating his 100th birthday! All are welcome to enjoy coffee & cake beginning at 2pm at his home. Windy & Lila's address is 2890 Saffron Dr Apt 2005, Fargo, ND 58104. He would enjoy receiving cards/notes!



We would like to have about 15 poinsettias to adorn our altar on Christmas Eve. If you would like to purchase a plant for suggested amount of \$25 (price of poinsettias has increased) or bring a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one there is a sign up sheet on the table in the gathering area.

Serving Today

Greeters: *Matt & Jessica Jenrich Family*
Ushers: *Mark & Paula Thomsen, Gavin Welken*
Lector: *Mary Johnson*
Acolyte: *Rylee Gray*
Kitchen: *Leighton & Dianne Smith, Jessica Jenrich*
Keyboard: *Amy Johnson*

Attendance & Offering

Attendance: 11/24 124 75+ online
 Offering: 11/3 \$7,710.00
 11/10 \$4,211.00
 11/17 \$3,190.00
 11/24 \$3,429.00
 Mission Plan monthly
 \$22,752.25

The Week Ahead: December 2-8, 2024

Monday, December 2

Pastor's Sabbath

Tuesday, December 3

10:30am - Women's Bible Study
 1:30pm - Text Study
 5:00pm - Mission Team Meeting
 5:15pm - Endowment Foundation Meeting

Wednesday, December 4

1:00pm - Quilters
 1:30pm - FLC Staff Meeting
 3:15pm - Kids Club
 6:30pm - Confirmation at OSLC

Thursday, December 5

Quilting Class
 1:30pm-3:00pm - Mobile Food
 Pantry at Epworth UMC

Friday, December 6

Quilting Class

Saturday, December 7

Fellowship Hall Reserved
 11:00am-4:00pm - VC BC
 Public Library Market Day

Sunday, December 8

9:30am - Worship Service
 10:30am - Coffee Fellowship
 10:45am - Sunday School
 4:00pm - Valley Troubadours
 Concert at Larry J. Robinson Center for the Arts

18th Annual “Sounds of the Season” Brown Bagger Series—Wednesday, December 4, 12:10-12:50pm at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church Sanctuary. **Judy Karch** will be the featured performer. Bring your lunch or just come to listen to the music of the holiday season and enjoy provided refreshments. This year they will be livestreaming the performance on their Facebook page: Our Savior’s Lutheran Church Valley City, ND.

The Valley Troubadours Annual Christmas Concert!

You have several opportunities to enjoy their Christmas Concert!

Sunday, December 8—Larry J. Robinson Center

for the Arts Building, **4pm**

Monday, December 16—Barnes County Courthouse, 7pm

—Valley Voices will also be performing

Tuesday, December 17—SMP - St Raphael, 6:30pm

Free Admission—Freewill offering taken. Facilities are handicapped accessible.



Salvation Army Bell Ringing began on Monday, November 25 and continues through Tuesday, December 24, 10am-6pm.

The kettles will be set up at Leever's Food and Petro Serve USA (top of the hill on 8th Ave SW.

The bell ringing is in 1 hour shifts. If you are interested in ringing the bells please call Naomi at 701-541-1418 or Lenora at 840-1357.

Thank you for your continued financial support of Faith Lutheran. Your contributions support the missions and ministries of Faith Lutheran as well as monthly expenses of the church. If you have set up your giving electronically on our website:

www.faithlutheranvc.org, we do have cards that you may place in the offering plates that say you give electronically.

The cards are located on the table in the back of the sanctuary.



LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

SMP Health - St. Raphael:—Clara Bredeson; Marlys Freadhoff; Mark Hill; Diane Kohn; Paula Krall; Laurette Zachrison.

General Prayer List:—Warren Ventsch; Brian Ventsch (Warren & Brenda’s son); Marsha Sayler; Nancy Knutson; Corey Green (Karen Ntischke’s grandson); Jesse Archambeau (Karen Ntischke’s nephew); Sophia Halsa (Cheryl Foell’s granddaughter); Lloyd Vogel (Elaine Wall’s brother-in-law); Sandi Pollock; Kay Stanford; Linda Moser; Mary Buringrud (Nikki Moen’s mother); Bernice Martel (Gloriann Gaarder’s sister); Marlys Kunze; Bea Faust; Verna Anderson; Samuel Hill (Cyndi & Mark Hill’s grandson); Sue Olson; Rick Anderson (Bud & Verna Anderson’s son); Curt Tufty (Sue Olson’s brother-in-law); Sandy Mulvaney; Doug Altringer; Mary Schram (Becky Kratz’ mother).

Contact Info

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Join Us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service at 4:00pm. The service will include Holy Communion, Christmas Hymns, and Special Music