

Blessed
is the
one
who
trusts in the LORD,
whose
confidence
is in
him.

JEREMIAH 17:7, NIV



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

309 Fourth Street Northeast
Valley City, North Dakota

Interim Pastor: Jamie Desai

Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany February 16, 2025
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

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

All who thirst come to the water.

We are weary and yearn for God's acceptance, forgiveness and love.

The Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ has washed over you and proclaims you blessed.

Holy God, Holy Lord, let us drink deeply from your living waters.

*GATHERING SONG

"All Are Welcome" vs 1,2,3

ELW 641

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious Lord God, our world is a beautifully woven tapestry. But there are holes where we do not embrace our sisters and brothers but instead judge others unfairly.

Forgive us, Oh Lord, when we turn toward hatred and distrust and not your ways of peace and love.

Gracious Lord God, forgive us and have mercy upon us as we long to bring your acceptance, forgiveness and love to the world.

Weave in us, Lord God, your words of forgiveness and may we become the people you created us to be.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

SONG OF MERCY

"Lord Have Mercy"

see screen

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

God's story is the word who is the Christ. God has had mercy upon you, forgives

and restores you to the person you were created to be. Hear the good news that you are an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God.

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

*SONG OF PRAISE **“Jesus Shall Reign”** vs 1,4

ELW 434

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Living God, **in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READINGS (PB- Pew Bible)

Jeremiah 17:5-10 (PB pg. 799 - Old Testament)

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

Psalms 1 (please read responsively)

1 Corinthians 15:12-20 (PB pg. 185 - New Testament)

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

*Gospel Acclamation **“Blessed Be the Name”** vs 1

ELW 797

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

Luke 6:17-26 (PB pg. 65 - New Testament)

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

SERMON

Pastor Jamie Desai

*HYMN OF THE DAY **“We Come to the Hungry Feast”**

ELW 479

*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. Amen.

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

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY **“This Little Light of Mine”** vs 1 ELW 677

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: **“Blessed Assurance”** ELW 638

“Jesus, the Very Thought of You” ELW 754

“Here is Bread” ELW 483

“You Are My All in All” (chorus) see screen

*BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

*SENDING SONG **“Canticle of the Turning”** vs 1,3 ELW 723

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

Serving Today

Greeters: *Warren & Brenda Ventsch*
Ushers: *Scott & Deb Beilke*
Lector: *Alyssa Wilmes*
Acolyte: *Addy Gerhardt*
Coffee: *Rick & Audrey Bredeson,*
Warren & Brenda Ventsch, Pat Seiner
Keyboard & Vocals: *Cyndi Hill*

Attendance & Offering

Attendance: 2/9 140 48+ online
 Offering: 2/2 \$3,010.00
 2/9 \$5,053.00
 Mission Plan monthly
 \$23,577.58

The Week Ahead: February 17-23, 2025

Monday, February 17

President's Day
Pastor's Sabbath

Sunday, February 23

9:00am-12:30pm - Epworth UMM
French Toast Brunch

Tuesday, February 18

10:30am - Women's Bible Study
1:30pm - Text Study

9:30am - Worship Service

10:30am - Coffee Fellowship
10:30am - Fleece Blanket Tying

Wednesday, February 19

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

10:45am - Sunday School

Announcements

Stop in the 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.



Today we celebrate **Jayce Edward, Addalynn Grace, Brooklynn Michelle, Ashton Mikkal Auka** as they receives God's promises in Holy Baptism. Their parents are Seth Auka and Michelle Patraw. Their sponsors are Virgil & Tami Kratz. Please keep Jayce, Addalynn, Brooklynn, Ashton and their family in your prayers.

The flowers gracing our chancel/altar this morning are in memory of **Steve Welken** given by Larry & Deloris Welken and Family.

Thank you!—We received \$174.48 from our noisy offering last Sunday and collected 41 cans of soup for the Barnes County Food Pantry for Souper Bowl of Caring. Thank you for helping fight hunger in our local community!

No Sunday School today, February 16 due to the President's Day holiday.



The Mission Team will be collecting 2-piece pajamas for Project Ignite Light throughout February. All sizes are needed. You may buy sleep pants and a top especially for the older youth since pajamas

may be harder to find in the larger sizes. Please note: Project Ignite doesn't take one piece pajamas/sleepers. They are also collecting **fleece** for the fleece tied blankets. If you would like to donate fleece, it takes 2 coordinating pieces of fleece (1 1/2 yards each) to make a blanket. **We will have a fleece blanket tying event next Sunday, February 23rd after worship.**



WELCA will be collecting Thankofferings throughout the month of February. Thankoffering

Envelopes were mailed out with the February newsletter. We have Thankoffering envelopes on the gathering table as well. If you would like to give your Thankoffering online you may also go to our website: www.faithlutheranvc.org and donate to WELCA there. We give in thanks of blessings receive—and we do receive so many blessings. Your generous Thankofferings help support the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women's organization.

Lenten Meals—Lent begins on March 5 with Ash

Wednesday. We are asking groups or families to sign up to make and serve a simple meal for one of the Wednesdays. We will serve 5:30-6:15pm each Wednesday during Lent and Maundy Thursday. You should plan for between 50-60 people. A sign up sheet is on the table in the gathering area. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

Great Plains Mobile Food Bank—Thursday, February 20, 1:15-3:15pm at Epworth UMC parking lot. All in need of food assistance are welcome to receive food at no cost.

Community Closet will be open Monday, February 24, 5-7pm in the basement of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. This is a source the community has for free clothing for all gender and sizes. Volunteers are needed on Sunday, February 23, 6-8pm for set up and Monday, February 24, 7-8pm for closing.

We do have Equal Exchange candy bars available for you to purchase for \$5 each. We have 55% Cacao Dark Chocolate Caramel Crunch w/Sea Salt; 65% Cacao Dark Chocolate Infused Orange; 55% Cacao Dark Chocolate Almond & Sea Salt; 43% Cacao Classic Milk Chocolate. They are located on the table under the mirror. You can give your money to Julie in the office.



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:—Scott Stanford; Mike Schmidt; Bob Green; Mackenzie Schram (Becky Kratz' niece); Jan Leuer (Bernie Mortenson's sister); Alan Scherling (Elaine Wall's nephew); Nancy Knutson; Jesse Archambeau (Karen Nitschke's nephew); Sandi Pollock; Kay Stanford; Linda Moser; Mary Buringrud (Nikki Moen's mother); 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); Doug Altringer; Mary Schram (Becky Kratz' mother).

Contact Info

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Thrivent Choice Dollars ® —Thrivent Financial members the deadline to direct your 2024 Choice Dollars expires on **March 31st**. Go to thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836 to make your choices for your Choice Dollars. Thank you everyone who designates their Thrivent Choice Dollars to Faith Lutheran! In 2024 Faith Lutheran received \$1,336.

Epworth UMM French Toast Brunch—Sunday, February 23. They will be serving French Toast, Sausage, Fruits, Assorted Syrups and Beverage from 9am-12:30pm. Adults: \$8, Grades 1-6: \$4, Preschool: Free. Proceeds will be used to support Epworth's Youth Ministries.