



Luke 13:5, 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

Third Sunday in Lent March 23, 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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, join the journey of Jesus today!

We come in our different ways, walking in our own styles, at our own speeds. But we come to join the journey.

Come, walk into the truth of who you are and who God is. Walk the way with Jesus into real life, as he listens and learns, tells and teaches, as he laughs and cries, as he lives and dies. Come, walk with the God who is the Way, the Truth, the Life.

We have come to join the journey of Jesus today!

*GATHERING SONG

"All Are Welcome"

see screen

*CONFESSION

ELW pg. 95

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SONG OF MERCY

“Bring Your Mercy”

see screen

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

ELW pg. 96

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

“Arise, Your Light Has Come!”

ELW 314

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God, **your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Noisy Offering—Bridges Backpack Program

SCRIPTURE READINGS (**PB**- Pew Bible)

Isaiah 55:1-9 (PB pg. 760 - Old Testament)

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

Psalms 63:1-8 (please read responsively)

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (PB pg. 180 - New Testament)

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

*Gospel Acclamation

“Wait for the Lord”

ELW 262

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

Luke 13:1-9 (PB pg. 77 - New Testament)

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

SERMON

Pastor Jamie Desai

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“Christ, Be Our Light”

ELW 715

*APOSTLES’ CREED

ELW pg. 127

*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 Music

“One Bread, One Body”

ELW 496

“What Feast of Love”

ELW 487

“Come, Let Us Eat”

ELW 491

“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

“We Are Marching in the Light”

ELW 866

*DISMISSAL Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Serving Today

Greeters: *Dean & Amy Pederson*
Ushers: *Mikkal Auka, Seth Auka*
Lector: *Dave Pedersen*
Acolyte: *Kassidy Schulz*
Keyboard & Vocals: *Cyndi Hill*

Attendance & Offering

Attendance: 3/16 74 46+ online
3/19 (Lent) 80
Offering: 3/2 \$5,130.00
3/9 \$5,269.00
3/16 \$4,230.00
Mission Plan monthly
\$23,577.58

The Week Ahead: March 24-30, 2025

Monday, March 24
Pastor’s Sabbath
Tuesday, March 25
10:30am - Women’s Bible Study
1:30pm - Text Study
Wednesday, March 26
1:00pm - Quilters
3:15pm - Kids Club
5:30pm - Lenten Meal
6:30pm - Lenten Service
Thursday, March 27
1:00pm - Sheyenne Valley
Memory Café at FLC
Sunday, March 30
9:30am - Worship Service
10:30am - Coffee Fellowship
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.



Lenten Services—Throughout Lent we will serve a freewill offering meal **5:30-6:15pm**. Lenten services will be at **6:30pm**. This year’s theme is **“Majoring in the Minor Prophets”**. Each week the local ELCA pastors will rotate to a different church. Holy Week each of the pastors will be at their home church. The pastors participating are Pr. Jamie, Pr Nicholas (Our Savior’s), Pr Diane (Trinity) and Pr Rich (Our Savior’s), We look forward to worshipping together. Pr. Jamie will be here Wednesday, March 26.



French Toast Brunch Fundraiser—Today March 23! Faith Lutheran Men’s Group will be serving their annual French Toast and Sausage Brunch. They will be serving 9:30am-12:30pm.

This is Freewill Offering with the proceeds, after expenses, given to the General Fund at Faith Lutheran to be used for church expenses. We invite the members of our congregation and the community to enjoy the meal and help support Faith Lutheran.

This Sunday, March 23 we will be receiving a **noisy offering for the Bridges Backpack Program**. This program helps with food-insecurity of our children. It provides food for a child to bring home and eat over the weekend. The kids will be bringing around their pails during the Children’s Message. If you would like to give a donation anytime throughout the year, make your check payable to Bridges Backpack Program. Mail it to Bridges Backpack Program, 674 10th Ave SW, Valley City, ND 58072. Thank you for your generous giving!



WELCA will be collecting items for **Personal Health Kits** for Lutheran World Relief through Lent.

Items for the health kits are:

- 1 - **light weight bath towel** (between 20"x40" and 52"x27")
- 1 - **adult size toothbrush** in it's original packaging*
- 1 - **metal fingernail clipper**, remove packaging
- 1 - **sturdy comb**, remove packaging
- 2 or 3 **bath-size bars of soap**, 8 or 9 oz in original wrapping

*Multi-pack Toothbrushes may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap. A container is in the gathering area for these items.



First Communion—We invite children in **2nd grade & up** who have not received communion and whose parents would like them to receive Holy Communion to attend the session, **April 6th at 10:45am** (during Sunday School time) to prepare and welcome them to Christ's table and understand the gifts and meaning of Holy Communion. Parents decide if you would like your child to attend. An adult needs to attend the child to the session. A letter was mailed out to families with information. If you have a child you would like to have 1st Communion and didn't receive a letter please let the office know.



We will be having an **Easter Egg Hunt** at the end of Sunday School on **Palm Sunday, April 13**. If you would like to bring bags of **wrapped candy** for the Easter eggs you can drop them by Julie's office or leave in the workroom. Thank you!

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!



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:—Amanda Spencer (Karen Nitschke's granddaughter); Sandy Mulvaney; 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

Office phone: 701-845-4390d

Office Email: office@faithlutheranvc.org

Wendi Wilmes - Coordinator of Youth and Sunday School Ministry - Email - wendi.wilmes@gmail.com

Website: www.faithlutheranvc.org

Facebook Page: Faith Lutheran Church Valley City

YouTube Channel: [vcfaithlutheran](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvfaithlutheran)



Red Willow Ministries—Summer Volunteers Needed

As they prepare, they would love your help. They are looking for the following weekly volunteers:

- **Camp Nurse Team**—Someone who is licensed in the state of North Dakota, is able to pass meds, and care for minor injuries/illnesses.
- **Lawn Care Team**—Red Willow has hundred of acres to care for and many hands make for light work!
- **Cleaning Team**—The staff work around the clock Sunday-Friday each week and they would love to help their summer team get to their weekends a little sooner. They are looking for people who can volunteer Friday mornings in the summer to help with the end of week cleaning.

Get more information and volunteer by emailing office@redwillowministries.com.