

GOD IS  
**FAITHFUL;**  
BY HIM  
YOU WERE CALLED  
INTO THE  
**FELLOWSHIP**  
OF HIS SON,  
**JESUS CHRIST**  
**OUR LORD.**

**1 CORINTHIANS 1:9, NRSV**

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

309 Fourth Street Northeast

Valley City, North Dakota

*Pastor: Jamie Desai*

*Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith*

Second Sunday after Epiphany      January 18, 2026

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.

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\*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

Come join the Epiphany journey with Jesus today.

**We have come to join the Epiphany journey with Jesus today.**

Come walk in your own styles and at your own speeds.

**We come in our different ways to walk with the One who has invited us to Come and See.**

Let us show and tell the world what it means to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

**We have come to join the Epiphany journey with Jesus today.**

\*GATHERING SONG

**“All Are Welcome”** vs 1,3,5

ELW 641

CONFESSON OF SIN

*Gracious Lord God, forgive us for holding on to what we have been given, out of the fear that it may be taken away.*

***Gracious Lord God, forgive us for all the opportunities we passed over to be Your light in the world.***

*Gracious Lord God, call us now to step up in faith and trust Your infinite possibilities to love our neighbors.*

***Gracious Lord God, grant us the desire to place our lives into Your hands and the courage to do Your will in the world.***

SONG OF MERCY

**“Now Behold the Lamb”**

ELW 341

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

*It is said, that those who have nothing can share nothing. God has given us everything we need. God is calling us to take part in Jesus' mission to love and*

care for the world. Come join the Epiphany Journey with Jesus as an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God!

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

**\*SONG OF PRAISE**

**“We Will Glorify”**

see screen

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Holy God, **our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Noisy Offering—Project Ignite Light

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

**Isaiah 49:1-7** (PB pg. 768 - Old Testament)

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

**Psalm 40:1-11** (please read responsively)

**1 Corinthians 1:1-9** (PB pg. 173 - New Testament)

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

**\*Gospel Acclamation “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” ELW 752**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord**

**John 1:29-42** NIV (PB pg. 95 - New Testament)

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

**SERMON**

Pastor Jamie Desai

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore” vs 1,2,4**

ELW 817

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

see screen

I believe in the God of promise—the God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca—Jacob and Rachel—the God of the past—the God of now—the God who owns the future. I believe in Jesus, God in our flesh—God who seeks us out—God who comes to serve—God who embraces outcasts—God who reigns from a cross—God who conquers death. I believe in the Holy Spirit—God with us forever—God giving us faith—God empowering our witness—God filling us with peace. I Believe! Amen.

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

\*SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

\*OFFERTORY      **“As with Gladness Men of Old” vs 4**      ELW 302

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:

Cyndi Hill

**“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” vs1-3**

ELW 866

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

POSTLUDE

*We depart to serve the Lord*

### Serving Today

**Greeters:** Jason & Kristin Gerhardt Family  
**Ushers:** Chris & Kalyn Botz Family  
**Lector:** Kay Bostrom  
**Acolyte:** Gavin Welken  
**Kitchen:** Jill Foss, Dean & Brenda Klein, Diane Busche  
**Keyboard & Vocals:** Cyndi Hill

### Attendance

Attendance: 1/11 165 34+ online

Offering: 1/4 \$5,821.00  
1/11 \$8,508.00

Mission Plan monthly  
\$24,295.67

### 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.



**The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 25th after**

**ANNUAL MEETING worship.** The reports are ready to be picked up now. We will need 40 active and confirmed members for a quorum so we can conduct business.

**Noisy Offering**—we will be receiving a noisy offering today during the Children's Word for **Project Ignite Light**. The children will be collecting your loose change and dollar bills in their bucket. Your loose change and dollar bills make a difference!

No regular Sunday School next Sunday, January 25 due to the annual meeting. We will be showing a movie in the youth room instead during that time.



The Mission Team will be collecting 2-piece pajamas for Project Ignite Light throughout January and 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. 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 **Sunday, February 22** after worship. If you plan to bring fleece please have it to the church no later than Wednesday, February 18 so the fleece can be prepped for that Sunday. Thank you!

### The Week Ahead: January 19-25, 2026

#### Monday, January 19

Pastor's Sabbath

#### Tuesday, January 20

10:30am - Women's Bible Study

#### Wednesday, January 21

1:00pm - Quilters

3:15pm - Kids Club

6:30pm - Confirmation at  
Our Savior's

#### Thursday, January 22

1:00pm - Sheyenne Valley  
Memory Café

#### Saturday, January 24

JH Youth—Feed My Starving  
Children Event

#### Sunday, January 25

9:30am - Worship Service  
10:30am - Annual Meeting  
10:30am - Coffee Fellowship  
10:45am - Sunday School—Movie

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity—Prayer/Unity Service , Sunday, January 18 at 3pm at St Raphael Care Center Chapel.** “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling” Ephesians 4:4 Pastor Jared from Our Savior’s will be the speaker at the Prayer Service. Come join Christians from a variety of traditions as we pray for the Unity that God in Christ desires. Hosted by Barnes County Ministerial Association.

**Lenten Meals—Lent begins on February 18 with Ash Wednesday.** We are asking groups or families/individuals to sign up to make and serve a simple meal for one of the Wednesdays. A reminder that the groups/people making and serving the meals aren’t required to pay for it out of pocket if they would prefer not to. Receipts can be turned into the church office for reimbursement. 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.

**The end of year 2025 giving statements are ready for you to pick up.** They are in alphabetical order and on the table in the gathering area. Please note: we are having you pick up your statement to save on postage. Any statements not picked up by January 30 will be mailed out. Thank you for your generous giving to Faith Lutheran!

**Sheyenne Valley Memory Café—Thursday, January 22, 1-3pm,** at Faith Lutheran. If you or a loved one is experiencing memory loss, this is an opportunity to connect and visit with healthcare professions and individuals. The topic will be Gaukler Wellness Center. For more information, call City-County Health District at 845-8518 or follow at SheyenneValleyMemoryCafe on Facebook.



**LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:**  
**SMP Health - St. Raphael:**—Clara Bredeson; Marlys Freadhoff; Ruby Hansen; Mark Hill; Diane Kohn; Paula Krall; Arlene Larson; Laurette Zachrison.

**General Prayer List:**—Maureen Walch (Karen Nitschke’s sister); Doug Kratz; Kathy Burke; Laine Schwehr; Verlynn Christianson; LeeAnn Peterson; Bud Anderson; Angela Rohde (Jake Rohde’s mother); JoAn Nellermoe; Don Burke; Amanda Spencer (Karen Nitschke’s granddaughter); Scott Stanford; Bob Green; Mackenzie Schram (Becky Kratz’ niece); Nancy Knutson; Jake Archambeau (Karen Nitschke’s nephew); Kay Stanford; Linda Moser; Mary Buringrud (Nikki Moen’s mother); Bea Faust; Verna Anderson; Samuel Hill (Cyndi & Mark Hill’s grandson); Doug Altringer; Mary Schram (Becky Kratz’ mother).

#### **Contact Info**

Office phone: 701-845-4390

Office Email: [office@faithlutheranvc.org](mailto:office@faithlutheranvc.org)

Wendi Wilmes - Coordinator of Youth and Sunday School Ministry - Email - [wendi.wilmes@gmail.com](mailto:wendi.wilmes@gmail.com)

Website: [www.faithlutheranvc.org](http://www.faithlutheranvc.org)

Facebook Page: Faith Lutheran Church Valley City

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

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](http://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.

