



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

309 Fourth Street Northeast

Valley City, North Dakota

*Pastor: Jamie Desai*

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

Third Sunday after Epiphany      January 25, 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

**“Listen, God Is Calling”**

ELW 513

CONFESSiON OF SIN

ELW pg. 95

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

(Silence is kept for reflection)

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

**SONG OF MERCY**

**“Shine, Jesus, Shine” chorus**

**ELW 671**

**WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

**ELW pg. 96**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**\*SONG OF PRAISE**

**“Drawn to the Light”**

**ELW 593**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S WORD**

**Noisy Offering—Project Ignite Light**

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

**Isaiah 9:1-4 (PB pg. 706 - Old Testament)**

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

**Psalm 27:1, 4-9 (please read responsively)**

**1 Corinthians 1:10-18 (PB pg. 173 - New Testament)**

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

**\*Gospel Acclamation    “Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak” vs 1**

**ELW 676**

**The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th chapter.**

**Glory to you, O Lord**

**Matthew 4:12-23 (PB pg. 3 - New Testament)**

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

**SERMON**

**Pastor Jamie Desai**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“Will You Come and Follow Me”**

**ELW 798**

\*APOSTLES' CREED

ELW pg. 127

\*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 Hymns:      **“Christ, Be Our Light”**

ELW 715

**“Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult”**

ELW 696

**“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”**

ELW 815

**“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      **“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”**

ELW 674

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

### Serving Today

Greeter:	Evelyn Jacobson
Ushers:	Larry & Deloris Welken
Lector:	Troy Miller
Acolyte:	Maya Van Bruggen
Kitchen:	Larry & Deloris Welken,
Keyboard & Vocals:	Dean & Brenda Klein, Diane Busche
Vocals:	Cyndi Hill Julie May

### Attendance

Attendance: 1/11 165 34+ online

No service on January 18

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 conservation.



**The Annual Meeting will be today, January 25th after worship.** The ANNUAL MEETING reports are located on the table in the gathering area. 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 today, 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 26-February 1, 2026

#### Monday, January 26

Pastor's Sabbath

#### Tuesday, January 27

10:30am - Women's Bible Study

#### Wednesday, January 28

1:00pm - Quilters

3:15pm - Kids Club

6:30pm - Confirmation at Our Savior's

#### Sunday, February 1

9:30am - Worship Service

10:30am - Coffee Fellowship

**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!



**Giving Hearts Day is Thursday, February 12.** This is a 24-hour event in North Dakota and northwest Minnesota that provides a platform for charities to fund their missions. To make your donation to the charities of your choice go to: [www.givingheartsday.org](http://www.givingheartsday.org). You may schedule your donation for Giving Hearts Day anytime now. We encourage you to give to our partners in ministries, the Eastern North Dakota Synod and Red Willow Bible Camp Ministries.

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.



**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**

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Facebook Page: Faith Lutheran Church Valley City

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

**Thrivent Choice Dollars ®**—Thrivent Financial members the deadline to direct your 2025 Choice Dollars expires on **March 31st**. Go to [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://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 2025 Faith Lutheran received \$1,697.