

AGAIN IT IS WRITTEN,

'YOU SHALL'

NOTE

PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST!

MATTHEW 4:7, ESV

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

309 Fourth Street Northeast

Valley City, North Dakota

Pastor: Jamie Desai

Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith

First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 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.

*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.

*GATHERING HYMN **“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”** ELW 325

*CONFESSİON AND FORGIVENESS ELW pg. 117

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.**

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.

*GREETING

ELW pg. 184

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*KYRIE

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, **our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS (PB- Pew Bible)

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 (PB pg. 2 - Old Testament)

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

Psalm 32 (please read responsively)

Romans 5:12-19 (PB pg. 162 - New Testament)

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

*Gospel Acclamation

“Hear Our Prayer”

ELW 178

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

Glory to you, O Lord

Matthew 4:1-11 (PB pg. 3 - New Testament)

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

SERMON

Pastor Jamie Desai

*HYMN OF THE DAY **“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”** vs 1,2,4

ELW 504

*APOSTLES' CREED

ELW pg. 127

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

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

ELW 185

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

ELW pg. 129

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 **“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”**

ELW 803

“Lord Jesus, Think on Me”

ELW 599

“Eat This Bread”

ELW 472

“You Are My All in All” (chorus)

see screen

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING SONG

“Shout to the Lord”

ELW 821

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

POSTLUDE

We depart to serve the Lord

Serving Today

Greeters:

Jessica Jenrich

Ushers:

Scott & Deb Beilke

Lector:

Jessica Jenrich

Acolyte:

Halle Welken

Kitchen:

Rick & Audrey Bredeson, Pat Seiner,

Warren & Brenda Ventsch

Keyboard & Vocals:

Cyndi Hill

Attendance

Attendance: 2/15 111 63+ online
2/18 (Ash Wednesday)

Offering: 2/1 \$5,524.00
2/8 \$11,719.00
2/15 \$3,060.00

Mission Plan monthly
\$24,295.67

The Week Ahead: February 23-March 1, 2026

Monday, February 23

Pastor's Sabbath

Tuesday, February 24

10:30am - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, February 25

1:00pm - Quilters

3:15pm - Kids Club

5:30pm - Meal Served

6:30pm - Lenten Service

Thursday, February 26

1:00pm-3:00pm - Sheyenne Valley
Memory Café

Sunday, March 1

9:30am - Worship Service
10:30am - Coffee Fellowship
10:45am - Sunday School

We do have ear buds available for people who are hard of hearing and would like to use them to hear the service better. Talk to the sound person and they will set you up.

Snow/Storm Cancellation Plan for Sunday Worship—

Pastor and Council President will communicate and determine whether worship will be held during severe weather. Any cancellations will be announced to the congregation and community via Facebook, radio, and other social media outlets as soon as possible.

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.



The Mission Team will be collecting 2-piece pajamas for Project Ignite Light through 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. **We will have a fleece blanket tying event today, February 22 after worship. Thank you!**

Lenten Services—Lenten services will be at **6:30pm**. This year's theme is **"Unbound: Longing for Wholeness"**. The local pastors are leading the services in a round robin style. Each week the pastors will rotate to a different church. Holy Week each of the pastors will be at their home church. Pastors participating are Pr. Jamie, Pr Jared (Our Savior's), Pr Diane (Trinity), Pr Nicholas (Nome-Fingal-Kathryn), Pr Bryce (Epworth UMC). We look forward to worshiping together. We will be live-streaming the Lenten services on our Facebook page.



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

Envelopes were mailed out with the February newsletter.

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 received—and we do receive so many blessings. Your generous Thankofferings help support the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women's organization.

Next Sunday, March 1, we celebrate **Bold Women's Day**. As Women of the ELCA we're all about acting boldly on our faith in Jesus Christ. And at least once a year we celebrate that boldness, whether it's a quiet and persistent bold or a loud and brash bold.

It's time to register your kids for **Red Willow Bible Summer Camp!** This year Faith Lutheran has a limited number of \$200 scholarships for those attending the 2026 camps. Scan the QR Code to go directly to their website to register. Contact Julie in the office for the scholarship code.



Epworth UMM French Toast Brunch—Today, February 22.
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.

Sheyenne Valley Memory Café—Thursday, February 26, 1-3pm here at Faith Lutheran. This is a helpful group for those dealing with memory loss for themselves or a family member.

Thrivent Choice Dollars® —Thrivent Financial members the deadline to direct your 2025 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 2025 Faith Lutheran received \$1,697.

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.



LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

SMP Health - St. Raphael:—Marlys Freadhoff; Ruby Hansen; Mark Hill; Diane Kohn; Paula Krall; Arlene Larson; Laurette Zachrison.

General Prayer List:—Karla Ranisate; Maureen

Walch (Karen Nitschke's sister); Doug Kratz; Verlynn Christianson; Lee Ann Peterson; Angela Rohde (Jake Rohde's mother); JoAn Nellermoe; Don & Kathy Burke; Amanda Spencer (Karen Nitschke's granddaughter); Scott & Kay Stanford; Bob Green; Mackenzie Schram (Becky Kratz' niece); Nancy Knutson; Jake Archambeau (Karen Nitschke's nephew); Linda Moser; Mary Buringrud; Bea Faust; Samuel Hill (Cyndi & Mark Hill's grandson); Doug Altringer; Mary Schram (Becky Kratz' mother).

Contact Info

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YouTube Channel: vcfaithlutheran

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