



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

309 Fourth Street Northeast

Valley City, North Dakota

Pastor: Jamie Desai

Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany February 8, 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.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

You are the light of the world.

We are the light of the world.

Let your light shine before others so that they see your good works and give glory to your Father in Heaven.

Okay we will!

*GATHERING HYMN

“Gather Us In” vs 1,2,3

ELW 532

CONFESSON OF SIN

Gracious Lord God, we confess that we have not always been your light to the world or salt of the earth.

Forgive us and may we be your light and your salt.

Gracious Lord God, may we be the salt-seasoning that brings out your flavors to the world.

Forgive us Lord, for not being your city on a hill bringing out your colors in the world.

Gracious Lord God, may we be your salt-seasoning and light bearers to the world.

Forgive us Lord, for hiding our light under a basket and let our light so shine before others so that they may see your good works and give glory to you.

SONG OF MERCY

“Goodness Is Stronger than Evil”

ELW 721

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Jesus has proclaimed that we are the light and the salt of the earth. And we will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven. Accept your responsibility as an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God.

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

*SONG OF PRAISE

“This Little Light of Mine”

ELW 677

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, **with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S WORD

Noisy Offering—BC Food Pantry

SCRIPTURE READINGS (PB- Pew Bible)

Isaiah 58:1-9a (PB pg. 763 - Old Testament)

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

Psalm 112:1-9 (please read responsively)

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (PB pg. 174 - 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 5th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

Matthew 5:13-20 (PB pg. 4 - 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

“Thank You for the Gift”

see screen

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

ELW pg. 129

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

“Drawn to the Light”

ELW 638

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

ELW 815

“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

ELW 712

“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

“Go, Make Disciples”

ELW 540

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

POSTLUDE

We depart to serve the Lord

Serving Today

Greeters:	<i>Warren & Brenda Ventsch</i>
Ushers:	<i>Adam & Amanda Pilgrim Family</i>
Lector:	<i>Brenna Story</i>
Acolyte:	<i>Gavin Welken</i>
Kitchen:	<i>Warren & Brenda Ventsch,</i> <i>Dave & Vicki Pedersen, Adam & Amanda Pilgrim</i>
Keyboard & Vocals:	<i>Cyndi Hill</i>
Vocals:	<i>Julie May</i>

Attendance

Attendance: 2/1 95 14+ online

Offering: 2/1 \$5,524.00

Mission Plan monthly
\$24,295.67

The Week Ahead: February 9-15, 2026

Monday, February 9

Pastor's Sabbath

Presidents Day

Tuesday, February 10

10:30am - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, February 11

No Kids Club

1:00pm - Quilters

3:30pm - WELCA Meets

5:15pm - Council Meets

6:30pm - Confirmation
at Trinity

Thursday, February 12

Givings Hearts Day

Friday, February 13

No School

Sunday, February 15

No Sunday School

9:30am - Worship Service

10:30am - Coffee Fellowship

10:30am - March Service & Care

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.



Noisy Offering—February 8 is Souper Bowl of Caring— because of that we will be receiving a noisy offering during the Children's Message for Barnes County Food Bank. The children will be collecting your loose change and dollar bills in their bucket. Your loose change and dollar bills make a difference! We are thankful for your generous giving. Thank you to all who brought cans of soup to donate to the Food Pantry! Thank you for helping those who are in need of food to eat.

No Sunday School on February 15 (4 day weekend). No Kids Club on Wednesday, February 11 (Wendi is gone).



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. 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!

Mission Breakfast for Casa de Fe at Trinity Lutheran—Today, February 8, 10:30am-12:30pm. All free-will offering proceeds will benefit Casa de Fe orphanage in Shell, Ecuador. All are welcome!



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. You may schedule your donation for Giving Hearts Day anytime now. We encourage you to give to our partners in ministries.

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.



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

Red Willow Bible Camp—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 special scholarship code.



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:—Maureen Walch (Karen Nitschke's sister); Doug Kratz; Kathy Burke; Laine Schwehr; Verlynn Christianson; LeeAnn Peterson; 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; Samuel Hill (Cyndi & Mark Hill's grandson); Doug Altringer; Mary Schram (Becky Kratz' mother).

Contact Info

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

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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 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.

2nd Annual Klub Dinner at Trinity Lutheran Church—Saturday, February 14, 4-6:30pm. *What is Klub?* It's a traditional Scandinavian potato & ham dumpling made of potatoes, flour, and butter. All are welcome! This free-will offering meal is to raise funds for Trinity Lutheran Ministries.