



As long
as I am
in the
WORLD,
I am the
LIGHT
of the
WORLD.

John 9:5

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

309 Fourth Street Northeast
Valley City, North Dakota

Pastor: Jamie Desai

Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith
Fourth Sunday in Lent March 15, 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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, join the journey of Jesus to the cross.

We come to encounter Jesus at the cross.

Come witness the One who welcomes sinners.

We come to see the One who heals the brokenhearted.

Come join the journey of Jesus to the cross.

*GATHERING SONG

"All Are Welcome"

see screen

*CONFESSION

Gracious Lord God, we come before you this morning as people who are broken physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

We pray for your healing touch. Restore us to wholeness and may we let go of the sins that have wounded us.

Heal us O Lord and make us the people you created us to be.

SONG OF MERCY

"Open Our Eyes"

see screen

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Though we fall short of the glory of God in the things we do and in the things we fail to do, God still says to us: You are an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God!

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

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, **and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S WORD

Noisy Offering—Hot Lunch Program

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

1 Samuel 16:1-13 (PB pg. 288 - Old Testament)

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

Psalms 23 (please read responsively)

Ephesians 5:8-14 (PB pg. 207 - New Testament)

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

*Gospel Acclamation

“**Hear Our Prayer**”

ELW 178

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 9th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

John 9:1-41 (PB pg. 105 - New Testament)

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

SERMON

Pastor Jamie Desai

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“**We Are Called**”

ELW 720

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 **“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”** vs 4 ELW 803

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

“You Are My All in All” (chorus)

Cyndi Hill
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 **“Now Thank We All Our God”** ELW 840

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

POSTLUDE

We depart to serve the Lord

Serving Today

Greeter: *Scott & Amy Johnson*
Ushers: *Troy & Jodi Miller*
Lector: *Martee Lunde*
Acolyte: *Chloe Saylor*
Kitchen: *Scott & Amy Johnson, Troy & Jodi Miller*
Keyboard & Vocals: *Cyndi Hill*
Vocals: *Julie May*

Attendance

Attendance: 3/8 86 65+ online
3/11 (Lent) 77 9+ online

Offering: 3/1 \$3,307.00
3/8 \$6,086.00

Mission Plan monthly
\$24,295.67

The Week Ahead: March 16-22, 2026

Monday, March 16

Pastor's Sabbath
5:00pm-7:00pm - Community
Closet at Our Savior's

Tuesday, March 17

Jamestown Pastors Conference
at Faith
10:30am - Women's Bible Study
5:15pm - Handbell Practice

Wednesday, March 18

1:00pm - Quilters
3:15pm - Kids Club
5:30pm - Meal Served
6:30pm - Lenten Service

Saturday, March 21

8:00am - Men's Group Meets
10:00am - Fellowship Hall
Reserved

Sunday, March 22

9:30am - Worship Service
9:30am-12:30pm - French Toast
Brunch Fundraiser
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.



Today we celebrate God's promises in Holy Baptism for **Corrigan Gerard-Thomas Langemo**. Corrigan's parents are Chris & JoEllen Langemo and the late Laura Langemo. Corrigan's sponsors are Darren & Stephanie Volk. Please keep Corrigan and his family in your prayers.

Today, March 15 we will be receiving a **noisy offering for the VCPS Hot Lunch Program**. This will help with the deficit owed for Hot Lunch. The kids will be bringing around their pails during the Children's Message. Thank you for your generous giving!



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 **today, March 15 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. An adult needs to attend the child to the session.

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 worshipping together. We will be live-streaming the Lenten services on our Facebook page.

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.



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" & 52"x27"), dark
- 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.



French Toast Brunch Fundraiser—Sunday 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.

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:—Marlys Kunze; Karla Ranisate; Maureen Walch (Karen Nitschke's sister); Doug Kratz; Verlynn Christianson; Lee Ann Peterson; Angela Rohde (Jake Rohde's mother); 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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Snow/Storm Cancellation Plan for Sunday Worship—

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