



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

**309 Fourth Street Northeast
Valley City, North Dakota**

Pastor: Jamie Desai

Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith

Nineth Sunday after Pentecost July 26, 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

The Lord said, "Do not be afraid."

But I said, "I am afraid."

The Lord said, "I am your shield."

But I said, "I am afraid."

The Lord has promised good to you.

I will not be afraid.

*GATHERING SONG

"Gather Us In" vs 1,3,4

ELW 532

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious God, we have come together this morning as your children who have messed up and turned away from you and away from your ways. We admit we struggle with loving You, our neighbors and even ourselves.

Gracious Lord God, we desire to be your faithful followers, but we continue to deny you, betray you and abandon you. Have mercy upon us, forgive us and free us from sin.

Gracious Lord God, open our ears, hearts and minds to hear your stories in new ways and help us to receive your acceptance, forgiveness and love once again.

Forgive us, Oh Lord and make us the people you created us to be.

SONG OF MERCY

"God of Grace and God of Mercy" vs 1,4

ELW 705

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

The good news is that Jesus was crucified for our forgiveness, and He was raised from the dead so that we can live a new life. Therefore, I declare to you that you are an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God!

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

SONG OF PRAISE **“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises”**

ELW 535

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Beloved and sovereign God, **through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS (PB- Pew Bible)

1 Kings 3:5-12 (PB pg. 340 - Old Testament)

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

Psalms 119:129-136 (please read responsively)

Romans 8:26-39 (PB pg. 165 - New Testament)

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

*Gospel Acclamation **“Open Our Eyes”**

see screen

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (PB pg. 13 - New Testament)

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

SERMON

Pastor Jamie Desai

*HYMN OF THE DAY **“Be Thou My Vision”**

ELW 793

*APOSTLES’ CREED

ELW pg. 127

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

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY

“Give Thanks”

see screen

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)

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

“In Thee Is Gladness”

ELW 867

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

Serving Today

Greeters/Ushers:

Jake & Brenda Rohde Family

Lector:

Martee Lunde

Coffee:

Julie Moritz, Cindy Waagen

Keyboard & Vocals:

Cyndi Hill

Vocals:

Julie May

Attendance

Attendance: 7/19 82 26+ online

Offering: 7/5 \$3,721.00

7/12 \$7,795.00

7/19 \$2,277.00

Mission Plan monthly

\$24,295.67

The Week Ahead: July 27-August 2, 2026

Tuesday, July 28

Jr High Group - RedHawks Game

10:30am - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, July 29

9:00am-12:00pm - Crazy Days

Bake Sale

1:00pm - Quilters

5:00pm-7:00pm - Summer

Grocery Store

7:15pm - Music in the City

Park Bandshell

Saturday, August 1

8:00am-1:00pm - Valley Quilters

Rummage Sale at FLC

Sunday, August 2

9:30am - Worship Service

10:30am - Coffee Fellowship

5:30pm - Pioneer Park

Amphitheatre

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 School Supplies Drive

continues! Please drop by your school supplies donations anytime before **August 3rd**. A container will be in the gathering area. Monetary donations should be placed in the donation envelopes and marked "School Supplies" or you can drop your

donation by the office. We appreciate all the support this congregation gives to this project each year!

Items Needed:

Crayola Crayons (24 count); Crayola Broad Line Markers; Crayola Fine Point Markers; #2 Pencils; Pink Erasers; Elmer's School Glue; Glue Sticks; Plastic Pencil Boxes; Scissors (blunt & sharp); Black Sharpie Markers; Colored Pencils; Highlighters; Mechanical Pencils; 2-Pocket Folders; Wide-Ruled Single Subject Notebooks; College-Ruled Single Subject Notebooks; Loose Leaf Wide-lined Paper; 1.5 inch 3 Ring Binder; Pens (blue, black, red); 12 inch ruler (both inches & centimeters); Kleenex (175 count or more); Clorox Wipes.

Splash into Faith—Registration Open—All families with kids K-6 are invited to register for a fun water themed day of VBS at Chautauqua Park (Dacotah Pavillion) on **Wednesday, August 5, 9:30am-2pm**. Adult and Youth Volunteers are needed to welcome families and greet children. This event is open to the whole community and a great chance to connect with non-member families. Red Willow will lead activities, camp songs, and games. Scan the QR code to register!



The Summer Grocery Store is open Wednesdays through August 5, 5-7pm at VCHS. This is a way for anyone that needs food assistance to choose a variety of food items for their families to eat. We need your help in stocking the shelves with food items. A container for your donations is in the gathering area.

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.



Epworth United Methodist Men's Annual Corn Feed & UWF Bake Sale—Sunday, July 26. They will be serving **4:30-7pm**. The menu is Pulled Pork Sandwich, Fresh Sweet Corn, Condiments & Ice Cream. Cost is Adults - \$12; Grades 1-6 (ages 6-12) - \$7; Preschool - Free.

Valley Quilters Famous Rummage Sale—Saturday, August 1, 8am-2pm here at Faith Lutheran. Cash only! To name a few of the items that will be for sale are finished projects, fabric/kits, patterns, sewing tools and much more!

Summer Afternoon in the Pioneer Park Amphitheatre—Sunday, July 26, 5:30pm, featuring Dennis Warner. Bring your lawn chairs/blankets. A freewill offering will be taken each week. If necessary due to inclement weather, we will move to the Vault on Central.

Music in the Park—Wednesday, July 29, Norsky Brothers will be performing at 7:15pm. Bring your lawn chairs. A free will offering is taken each week to support the bandshell & Music in the Park. Due to inclement weather programs will be moved to the VCSU Robinson Center for the Arts.



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:—Matt Anderson; Gordon Reitan; Jamie Bredeson; Melody Schram (Becky Kratz' aunt); Alan Black (Gloriann Gaarder's great-nephew); Rita Bearman; Anita Scholz; Marlys Kunze; Maureen Walch; Doug Kratz; Verlynn Christianson; Lee Ann Peterson; Angela Rohde (Jake Rohde's mother); Don & Kathy Burke; Scott & Kay Stanford; Mackenzie Schram (Becky Kratz' niece); Nancy Knutson; Linda Moser; Mary Buringrud; Samuel Hill (Cyndi & Mark Hill's grandson); Doug Altringer; Mary Schram (Becky Kratz' mother).

Contact Info

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

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.

Thrivefest North—July 31 & August 1 at Stutsman County Fairgrounds in Jamestown. Performing are Ben Fuller, We Are Messengers, Josh Baldwin, Jamie MacDonald, Megan Woods, The Afters, Disciple, Mark Schultz, Iveth Luna, Sean Rodriguez, Matt Baird, Presence Music, Kaboose, Jacob Rocky, Jamestown Worship, Evangelist Josh Brewer, Pastor Shawn Bowman. Festival MC: Brandon Monson. Ticket Options: VIP | Preferred Seating | Free General Admission! Get your tickets and event information at thrivefestnorth.org.