



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

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

Pastor: Jamie Desai

Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith

Ninth 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!**