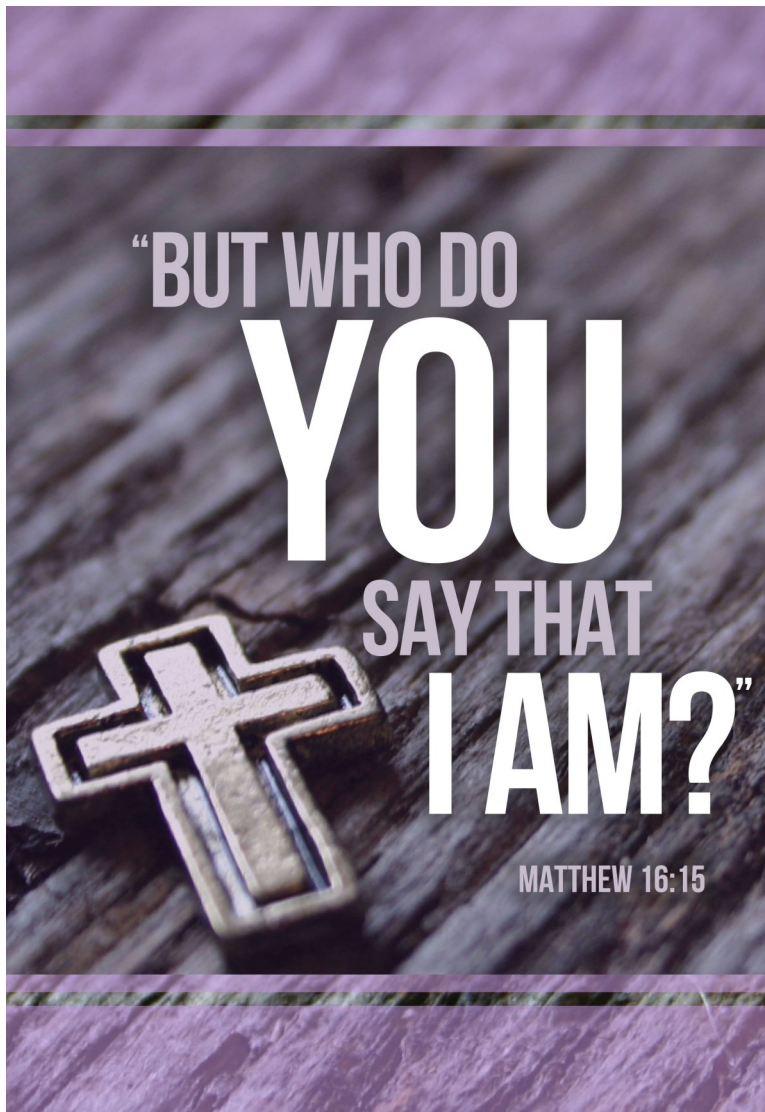




FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

309 Fourth Street Northeast

Valley City, North Dakota

Pastor: Jamie Desai

Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 23, 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

Let us unite together as accepted, forgiven and loved children of God to join the journey of Jesus today.

I will walk with my fellow disciples of Jesus wherever he may lead us.

Jesus is calling his followers to walk the difficult road to the cross with him.

I will walk with my fellow disciples even if it means journeying with Jesus to the cross.

Let us walk with Jesus as he leads us in to real life, a life that transforms us into the light of the world.

I will walk with my fellow disciples to join the journey of Jesus today!

*GATHERING SONG

"All Are Welcome"

see screen

CONFESSION

Gracious Lord God, we want to be your faithful followers but life seems to get in the way. We are busy people with busy lives and like the disciples we fall away.

We deny you, we betray you, and we abandon you for other things. Forgive us for not seeing you as the Light of the world.

Gracious Lord God, we are afraid of what your call to the cross may mean for our lives. Have mercy on us and forgive us.

Help us to open our ears, our hearts and our minds to hear your call - and receive your acceptance, forgiveness and love.

SONG OF MERCY

"Take My Life, That I May Be" vs 1,3,5

ELW 685

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Jesus takes our lives and sets us free to be the people God created us to be. Let us trust in His promise that we are accepted, forgiven and loved children of God so that our light may shine for all the world to see.

I am an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God and I am ready to let my light shine for all the world to see!

*SONG OF PRAISE

“The Journey of Praise”

see screen

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, **with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS (PB- Pew Bible)

Isaiah 51:1-6 (PB pg. 756 - Old Testament)

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

Psalms 138 (please read responsively)

Romans 12:1-8 (PB pg. 168 - New Testament)

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

*Gospel Acclamation

“Thy Word”

see screen

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

Matthew 16:13-20 (PB pg. 18 - New Testament)

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

SERMON

Pastor Jamie Desai

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Church’s One Foundation” vs 1-3

ELW 654

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

see screen

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

“Doxology”

see screen

*SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW pg. 144

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 pow’r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna.**

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*THE LORD’S PRAYER

ELW pg. 145

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

Cyndi Hill

“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

“Faith of Our Fathers”

ELW 812

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

POSTLUDE

We depart to serve the Lord

Serving Today

Greeters/Ushers: *Damon & Brenda Bong*
Lector: *Mary Johnson*
Coffee: *Brenda Stearns, Damon & Brenda Bong*
Keyboard & Vocals: *Cyndi Hill*
Vocals: *Julie May*

Attendance

Attendance: 8/16 137 29+ online

Offering: 8/2 \$3,266.00

8/9 \$5,533.00

8/16 \$9,665.00

Mission Plan monthly
\$24,295.67

The Week Ahead: August 24-30, 2026

Monday, August 24

Pastor's Sabbath

Tuesday, August 25

10:30am - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, August 26

1:00pm - Quilters

Thursday, August 27

1:00pm - Sheyenne Valley

Memory Café

Sunday, August 30

9:30am - Worship Service

10:30am - Coffee Fellowship

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.



This is our new Faith Lutheran Church Logo! Alyssa Wilmes entered her design into our logo contest and this is the one that received the most votes. We did a few changes to it and it looks great! Thank you to everyone who submitted designs. They were all great and it was hard to choose.

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.



Rally Sunday is Sunday, September 13th!

We are excited to welcome back all the kids for the 2026-2027 Sunday School year! We welcome any child who is 4 years old or close to being 4 up to kids who are going to be 6th graders to come on Sunday mornings 10:45-11:45am. There is a link on the church website: www.faithlutheranvc.org, click on Ministries then Education to register your kids. If you have any questions, please contact Wendi Wilmes, Sunday School Coordinator at FLC. Her email is wendi.wilmes@gmail.com. **We are in need of 3 Sunday School Teachers for this coming school year!** If you feel a calling to help out at Sunday School, please contact Wendi!



Kids Club!—We begin Kids Club for this school year on **Wednesday, September 9th!**

All 4th-6th grade kids are welcome to join our afterschool program. Invite a friend to join you!

Kids Club meets Wednesdays from **3:15-5pm**.

Wendi picks the kids up from Washington School at 3:15pm with the church van and parents pick them up from Faith at 5pm.

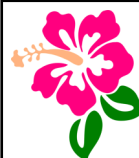
Noisy Offering—Backpack Program. We received \$333.64 from our noisy offering last Sunday for the Backpack Program! Thank you for your generous giving! Your change & dollar bills continue to make a difference!



Confirmation Info for 7th-9th Graders—
A Parent/Student Meeting will be held on
Wednesday, September 9th at 6:30pm here
at Faith to discuss the year. Faith Lutheran,
Our Savior's Lutheran and Trinity Lutheran will
join together for the confirmation sessions on
Wednesday evenings. We are looking for **Small**
Group Leaders for Confirmation so if you are interested please
talk to Wendi.



Sock Sundays—During the month of September the
Mission Team is collecting new socks for both
children and adults for the Abused Persons Outreach
Center. There are families that need to leave their
homes in a hurry and may not be able to even
remember to bring socks so we are able to help them. A container
will be in the gathering area for you to place them in.



Thank you to everyone who helped make
our Back to School Luau a success!
We are thankful for all who made goodies
for the cake walk! Thank you to the youth and
adults who helped with the cake walk and in the
fellowship hall! The food was delicious and the
conversations were great! Thank you Evangelism
Team for your hard work and planning for the Luau!



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; Maureen Walch; Doug Kratz; Verlynn Christianson;
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

Office phone: 701-845-4390

Office Email: office@faithlutheranvc.org

Wendi Wilmes - Coordinator of Youth and Sunday School Ministry -

Email - wendi.wilmes@gmail.com

Website: www.faithlutheranvc.org

Facebook Page: Faith Lutheran Church Valley City

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

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.



Sheyenne Valley Memory Café—Thursday, August 27,
1-3pm here at Faith. The topic will be "Leave a Legacy, Not a
Chore", presented by Professional Organizer, Ashley Strukel.
Sheyenne Valley Memory Café is a great way to meet with other
people who are experiencing memory loss or are caregivers with
memory loss issues.