



**“If any want to become
my followers, let them
deny themselves and
take up their cross
and follow me.”**

Matthew 16:24, NRSV

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

309 Fourth Street Northeast

Valley City, North Dakota

Pastor: Jamie Desai

Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 30, 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 love be genuine

Hold fast to what is good.

Rejoice in Hope

Have patience in serving.

Persevere in patience

Extend hospitality to the stranger.

Live in harmony with one another.

*GATHERING SONG

"Gather Us In" vs 1,3,4

ELW 532

*CONFESSION OF SIN

ELW pg. 95

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

SONG OF MERCY

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" vs 1,2,4

ELW 631

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

ELW pg. 96

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE

“God of the Sparrow” vs 1,3,5

ELW 740

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, **we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS (PB- Pew Bible)

Jeremiah 15:15-21 (PB pg. 798 - Old Testament)

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

Psalms 26:1-8 (please read responsively)

Romans 12:9-21 (PB pg. 169 - 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 16th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

Matthew 16:21-28 (PB pg. 18 - New Testament)

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

SERMON

Pastor Jamie Desai

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

ELW 798

*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. 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

“Shout to the Lord”

ELW 821

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

POSTLUDE

We depart to serve the Lord

Serving Today

Greeters: Mary Johnson, Nancy Knutson
Ushers: Damon & Brenda Bong
Lector: Nancy Knutson
Coffee: Mary Johnson, Kathy Burke, Damon & Brenda Bong
Keyboard & Vocals: Cyndi Hill
Vocals: Julie May

Attendance

Attendance: 8/23 88 15+ online

Offering: 8/2 \$3,266.00
8/9 \$5,533.00
8/16 \$9,665.00
8/23 \$3,113.00

Mission Plan monthly
\$24,295.67

The Week Ahead: August 31-September 6, 2026

Monday, August 31

Pastor's Sabbath

Tuesday, September 1

10:30am - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, September 2

1:00pm - Quilters

Thursday, September 3

Quilting Class

Friday, September 4

Quilting Class

Sunday, September 6

9:30am - Worship Service

10:30am - Coffee Fellowship



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.



Our sympathies to Joe & Reneé Martin. Joe's brother, **Ron Martin**, died on Monday, August 24th. His funeral will be Thursday, September 10th at 11am at Hope Lutheran North Campus in Fargo.



God's work.
Our hands.

Attention all cookie bakers:

We are again planning to participate in the ELCA mission of God's Work Our Hands. This year we are asking our bakers of the congregation to again help in baking your delicious cookies. We ask if you would bring a dozen or two cookies to the church **by Friday, September 11**. If you want to put 4-6 in a bag that would be great but if not, we will put them in individual bags at the church. They will then be distributed in the community on Sunday, September 13. Stay tuned for more information to come on delivering the cookies.



Rally Sunday is Sunday, September 13th!

People of all ages join us for Faith's Rally Sunday Carnival starting at 10:45am! We will have a donut walk, BINGO, and carnival style games!

After the carnival is over at 11:45am, people of

all ages stay for lunch to celebrate all the kids coming back to Sunday School! 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 2 Sunday School Teachers for this coming school year!**

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.



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.

Sunday, September 30th 3rd graders will be receiving their first reader Bibles during the 9:30am worship service. Pastor Jamie will then be leading a class about the Bible for our 3rd grade students and a parent or another adult family member at 10:45am (during Sunday School). This way the kids will get to use their new Bibles to learn how to use their Bibles. Parents, a letter will be mailed out with information also.



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.



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

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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.



The family of LeeAnn Peterson would like to thank everyone for their kindness and sympathy shown during the time of her passing.