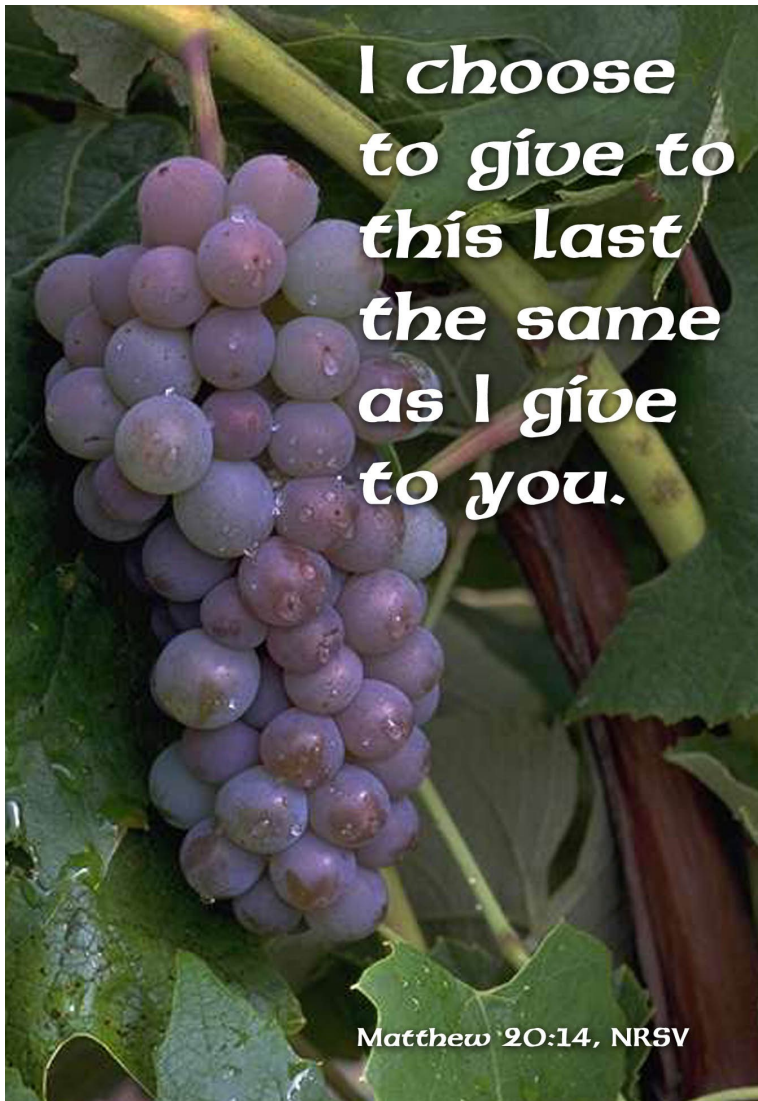




**I choose
to give to
this last
the same
as I give
to you.**

Matthew 20:14, 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

**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost September 20, 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, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come join the journey of Jesus today!

We come in our different ways, walking in our own styles and our own speeds.

Come join the journey of Jesus today.

We come walking into the truth of who we are and who God is.

Come join the journey of Jesus today.

We come walking with God who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

*GATHERING HYMN

"All Are Welcome"

see screen

CONFESSION OF SIN

We confess that we have misused the earth. **Forgive us Lord.**

We confess that we are driven to get more of this world's goods than we need and are tempted to seek security in our possessions. **Forgive us Lord.**

We confess that we are often insensitive to the needs of those around us and unwilling to share your blessings freely with others. **Forgive us Lord.**

We confess that we follow our own dreams instead of Christ, that we trust our own will rather than yours, that we live as though the world revolves around us.

Forgive us Lord.

Hear us for the sake of Jesus, your Chosen One.

Reclaim us in Christ's love, breathe into us your Holy Spirit that we may be strengthened to live as your sons and your daughters. Amen.

SONG OF MERCY

“Majesty”

see screen

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the Good News of Jesus today. In the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ you have been made a new creation. You are an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God.

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

SONG OF PRAISE

“10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)”

see screen

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, **you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS (PB- Pew Bible)

Jonah 3:10-4:11 (PB pg. 960 - Old Testament)

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

Psalms 145:1-8 (please read responsively)

Philippians 1:21-30 (PB pg. 209 - 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 20th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

Matthew 20:1-16 (PB pg. 22 - New Testament)

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

SERMON

Pastor Jamie Desai

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy ”

ELW 588

*APOSTLES’ CREED

ELW pg. 127

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

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY

“Thank You for the Gift”

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 Hymns: **“You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”**

ELW 484

“Here Is Bread”

ELW 483

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

ELW 765

You Are My All in All” (chorus)

see screen

*BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*SENDING SONG **“Rise Up, O Saints of God!”** vs 1,3,5

ELW 669

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

POSTLUDE

We depart to serve the Lord

Serving Today

Greeters: Jack & Val Moritz
Ushers: Don & Kathy Schlotman
Lector: Don Schlotman
Coffee: Kaila Cooley, Margie Lima, Paulette Everson
Keyboard & Vocals: Cyndi Hill
Vocals: Julie May

Attendance

Attendance: 9/13 130 62+ online

Offering: 9/6 \$4,881.00
9/13 \$5,122.00

Mission Plan monthly
\$24,295.67

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 Cindy Knudson, Miranda Erickson, Kaila Cooley & families. **Brandon Erickson**, Cindy's grandson, Miranda's brother & Kaila's nephew, died Wednesday, September 9, 2026. His Celebration of Life was here at Faith on Friday, September 18 with Pastor Jamie officiating.

Noisy Offering—We will be receiving a noisy offering **today for the Access for All Program**. This program provides free services for students in need of professional clinical counseling. The kids will come around with their pails to collect your loose change and dollar bills. Your generosity continues to make a difference!

The Week Ahead: September 21-27, 2026

Monday, September 21

Pastor's Sabbath

Tuesday, September 22

10:30am - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, September 23

1:00pm - Quilters

3:15pm - Kids Club

6:30pm - Confirmation at FLC

Thursday, September 24

1:00pm - Sheyenne Valley

Memory Café

Friday, September 25

Castaway Club Retreat

Saturday, September 26

Castaway Club Retreat

EaND Synodical Women Fall

Convention at Kulm, ND

Sunday, September 27

3rd Grade Bible Presentation

Out of the Darkness Walk

9:30am - Worship Service

10:30am - Coffee Fellowship

10:45am - Sunday School

10:45am - 3rd Grade

Student/Parent Bible Class



Sunday, September 27th 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 was mailed out with information. If you have a 3rd grader and didn't receive a letter please let Julie in the office know.



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.

2026 Fall EaND Synodical Women of the ELCA Convention is Saturday, September 26 at Zion Lutheran Church in Kulm, ND. Registration at 8:30am and begins at 9:30am. To register contact Jeanne Wobbema, 701-230-8745. Meal is \$15 (payable at door).



Valley City Out of the Darkness Community Walk—September 27 at VCSU. Check in will start at 2pm at McFarland lawn on VCSU near the gazebo and the event will begin at 3pm.

Walkers can register at afsp.org/ValleyCity. You can also make a monetary donation on this site. Suicide is a leading cause of death in the United States and the 9th leading cause of death in North Dakota, yet suicide can often be prevented. Volunteers from Valley City are joining the thousands of people who are gathering this season in towns across the U.S. to promote suicide prevention. This gathering will support the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's education, research and support for survivors of suicide loss. In addition to raising awareness and funds to fight suicide, the walks give those who attend a chance to connect with others and know they are not alone, whether they walk in memory or in support of a loved one or in honor of their own mental health journey.

Influenza Clinic—Wednesday, October 7, 12:30-1:30pm at Faith Lutheran in Fireside Room. City-County Health District will be administering Influenza High-dose and conventional Flu vaccine which will be available for ages 6 months thru adult. They will also have the COVID-19 vaccine available. **You must bring your insurance card**—(Medicare Part B (or other Medicare Advantage Plan), Medicaid, Aetna, BCBS, Sanford Health, Preferred One, Medica (not Select Care), Health Partners/Cigna or United Health Care cards with you and these entities can be billed. CCHD cannot bill any other private health insurer for adults. For any questions, contact CCHD at 701-845-8518. There is a signup sheet on the table.



LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

SMP Health - St. Raphael:—Marlys Freadhoff; Mark Hill; Diane Kohn; Paula Krall; Arlene Larson; Laurette Zachrison.

General Prayer List:—Peggy Scherling (Elaine Wall's niece); 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; 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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Website: www.faithlutheranvc.org

Facebook Page: Faith Lutheran Church Valley City

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.

Sheyenne Valley Memory Café will meet **Thursday, September 24, 1-3pm** at Faith. The program will be Woodworker/Storyteller Jerry Ness. This is a free and supportive space for individuals with memory loss and their care partners to connect with others.

A friendly reminder to all parents and children who use the nursery/playroom. Please make sure to put all toys back at the end of church each Sunday. Help keep our church nursery/playroom clean and ready for the next group of children to play. Thank you very much.