

“BY WHAT
AUTHORITY
ARE YOU
DOING
THESE THINGS?”

MATTHEW 21:23, NIV

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

309 Fourth Street Northeast
Valley City, North Dakota

Pastor: Jamie Desai

Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 27, 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.

*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

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world.

You alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Most High.

Worthy is Christ the Lamb, whose blood set us free to be the people of God.

For you are gracious and merciful,

Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

*GATHERING HYMN

"All Are Welcome" vs 1,3,4

ELW 641

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Gracious Lord God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SONG OF MERCY

"Jesus, Name Above All Names"

see screen

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

God promises to forgive us and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven and you are an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God.

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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of love, giver of life, **you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S WORD**SCRIPTURE READINGS (PB- Pew Bible)**

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 (PB pg. 873 - Old Testament)

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

Psalms 25:1-9 (please read responsively)

Philippians 2:1-13 (PB pg. 210 - New Testament)

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

Gospel Acclamation*“Thy Word”**

see screen

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

Matthew 21:23-32 (PB pg. 24- New Testament)

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

SERMON

Pastor Jamie Desai

HYMN OF THE DAY*“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”**

ELW 674

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe God is our creator and he promised to love us always. We believe Jesus Christ, fully God, fully human experienced all the pain and joy and challenges of human life. God’s forgiving love was revealed to us when Jesus suffered death on the cross. He came back to new life and has promised us new life in unity with God. We believe the Holy Spirit is God’s promise touching our spirits, guiding us—even through the darkest and most difficult moments of our lives. We believe God is among us in community. Mysterious, yet very real, God promises to be with us always, even to the end of the age.

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

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY

“In the Singing”

ELW 466

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 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:

“Come, Let Us Eat”

ELW 491

“We Come to the Hungry Feast”

ELW 483

“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”

ELW 494

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

“The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”

ELW 538

*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,

Jocelyn Jorissen, Samantha Schlotman

Lector:

Kay Bostrom

Coffee:

Jody Svenningsen, Kathy Schlotman,

Val Moritz, Connie Ronholm

Keyboard & Vocals:

Cyndi Hill

Attendance

Attendance: 9/20 106 26+ online

Offering: 9/6 \$4,881.00

9/13 \$5,122.00

9/20 \$2,190.00

Mission Plan monthly

\$24,295.67

The Week Ahead: September 28-October 4, 2026

Monday, September 28

Pastor's Sabbath

Tuesday, September 29

10:30am - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, September 30

1:00pm - Quilters

3:15pm - Kids Club

6:30pm - Confirmation at FLC

Thursday, October 1

Quilting Class

Friday, October 2

Quilting Class

Saturday, October 3

Epworth's UMC Autumn Market

Sunday, October 4

9:30am - Worship Service

10:30am - Coffee Fellowship

10:45am - Sunday School

11:00am - 10th Grade

Confirmants meet with Pr Jamie

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.



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.



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. 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.

Thanks to your generosity we received \$186.26 for the **Access for All Program!** This program provides free services for students in need of professional clinical counseling.

The Fall Festival is Saturday, October 10th! The WELCA ladies will be setting up Friday afternoon, October 10. Please bring your priced baked goods, candies, crafts, baskets, etc. Friday afternoon or by 9am on Saturday. The bake sale suggested price lists are located on the table in the gathering area as well as labels you can use. **We will need volunteers to help with the set up and the Fall Festival so if you would like to help it would be greatly appreciated!** If you would like to make a monetary donation that would be great! Thank you!

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.

Epworth United Methodist Autumn Market—Saturday, October 3, 11am-1pm. Soup and Sandwich Lunch. Gift Baskets, Wreaths, Paintings, Baked Goods, Kuchen, “New to You” Room & More!

St. Mary’s Fall Supper—Sunday, October 4, 4-7pm at St. Mary’s Catholic Church, 6 miles east of Dazey. Enjoy a delicious meal of turkey, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, dressing, homemade sauerkraut, cranberries, rolls, dessert and coffee. Meal prices: Adults \$15 | Ages 6-12 \$ | Ages 5 & under free. Takeout meals will be available, and a chair lit is available on site. Be sure to check out the unique gift baskets for sale and Oliver’s Pumpkin Patch while you’re there!



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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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.

Heros on the Road Donation Drive comes to Valley City!

Wednesday, September 30, 1:30-3:30pm at SMP Health St. Raphael. They will be accepting donations of medical supplies & equipment such as walkers, canes, wheelchairs, crutches, rollators, bath aid equipment, incontinence supplies, wound care supplies and more. For more information call 701-212-1921. HERO stands for Healthcare Equipment Recycling Organization.