



As long
as I am
in the
WORLD,
I am the
LIGHT
of the
WORLD.

John 9:5

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

309 Fourth Street Northeast
Valley City, North Dakota

Interim Pastor: Jamie Desai

Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 19, 2023

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come join the journey of Jesus to the cross.

We have come to encounter Jesus at the cross.

Come witness the One who makes the blind see and the deaf hear.

We have come to see the One who heals the brokenhearted.

Come join the journey of Jesus to the cross.

*GATHERING SONG

"Here I Am to Worship"

see screen

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious Lord God, we come before you this morning as people who are broken physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

We pray for your healing touch. Restored us to wholeness and may we let go of the sins that have wounded us.

Heal us Oh Lord and make us the people you created us to be.

SONG OF MERCY

"Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery" vs 1.2

ELW 334

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Though we fall short of the glory of God in the things we do and, in the things, we fail to do, God still says to us; You are an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God!

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

*SONG OF PRAISE

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

ELW 815

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Noisy Offering –APOC

SCRIPTURE READINGS (PB- Pew Bible)

1 Samuel 16:1-13 (PB pg. 288 - Old Testament)

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

Psalms 23 (please read responsively)

Ephesians 5:8-14 (PB pg. 207 - New Testament)

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

*Gospel Acclamation **“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”** ELW 512

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 9th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

John 9:1-41 (PB pg. 105 - New Testament)

Narrator - Taylor Yanish Jesus - Abby Wilmes

Blind Man - Owen Tichy Pharisees - Grady Samuelson

Disciples/Parents - Alyssa Wilmes Neighbors - Brenna Storly

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

SERMON

Pastor Jamie Desai

*HYMN OF THE DAY **“Blest Are They”** vs 1-3 ELW 728

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 **“As the Grains of Wheat”**

ELW 465

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: **“Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am”**

ELW 814

“Come to the Table”

ELW 481

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

ELW 779

“You Are My All in All” (chorus)

see screen

*BLESSING

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 **“Go My Children, with My Blessing”**

ELW 543

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

POSTLUDE

We depart to serve the Lord

Serving Today

Greeter: Mazie Ludwig
Ushers: Mikkal & Wanda Auka
Lector: Ellie Altringer
Acolyte: Morgan Larson
Kitchen: Jenna Mairs, Dave & Lara Mairs
Keyboard & Vocals: Cyndi Hill

Attendance & Offering

Attendance: 3/12 51 68+ online views
3/15 (Lent) 57 48+online views

Offering: 3/5 \$4,817.00
3/12 \$3,075.00

Mission Plan monthly
\$21,265.25

The Week Ahead: March 20-26, 2023

Monday, March 20

Pastor's Sabbath
Spring Begins

Tuesday, March 21

10:30am - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, March 22

1:00pm - Quilters
1:30pm - FLC Staff Meeting
3:15pm - Faith Kids Club
5:30pm - Meal Served—Free-will offering
6:30pm - Lenten Service

Sunday, March 26

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.



+ LENT MIDWEEKS 2023 +

Lenten Services—Throughout Lent we will serve a freewill offering meal **5:30-6:15pm**. The Mission Team will be preparing & serving the meal of Chili & Fixin's on March 22nd. Lenten services will be at **6:30pm**. This year's theme is **"I Love to Tell the Story"**. Each week the ELCA pastors will rotate to a different church. Holy Week each of the pastors will be at their home church. The pastors participating are Pr. Jamie, Pr Kyle (Our Savior's), Pr Diane (Trinity) and Pr Sharayah (Parishes in Fingal, Nome & Kathryn). This Wednesday, March 22nd, Pastor Diane will be leading the Lenten service here at Faith. We look forward to worshipping together. We will be live-streaming the Lenten services on our Facebook page.

Noisy Offering—Today, **Sunday, March 19** we will receive a noisy offering for APOC (Abused Persons Outreach Center). The kids will be collecting the noisy offering during the Children's Message time. Your loose change & dollar bills continue to make a difference!



We will be adorning our altar with **Easter Lilies** on Easter Sunday, April 9—If you would like to contribute a cash donation (suggested \$20 donation, med/lg size) towards their purchase in memory or in honor of a loved one, a sign up sheet is in the gathering area. **Deadline to sign up is Friday, March 31.** We will put the names of your loved ones in the Easter bulletin. Other plants and flowers are very welcome in our Easter garden.



WELCA will be collecting items for **Personal Health Kits** for Lutheran World Relief through Lent. There is a great need for them.

Items for the health kits are:

1 - light weight bath towel (between 20"x40" and 52"x27")

1 - adult size toothbrush in it's original packaging

1 - metal fingernail clipper, remove packaging

1 - sturdy comb, remove packaging

2 or 3 bath-size bars of soap, 8 or 9 oz in original wrapping

A container is in the gathering area for these items.

Thrivent Financial will be available here at Faith after the service to help people designate their Thrivent Choice Dollars to FLC. Thrivent Financial members the deadline to direct your 2022 Choice Dollars expires on **March 31st**. You may also go to thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836 to make your choices for your Choice Dollars. Thank you everyone who designates their Thrivent Choice Dollars to Faith Lutheran!

We are happy that your children enjoy playing in the nursery. If you would check the nursery when your children are through playing to see if the toys are put away, it would be appreciated. Thank you!

Bea Faust will be 90 on April 5th! In lieu of a big party, the family would like to invite you to send her a card or call at 701-760-5470. Dan and Bea will be moving this Tuesday, March 21 to be closer to 3 of their children. This is their new address: Bea Faust, Apt 132 The Glenn, 5300 Woodhill Rd, Minnetonka, MN 55345.



LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

SMP Health - St. Raphael:—Clara Bredeson; Mark Hill; Mavis Johnson; Diane Kohn; Laurette Zachrison.

General Prayer List:—Dan & Bea Faust; Verna Anderson; Paul Vangerud; Sandy Mulvaney; Tara Thumb; Doug Altringer; Sue Olson; Samuel Hill (Cyndi & Mark Hill's grandson); Anita Scholz; Lori Hill (Tami Kratz's sister); Rory Mulvaney; Arleen Retzlaff; Mary Schram (Becky Kratz' mother).

Contact Info

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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 say you may place in the offering plates that say you give electronically.

The cards are located on the table in the back of the sanctuary.



41st Annual Valley City Lions Ham & Beef Supper—
Tuesday, March 21 at the VC Eagles Club. Serving **4:30-7pm**. Tickets are Adults - \$15, Students (age 6-12) \$7, Preschool (5 & under) Free. Takeout is available. Proceeds for local charities.