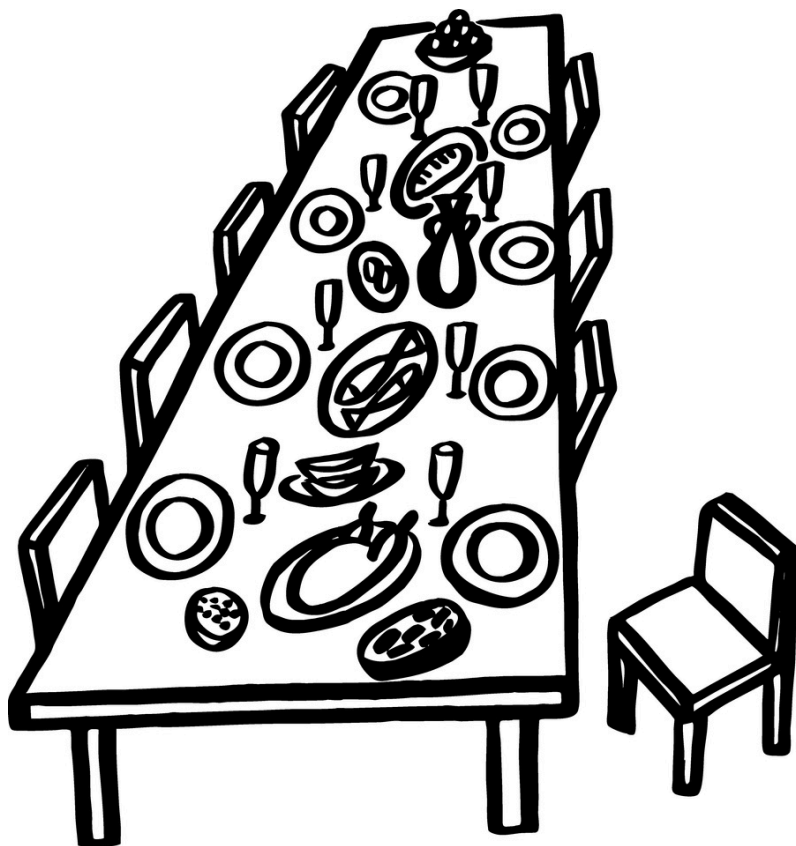


Sunday, August 31, 2025
12th Sunday after Pentecost



Faith Lutheran Church

Mission Statement

*"Building a welcoming, nurturing faith community that
is guided by Jesus and shares the Gospel."*

MINISTERS
SENIOR PASTOR
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Every Member
Derek Harkins
Sylvia Bull

1402 E Ave C Bismarck, ND 58501
Pastoral Care Emergency Number: 701-595-0223

faithbismarck.com
701-223-2236

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 819 "Come, All You People" *

BAPTISM OF EMERY CARLSON

GREETING

KYRIE & HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW Setting 10, pg 203-204 *

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Word: God speaks to us through scripture reading, preaching and song.

READINGS: see next page

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW Setting 10, pg. 205 *

GOSPEL READING: see next page

CHILDREN'S SERMON & SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 523 "Let Us Go Now to the Banquet" *

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING MOMENT

Meal: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING & HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: ELW Setting 10, pg. 207 *

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMNS:

LAMB OF GOD: ELW Setting 10, pg. 208 *

ELW 461 "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" *

ELW 464 "Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal" *

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Sending: God blesses us and sends us into the world to love and serve our neighbors.

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: ELW 712 "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" *

DISMISSAL

**ELW = Red Hymnal; ACS = Purple Hymnal*

GOING DEEPER

- What is on your heart as you come to worship today?
- What connected with you in the sermon today?
- What challenged you?
- What prayers are on your heart today?
- What nourishment do you need from Jesus for the days ahead?
- What will you carry with you from worship this week?

READING(S)

First Reading: *Proverbs 25:6-7a*

Second Reading: *Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16*

Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

Gospel Reading: *Luke 14:1, 7-14*

The Holy Gospel according to the Luke, the 14th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Monday - Prayer of the Day

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Tuesday - Connections with the Liturgy

Several of the prayers before and after Holy Communion (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, pp. 107, 114, 64, 65) make explicit the Christian conviction that "offerings," that is "sacrifices," are now given not to the deities, but to all in need, "those who hunger in any way."

Wednesday - Especially for Children

Talk about who gets invited to birthday parties, and who does not. Does your family have rules about how many guests can be invited? Yet on Sunday morning, anyone who comes is welcome to sit with us, to sing our songs, to exchange the peace, to be washed with baptism, and to come to the table.

Thursday - Connections with Creation

In climate-justice discussions, we must ask ourselves, “Who is not at the table?” For those in the Global North, we miss the most devastating impacts of climate change and the most ingenious solutions when we don’t listen to those most impacted—people who are poor or oppressed and those in the Global South. When Jesus teaches us that “all who humble themselves will be exalted” (Luke 14:11), he does not mean this in a worldly sense, wherein exaltation means possessing the power to exploit others. Instead, the humble are exalted in what liberation theologians call God’s “preferential option for the poor,” who have unique insights about God and God’s justice. Christ urges us to include all at the table, especially the people most harmed.

Friday - Reflection on the Gospel Reading

Christ’s call is to countercultural behavior: the society is hierarchical, but the church is to enact a surprising acceptance of the poor, to give to others with no expectation of return. Jesus is the model, who gave himself all the way to death, and who was indeed repaid in his resurrection.

Saturday - Hymn of the Day

The contemporary hymn writer Marty Haugen has provided a fine hymn for this Sunday. “Gather Us In” (ELW 532) presents opposites—“the lost and forsaken, the rich and the haughty”—which will be sure to include all of us and all those who might come into our assemblies. The banquets that Luke describes are taking place now.



CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **\$6,743.83** for the week of **August 24th**!

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Roberta Modin, in memory of Robert and Ramona Sletten.

Thank you!

The **Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 1st** in honor of Labor Day.

We celebrate the **baptism of Emery Carlson**, child of Casey and KennaDee Carlson, with Dustin and Allison Carlson as sponsors. **Welcome to our church family, child of God!**

We will be returning to our **Fall Worship Hours**, 8:30am and 11am services, **next Sunday, September 7th**.

Mark you calendars for **Rally Day!** Join us **next Wednesday, September 3rd and Sunday, September 7th** for the start of the Church School year! Registration forms available now and Church School Handbook will be available soon at faithbismarck.com/forms!

Our **Knit/Crochet Group will now be meeting on Thursday, September 4th at 6pm**. Please join if you would like to spend more time with other knit/crochet enthusiasts, would like to work on a project of your own, would like to pick up patterns or yarn to make hats for non-profits, or would just like more information!

Sign-ups for the Rice Pudding booth at Downtown Street Fair on **Friday, September 12th and Saturday, September 13th** are now available! You can find them in the Gathering Place, next to the Coffee Hour table. We need volunteers to cook, work at the booth, and drive between the church and the fair. Many hands make light work, so please consider signing up!

Please join us **on Thursday, September 11th for a Scripture Circle led by U.S. Jones, III**! This powerful method of studying scripture focuses on details and connections across Scripture. The event, **hosted at Lord of Life Lutheran (1143 N 26th Street, Bismarck), will start with a light dinner at 5pm, and then study from 5:45pm-8pm**. A free-will offering will be taken if you feel moved to help supplement the speaker fee. Look out for **other Scripture Circle opportunities** on October 9th (at Trinity Lutheran, 502 N 4th St, Bismarck), with more opportunities coming soon!

Sign-ups available now for **Serving the Banquet on Thursday, September 18th!** We need volunteers to serve from 4pm to 8pm, and to bake and bring bars. Look for sign-ups next to the Coffee Fellowship table.

It's pumpkin patch time! **October 4th is Faith Family Day at Papa's Pumpkin Patch.** We have a shelter reserved from 3p-6pm. **Free Admission passes** will be available to pick up at the church offices after September 15th. Once you sign up, you will receive your passes! **Food and beverages will be provided at the shelter.** We will also have the church bus available for those that cannot drive. Hope to see you all there!

Join the Alzheimer's Association on **Saturday, October 11th at the Capitol for the Walk to End Alzheimer's.** Money raised will go to the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. Register today at alz.org/walks.

The **FLC Scholarship Committee** is pleased to announce the **2025 recipients** of \$500, for tuition at the university of their choice, chosen based on being active members of FLC and their community: **Madison Wutzke, Connor Dykema, and Hailey Dykema.** Congratulations to these amazing students! We ask that you **prayerfully consider contributing monetarily or joining the FLC Scholarship Committee,** so we can continue to assist FLC youth. Our committee and our scholarship award recipients appreciate your prayers and contributions!

Message and Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Music: Dmytro Somkin

Worship Assistants:

Team 4: Andy Steiner, Amy Steiner, Hadley Steiner, Collins Steiner, Lincoln Steiner, Ann Schlafman, Kayla Mahowald, Sue Rydberg, Lisa Bennett

CALENDAR

Monday, September 1

Labor Day

Church Office Closed

7:00 AA

Tuesday, September 2

9:00 Quilting

2:00 Crafts

6:00 Compass Group

7:00 Executive Committee

Wednesday, September 3

Rally Day!

10:00 Bible Study

5:30 BLAST Meal

6:00 Church School and
Confirmation

7:00 Worship

Thursday, September 4

9:00 Esther Circle

6:00 Knit & Crochet Group

Friday, September 5

6:00 Bis-Man Middle/High School
Mock-in (Peace Lutheran)

8:00 NA

Saturday, September 6

Sunday, September 7

Rally Day!

8:30 Worship

9:45 Church School

11:00 Worship

4:00 Cub Scouts

MISSION Focus



AUGUST: LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS

Throughout the year, our Quilters collect items to put in Personal Care, School and Baby Kits, sent to people in need around the world through Lutheran World Relief. Full lists are available on the Concierge Table and under our Serve tab on our website, but they are currently running low on shirts and t-shirts for boy and girls, size 6 month to 24 months, notebooks, pens, rulers, crayons and scissors.

Thank you for your generosity!

If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you... you should open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Deut. 15:7-8