

**Sunday, August 24, 2025**  
**11th 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](http://faithbismarck.com)

701-223-2236

# **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING HYMN: ELW 522 "As We Gather at Your Table" \***

**BAPTISM OF BROOKS WAYNE KUHNERT**

## **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 705 "God of Grace and God of Glory" \***

## **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 614 "There is a Balm in Gilead" \***

**ELW 612 "Healer of Our Every Ill" \***

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

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

## **BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN: ELW 710 "Let Streams of Living Justice" \***

## **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:** *Isaiah 58:9b-14*

**Second Reading:** *Psalms 103: 1-8*

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all God's benefits—  
who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases;  
who redeems your life from the grave  
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;  
who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

O Lord, you provide vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.

You made known your ways to Moses  
and your works to the children of Israel.

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

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

**Gospel Reading:** *Luke 13:10-17*

The Holy Gospel according to the Luke, the 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus

saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

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

## **WEEKLY DEVOTIONS**

### **Monday - Prayer of the Day**

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### **Tuesday - Connections with the Liturgy**

Jesus speaks of the sabbath as a day to set captives free. In the Confession and Forgiveness at the outset of Sunday worship (ELW, p. 95), we admit that since we remain captive to sin, we need Christ to free us from this bondage.

### **Wednesday - Let the Children Come**

The societal pressure to engage in all the kids' activities often dictates a household's busyness, especially once you have school-aged kids. They start their days early and end them late, moving from one activity to the other. Think about what sabbath looks like for you and your family. Ask the kids in your life some of the following questions: "What's something you do that is calm and relaxing for you? What's your favorite way to spend time with your family? What are some ways you can spend time with God each week? What's a fun or thoughtful way for you to

show kindness this week?" Add thirty to sixty seconds of silence or calming breath work into your routine a few times a day. Kids can oversee starting and ending your moment of silence. Or kids can lead and model taking deep breaths before transitions, prayer, or other tasks throughout the day.

### **Thursday - Connections with Creation**

The sabbath—the theme of both Luke and Isaiah today—is a promise of rest intended for humanity and all creation. The Torah demands that all humans, as well as livestock and fields, receive rest. This rest is intended as a sign of God's love for the whole earth. Isaiah acknowledges this implicitly, wherein living justly (including observing the sabbath) restores both drought-stricken places and human neighborhoods. Jesus, teaching according to traditional Jewish interpretation, admonishes the religious leaders that the sabbath is not a punishment, where human and nonhuman animals are meant to suffer, but a day of freedom for all who suffer. In preaching about the sabbath, it is important that we—living in a climate crisis—remember rest for the earth too.

### **Friday - Reflection on the Gospel Reading**

Perhaps, like countless old women throughout time, this woman had osteoporosis. But we all know about the condition of being bowed down by age, infirmity, or distress. In Christ we can stand upright. The sabbath controversy presents us with not only the question of how is God truly honored, but also the picture of Christ who replaces the sabbath, the one who sets us free.

### **Saturday - Hymn of the Day**

A fine eighteenth-century hymn, originally signed by only the letter "K," is "How firm a foundation" (ELW 796). As if we are the bent woman, we give thanks that God has caused us to stand, and we pray for continued strength into our old age.



**CHURCH**  
Announcements

**Thank you** for your offering of **\$12,791.12** for the week of **August 10<sup>th</sup>** and **\$9,037.14** for the week of **August 17<sup>th</sup>!**

**Altar Flowers** for the week are provided by Sandra, Leah and Donovan, in memory of Harry Darling. **Thank you!**

We celebrate the **baptism of Brooks Wayne Kuhnert**, child of Austin and Lexi Kuhnert, with Garret Jacobs and Erika Jacobs as sponsors. **Welcome to our church family, child of God!**

Please join us **on Thursday, September 11th for a Scripture Circle led by U.S. Jones, II!** This powerful method of studying scripture focuses on details and connections across Scripture. The event, **hosted at Lord of Life Lutheran (1143 N 26<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> (at Trinity Lutheran, 502 N 4<sup>th</sup> St, Bismarck), with more opportunities coming soon!

Looking to boost your communication skills and stretch your improvisational muscles? Join us on **Friday, August 29th, from 5:45 to 7:15 PM in the East Room** for a playful, hands-on **workshop in improv comedy and drama.** We'll cover the basics of good improv and create space for laughter, creativity, and connection with others from the church and local community. No experience needed — just a willingness to say “yes, and!” Teenagers are welcome with adult supervision. No RSVP required, but feel free to reach out with questions at [joseph.michalka@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.michalka@gmail.com). And if you missed our first workshop last month, have no fear, newcomers are always welcome.

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!

**Sign-ups for the Rice Pudding booth** at Downtown Street Fair on **Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>** 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!

Join us on **Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> for a Hymn Sing Service** featuring Sounds of Faith and Colleen Reinhardt. Enjoy **special music, starting at 6:30pm**, before service begins. Hope to see you there!

We will be returning to our **Fall Worship Hours**, 8:30am and 11am services, on **Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** (the weekend after Labor Day).

Mark your calendars for **Rally Day!** Join us on **Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** for the start of the Church School year! **Registration forms available now** and Church School Handbook will be available soon at [faithbismarck.com/forms](http://faithbismarck.com/forms)!

Our **Knit/Crochet Group will now be meeting on Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm** (instead of August 28<sup>th</sup>). 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!

**Message: Pastor Sylvia Bull**  
**Liturgy: Pastor Derek Harkins**  
**Music: Dmytro Somkin**

**Worship Assistants:**  
**Team C: Ron Schneider, Mary Schneider, GT Solseth, Erica Solseth, Brendan Solseth, Allen Pedersen, Avis Pedersen, Deb Bensen, Orlin Bensen**

## CALENDAR

### Monday, August 25

5:00 Altar Guild  
7:00 AA

### Tuesday, August 26

9:00 Quilting  
2:00 Crafts  
5:30 Sounds of Faith Practice  
7:00 Scouts

### Wednesday, August 27

10:00 Bible Study  
6:30 Special Music with Sounds of  
Faith and Colleen Reinhardt  
7:00 Worship with Hymn-Sing

### Thursday, August 28

### Friday, August 29

10:30 Bernice Scherer Funeral  
5:45 Improv Workshop  
8:00 NA

### Saturday, August 30

### Sunday, August 31

9:30 Worship

# 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*