

Sunday, October 5, 2025
17th 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 526 "God is Here!" *

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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 808 "Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"*

APOSTLES'S CREED

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 471 "Let Us Break Bread Together" *

ELW 752 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" *

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: ELW 733 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" *

DISMISSAL

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

READING(S)

First Reading: *Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4*

Second Reading: *2 Timothy 1:1-14*

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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

Gospel Reading: *Luke 17:5-10*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 17th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me

while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!' "

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

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Monday - Prayer of the Day

Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Tuesday - Connections with the Liturgy

The Timothy reading speaks of the "laying on of hands." Christians continue the ancient practice of the laying on of hands, first described in the Bible when the dying Isaac blesses his sons (Gen. 48:14). Evangelical Lutheran Worship suggests the laying on of hands in baptism (p. 213), the affirmation of baptism (p. 236), confession and forgiveness (pp. 241, 244), and marriage (p. 289), as well as in several of the occasional services, such as ordination. The gesture evolved from the natural human sign of affection and usually symbolizes a prayer for God to bless the recipient, such as when parents bless their children each morning when they leave for school. Historically especially in ordination, it came also to denote a transfer of power.

Wednesday - Especially for Children

Having faith is a mysterious thing. It is not easy to understand or even describe. Through the decades, the church has tried to label the part of ministry we see to "increase our faith" with a revolving door of names—didache, catechesis, Sunday school, faith formation, growth in faith—as if by finding the right name or curriculum, we could control or harness the wild, mysterious thing of faith. With the bravado of an eight-year-old child with a cape and treehouse, Jesus dares his disciples to find that seed-sized thimble full of trust within, in order to face the seemingly impossible task of renewal, rebirth, and rerooting. How do you contain faith or trust in your space? A butterfly net? A chalice? Music or banner?

Thursday - Connections with Creation

Gardeners are accustomed to dealing with weeds. At this point in the gardening season, some may have given up and succumbed to letting weeds overcome their preferred plantings in spite of their wishes. Such horticultural favoritism of ours makes it all the more striking that Jesus' image of faith is a mustard seed—a small seed that grows into a weed, drawing a gardener's displeasure but harboring life. Some invasive plants and weeds that seem to be taking over your area are indeed quite harmful to the broader environment. But you might also ponder where your own intended plantings disrupt the natural, and even the divine, spread and flow of life.

Friday - Reflection on the Gospel Reading

Today's extreme description of Christian life—lived by “worthless slaves” whose faith cannot possibly be adequate enough—is surprising in Luke. Yet here is also Luke's promise of mercy: Christ, our lord, amazes us by serving us at table.

Saturday - Hymn of the Day

“O Spirit of life” (ELW 405), written by Johann Niedling and first printed in 1651, responds to the final line in the second reading that speaks of the help of the Holy Spirit. The second stanza cites the gospel line, “increase our faith.” The imagery of light in the last stanza recalls the second reading, which speaks of the light of the gospel. Only by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit can we live as 2 Timothy urges us to.



CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **\$6,066.02** for the week of **September 28th!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Robert and Judy Hertz, in memory of Heather Ryberg. **Thank you!**

The **October newsletter is now available** online, and is in the mail! If you would like to pick up a printed copy, you can find some on the table across from the Avenue C entrance.

New to our community? We would love to officially welcome you! Please join us on **Wednesday, October 15th at 6pm or Sunday, October 19th for a New Member Orientation and Wednesday October 22nd or Sunday October 26th during service for our New Member Installation.** Call the front office at (701) 223-2236 to let us know you are interested!

Please join us **on Thursday, October 9th 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 Trinity Lutheran (502 N 4th St, 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 November 11th (at McCabe United Methodist, 1030 N 6th Street, Bismarck), and December 11th (Location TBD), with more opportunities coming soon!

Women of Faith, please join us for our **2025 WELCA Fall Cluster Gathering at Peace Lutheran Church in Lincoln on Saturday, October 11th from 11:30am to 3pm!** The day will consist of lunch, devotion and worship music, discussion of Cluster business, and an **informative presentation by Gregory Loftesnes of the MNND Alzheimer's Association.** We will also be gathering a monetary offering, love gifts consisting of personal care items, cleaning or laundry items for the Community Cupboard in PLC, and a book exchange! Cost of lunch is \$10 a person. Contact Connie Isaak with any questions! Sign-ups available in the Gathering Place.

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. Talk to Lisa Bennett for more information, and register today at alz.org/walks.

Thank you to anyone who has donated time, materials, items for our kits, or monetary amounts. We have had a busy year and could not do any of it without your support. We want to especially thank Loraine Meidinger for her donation of fleece. Many young people in the area will be blessed to have a blanket made from her fleece. Thank you again **from the FLCW Mission Group!**

Looking to boost your communication skills and stretch your improvisational muscles? Join us on **Friday, October 24th from 5:45 to 7:15 PM at Faith Lutheran Church** 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). Newcomers are always welcome!

It's time again for our **annual Pie & Coffee Day!** Please join us on **Saturday, October 25th from 9am-2pm**. Enjoy a pie or other baked good while browsing our rummage sale, handmade crafts and homemade baked goods to bring home (including knoepla and our famous Rice Pudding). Join us from **11:30am-1:30pm for sandwiches and soup served by the youth**, with free-will offering going towards youth programming. We will be **accepting donations** of lightly used items (no clothes or shoes) **starting Thursday, October 23rd**. Please consider **signing up to volunteer** using sheets in the Gathering Place, with various opportunities and shifts provided. We also invite you to **help us make knoepla** (no prior experience needed) on **Thursday, October 16 at 9:30am**. Hope to see you there!

Message: Pastor Sylvia Bull
Liturgy: Pastor Derek Harkins
Music: Judy Kubischta

Worship Assistants:

8:30 - Team H: John Power, Jill Power, Larry Hill, Shelley Hill, Dwight Barden, Connie Barden, Doug Johnson, Betty Johnson

11:00 - Team 3: Aaron Franklund, Jack Skaley, Gail Skaley, Jan Franklund, Les Franklund, Glenn Anderson, Tina Anderson, Carolee Hoffman, LeRoy Anderson, Janice Anderson

CALENDAR

Monday, October 6

7:00 AA

Tuesday, October 7

9:00 Quilting

2:00 Crafts

7:00 Scouts

Wednesday, October 8

10:00 Bible Study

5:30 Handbells

6:00 Church School and
Confirmation

7:00 Worship

Thursday, October 9

2:00 Knit & Crochet Group

5:00 Scripture Circle (Trinity
Lutheran)

7:00 Ruth Circle

Friday, October 10

Newsletter Deadline

8:00 NA

Saturday, October 11

Sunday, October 12

8:30 Worship

9:45 4th Grade P/S

9:45 Church School

11:00 Worship

MISSION Focus

OCTOBER: TRACY'S SANCTUARY HOUSE

Tracy's Sanctuary House is a non-profit that provides temporary sanctuary for out-of-town families during a time when their loved one is facing a medical emergency or life-threatening crisis. They focus on giving families a place of privacy, comfort, and compassion during an extremely difficult time in their lives. This month, we would like to collect gift cards (gas, WalMart, Target, grocery) labelled with the amount, stamps, thank you cards, Kleenex, disinfectant wipes/sprays and household cleaners, to help in their mission.

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

- Galatians 6:2

