

Sunday, February 1, 2026

4th Sunday after Epiphany



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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 519 "Open Your Ears, O Faithful People" *

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

KYRIE: ELW Setting 8, pg. 184 *

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

READINGS: see next page

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW Setting 8, pg 188 *

GOSPEL READING: see next page

CHILDREN'S SERMON & SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 726 "Light Dawns on a Weary World"*

APOSTLES' CREED

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING MOMENT & PRAYER

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

GREAT THANKSGIVING & HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: ELW Setting 8, pg. 190 *

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMNS:

LAMB OF GOD: ELW Setting 8, pg. 191 *

ELW 479 "We Come to the Hungry Feast" *

ELW 494 "For the Bread Which You Have Broken" *

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

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: ELW 595 "Jesus Loves Me" *

DISMISSAL

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

READING(S)

First Reading: *Micah 6:1-8*

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the LORD has a case against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

“With what shall I come before the LORD
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

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

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 1:18-31*

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 5:1-12*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

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

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Monday - Prayer of the Day

Holy God, you confound the world’s wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Tuesday - Connections with the Liturgy

In the oracle from Micah, the Lord asks, “O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!” These words are the inspiration for the

Solemn Reproaches, an optional litany for Good Friday, in which Christ on the cross asks, "O my people, O my church, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me." (Evangelical Lutheran Worship Leaders Edition, pp. 639-641).

Wednesday - Especially for Children

Explain to the children in your life that the word "blessed" also means happy. Television commercials suggest other things that will make us happy. We who are baptized find our deepest happiness not in owning more expensive stuff but in living in mercy and peace. Explain what "mercy" is.

Thursday - Life on the Earth

In today's reading from the prophet Micah, God is asking the mountains to adjudicate between God and those who were unfaithful to the covenant. What if the mountains could adjudicate the story of human conduct concerning the mountains themselves? How are we to do justice to the mountains?

Friday - Reflection on the Gospel Reading

The Beatitudes describe the rigorous values that according to Matthew characterize the Christian life. In the service of the word, we hear Matthew's description of life within God's kingdom, and we turn for forgiveness and renewal in the service of holy communion. Jesus Christ is himself the embodiment of the Beatitudes.

Saturday - Theological Reflection

In the Micah reading, many ways of honoring God in big ways are proposed: burnt offerings with young calves, "thousands of rams, . . . ten thousands of rivers of oil," one's firstborn (6:6-7). But God only asks us to "do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with . . . God" (v. 8). We often think God is most pleased with huge events and activities, when often, small acts of justice and kindness can show others what a humble walk with God is like. In what small and simple ways is God calling your congregation to act with justice and kindness in your surrounding community?



CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **\$6,653.10** for the week of **January 25th!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Brendan Solseth, in memory of Shadow. **Thank you!**

Thank you to **Scout Troop 123** for assisting with worship and providing treats during Coffee Hour on this **Scout Sunday!**

Christmas Ornaments are available for pick-up from the table in the Gathering Place. Thank you for helping decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season!

All experience levels are invited to join us for **Choir Practice on Sundays at 10am** in the East Room!

Registration is open now for the Faith Lutheran BIO Girls group! BIO Girls aims to improve the self-esteem of adolescent girls through service to others and self-empowerment, using a life-skills curriculum and small-group mentoring. The program hosted here will be **Tuesdays from 5:15pm-6:45pm, starting Tuesday, February 17th until May 5th**, with a Finale Event on Sunday, May 3rd. More information and a **link to registration can be found on our Facebook page!**

Join us on **Wednesday, February 4th starting at 6:30 for a Hymn Sing**, featuring Sounds of Faith and Colleen Reinhardt! Come sing along with your favorite hymns.

We are looking for **volunteers to help serve at The Banquet at the Dream Center on Thursday, February 12th**. We also need volunteers to make **unfrosted brownies**. Sign up sheet can be found on the table near the Coffee Fellowship area!

Come on out to an **Interfaith Potluck on Saturday, February 7th from 11:30am to 1pm at Lord of Life Lutheran Church (1143 N 26th St, Bismarck).**

Bring a dish to share from your cultural heritage, and learn how to plarn (weave with plastic yarn) mats for unhoused neighbors in our area. Bring your used plastic grocery bags (no Walmart or Dollar Store bags) to contribute. Come to make new friends, eat great food, and learn something new!

Please join us **Thursday, February 12th 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 (1143 N 26th St), 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 March 12th (McCabe UMC), April 9th, and May 14th!

Ready to hit the slopes? Join us on **Saturday, February 14th from 10am to 5pm for a Huff Hills Ski Day!** Whether you are ready to try something new, or brush up on your skills, we would love to see **people of all ages** enjoying time doing winter activities together. Contact Kenny for more information. Hope to see you there!

Message: Pastor Derek Harkins

Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Music: Dmytro Somkin

Worship Assistants:

Scouts - Joren Kern, Jackson Ferderer, Jarrett Volochenko, Braedon Ziegler, Spencer Ziegler, Colton Ziegler, Maxwell White, William Herold, Ben Hoveland, Maxim Nychporuk, Axel Iszler, Amanda Iszler, Mark Herold, Josh Kern, Tina Anderson

Assisted by members of Team F and Team 1

CALENDAR

Monday, February 2

7:00 AA

Tuesday, February 3

9:00 Quilting

2:00 Crafts

7:00 Scouts

Wednesday, February 4

10:00 Bible Study

5:30 Handbells

5:30 BLAST Meal

6:00 Church School and
Confirmation

6:30 Hymn Sing

7:00 Worship

Thursday, February 5

9:00 Esther Circle

9:00 Men of Faith

Friday, February 6

8:00 NA

Saturday, February 7

11:30 Interfaith Potluck (Lord of
Life)

Sunday, February 8

8:30 Worship

9:45 Church School

10:00 Choir Practice

11:00 Worship

MISSION Focus



FEBRUARY: HEART RIVER CORRECTIONAL CENTER

HRCC are looking for donations to help support pregnant and new mothers housed at the facility and their families with baby items. We would like to collect packs of newborn diapers (smaller packs are best), baby wipes, bibs/burp cloths, baby socks and Newborn or 0-3 month clothing (especially neutral or for girls).

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