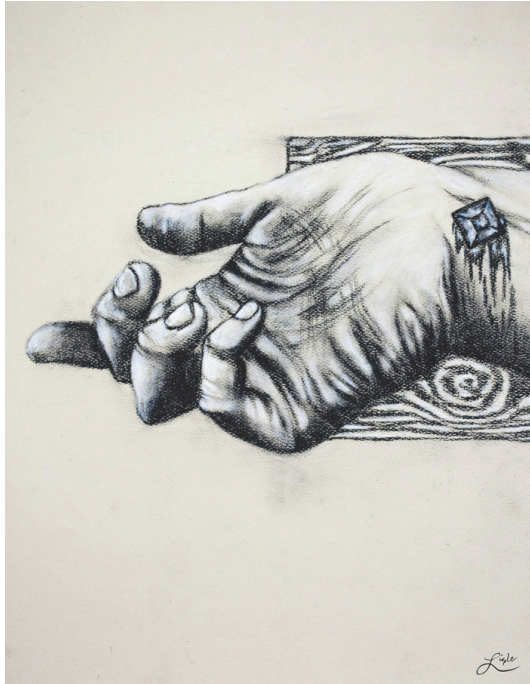


Sunday, July 27, 2025
7th Sunday after Pentecost
Faces of our Faith:
The Penitent Thief on The Cross



The Penitent Thief by Lisle Gwynn Garrity
Charcoal on Paper, inspired by Luke 23:32-43

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 742 "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" *

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

HYMN OF PRAISE: ACS 1091 "Hallelujah! Sing Praise to Your Creator" *

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

READING: see next page

RESPONSE TO READING: ACS 1084 "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me" *

CHILDREN'S SERMON & SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 616 "Jesus Remember Me" (5x) *

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING MOMENT

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMNS:

ELW 608 "Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling" *

"The Old Rugged Cross"

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

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: ELW 661 "I Love to Tell The Story" *

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)

Reading: *Luke 23:32-43*

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

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

DWELLING IN THE WORD

- What words or phrases catch your attention in the reading(s)? What surprises you?
- What questions do you have?
- What might God be saying to you, or to us as a community, through the reading(s)?

ARTIST STATEMENT

Each week, we will be focusing on different individuals in scripture that are often overlooked, taken from the “Faces of Our Faith” series by A Sanctified Art. Below is a reflection on the artwork found on the front of the bulletin from the artist that created the piece.

***The Penitent Thief* by Lisle Gwynn Garrity**

Charcoal on Paper, inspired by Luke 23:32-43

How did he know?

Before he committed his crime, had he heard? Had he heard of the One who healed and loved and came to turn the world upside down? Or was it during the hike to Calvary hill, the beams of his cross digging deep into his flesh, that he saw the crowds swell for the One before him and he knew, for the first time, the weight of systemic injustice?

Or was it while they nailed them in, the piercing hammer pounding his own body to contort and heave, that he saw his neighbor in perfect silence, hanging as if weightless in the air?

Or was it when he heard, “Forgive them, Father,” the words pouring down like a warm bath?

Or was it when the other mocked him, blood and hate and profane humanity spewing from his mouth, that the contrast made the divine palpable and quite easy to perceive?

How did he know that the One dying alongside him was blameless? How did he know he was the Christ?

Regardless of how, he was convinced of it the way death makes all things clear. So he told the truth—about his own brokenness and the suffering Savior beside him—opening himself to redemption, pointing to the One who might bestow it.



CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **\$12,565.29** for the week of **July 13** and **\$9,340.20** for the week of **July 20!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Casey, KennaDee and Callie Carlson, in memory of Keith Hanson. **Thank you!**

Interested in **serving the community with other women from the East Missouri WELCA Cluster?** There are opportunities to assist residents at Missouri Slope to play Bingo **any Tuesday in July from 1:45pm-3pm!** If you are interested, please sign up using the sheet on the back counter, or contact Connie Isaak at (701) 258-2025 (home) or (701) 391-2825 (cell).

Please be in prayer for our **NC Mission Trip group** as they travel to Western NC and serve those impacted by Hurricane Helene **from Sunday, July 27th to Friday, August 1st.**

Mark your calendars for the **next Interfaith Potluck!** Join other community members on **Saturday, August 9th from 11:30am to 1pm at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints** (1500 Country West Road, Bismarck) for a time of great food, fellowship, and friendly conversations. Please bring a dish to share if you are able. We will also be **collecting school supplies for area non-profits**, and there will be an opportunity to learn more about family history and genealogy. Hope to see you there!

Please join us in the sanctuary on **Saturday, August 9th at 2pm for the Ordination of Adam Barden!** There will be a time of fellowship immediately following the service. Help us celebrate Adam and his call to serve at First Lutheran Church in Mandan!

Men of Faith and WELCA **invite everyone to attend a presentation about Livestrong**, a training program for Cancer Survivors, led by Jennifer Bandy, on **Monday, August 11th, at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall**. Following the presentation, Men of Faith and WELCA will meet separately to discuss business and plan events for the future. Hope to see you there!

Please join us **on Thursday, August 14th 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 Missouri Slope's North Campus (4916 N Washington 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 September 11th (at Lord of Life, 1143 N 26th Street, Bismarck) and October 9th (at Trinity Lutheran, 502 N 4th St, Bismarck)!

The **Church Office will be closed on Monday, August 11th** for staff development.

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

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

Message & Liturgy: Pastor Derek Harkins

Music: Janine Johannes

Worship Assistants:

Team F: Bert Mayer, Sharon Mayer, Myron Fischer, Bev Fischer, Jenell Loftesnes, Karen Ely, Steve Ely, Matthew Ely, Shirley Schlabsz, Robin Schumacher, Al Schumacher

Front Bulletin Image (*The Penitent Thief* by Lisle Gwynn Garrity), Artist Statement (written by Lisle Gwynn Garrity), and Slide Graphics (by Lauren Wright Pittman) from A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org. Bulletin texts from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26214. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Service and Hymns printed in this bulletin—unless in the public domain—are covered by CCLI License 2214977 and One License.net #A-704330.(All rights reserved) Permissions for live-streaming also covered by One License and CCLI.

CALENDAR

Monday, July 28

NC Trip

7:00 AA

Tuesday, July 29

NC Trip

9:00 Quilting

2:00 Crafts

Wednesday, July 30

NC Trip

10:00 Bible Study

7:00 Worship

Thursday, July 31

NC Trip

Friday, August 1

NC Trip

8:00 NA

Saturday, August 2

Sunday, August 3

9:30 Worship

MISSION
Focus

JUNE & JULY: COMMUNITY ACTION FOOD PANTRY



The Community Action Food Pantry provide food baskets, usually filled with enough food to last approximately 4-7 days, to income qualified clients and families in need. They are currently in need of canned soups, pasta and pasta sauce, canned chicken and tuna, pancake mixes, rice, and other non-perishable food items. Thank you for your generosity!

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat." - Matthew 25:35