

**Sunday, September 21, 2025**  
**15th 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 717 "Let Justice Flow Like Streams" \***

**BAPTISMS OF GABRIEL WENINGER (8:30) AND NORAYA HOFFMANN (11:00)**

## **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 692 "We Are An Offering" x2 \***

## **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 793 "Be Thou My Vision" \***

## **DISMISSAL**

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

## READING(S)

### **First Reading:** *Amos 8:4-7*

Hear this, you who trample on the needy,  
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,  
saying, "When will the new moon be over  
so that we may sell grain,  
and the Sabbath,  
so that we may offer wheat for sale?  
We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier  
and practice deceit with false balances,  
buying the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals  
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

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

### **Second Reading:** *1 Timothy 2:1-7*

### **Gospel Reading:** *Luke 16:1-13*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest

in a very little is dishonest also in much. If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

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

## **WEEKLY DEVOTIONS**

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

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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

Each week in the Prayers of Intercession (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 105), we heed the call to pray for rulers (1 Tim. 2:1).

### **Wednesday - Especially for Children**

“I am telling the truth, I am not lying” (1 Tim. 2:7). Does this sound familiar? Maybe a tall tale being stretched by someone in the back seat of a car? Or perhaps overheard at the playground? All children lie. For young children, lying is a way of learning how the concrete world butts up against the “what if” world. How did Dad know it would rain today? Maybe words are magic? For older children, lying is a complicated relationship tool, full of pitfalls and social learning. Learning the difference between telling the truth and telling a lie is a childhood stepping stone to relating with others in honesty, morality, empathy, and even shrewdness. Help children discover the truths in many words stretching toward Jesus the Word and such a tiny bite of bread making a whole feast.

### **Thursday - Life on the Earth**

Historically, some people have exercised mastery over lands, waterways, and animals, through which they have acquired considerable wealth. Christians are now asking how to stand in relation to the whole of God’s creation, knowing that it is God, not wealth, that guides our decisions.

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

The children of light are called to be faithful to what has genuine value—the riches of the kingdom. God is our master, from whom come sometimes unlikely judgments about human life. Even the old one-year lectionary included this gospel, which is a considerable challenge for the preacher.

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

“Son of God, eternal Savior” (ELW 655) includes in stanza 2 a prayer that we use God’s gifts, which include money, for the good of others, and that we reject a “selfish greed of gain.” The words are easier to sing than the lifestyle is to adopt. The hymn was written in 1893 by Somerset Lowry, an Irish Anglican priest. Of the sixty hymns he wrote, this is the only one in Evangelical Lutheran Worship.



**CHURCH**  
Announcements

**Thank you** for your offering of **\$9,240.97** for the week of **September 14<sup>th</sup>!**

**Altar Flowers** for the week are provided by Jack and Gail Skaley, in memory of loved ones. **Thank you!**

We celebrate the baptism of **Gabriel Allen Weninger**, child of Scott and Erika Weninger, with Jerrold and Jenna Zettel as sponsors, and **Noraya Dai Hoffmann**, child of Bradley and Kaspari Hoffmann, with Alicia Goeser and Laura Zimmerman as sponsors. Welcome to our church family, children of God!

Interested in learning about our **new Assisted Listening Device System**? We recently upgraded our system so you can connect your Bluetooth enabled hearing aid directly to our system, as well as use our Assisted Listening Devices here at church. Join us for a **brief training on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am and 10:45am** to learn more. Please **bring your smartphone with you if you have one!**

Recent deportations, arrests and detainments have had a significant impact on our community in the past week, with many local families separated from parents or spouses unexpectedly. **Bismarck Global Neighbors has started a Heart Fund, dedicated to supporting families in crisis with essentials like food, rent, utilities and childcare.** All funds will be held and distributed locally, with accountability and transparency, with Global Neighbors working directly with local families. If you are **interested in contributing, you can send a check to Bismarck Global Neighbors with "Heart Fund" in the memo line, or give directly on their website.** Please also be in prayer for these families, and that our community will embody Christ's love in this moment. The pastors will also be happy to answer any questions you may have.

All ages and skill levels invited to **join us for Worship-Palooza! Join us on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7pm for a light supper and evening of planning for our Advent and Christmas season.** We will have a time of devotion on our Advent theme, then split into Visual Arts, Music and Liturgy groups to brainstorm on how to convey our theme in worship. Talk to Pastor Sylvia or Judy Kubischta if you would like more information!

Please join us **on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> (at McCabe United Methodist, 1030 N 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Bismarck), and December 11<sup>th</sup> (Location TBD), with more opportunities coming soon!

It's pumpkin patch time! **Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> is Faith Family Day at Papa's Pumpkin Patch.** We have a shelter reserved from 3p-6pm. **Free Admission passes** are available in the front office now. 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!

## *Church Announcements Continued*

Sign-ups available to **bring cookies and help serve food at Faith Family Day at Papa's Pumpkin Patch!** Sign up sheet is next to Coffee Fellowship, and you can talk to Jill Power for more information!

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

Women of Faith, please join us for our **2025 WELCA Fall Cluster Gathering at Peace Lutheran Church in Lincoln on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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](https://alz.org/walks).

**Message: Pastor Derek Harkins**

**Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull**

**Music: Judy Kubischta**

**Worship Assistants:**

**8:30 - Team E: Joe Grotsun, Hannah Grotsun, Brooke Sundvor, Steve Sundvor, Allison Germolus, Ben Kubischta, Judy Kubischta, Mercy Carkuff**

**11:00 - Team 4: Andy Steiner, Amy Steiner, Hadley Steiner, Collins Steiner, Lincoln Steiner, Ann Schlafman, Kayla Mahowald, Lisa Bennett**

## CALENDAR

### Monday, September 22

7:00 AA

### Tuesday, September 23

9:00 Quilting

2:00 Crafts

5:15 HR Committee

6:00 Compass Group

7:00 Executive Committee

7:00 Scouts

### Wednesday, September 24

6:00 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade P/S

6:00 Church School and  
Confirmation

7:00 Worship

### Thursday, September 25

6:00 Knit & Crochet

### Friday, September 26

8:00 NA

### Saturday, September 27

### Sunday, September 28

8:30 Worship

9:45 Assisted Listening Training

9:45 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade P/S

9:45 Church School

10:45 Assisted Listening Training

11:00 Worship

5:30 Worship Palooza!

# MISSION Focus



## SEPTEMBER: FRESH START KITS

We are looking to donate to the Fresh Start Kit Ministry! These kits allow individuals transitioning from incarceration to experience the love and care of the community and God while navigating their new lives. Please bring donations of travel size toothbrush and toothpaste, deodorant, socks, hats, gloves and \$25 Target or Walmart gift cards. A link to a full list is also available on our website and Facebook page. There is also a poster on the back counter in the Gathering Place

*"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your well-being and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."*

*- Jeremiah 29:11*