

Sunday, July 19, 2026
Eighth 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

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 785 "When Peace, Like a River" *

BAPTISM OF LIAM BENNY ANDERSON, CHILD OF GOD

GREETING

KYRIE: by Ben Splichal Larson

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

READINGS: see next page

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: by Ben Splichal Larson

GOSPEL READING: see next page

CHILDREN'S SERMON & SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 679 "For the Fruit of All Creation" *

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING & OFFERING PRAYER

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

GREAT THANKSGIVING & HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: by Ben Splichal Larson

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN:

ELW 697 "Just a Closer Walk With Thee" *

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

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

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: ELW 439 "Soon and Very Soon" *

DISMISSAL

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

READING(S)

First Reading: *Psalm 86:11-17*

Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.
I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.
For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.
The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my
life;
they have not set you before their eyes.
But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.
Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put
to shame;
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading: *Romans 8:12-25*

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**
[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may
be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody
was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went
away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as
well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not
sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He
answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us
to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would
uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the

harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Monday - Prayer of the Day

The prayer of the day, based on one in the 2002 Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (p. 162), praises God for planting in us the seed of the word. We pray that by the Spirit we will grow in faith and hope.

Tuesday - Connections with the Liturgy

Already in the mid-50s, Paul indicates that Christians address God as their loving Father. For Paul, God being "Abba" to human "children" is no natural situation, but results only because of the sufferings of Jesus Christ. The most common Christian prayer throughout the centuries opens by calling God our Father.

Wednesday - Let the Children Come

In previous centuries, many children would have been assigned the tedious chore of weeding the vegetable garden, a task necessary were the family to have enough food to eat. Today some children have the chore of taking out the garbage. Yet in today's gospel, the land owner, who reminds us of our patient and loving God, tells the servants not to weed the field, not to throw away things that seem bad. In the story God protects everything that is growing, which is good news for us, since we are sometimes wheat, sometimes weeds.

Thursday - Life on the Earth

In a rare and stunning biblical passage, Paul wrote that not only humankind, but "the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains" as it waits for God's salvation. Thus not only we humans, but all that God has made, awaits and receives divine grace. Such passages as this can assist us as we alert ourselves to the wondrous mystery of God's created worlds.

Friday - Reflection on the Gospel

Much of Matthew's Gospel describes Christians as living in righteousness. Yet the parable of the wheat and the weeds warns against our tendency to identify who is evil and who is good. Christ, the Son of Man, is the judge.

Saturday - A Hymn for the Day

One hymn appropriate for the day is "Almighty God, your word is cast" (ELW 516). The reference in the second stanza to "the sly satanic foe" recalls the devil as described in today's gospel reading. The hymn was written in the early nineteenth century by John Cawood, a British clergyman, whose childhood in a poor farming family helped to make authentic his descriptions of planting seeds and nourishing their growth.



CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **\$11,210.02** for the week of **July 12th!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Jenell Loftesnes, in memory of Howard. **Thank you!**

We celebrate the **baptism of Liam Benny Anderson**, child of Nathan and Emily Anderson, with Alvina Ponzer and Dalton Emter as sponsors. **Welcome to our church family, child of God!**

Our **All Comer's Choir** will rehearse on **Sunday, July 19th** and **Sunday, July 26th at 8:30am** in preparation to sing in worship on **Sunday, July 26th**. All ages and abilities are welcome to join in sharing this gift of music!

We are so excited to announce this year's **FLC Summer Week of Service! From July 25th to 30th**, we have a full schedule each day of service opportunities, meals, and fun activities open to the congregation. We hope that you will find moments to join us as we serve others in all kinds of different ways and build relationships within our community and across the area. **Check out the schedule and sign up today in the Gathering Place!**

In order to **fill 100 school kits for Lutheran World Relief**, we need the **following items: 400 Notebooks, 75 rulers, blunt scissors and crayons (24 count) and 150 black or blue pens (not gel)**. We have enough of the other items to complete the kits. If you would like to donate any items, please leave them at the office and we will use them when we put the kits together in August.

Faith Lutheran will be hosting a **Clothing Drive on Saturday, August 8th from 9-5!** We are asking for **donations of clothing for all ages, including backpacks for school children**. Sack lunches will also be provided. Watch the bulletin for further information!

This summer, **we are looking for more people willing to give rides to church!** We are currently looking for a few more drivers to use their personal vehicle, or our bus or van, to transport a group of people to service this summer, and to the 8:30 starting in the Fall. We are also looking to potentially pair up individuals or couples who can give rides with other couples or individuals that would like one. **If you can give rides to a group about once a month, or could regularly give rides to one individual or couple, or would be interested in a ride, please call the front office** to let us know you are interested, and which service you normally attend.

We want to hear from you! This summer, we **invite you to vote in our Summer Gladness Favorite Hymn Bracket Tournament.** We will start with 64 hymns, **voting each week**, until we find out Faith Lutheran's favorite hymn! Voting sheets can be found next to the bulletins. Look out for the top 8 hymns to be featured in worship throughout July! Which hymn do YOU think will win?

Message: Caitlin McCleary

Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Music: Dmytro Somkin, Brett Loftesnes & Ann Loftesnes Porter

Worship Team -

Team D: DaLana Mayer, Todd Erickson, Phyllis Larson, Larry Larson, Loren Larson, Melissa Lien, Jeff Lien, Sara Fisher, Blake Fisher, Mark Fisher

CALENDAR

Monday, July 20

7:00 AA

Tuesday, July 21

9:00 Quilting

10:30 James Schatz Funeral

2:00 Crafts

Wednesday, July 22

10:00 Bible Study

7:00 Worship

Thursday, July 23

6:00 Knit & Crochet Group

Friday, July 24

8:00 NA

Saturday, July 25

FLC Service Week

Sunday, July 26

FLC Service Week

9:30 Worship

MISSION Focus

JULY/AUGUST: BECEP

BECEP, located across 14th Street from our church, works together with families and the community to support and promote Early Childhood Education. They serve children birth to 5 years old, and work with their families to give young children the best environments to grow and thrive in.

We are asking for donations to help them in their mission!

They are currently asking for children's clothes (size 4/5 through 8/10), girls and boys backpacks, hats, waterproof mittens, and snow pants.

"[Jesus] said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them." - Mark 10: 14b-16

