

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

Reformation & New Member Wednesday



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

OPENING SONG: ELW 172 “Halle Halle Hallelujah” *

READING (see next page)

SERMON

SONG: ELW 513 “Listen, God is Calling” *

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

OFFERING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

BLESSING

SENDING SONGS: ELW 565 “All Praise to Thee My God This Night” *

DISMISSAL

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

READING

Reading: *Luke 18:9-14*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 18th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

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

BRINGING IT HOME

This section provides guidance on how to discuss a passage from the Revised Common Lectionary for the week as a family! The devotions for this week are for Psalm 65.

Reflection Questions

- We are in the Season after Pentecost, a time for deep growing and thanksgiving. Although the words “thank you” don’t appear in the translation of this psalm, it overflows with examples of gratitude and thankfulness from different parts of God’s creation. Which words or phrases in the psalm show gratitude and thanks?
- There are many metaphors and images in this psalm (e.g., roaring seas, clothed meadows, etc.). Choose an item in nature or your home. What do you imagine its joy or expression of praise would look like?
- Remember the last time you offered praise to God. What did it look or sound like?
- How is feeling thankful or talking about being thankful different from putting thankfulness into action?
- Where have you noticed things to be thankful for this past week? Where could you look for them in the week to come?

Activity

Inspired by this psalm filled with joy and gratitude, today's activity will have you and the children in your life moving through God's creation with a joyful, grateful, and playful perspective. In advance, map out a route through a room in your home, through the rest of your home, and, if possible, outdoors, to reflect on the psalm with words, movements, and conversation. If the weather prohibits this, try getting creative by using:

- natural elements (such as bowls of water, rocks, plants, and flowers)
- Photos of elements (e.g., mountains, bodies of water, meadows)
- Audio/video depictions of nature, using an internet-connected device

Just as the psalm progresses from the personal to the global, your walk will begin in a room of your home and expand. Chart out your route, activities, and prompts for each stop in whatever way makes sense for you, using the guidelines below to guide your exploration.

Verses 1–3: (initial room) Clap hands or stomp joyfully while saying, "Thank you, God!" or "You are amazing!" Pose like you're singing or playing an instrument to show joyful noise.

Verse 4–5: (other room in your home) Place hands over heart or stretch arms wide and say, "I feel welcome here," or "God meets us in this place."

Verses 6–8: (outdoor or mountain-inspired space) Stand tall like a mountain, stretch arms up like trees, and say, "God, you are strong!" or "Wow, God!"

Verses 9–11: (outdoor or water-inspired space) Pretend to water plants, make rain sounds with fingers, and say, "You care for the earth," or "You fill our cups!"

Verses 12–13: (outdoor or meadow-inspired space) Dance like flowers in the wind, buzz like bees, or call out, "All the earth sings!" or "We join the praise!"

End your walk by saying, "God's world is full of wonder, and when we move through it with joy and gratitude, we join all of creation in praising God."

Prayer

God of all creation, your love flows from the tallest mountain to the deepest sea. Teach us to notice how the world praises you through wonder, wind, and waves, and inspire us to join in their joyful song. Amen.

Look it Up!

Did you know “thank you” is one of the most common phrases people learn when they begin to speak a new language?

Look up how to say “thank you” in one, or more, different languages.



**micro
PRACTICE**

Sometimes discouragement and criticism bring us down. We get stuck thinking, “This will never work” or “I will never do it right” or “That person drives me bananas.”

Praise is a great interruptor of discouraging thoughts. This week, interrupt your discouraging thoughts with a praise of thanks to God!

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CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **\$13,055.42** for the week of **October 19th!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Pat and Gary Ritter, in memory of loved ones. **Thank you!**

We are excited to **officially welcome** Pat & Deb Frank, Kevin & Barb Hausauer (Wednesday), Loren Nieuwsma, Brenda Dockter, Edwin & Jeannette Kittler (8:30), and Edith & Jim Fischer (11) as **new members of our church**. Welcome to our Church Family!

Interested in singing with our choir? Join us from **10am-10:45am on Sundays in the East Room for choir rehearsal!** All experience levels welcome!

It's time again for our **annual Pie & Coffee Day!** Please join us **this 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 knoephla 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. Hope to see you there!

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!

Are you **stressed out about our divisive political climate,** yet unsure of how to respond? Join for conversation and support as we build connections and community on **Monday, October 27th at 5:15pm at Lucky's 13 (915 South 3rd St., Bismarck).** Questions? Reach out to Pastor Sylvia.

Join us on **Sunday, November 2nd at 6pm for our annual Luminaria Walk** honoring members and loved ones who died in the past year. **Sign-up sheets** to submit names of loved ones is available near the Coffee Hour area, as well as a sign-up for **setting up (12pm on Sunday, November 2nd) and tearing down (7pm on Sunday, November 2nd)** the event.

Brent Weston from the Dakota Zoo will be conducting a presentation for the **Men of Faith at 9:00 AM, on Thursday, 6 November 2025.** Please place this on your calendars.

All Women of Faith are invited to the **WELCA Gathering on Saturday, November 15th starting at 1:30pm**. Come listen to speaker Dawn Meier of the Cannon Ball Project through GracePoint Lutheran, enjoy refreshments, and hear about plans for the upcoming year!

Please join us **on Thursday, November 13th 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 McCabe United Methodist, (1030 N 6th Street, 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 December 11th at Faith Lutheran, with more opportunities coming soon!

Thanksgiving is coming up! Join us on **Tuesday, November 25th at 7pm for our annual Community Thanksgiving Service at Lutheran Church of the Cross** (1004 E Highland Acres Rd, Bismarck). Join in worship with other area churches, hear from Sister Idelle Badt about Stepping Stone Ministries (free will offering collected for their ministry), and join us for the **Pie Social** after! **Sign-ups** will be out soon to bake pies for the event. There will also be **no service on Wednesday, November 26th**.

Message: Pastor Derek Harkins

Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Music: Dmytro Somkin

CALENDAR

Thursday, October 23

Pie & Coffee Set-up

6:00 Knit & Crochet Group

Friday, October 24

Pie & Coffee Set-up

5:45 Improv Workshop

8:00 NA

Saturday, October 25

9:00 Pie & Coffee Day

Sunday, October 26

Reformation Sunday

New Member Sunday

8:30 Worship

9:45 4th Grade P/S

9:45 Church School

11:00 Worship

4:00 Cub Scouts

Monday, October 27

3:00 Worship and Music

5:00 Altar Guild

7:00 AA

Tuesday, October 28

9:00 Quilting

2:00 Crafts

7:00 Scouts

Wednesday, October 29

All Saints' Wednesday

10:00 Bible Study

5:30 Handbells

6:00 4th Grade P/S

6:00 Church School and
Confirmation

7:00 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