

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Eighth Week 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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING SONG: ELW 512 "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil" x2

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

READING: see next page

SERMON

SONG: ELW 679 "For the Fruit of All Creation"

PRAYERS

OFFERING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG: ELW 856 "How Great Thou Art"

DISMISSAL

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

READING

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!**

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 139:1-12, 23-24

Reflection Questions

- What images does the writer use to show us that God is everywhere?
- We are in the season after Pentecost, when we practice growing and learning in God's love.
- What does this psalm tell us about God's love?
- The psalm writer expresses that God knows our thoughts and all our ways. How does it feel to hear God knows us this well?
- In the scripture paraphrase, we hear that God will be with us "up the highest mountain or down into the deepest sea." When a time or place feels like the highest, happiest mountain, what helps you notice God is there?
- When a time or place feels like the loneliest, deepest sea, how do you know God is with you there?

Activity

Today's story is about how there is nowhere we can go where God cannot find us. You can play a game with the children in your life in which you all have to find a hidden toy, just like God can always find us.

Split up into two or more groups and give each group four note cards. Each group will hide a stuffed animal and create a series of clues to help others find it. Start with a clue on one note card. For example, "look in a place where water flows" could be a clue for a sink. Place another note card near the sink (using tape) with a clue to the next location. The last clue should lead to the stuffed animal.

Have groups quietly plan their scavenger hunts and write the clues. When ready, have participants close their eyes while each group hides clues. When all the clues are hidden, each team will give their first note card to another team, and everyone can begin the hunt!

Afterward, discuss what it was like to follow the clues. How was following the clues like following God when we don't know what to do? How did it feel when you found the stuffed animal? How does that feeling compare to when you are found, seen, or noticed by someone who loves you?

Prayer

God who pays attention, thanks for always being with us. Like a loving friend or parent, you remind us we never have to face anything alone. Comfort us, God, through the ordinary and extraordinary moments of each day. Amen.

Look it Up!

Look up where the tallest mountain and the deepest point of the sea are on Earth.

What life—plants, animals, and bacteria—live there?
Is it hard to believe that God is there, too?





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

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Carolyn Olson, Scott & Jonna Wutzke & family, in memory of John Olson. **Thank you!**

We are needing **volunteers to help with watering outdoor plants here at church this summer!** The time commitment would be once a week for about 30 minutes. Call the church office at (701) 223-2236 if you can help us out.

We are so excited to announce this year's **FLC Summer Week of Service! From July 25 to 30**, 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. **See the schedule and sign up now in the Gathering Place!**

Join us **this Saturday, July 18th for a Medical Benefit for member Heather Zins.** Travel and other costs for a cornea transplant have caused financial insecurity for her and her family. The benefit will consist of a **Taco Bar from 4-7pm (free will donation) and a Silent Auction.** You can contact Brandy Schmaltz at bsizns1@gmail.com to donate Silent Auction items. You can also donate at First Community Credit Unions in ND or MN through the Jeff Zins Benefit account.

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. Listen for the top 8 hymns to be featured in worship the next few weeks. Which hymn do YOU think will win?

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.

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!

Message: Pastor Steve Sathre

Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Music: Dmytro Somkin

CALENDAR

Thursday, July 16

Friday, July 17

8:00 NA

Saturday, July 18

4:00 Heather Zins Benefit

Sunday, July 19

9:30 Worship

Monday, July 20

7:00 AA

Tuesday, July 21

9:00 Quilting

2:00 Crafts

Wednesday, July 22

10:00 Bible Study

7:00 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

