

Wednesday, November 12, 2025
23rd 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

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

OPENING SONG: "Bless the Lord"

READING (see next page)

SERMON

SONG: ELW 723 "Canticle of the Turning" *

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

WORD OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

BLESSING

SENDING SONGS: ELW 822 "Oh, Sing to the Lord" vv. 1, 3, 5 *

DISMISSAL

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

READING

Reading: *Luke 21:5-19*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 5th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

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 Isaiah 12

Reflection Questions

- Isaiah reminded people God’s love is like water from a deep well—always there when they need it. What image reminds you God’s love is always there?

- In this story, God's people are taught how God's presence is very important! It's so important that Isaiah uses water as the example because we need water to live. Why is God's presence and love so important?
- When have you felt refreshed by God, similar to the feeling when you drink a cold glass of water on a hot day? When have you felt happy, safe, or strong because of God's love?
- Water is something everyone needs, but not everyone has enough. What is the difference between thirst and refreshment?
- Our story today used a song of thanks and trust to help people feel strong even when they were going through a hard time. Why did the people sing about joy and water even before everything was fixed?

Activity

Begin by reading the scripture phrase from Isaiah 12:3, "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation." Remind the children in your life that Isaiah's song points us toward a day when a whole community sings, dances, and praises God.

Invite the children to choose streamers or ribbons in colors that feel joyful to them, like red for excitement, blue for peace, or gold for hope. Glue, or tape, the streamers onto their popsicle stick, creating a celebration stick to wave as a reminder that God's love never runs out.

When they have finished creating their celebration stick, gather in a small circle, or face each other. Invite children to think of one celebratory move (e.g., a short dance, a leap, a clap, smiling really big) and then share it with everyone. Go around the circle a few times, asking children to repeat their individual moves with their celebration stick while trying to remember other participants' moves.

For an added challenge, play the game "Signs" using the celebration moves. Play background music, and instruct the children to "pass" their moves. Choose one person to begin. To pass, the participant will do their own celebration move, followed by someone else's. The participant whose move was copied now does their move, followed by someone else's. Continue passing joyful moves! Keep the circle alive with laughter, big movements, and waving joy sticks until the whole room feels like a festival.

End by lifting all sticks high and shouting together, "God's love never runs out!"

Prayer

God, your love runs deeper than the ocean; it flows broader than the farthest sea. You refresh our tired bodies and restore our weary hearts. May we overflow with bubbling joy so all the earth may know you are with us. Amen.

Look it Up!

Do you know music was used both as a way to spread hope and as a tool for resistance for those enduring slavery in America?

Look up how enslaved people used music and songs to communicate about resistance and to spread hope, joy, and power.
illstrtdm.in/MusicResistance



CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **\$16,980.50** for the week of **November 9th!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Ron and Mary Schneider. **Thank you!**

The **November Newsletter** is now in the mail and available online! If you would like a printed copy, you can find them on the table near the Ave C entrance.

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!

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!

Please join us **tomorrow, November 13th 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 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** are available near the Coffee Fellowship table to bake pies or bring whipped topping for the event. There will also be **no worship service on Wednesday, November 26th.**

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, November 24th at 5:15pm at Lucky's 13 (915 South 3rd St., Bismarck).** Questions? Reach out to Pastor Sylvia.

Make sure to join us on **Sunday, December 14th at 9:45am for our Congregational Meeting.** Come hear about and vote on the 2026 budget, new Executive Committee members and Compass Group chairs, and hear about our plans for the future. Hope to see you there!

Message & Liturgy: Pastor Derek Harkins
Music: Sounds of Faith



CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

At Faith Lutheran

Altar Guild will be **selling Christmas Poinsettias** in honor or memory of loved ones, or just because, for the Christmas season! Sign ups will be available on **Sunday, November 16th and Sunday, November 23rd before and between services**, or you can call the office at (701) 223-2236. Poinsettias will be **\$15 each**, and will decorate the sanctuary through the Christmas season.

The **Faith Lutheran Crafters have ornaments for sale** in honor or memory of loved ones again this year! These can be **purchased for \$5 between services on November 30th and December 7th, or by calling the office**. The ornaments will hang on the church tree during the Christmas season, and will be available for pick-up as a keepsake starting in January. Proceeds will go to a mission or need in the church, to be decided at a later date.

Join us on **Wednesdays in Advent, starting December 3rd, for a Soup Lunch at 11:15am, and 12pm Midweek Worship Service**, along with our usual 7pm Worship Service. Hope to see you there!

Reminder to save the Date for the **Men's Christmas Supper on Thursday, December 4th at 6pm** and the Cookie Walk on **Saturday, December 13th at 9am**. More information for both events coming soon!

This year we will be having a **Community Longest Night Service on Sunday, December 21st at 4pm**, hosted here at Faith Lutheran. More information coming soon!

Make sure to join us on **Wednesday, December 24th at 3pm, 5pm, and 11pm for our Christmas Eve services, and Thursday, December 25th at 10am for our Christmas Day service!** Be on the lookout for Worship Assistant sign-ups coming soon!

CALENDAR

Thursday, November 13

2:00 Knit & Crochet Group
5:00 Scripture Circle (McCabe)
7:00 Ruth Circle

Friday, November 14

8:00 NA

Saturday, November 15

1:30 WELCA Gathering

Sunday, November 16

8:30 Worship
9:45 Church School
11:00 Worship
4:00 Cub Scouts

Monday, November 17

3:00 Worship and Music
7:00 AA

Tuesday, November 18

9:00 Quilting
2:00 Crafts
5:15 HR Committee
7:00 Scouts

Wednesday, November 19

10:00 Bible Study
5:30 Handbells
6:00 Church School and
Confirmation
7:00 Worship

MISSION Focus

NOVEMBER: MINISTRY ON THE MARGINS AND LINCOLN COMMUNITY CUPBOARD

We are currently collecting donations to help support local non-profits during this period of increased food insecurity. Please bring donations of meat, cheese, fruit and vegetables with longer shelf lives (examples include apples, bananas, potatoes), boxed meals, and laundry detergent. Please let staff know about any perishable food donations so we can make sure they make it into the fridge or freezer! We will also be accepting monetary donations, so please indicate your donations with "food" in the memo line of checks. Donations will be split between Ministry on the Margins and the Lincoln Community Cupboard at Peace Lutheran. Thank you for your generosity!

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

