

Sunday, August 9, 2026
Eleventh 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: ACS 1084 "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me" *

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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 763 "My Life Flows on in Endless Song" *

APOSTLES' CREED

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 491 "Come, Let Us Eat" *

ELW 479 "We Come to the Hungry Feast" *

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

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: ELW 632 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" *

DISMISSAL

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

READING(S)

First Reading: *1 Kings 19:9-18*

Second Reading: *Romans 10:5-15*

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

“The word is near you,

in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

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

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 14:22-33*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 14th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

[Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Monday - Prayer of the Day

The prayer of the day is based on #82 in the 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Storms are outside us, around us, and within us, and we pray to be preserved in faith.

Tuesday - Connections with the Liturgy

Paul wrote to the Romans that if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved, and in today's gospel story, the disciples confess Jesus as the Son of God. So whenever we confess the creed, on each Sunday, at every baptism, we join with Paul and with the disciples in the boat to call Jesus Christ the Son of God, our Lord, and we believe that he rose again on the third day. Paul's citation of Isaiah 52:7, "how beautiful are the feet of the messenger," applies not only to called ministers: at the dismissal of holy communion, one option is, "Go in peace. Share the good news." We are all to spread the gospel.

Wednesday - Especially for Children

Were these children ever terrified by storms? By lightning? By high waves while in a boat? Were the children ever afraid of other things that were like a storm at sea? The good news is that Jesus is there, walking with us. He is not drowned by the waves. He says, "Do not be afraid." The children can be taught the old song, "Stand

by Me," for also children must confront the storms of life.

When the storms of life are raging, stand by me;

when the storms of life are raging, stand by me.

When the world is tossing me, like a ship upon the sea,

Lord, who rules the wind and water, stand by me.

Thursday - Life on the Earth

Today's first and third readings present different pictures of God's connection with nature. In 1 Kings, God was not present where the ancient Near Eastern peoples would have expected, in wind or earthquake or fire; and in Matthew 14, God is connected with the wind over the sea, by creating calm where there was storm.

These two readings set us directly into the question of to what degree God is manifest to us in nature. Do we hear the voice of God in the wind? Many theologians in the past have proposed that while God is indeed in the wind, we can know God as our Savior only in Christ. Is this still our thinking?

Friday - Reflection on the Gospel

Matthew's story of Jesus walking on the water recalls Old Testament descriptions of God as the one who controls the chaotic seas. The Greek of Jesus' response to the frightened disciples echoes the Hebrew name of God, "I am." Matthew has added to Mark's telling of this narrative an episode with Peter, a leader in the early church who is shown to be also a doubter. Once again, Matthew's interest in church leadership is evident.

Saturday - A Hymn for the Day

A hymn appropriate for the day is "Jesus, Savior, pilot me" (ELW 755). Jesus is our Savior, and we need his saving help in order to survive the storms at our seas. Note that the second stanza likens Christ to a mother, and that the third stanza speaks of the storm of death. That's a lot of content in what seems at first glance a simple song. An ordained Presbyterian minister, Edward Hopper first published this hymn in 1871. The tune was composed by John Edgar Could for Hopper's text.



Thank you for your offering of **\$7,224.96** for the week of **August 2nd!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Dave and Rosy Watson, in memory of loved ones. **Thank you!**

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated items for our school kits. We now have enough supplies to fill **about 100 kits later this summer!** Your support and willingness to help are a wonderful blessing.

It's a busy summer here at Faith Lutheran! On **Thursday, August 13th and Friday, August 14th, our parking lot and 14th Street spots will be closed for resurfacing and repainting.** Parking will still be available on the street. You can still ring the doorbell at our Avenue C entrance during office hours.

Looking for some fun music opportunities? Head on out to **the Reeder Community Center (501 Main Street, Reeder, ND 58649) to hear Dmytro Somkin, Kseniia Somkina and Colleen Reinhardt in concert tonight, Sunday, August 9th from 5pm-7pm (MDT)!** Free Will Donation will go to the Reeder Community Center.

On **August 13th at 6:30pm, join Dmytro, Kseniia and their family (including a special performance by their son, Adrian) for a Blessing Concert and Dessert Social at Lord of Life Lutheran!** Free Will Offering will go toward relocation costs for their family.

Rice Pudding is coming up! Please join us **during Coffee Hour on Sunday, August 30th for Rice Pudding Sunday!** Enjoy our famous Rice Pudding, and **sign-up** to cook Rice Pudding, drive batches or work our booth during **this year's Street Fair from Friday, September 18th-Saturday, September 19th.** Look out in the September newsletter for a brief history of this fun tradition!

Women of all ages are invited to our **WELCA Gathering on Tuesday, September 1st at 7pm.** Join us for fellowship, discuss past and future events, and **hear from Mercy Carkuff about the WELCA Triennial Gathering this past July!**

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 invited you to vote in our Summer Gladness Favorite Hymn Bracket Tournament.** Starting with 64 hymns, we have voted week by week to determine Faith Lutheran's favorite hymn. Now we have reached the Championship! This week, the final vote will decide the winner between **"How Great Thou Art"** and **"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying."** Voting sheets can be found next to the bulletins. Be sure to cast your vote after the Wednesday or Sunday service and help crown Faith Lutheran's favorite hymn!

Message: Jana Jenkins, Lay Minister

Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Assisting Minister: Wayne Granfor

Music: Dmytro Somkin

Worship Team -

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

CALENDAR

Monday, August 10
Newsletter Deadline

7:00 AA

Tuesday, August 11

9:00 Quilting

2:00 Crafts

Wednesday, August 12

10:00 Bible Study

7:00 Worship

Thursday, August 13

Parking Lot Closed

2:00 Knit & Crochet Group

Friday, August 14

Parking Lot Closed

8:00 NA

Saturday, August 15

Sunday, August 16

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

