

Sunday, June 29, 2025
3rd Sunday after Pentecost
Faces of our Faith: Shiphrah & Puah



They Said No by Lisle Gwynn Garrity
Acrylic on Canvas,
Inspired by Exodus 1:8-22

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 618 "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer" *

BAPTISM OF CORA & DAKOTA GUST

HYMN OF PRAISE: ACS 1097 "10,000 Reasons" *

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

READING: see next page

RESPONSE TO READING: ACS 1086 "O God, Who Gives Us Life" *

CHILDREN'S SERMON & SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 709 "When Our Song Says Peace" *

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING MOMENT

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMNS:

ELW 790 "Day by Day" *

ELW 677 "This Little Light of Mine" *

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

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: ELW 715 "Christ, Be Our Light" *

DISMISSAL

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

GOING DEEPER

- What is on your heart as you come to worship today?
- What connected with you in the sermon today?
- What challenged you?
- What prayers are on your heart today?
- What nourishment do you need from Jesus for the days ahead?
- What will you carry with you from worship this week?

READING(S)

First Reading: *Exodus 1:8-22*

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. The Egyptians were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for

they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.”

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

DWELLING IN THE WORD

- What words or phrases catch your attention in the reading(s)? What surprises you?
- What questions do you have?
- What might God be saying to you, or to us as a community, through the reading(s)?

ARTIST STATEMENT

Each week, we will be focusing on different individuals in scripture that are often overlooked, taken from the “Faces of Our Faith” series by A Sanctified Art. Below is a reflection on the artwork found on the front of the bulletin from the artist that created the piece.

***They Said No* by Lisle Gwynn Garrity**

Acrylic on Canvas, Inspired by Exodus 1:8-22

Pharaoh’s plan is a clever one. In an attempt to obliterate the Hebrews, he enlists midwives to pull a quick-handed maneuver by smothering any Hebrew baby boys seconds after birth so that their mothers will believe they are stillborn. The more this happens, the more the Hebrew people will believe that their fertility—

Artist Statement Continued

their life-force—is diminished. Progeny was everything, for the ability to procreate determined the survival, legacy, and strength of a tribe. Pharaoh doesn't just want them dead, he wants to eradicate their identity, their resilience.

But, instead, two gutsy women throw a wrench in his plans. Shiphrah and Puah are the only women in this story to be named, which we know is a rarity in scripture, so when it happens, it's as if the author is flashing blinking lights on the page that say, "Pay attention to them!" What we see is the first known instance of civil disobedience in recorded history. They say no.

These midwives, these lowest-of-the-low-status-women who likely had no husbands, who were simply glorified servants, who, themselves, may have been deemed infertile and therefore useless to a family system, risk everything to say no.

Through this simple but mighty act, they change the course of history so that, many, many years later, another baby boy born into a dark world of genocide might also survive and flourish and grow up to redeem the world.

In this painting, these hands represent the women's resistance. They are the hands that said no to a power-hungry ruler but yes to a God of justice—to a God who transforms a story of massacre into one of liberation. The impact of their actions, like the waters of the Nile, ripples out far beyond them.



Thank you for your offering of **\$8,049.20** for the week of **June 22!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Bert & Sharon Mayer, in honor of their 60th Anniversary. **Thank you!**

We **celebrate the baptisms of Cora and Dakota Gust**, children of Trevor Gust and Taylor Hovland, with Austin Zorn and Kristen Meyer (Cora), and Layton Peters and Megan Stockie (Dakota), as sponsors. Welcome to our church family, children of God!

The **Church Office will be closed on Friday, July 4** in honor of Independence Day.

All students who are active members at Faith Lutheran Church may apply for a **college tuition scholarship for the 2025-2026 school year**. Whether a graduating high school student or already at college, head out to our Faith website www.faithbismarck.com/forms and email the completed form and a current transcript to the office faith.bisfaith@gmail.com by July 15.

Please join us **on Thursday, July 17th 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 Church, 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 August 14th (at MSLCC North Campus), and more throughout the year!

Thank you to all our NC Mission Trip Sponsors! As of last week, we have **reached our goal of \$8,000!** You can still **make a donation to Faith Lutheran with “NC trip sponsor” in the memo line or on a note, or use our Give page on our website.** Any money not used for the trip will go towards recovery efforts in Western North Carolina.

Join us on **Thursday, July 10 at 6pm for a Taste of Home Event!** Enjoy a variety of **Middle Eastern dishes** as we listen to personal stories of strength and resilience, and connect with others in the spirit of community. **Free-will offering will go to Bismarck Global Neighbors.** Hope to see you there!

Message: Pastor Derek Harkins

Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Music: Judy Kubischta

Worship Assistants:

Team G: Marlene Adolf, Andi Johnson, Dalene Berger, Vince Berger, Sam May, Meme May

CALENDAR

Monday, June 30

7:00 AA

Tuesday, July 1

2:00 Crafts

Wednesday, July 2

7:00 Worship

Thursday, July 3

Friday, July 4

Independence Day
Church Office Closed

8:00 NA

Saturday, July 5

Sunday, July 6

9:30 Worship

MISSION
Focus

JUNE: COMMUNITY ACTION FOOD PANTRY



The Community Action Food Pantry provide food baskets, usually filled with enough food to last approximately 4-7 days, to income qualified clients and families in need. They are currently in need of canned soups, pasta and pasta sauce, canned chicken and tuna, pancake mixes, rice, and other non-perishable food items. Thank you for your generosity!

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