

**Sunday, August 3, 2025**  
**8th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Faces of our Faith:**  
**Joseph of Arimathea**



*Joseph of Arimathea* by Hannah Garrity  
Oil on Canvas, inspired by Luke 23:44-56

## **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 597 "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" \***

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

**HYMN OF PRAISE: ACS 1091 "Hallelujah! Sing Praise to Your Creator" \***

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

**READING:** see next page

**RESPONSE TO READING: ACS 1084 "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me" \***

**CHILDREN'S SERMON & SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: ACS 949 "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning" \***

**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 465 "As The Grains of Wheat" \***

**ELW 666 "What Wondrous Love is This" \***

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

**BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN: ELW 525 "You Are Holy" \***

**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)

**Reading:** *Luke 23:44-56*

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

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.

### ***Joseph of Arimathea by Hannah Garrity***

Oil on Canvas, inspired by Luke 23:44-56

How heavy is the body of a dead man? Only with superhuman strength would this pose be possible. Yet, Joseph of Arimathea alone carries Jesus’ lifeless body. How did he do it? Why did he do it? Luke says, “He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God” (Luke 23:51). Is this act good enough?

He was on the council. He disagreed with the majority. Why could he not stop the crucifixion from happening in the first place? Why did he fail to convince his fellow council members? Is this good deed enough to make up for such a monumental failure?

Or is Joseph of Arimathea at the right place at the right time? Is he able to dignify Jesus’ body after death? Does he play the vital role of the dissenter, picking up the pieces of the wrongs of the group? Does Joseph forward God’s plan for Jesus’ death and resurrection?

How weighty a task. What superhuman strength must we each have to forward God’s plan. Yet, God prepares us. We are ready.



## **CHURCH** *Announcements*

**Thank you** for your offering of **\$5,472.04** for the week of **July 27!**

**Altar Flowers** for the week are provided by Marv and Diane Alveshere, in honor of their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Thank you!**

The **August newsletter** is in the mail and available online! Paper copies are available on the table across from the Avenue C entrance.

Mark your calendars for the **next Interfaith Potluck!** Join other community members on **Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am to 1pm at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints** (1500 Country West Road, Bismarck) for a time of great food, fellowship, and friendly conversations. Please bring a dish to share if you are able. We will also be **collecting school supplies for area non-profits**, and there will be an opportunity to learn more about family history and genealogy. Hope to see you there!

Please join us in the sanctuary on **Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 2pm for the Ordination of Adam Barden!** There will be a time of fellowship immediately following the service. Help us celebrate Adam and his call to serve at First Lutheran Church in Mandan!

The **Church Office will be closed on Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup>** for staff development.

Men of Faith and WELCA **invite everyone to attend a presentation about Livestrong**, a training program for Cancer Survivors, led by Jennifer Bandy, on **Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall**. Following the presentation, Men of Faith and WELCA will meet separately to discuss business and plan events for the future. Hope to see you there!

Please join us **on Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup> 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 Missouri Slope's North Campus (4916 N Washington St, 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 September 11<sup>th</sup> (at Lord of Life, 1143 N 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Bismarck) and October 9<sup>th</sup> (at Trinity Lutheran, 502 N 4<sup>th</sup> St, Bismarck)!

Make sure to be here for **Coffee Hour on Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>!** We will be **serving our famous Rice Pudding** for everyone, and **sign-ups to volunteer** for the Downtown Street Fair on Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> will be available. We need volunteers to cook, work at the booth, and drive between the church and the fair. Many hands make light work, so please consider signing up! Free Will Offering for Coffee Hour will go to buying supplies for the Rice Pudding booth.

We will be returning to our **Regular Worship Hours**, 8:30am and 11am services, on **Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** (the weekend after Labor Day).

Mark you calendars for **Rally Day!** Join us on **Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** for the start of the Church School year! Registration forms and Church School Handbook will be available soon at [faithbismarck.com/forms](https://faithbismarck.com/forms)!

**Message: Pastor Derek Harkins**

**Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull**

**Music: Janine Johannes**

**Worship Assistants:**

**Team 3: Aaron Franklund, Jack Skaley, Gail Skaley, Jan Franklund, Les Franklund, Glenn Anderson, Tina Anderson, Carolee Hoffman, LeRoy Anderson, Janice Anderson**

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## CALENDAR

### Monday, August 4

7:00 AA

### Tuesday, August 5

9:00 Quilting

2:00 Crafts

### Wednesday, August 6

10:00 Bible Study

7:00 Worship

### Thursday, August 7

9:00 Esther Circle

### Friday, August 8

8:00 NA

### Saturday, August 9

11:30 Interfaith Potluck

2:00 Adam Barden Ordination

### Sunday, August 10

### **September Newsletter Deadline**

9:30 Worship

**MISSION**  
*Focus*



## **AUGUST: LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS**

Throughout the year, our Quilters collect items to put in Personal Care, School and Baby Kits, sent to people in need around the world through Lutheran World Relief. Full lists are available on the Concierge Table and under our Serve tab on our website, but they are currently running low on shirts and t-shirts for boy and girls, size 6 month to 24 months, notebooks, pens, rulers, crayons and scissors.

Thank you for your generosity!

*If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you... you should open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Deut. 15:7-8*