

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

Tenth 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 752 "Lord, Listen to Your Children

Praying" *

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

READING: see next page

SERMON

SONG: ELW 491 "Come, Let Us Eat" *

PRAYERS

OFFERING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG: ELW 661 "I Love to Tell the Story"

DISMISSAL

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

READING

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 14:13-21*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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 Matthew 14:13-21

Reflection Questions

- When Jesus tried to withdraw to a deserted place by himself, he saw that the crowds had followed him. What does the story say about how Jesus felt when he noticed all the people?
- The people had traveled far to see Jesus, and they were hungry. What do you imagine the disciples felt facing the hungry crowd?
- Have you ever attended a party, cookout, or other gathering where you thought there might not be enough food? What happened?
- While the disciples worried about whether there would be enough, Jesus was focused on what could be shared. What might you focus on in a similar situation?
- Imagine a similar gathering taking place today. Who would be there? Where would it be? What would people eat?

Activity

Reflect alongside the children in your life on the two mindsets present in today's story. The disciples looked at the crowd and focused on what was missing. This is sometimes called a scarcity mindset—the belief that there is not enough to go around, so people must protect what they have or send others away. Jesus looked at the same situation and focused on what was available. This is an abundance mindset—trusting that when people share, cooperate, and use their gifts together, there may be more possibilities than they first imagined.

Invite the children to imagine a situation: Twenty children arrive at a celebration, but there are only ten cupcakes. Ask, "What might the disciples have suggested?" Record their responses. Then ask, "What might Jesus have suggested?" Record those responses as well. Older children may work together to create short skits,

drawings, or comic strips showing both responses, while younger participants can act out the scene together.

Afterward, compare the two approaches. What happens when people focus only on what is missing? What changes when people focus on sharing, creativity, and working together? Remind participants that Jesus did not ignore the challenge before him. Instead, he helped people see possibilities beyond fear and scarcity.

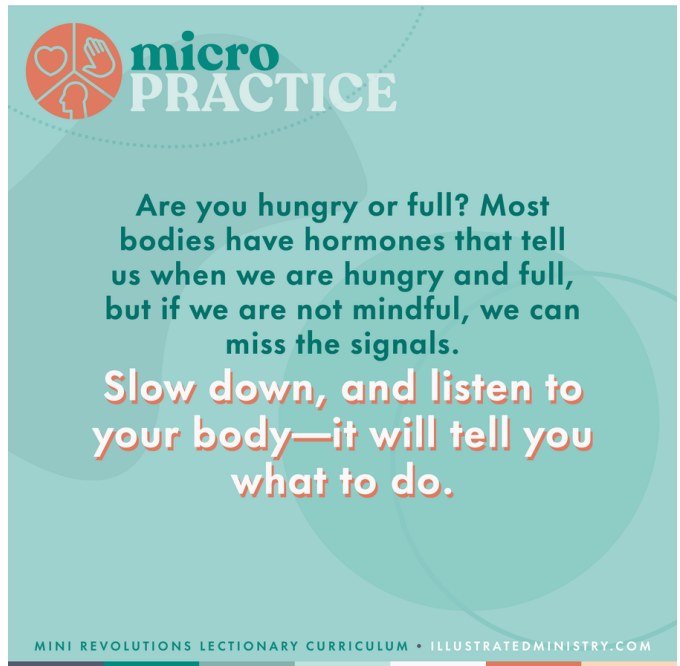
Prayer

God who shares and cares, thank you for never running out of love. Fill our hearts with overflowing compassion so that we may share your abundant love with everyone and everything. May we be generous, caring, welcoming, and kind. Amen.

Look it Up!

Did you know many food pantries are named “Loaves and Fishes” because of this story?

Look up “Loaves and Fishes” and “food pantries” to see if there’s one with this name in or near your community.





CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **\$8,196.91** for the week of **July 26th!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Jack and Gail Skaley, in memory of beloved ones. **Thank you!**

We have been enjoying this year's **FLC Summer Week of Service!** Since Saturday, we have been able to participate in service activities, meals, and fun activities together. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and joined our activities so far! **Check out some of our free activities, like a trip to Dairy Queen tonight after service, plus FLC at Raging Rivers Water Park from 4-6:30pm and our closing Cookout (6-8:30pm, General Sibley Park, Shelter 2, sign-up required) tomorrow!**

Faith Lutheran will be hosting a **Clothing Drive on Saturday, August 8th from 9-4!** We are asking for **donations of clothing for all ages, including backpacks for school children.** Sack lunches will also be provided. You can bring donations in during office hours, and between 8am and 9am Monday through Friday if you would like a custodian's assistance. You can also make monetary donations toward school supplies by making a check out to Faith Lutheran and adding "School Supplies" in the memo line.

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 on 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.

Join others in our community for **the next Interfaith Potluck at Sertoma Park, Shelter 9 on Saturday, August 8th from 11:30am to 1pm.** Bring a dish to share, reusable tableware if you can, and donations of school supplies for local students! Financial donations will also be accepted for upcoming events. Come enjoy some of the best food in Bismarck, and spend time with others in our community!

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 **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. Make sure to vote in the Final Four this week after the Wednesday or Sunday service to help decide which two songs go to the Championship next week!

Message: Pastor Steve Sathre

Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Music: Dmytro Somkin

CALENDAR

Thursday, July 30

FLC Service Week

6:00 Week of Service Closing
Celebration at General Sibley
Shelter 2

Friday, July 31

5:45 Improv Workshop
8:00 NA

Saturday, August 1

Sunday, August 2

9:30 Worship

Monday, August 3

7:00 AA

Tuesday, August 4

9:00 Quilting
2:00 Crafts

Wednesday, August 5

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

