

Wednesday, August 20, 2025
11th 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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 528 "Come and Fill Our Hearts" *

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

READING (see next page)

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 523 "Let Us Go Now to the Banquet" *

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: ACS 1087 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines" *

DISMISSAL

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

READING

Reading: *Luke 13:10-17*

Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

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

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 Luke 13:10-17

Reflection Questions

- We are in the Season after Pentecost, when we focus on loving and including everyone. In this story, what did Jesus do when he noticed the woman who had been hurting for a long time?
- Jesus told the woman she was "set free" when he healed her. What did you imagine this freedom meant for her body, her heart, or her place in the community?

- When have you noticed someone being left out or treated unfairly? How might we help them feel cared for and part of the group?
- The Sabbath is a day to rest and remember God's goodness. Some leaders thought healing should wait, but Jesus chose to help anyway. What were the different reactions of the people in the story?
- Some rules help us care for one another, but sometimes rules can also get in the way. How can we notice when this is happening? What would it look like to change rules that get in the way of love so everyone can be included and cared for?

Look it Up!

Did you know some common phrases leave people out?

Look up “ableist language” to find words we can stop using and new ones to try. How can our words help others feel loved, safe, and included?



Prayer

God of belonging, you welcome us into your life-giving rest. May we, like Jesus, use our words and actions to knock down barriers built to keep others out. May we be a compassionate community—always welcoming, inviting, and making room. Amen.

Activity

In today's story, the crowd rejoices and celebrates when Jesus heals the woman of her physical ailment and welcomes her fully into the community. Jesus makes sure no one is left out and shows us how to include everyone.

With the children in your life, think of a way to include someone in your community, perhaps by changing a rule, making a space easier for everyone to use, or welcoming in a new friend. Talk together about why your idea will help. Invite the children to create a four-panel comic depicting their imagined scenario, sketching it together or individually. When finished, talk about your scene(s) and how it shows including others.



Thank you for your offering of **\$12,791.12** for the week of **August 10th** and **\$9,037.14** for the week of **August 17th**!

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

Sign-ups for the Rice Pudding booth at Downtown Street Fair on **Friday, September 12th** and **Saturday, September 13th** are now available! You can find them in the Gathering Place, next to the Coffee Hour table. 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!

Join us on **Wednesday, August 27th** for a **Hymn Sing Service** featuring Sounds of Faith and Colleen Reinhardt. Enjoy **special music, starting at 6:30pm**, before service begins. Hope to see you there!

Mark your calendars for **Rally Day!** Join us on **Wednesday, September 3rd** and **Sunday, September 7th** for the start of the Church School year! Registration forms available now and Church School Handbook will be available soon at faithbismarck.com/forms!

We are excited to announce that we have **hired a new Music Coordinator!** **Dmytro “Dima” Somkin** grew up in Lutsk, Ukraine, and has an **impressive musical background**, including bachelor’s and master’s degrees in music from the Kyiv National University of Culture and Arts, performing as a soloist with several orchestras and choirs in Europe, and teaching vocals and piano. Dima has visited 35 countries in total through touring concerts, including Bismarck in 2018. **Dima moved to Bismarck together with his wife and child (with another born in Bismarck) in September 2024.** He also teaches piano and voice lessons, and enjoys the kindness and support of the people in Bismarck. He looks forward to meeting new people and making friends, and hopes that his piano playing and singing will help inspire others to do good works. He hopes to be an important spiritual support for all who attend our services. A more in-depth bio and picture will also be available in the September newsletter. **Welcome Dima!**

Looking to boost your communication skills and stretch your improvisational muscles? Join us on **Friday, August 29th, from 5:45 to 7:15 PM in the East Room** for a playful, hands-on **workshop in improv comedy and drama.** We’ll cover the basics of good improv and create space for laughter, creativity, and connection with others from the church and local community. No experience needed — just a willingness to say “yes, and!” Teenagers are welcome with adult supervision. No RSVP required, but feel free to reach out with questions at joseph.michalka@gmail.com. And if you missed our first workshop last month, have no fear, newcomers are always welcome.

The **FLC Scholarship Committee** is pleased to announce the **2025 recipients** of \$500, for tuition at the university of their choice, chosen based on being active members of FLC and their community: **Madison Wutzke, Connor Dykema, and Hailey Dykema.** Congratulations to these amazing students! We ask that you **prayerfully consider contributing monetarily or joining the FLC Scholarship Committee**, so we can continue to assist FLC youth. Our committee and our scholarship award recipients appreciate your prayers and contributions!

Please join us **on Thursday, September 11th 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 Lord of Life Lutheran (1143 N 26th 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 October 9th (at Trinity Lutheran, 502 N 4th St, Bismarck), with more opportunities coming soon!

Our **Knit/Crochet Group will now be meeting on Thursday, September 4th at 6pm** (instead of August 28th). Please join if you would like to spend more time with other knit/crochet enthusiasts, would like to work on a project of your own, would like to pick up patterns or yarn to make hats for non-profits, or would just like more information!

We will be returning to our **Fall Worship Hours**, 8:30am and 11am services, on **Sunday, September 7th.**

Message and Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull
Music: Dmytro Somkin

CALENDAR

Thursday, August 21

Friday, August 22

8:00 NA

Saturday, August 23

Sunday, August 24

9:30 Worship

Monday, August 25

5:00 Altar Guild

7:00 AA

Tuesday, August 26

9:00 Quilting

2:00 Crafts

5:30 Sounds of Faith Practice

Wednesday, August 27

10:00 Bible Study

6:30 Special Music with Sounds of Faith and Colleen Reinhardt

7:00 Worship with Hymn Sing

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

