

**Sunday, September 28, 2025**  
**16th 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

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701-223-2236

# **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING HYMN: ELW 807 "Come, thou Found of Every Blessing" \***

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

**GREETING**

**KYRIE & HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW Setting 10, pg 203-204 \***

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

**READINGS:** see next page

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW Setting 10, pg. 205 \***

**GOSPEL READING:** see next page

**CHILDREN'S SERMON & SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 689 "Praise and Thanksgiving"**

**APOSTLES'S CREED**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**OFFERING MOMENT**

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

**GREAT THANKSGIVING & HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: ELW Setting 10, pg. 207 \***

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**COMMUNION HYMNS:**

**LAMB OF GOD: ELW Setting 10, pg. 208 \***

**ELW 471 "Let Us Break Bread Together" \***

**ELW 752 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" \***

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

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

**BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN: ELW 538 "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth" \***

**DISMISSAL**

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

## READING(S)

### **First Reading:** *Amos 6:1a, 4-7*

Woe to those who are at ease in Zion  
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.  
Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory  
and lounge on their couches  
and eat lambs from the flock  
and calves from the stall,  
who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp  
and like David improvise on instruments of music,  
who drink wine from bowls  
and anoint themselves with the finest oils  
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!  
Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,  
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

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

### **Second Reading:** *1 Timothy 6:6-19*

### **Gospel Reading:** *Luke 16:19-31*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 16<sup>th</sup> Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

[Jesus said:] “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do

not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

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

## **WEEKLY DEVOTIONS**

### **Monday - Prayer of the Day**

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

### **Tuesday - Connections with the Liturgy**

In the second century, Justin wrote that on Sunday the worshiping community collected money and goods for the needy, and each Sunday worshiping assemblies respond to the call in 1 Timothy to be generous and ready to share with others. See the offering (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 106). Those churches that institute contributions by direct bank withdrawal do well to continue at each Sunday liturgy a symbolic weekly generosity to the poor.

### **Wednesday - Especially for Children**

It is probably not a good idea to urge small children to attend to the homeless persons whom they see on the sidewalks, and many children do not have much discretionary money in order for them to consider use of wealth. Yet they, just like Christian adults, can be nurtured into a life of generosity. The second reading offers also the imagery of "the good fight of faith," which may be interesting to children who are accustomed in our society to the glorification of violence. It is faith in the embrace of God that equips us for the battles of life.

### **Thursday - Connections with Creation**

Amos depicts those who luxuriate in resources—ivory, lambs, calves, wine, finest oils—and use these to feel "at ease" and "secure" (6:1). Those selfish habits, which are condemned by the prophet, are not only matters of human injustice (like the rich man's deprivation of Lazarus), but also create injustice within God's broader ecosystem. God's justice in Psalm 146—caring for the hungry, the captives, the blind, the stranger, and widows and orphans—aligns with the one "who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them" (v. 6). The abuse of natural resources for selfish ease not only robs other humans in need but undermines the will of God, who created us and all things to live in caring community.

### **Friday - Reflection on the Gospel Reading**

Christians are called to have mercy on all who are in need. That this parable has been so literalized in Christian imagination indicates the power of a well-crafted narrative and people's perpetual fascination with the afterlife. Care must be taken to avoid any such literal interpretation, which would suggest that those who are embraced by God would not care about the suffering of others. Luke's position that "Moses and the prophets" point the world to Christ is a foundational principle of the ecumenical lectionary.

### **Saturday - Hymn of the Day**

Fred Pratt Green, born into a British Anglican family, became a Methodist minister and in his retirement wrote many hymns on topics that were not sufficiently addressed in current collections. "The church of Christ, in every age" (ELW 729) exemplifies his talent. The second stanza sounds like a description of poor Lazarus, and, heeding I Timothy, we join together to "share our bread." May we, as the body of Christ, "keep on rising from the dead."



**CHURCH**  
Announcements

**Thank you** for your offering of **\$6,005.72** for the week of **September 21st!**

**Altar Flowers** for the week are provided by Crystal Martin and girls, in memory of Hilbert Martin. **Thank you!**

Interested in learning about our **new Assisted Listening Device System**? We recently upgraded our system so you can connect your Bluetooth enabled hearing aid directly to our system, as well as use our Assisted Listening Devices here at church. Join us for a **brief training today, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am and 10:45am** to learn more. Please **bring your smartphone with you if you have one!**

All ages and skill levels invited to **join us for Worship-Palooza! Join us tonight, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7pm for a light supper and evening of planning for our Advent and Christmas season.** We will have a time of devotion on our Advent theme, then split into Visual Arts, Music and Liturgy groups to brainstorm on how to convey our theme in worship. Talk to Pastor Sylvia or Judy Kubischta if you would like more information!

It's pumpkin patch time! **Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> is Faith Family Day at Papa's Pumpkin Patch.** We have a shelter reserved from 3pm-6pm. **Free Admission passes** are available in the front office now. Once you sign up, you will receive your passes! **Food and beverages will be provided at the shelter.** We will also have the church bus available for those that cannot drive. Hope to see you all there!

Sign-ups available to **bring cookies and help serve food at Faith Family Day at Papa's Pumpkin Patch!** Sign up sheet is next to Coffee Fellowship, and you can talk to Jill Power for more information!

Gentlemen, what are some topics that come up for discussion that all can relate to? Sports (so many teams and types of sports)...Hobbies (again, so many)...Travel (I've Been Everywhere Man)...Politics (yeah, not going there), how about the weather? Join the **Men of Faith meeting on Thursday October 2nd at 9:00AM, where Meghan Chada from the KFVR Weather Team will be doing a presentation** on a subject that we all can find a connection to, **the weather!** Hope to see you there!

Please join us **on Thursday, October 9<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 Trinity Lutheran (502 N 4<sup>th</sup> 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 November 11<sup>th</sup> (at McCabe United Methodist, 1030 N 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Bismarck), and December 11<sup>th</sup> (Location TBD), with more opportunities coming soon!

Women of Faith, please join us for our **2025 WELCA Fall Cluster Gathering at Peace Lutheran Church in Lincoln on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am to 3pm!** The day will consist of lunch, devotion and worship music, discussion of Cluster business, and an **informative presentation by Gregory Loftesnes of the MNND Alzheimer's Association.** We will also be gathering a monetary offering, love gifts consisting of personal care items, cleaning or laundry items for the Community Cupboard in PLC, and a book exchange! Cost of lunch is \$10 a person. Contact Connie Isaak with any questions! Sign-ups available in the Gathering Place.

Join the Alzheimer's Association on **Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at the Capitol for the Walk to End Alzheimer's.** Money raised will go to the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. Talk to Lisa Bennett for more information, and register today at [alz.org/walks](http://alz.org/walks).

New to our community? We would love to officially welcome you! Please join us on **Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm or Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> for a New Member Orientation and Wednesday October 22<sup>nd</sup> or Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup> during service for our New Member Installation.** Call the front office at (701) 223-2236 to let us know you are interested!

Looking to boost your communication skills and stretch your improvisational muscles? Join us on **Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:45 to 7:15 PM at Faith Lutheran Church** 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](mailto:joseph.michalka@gmail.com). Newcomers are always welcome!

**Message: Pastor Sylvia Bull**  
**Liturgy: Pastor Derek Harkins**  
**Music: Judy Kubischta**

**Worship Assistants:**

**8:30 - Team G: Dalene Berger, Vince Berger, Sam May, Meme May, Mary Verlinde, Paul Verlinde, Lori Wanner, Rod Wanner, Deb Diede, Andi Johnson, Marlene Adolf**  
**11:00 - Team 2: John Wittenberg, Nikki Wittenberg, Shelby VonWahlde, Joe VonWahlde, Hope Schreiner, Shannon Schreiner, Billie Ann Caya, Sara Caya Giltner, Joyce Hellman**

## CALENDAR

### Monday, September 29

5:00 Altar Guild  
7:00 AA

### Tuesday, September 30

9:00 Quilting  
2:00 Crafts  
6:00 Stewardship Committee  
7:00 Scouts

### Wednesday, October 1

#### **Acolyte Training**

10:00 Bible Study  
5:15 Mentor Training  
5:30 Handbells  
5:30 BLAST Meal  
6:00 Church School and  
Confirmation  
7:00 Worship

### Thursday, October 2

9:00 Esther Circle  
9:00 Men of Faith

### Friday, October 3

8:00 NA

### Saturday, October 4

3:00 Faith Family Day at Papa's  
Pumpkin Patch

### Sunday, October 5

#### **Acolyte Training**

8:30 Worship  
9:45 Church School  
11:00 Worship  
4:00 Cub Scouts

# MISSION Focus



## SEPTEMBER: FRESH START KITS

We are looking to donate to the Fresh Start Kit Ministry! These kits allow individuals transitioning from incarceration to experience the love and care of the community and God while navigating their new lives. Please bring donations of travel size toothbrush and toothpaste, deodorant, socks, hats, gloves and \$25 Target or Walmart gift cards. A link to a full list is also available on our website and Facebook page. There is also a poster on the back counter in the Gathering Place

*"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your well-being and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."*

*- Jeremiah 29:11*