

**Sunday, November 16, 2025**  
**23rd 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**

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701-223-2236

# **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING HYMN: ELW 327 "Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow" \***

**BAPTISM OF WADE JAMES (8:30)**

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS (11)**

**KYRIE & HYMN OF PRAISE**

**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: ACS 1017 "Come to Me, O Weary Traveler"\***

**APOSTLE'S CREED (11)**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**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 491 "Come Let Us Eat" \***

**ELW 483 "Here Is Bread" \***

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

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

**BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN: ELW 723 "Canticle of the Turning" \***

**DISMISSAL**

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

## READING(S)

**First Reading:** *Psalm 98*

**Second Reading:** *2 Thessalonians 3:6-13*

Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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

**Gospel Reading:** *Luke 21:5-19*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21<sup>st</sup> Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So

make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

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

## **WEEKLY DEVOTIONS**

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

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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

Both the Nicene Creed and the Apostles’ Creed speak of the coming of Christ to judge the living and the dead. It is this judgment of which Luke speaks and in anticipation of which the rivers of Psalm 98 are clapping their hands.

### **Wednesday - Let the Children Come**

Also children fear abandonment and violence and danger. Depending on the age of the children who are addressed, it might be anything from news of gun violence in schools to the natural disaster of a hurricane to a recent cartoon film that threatens the imagination of children. Even Hansel and Gretel face a witch who wants to eat them. The church is called to honesty about human life, even when talking with children, and earnest assurances that these children will always be safe are false. Together the Christian community prays for God’s protection, no matter what comes.

### **Thursday - Life on the Earth**

Many hymns that thank God for nature are marked by nineteenth-century Romanticism that describes an earth of beautiful sunsets and singing birds. Yet the truth of nature is also like the apocalyptic visions of earthquakes and famines. Indeed,

Charles Darwin's discoveries were most unsettling to him because he could not imagine how an earth so reliant on nature's violence could have come from a beneficent Creator. In view of the natural disasters mentioned in today's gospel, we meditate on the mystery of God and beg for divine protection.

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

The human fear of future terrors is perennial. Not breath-taking buildings, nor stunning art, nor religious affiliation, nor national pride, nor the stability of the earth, nor what our society likes to call "family values" will save: Christ is the one.

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

A hymn appropriate for the day is "Through the night of doubt and sorrow" (ELW 327). The hymn was written in 1825 by Bernhardt Ingemann, a Danish university professor of literature and author of historical novels. The church is described as a pilgrim band marching through life's difficulties, which are vividly cited in the stanzas. Those Christians who currently are not facing "doubt, sorrow, darkness, gloom, terror, conflict, peril, and the shame of the cross" can sing this hymn for the many Christians around the world who are suffering in these ways, for we understand ourselves to be a pilgrim band helping one another travel through life's troubles.



**Thank you** for your offering of **\$16,980.50** for the week of **November 9th!**

**Altar Flowers** for the week are provided by Alan and Linette Olson. **Thank you!**

We celebrate the **baptism of Wade James**, with Allen Pedersen as sponsor.  
**Welcome to our church family, child of God!**

The **November Newsletter** is now in the mail and available online! If you would like a printed copy, you can find them on the table near the Ave C entrance.

Interested in singing with our choir? Join us from **10am-10:45am on Sundays in the East Room for choir rehearsal!** All experience levels welcome!

Thanksgiving is coming up! Join us on **Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm for our annual Community Thanksgiving Service at Lutheran Church of the Cross** (1004 E Highland Acres Rd, Bismarck). Join in worship with other area churches, hear from Sister Idelle Badt about Stepping Stone Ministries (free will offering collected for their ministry), and join us for the **Pie Social** after! **Sign-ups** to bake pie and bring whipped topping are **now available near the Coffee Hour area**. There will also be **no service on Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>**.

Are you **stressed out about our divisive political climate**, yet unsure of how to respond? Join for conversation and support as we build connections and community on **Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:15pm at Lucky's 13 (915 South 3rd St., Bismarck)**. Questions? Reach out to Pastor Sylvia.

Join us on **Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm for a Ukrainian Benefit Concert**, featuring Inna Husieva, Dmytro Somkin, and Ksennia Somkina. Listen to opera and Christmas music, with **free-will offering** helping those impacted by the war in Ukraine.

Please join us **on Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup> for a Scripture Circle led by U.S. Jones, III**! This powerful method of studying scripture focuses on details and connections across Scripture. The event, **hosted at Faith Lutheran, 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 coming soon!

**Message: Pastor Derek Harkins**

**Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull**

**Music: Sounds of Faith**

**Worship Assistants:**

**8:30 - Team E: Joe Grotsun, Hannah Grotsun, Brooke Sundvor, Steve Sundvor, Allison Germolus, Ben Kubischta, Judy Kubischta, Mercy Carkuff, David Ruiz, Emily Grote**

**11:00 - Team 3: Aaron Franklund, Jack Skaley, Gail Skaley, Jan Franklund, Les Franklund, Glenn Anderson, Tina Anderson, Carolee Hoffman, LeRoy Anderson, Janice Anderson**



# CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

## At Faith Lutheran

Altar Guild will be **selling Christmas Poinsettias** in honor or memory of loved ones, or just because, for the Christmas season! Sign ups will be available on **today, November 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> before and between services**, or you can call the office at (701) 223-2236. Poinsettias will be **\$15 each**, and will decorate the sanctuary through the Christmas season.

The **Faith Lutheran Crafters have ornaments for sale** in honor or memory of loved ones again this year! These can be **purchased for \$5 between services on November 30<sup>th</sup> and December 7<sup>th</sup>, or by calling the office**. The ornaments will hang on the church tree during the Christmas season, and will be available for pick-up as a keepsake starting in January. Proceeds will go to a mission or need in the church, to be decided at a later date.

Join us on **Wednesdays in Advent, starting December 3<sup>rd</sup>, for a Soup Lunch at 11:15am, and 12pm Midweek Worship Service**, along with our usual 7pm Worship Service. Hope to see you there!

Reminder to save the Date for the **Men's Christmas Supper on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm** and the Cookie Walk on **Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 9am**. More information for both events coming soon!

This year we will be having a **Community Longest Night Service on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 4pm**, hosted here at Faith Lutheran. More information coming soon!

Make sure to join us on **Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 3pm, 5pm, and 11pm for our Christmas Eve services, and Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10am for our Christmas Day service!** Be on the lookout for Worship Assistant sign-ups coming soon!

## CALENDAR

### Monday, November 17

3:00 Worship and Music  
7:00 AA

### Tuesday, November 18

9:00 Quilting  
2:00 Crafts  
5:15 HR Committee  
7:00 Scouts

### Wednesday, November 19

10:00 Bible Study  
5:30 Handbells  
6:00 Church School and  
Confirmation  
7:00 Worship

### Thursday, November 20

6:00 Executive Committee  
6:00 Knit & Crochet Group

### Friday, November 21

8:00 NA

### Saturday, November 22

### Sunday, November 23

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

# MISSION Focus

## **NOVEMBER: MINISTRY ON THE MARGINS AND LINCOLN COMMUNITY CUPBOARD**

We are currently collecting donations to help support local non-profits during this period of increased food insecurity. Please bring donations of meat, cheese, fruit and vegetables with longer shelf lives (examples include apples, bananas, potatoes), boxed meals, and laundry detergent. Please let staff know about any perishable food donations so we can make sure they make it into the fridge or freezer! We will also be accepting monetary donations, so please indicate your donations with "food" in the memo line of checks. Donations will be split between Ministry on the Margins and the Lincoln Community Cupboard at Peace Lutheran. Thank you for your generosity!

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

