

**Sunday, January 11, 2026**  
**Baptism of Our Lord Sunday**



**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**

**GATHERING HYMN: ELW 445 "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters" \***

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

**KYRIE: ELW Setting 8, pg. 184 \***

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

**READINGS:** see next page

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW Setting 8, pg 188 \***

**GOSPEL READING:** see next page

**CHILDREN'S SERMON & SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 456 "Baptized in Water"\***

**APOSTLE'S CREED**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**OFFERING MOMENT & PRAYER**

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

**GREAT THANKSGIVING & HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: ELW Setting 8, pg. 190 \***

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**COMMUNION HYMNS:**

**LAMB OF GOD: ELW Setting 8, pg. 191 \***

**ELW 824 "This Is My Father's World" \***

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

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

**BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN: ELW 453 "Baptized and Set Free" \***

**DISMISSAL**

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

## READING(S)

### **First Reading:** *Isaiah 42:1-9*

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.  
He will not cry out or lift up his voice  
or make it heard in the street;  
a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.  
He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth,  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:  
I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,  
to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
I am the LORD; that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.  
See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;

before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

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

**Second Reading:** *Psalm 29*

**Gospel Reading:** *Matthew 3:13-17*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

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

## **WEEKLY DEVOTIONS**

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

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

In the thanksgiving for baptism, we praise God with these words: "At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit," which Spirit now has anointed us for service.

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

The character Forky in *Toy Story 4* (Pixar, 2019) is a spork figurine especially cherished by his young creator, Bonnie. Although beloved, Forky is obsessed with

his nature as a disposable utensil and repeatedly throws himself in the trash. Woody tries to convince him that he is indispensable, that he is made and loved by Bonnie and therefore is precious and valuable. Brainstorm with the children in your life about how we can support each other to recognize our own baptismal identity as both loved and liked (Matt. 3:17) by God.

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

The reading from Isaiah connects God as creator of the skies, the lands, and human beings with God as the light and liberator of all. As baptized Christians, we are called to continue this godly work: to liberate those who are oppressed, as well as to treasure and protect the “heavens and the earth” that God made.

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

At his baptism, Jesus hears the voice of God, receives the Spirit of God, and is acclaimed Son of God. For Christians, this narrative illumines Christian baptism, when believers also are adopted as children by the name of the triune God.

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

A fine hymn for this day is “When Jesus came to Jordan” (ELW 305). Published first in 1980, this hymn by the Methodist Fred Pratt Green celebrates how Jesus’ baptism is meant for us and concludes with a petition that we keep our baptismal promises (see *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 228). Green’s prolific, poetic, and theological output in hymnody led him to be compared with Charles Wesley.



**CHURCH**  
Announcements

**Thank you** for your offering of **\$19,188.94** for the week of **January 4th!**

**Altar Flowers** for the week are provided by Harold and Marvel Lue Harter. **Thank you!**

The **Church Office will be closed Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**, in honor of MLK Jr Day.

Our **2026 Flower Chart is up!** Sign up to sponsor altar flowers (cost is usually around \$60) on a Sunday during the year for a special event, in honor or memory of someone, or just because! Look for the flower chart out in the Gathering Place.

**Christmas Poinsettias are available for pick-up** from the table in the Gathering Place. Thank you for helping decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season!

Please join us **on Thursday, January 15<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 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 on February 12 and March 12 (location details coming soon)!

The next **Men of Faith meeting** will be on **15 Jan 2026 at 9AM** and will feature Ben Kubischta doing a presentation on Building the Interstate through the Badlands

All experience levels are invited to join us for **Choir Practice on Sundays at 10am** in the East Room! **For the month of January, we will be meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.**

All ages and skill levels invited to **join us for Worship-Palooza! Join us on Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup> from 12:15pm - 1:15pm for an afternoon of planning for our Lent and Easter season.** We will have a time of devotion on our Lent 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!

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 **Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:15pm at Lucky's 13 (915 South 3rd St., Bismarck)**. Questions? Reach out to Pastor Sylvia.

This year, we will be **mailing giving statements in mid-January!** You can also access a record of your donations in your ICON online portal.

Many members have reached out to **thank the church for Sunshine Bags and Flowers!** Thank you for helping provide some sunshine to those who may be struggling during the holiday season.

**Thank you for all the gifts and treats brought in by members for staff** during the Christmas season! It's always nice to have some extra Christmas cheer during this busy season.

**Message: Pastor Derek Harkins**

**Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull**

**Music: Dmytro Somkin**

**Worship Assistants:**

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

**11:00 - Team 6: Matthew Nygard, Dina Nygard, Micah Nygard, Troy Olson, Roberta Modin, Alisha Sabot, Willow Hain, Casey Nyhus, Evelyn Rauser, Lillian Rauser**

## CALENDAR

### Monday, January 12

3:30 Worship & Music meeting  
7:00 AA

### Tuesday, January 13

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

### Wednesday, January 14

10:00 Bible Study  
1:00 Virginia Frieson Funeral  
5:30 Handbells  
6:00 5<sup>th</sup> Grade P/S  
6:00 Church School and  
Confirmation  
7:00 Worship

### Thursday, January 15

9:00 Men of Faith  
5:00 Scripture Circle at Faith  
Lutheran

### Friday, January 16

8:00 NA

### Saturday, January 17

### Sunday, January 18

8:30 Worship  
9:45 5<sup>th</sup> Grade P/S  
9:45 Church School  
11:00 Worship  
4:00 Cub Scouts

# MISSION Focus



## **JANUARY: STEPPING STONES MINISTRIES**

Stepping Stones Ministries provides a safe and healing environment for individuals experiencing homelessness who need to recover from illness or injury. We are looking to support their mission with donations of toilet paper, tissues, and Lysol spray. Thank you for your generosity!

*"... when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me." - Matthew 25:39-40*