

Sunday, August 30, 2026
Fourteenth 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

faithbismarck.com
701-223-2236

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN: ACS 1043 "Spirit, Open My Heart" *

BAPTISM OF ELIZABETH WREN LIEN, CHILD OF GOD

GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

READINGS: see next page

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: by Ben Splichal Larson

GOSPEL READING: see next page

CHILDREN'S SERMON & SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 659 "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" *

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

**OFFERING WITH SPECIAL MUSIC: "Safe Passage" by Mary Schneider,
dedicated to Dima, Kseniia, and their family**

OFFERING PRAYER

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

GREAT THANKSGIVING & HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: by Ben Splichal Larson

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN:

ELW 496 "One Bread, One Body" *

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 822 "Oh, Sing to the Lord" *

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE: "The Great Gate of Kiev" by Mussorgsky

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

READING(S)

First Reading: *Jeremiah 15:15-21*

Second Reading: *Romans 12:9-21*

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 16: 21-28*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

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



The postlude is for our Ukrainian friends and family: 'The Great Gate of Kiev' by M. Mussorgsky (1839 - 1881)

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Monday - Prayer of the Day

The prayer of the day, based on prayer #95 in the 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, looks to the suffering Christ as the model for the godly life and prays for strength to live in obedience to God.

Tuesday - Connections with the Liturgy

The authors of the New Testament maintained a strong belief in the eschaton, the end of the world coming sooner or later and the judgment to which today's gospel refers. In the language of the creeds, “he will come to judge the living and the dead”: “he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.” Paul’s words, “Bless those who persecute you,” has been a reminder to Christians to include prayer for their enemies in the weekly intercessions.

Wednesday - Let the Children Come

The cross is the sign of God's love and mercy for us and the world. It tells us there is nowhere Jesus will not go to save us. Help the children in your life recognize the cross as a sign of God's power to save us. Nothing—not even our sins—can keep us from God's love for us. Invite children to look for the cross in your worship space and around the church building. How many can they find? Where do they see crosses in their daily life? Encourage them to count the crosses they see, and to say each time they find one: "Jesus loves me."

Thursday - Life on the Earth

"Overcome evil with good," "those who lose their life for my sake will find it." These countercultural propositions inspire Christians to live on the earth in a new way, in harmony with also the created order, serving others, even other species, rather than the self.

Friday - Reflection on the Gospel

This Sunday provides the second half of Matthew's comments about the responsibility and attitude of church leadership. The life that Christ offers is the cross, dying to ourselves, thus the opposite of how many human leaders function. All the baptized are carrying the cross on their forehead, wet in baptism, ashed at the outset of each Lent. Yet it is the cross of Christ, not our own, that saves; and our salvation entails the death of our selves. It is a complex reading.

Saturday - A Hymn for the Day

A hymn appropriate for this day is "Rise, O church, like Christ arisen" (ELW 548). This trinitarian hymn is filled with verbs and nouns that describe our actions as followers of Christ. The line "remember well the future" exemplifies the skill of the hymn writer Susan Palo Cherwien, who crafted this text for a church anniversary in 1997. Cherwien is a Lutheran laywoman and poet who contributed eight hymns to Evangelical Lutheran Worship.



Thank you for your offering of **\$9,269.88** for the week of **August 23rd!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Robin and Allen Schumacher, in memory of Matthew Watson.

Thank you!

We celebrate the **baptism of Elizabeth Wren Lien**, child of Jeffrey and Melissa Lien, with Yvonne Lee and Nick Ludwig as sponsors. **Welcome to our church family, child of God!**

The **Church Office will be closed Monday, September 7th** in honor of Labor Day.

It's that time of year again! Our last Summer Worship Service will be Sunday, September 6th (Labor Day Weekend), so remember to **join us at either the 8:30am or 11am service starting Sunday, September 13th. Rally Day (first day of the program year) will also be Wednesday, September 9th (Wed. Church School/Confirmation) and Sunday, September 13th (Sunday Church School).** Make sure to join us as we kick off our Fall season!

Church School and Confirmation Registration is now available! Go to our Forms page at faithbismarck.com/forms to fill out our Google Forms for your Church School Age (3 Year Old-5th Grade) and Confirmation Age (6th Grade - 9th Grade) children! **We appreciate parents filling these out each year to help keep our records up to date.** If you have any questions about our programs, you can always talk to Kenny or one of the pastors!

Rice Pudding is coming up! Please join us **during Coffee Hour today, August 30th for Rice Pudding Sunday!** Enjoy our famous Rice Pudding, and **sign-up** to cook Rice Pudding, drive batches or work our booth during **this year's Street Fair from Friday, September 18th-Saturday, September 19th.** Look out in the September newsletter for a brief history of this fun tradition!

Women of all ages are invited to our **WELCA Gathering on Tuesday, September 1st at 7pm.** Join us for fellowship, to discuss past and future events, to help assemble pillowcase dress kits for Lutheran World Relief and **hear from Mercy Carkuff about the WELCA Triennial Gathering this past July!**

Men of Faith....Welcome back after a 3 month summer (but not from the heat) hiatus. We will start our monthly meetings with a **presentation from Sarah Matthews, who represents the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library,** in which she will speak of the services and opportunities that they offer. Make sure to mark **9AM, Thursday, 3 September 2026** on your calendar. Remember, treats might be offered.

Ruth Circle will resume on September 10th --- the 2nd Thursday of the Month beginning at 7 pm. We will continue our book study by Mike Yaconelli – *Messy Spirituality*. He addresses questions like: “Do you feel like you don’t pray enough, or read the Bible enough, or share our faith enough?” He stresses that imperfection and messiness are in fact, the earmarks of true Christianity. **All are invited to join us on this journey of “messy spirituality”.**

Message: Joseph Michalka

Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Music: Dmytro Somkin, Mary Schneider, Warren Granfor

Worship Team -

Team G: Dalene Berger, Vince Berger, Sam May, Meme May, Mary Verlinde, Paul Verlinde, Lori Wanner, Rod Wanner, Deb Diede, Andi Johnson, Marlene Adolf

CALENDAR

Monday, August 31

7:00 AA

Tuesday, September 1

9:00 Quilting

2:00 Crafts

6:00 CS Teacher Training

7:00 Scouts

7:00 WELCA Gathering

Wednesday, September 2

10:00 Bible Study

7:00 Worship

Thursday, September 3

9:00 Esther Circle

9:00 Men of Faith

6:00 CS Teacher Training

Friday, September 4

8:00 NA

Saturday, September 5

Sunday, September 6

9:30 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

