

Sunday, October 26, 2025
Reformation &
New Member 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 513 "Listen, God Is Calling" *

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

GREETING

KYRIE & HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW Setting 10, pg. 203 *

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 654 "The Church's One Foundation"*

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

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 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 504 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" *

DISMISSAL

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

READING(S)

First Reading: *Jeremiah 31:31-34*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

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

Second Reading: *2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18*

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion’s mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

Gospel Reading: *Luke 18:9-14*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 18th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

[Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves,

rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

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

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Monday - Prayer of the Day

Holy God, our righteous judge, daily your mercy surprises us with everlasting forgiveness. Strengthen our hope in you, and grant that all the peoples of the earth may find their glory in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Tuesday - Connections with the Liturgy

In the rite of confession and forgiveness (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, pp. 94-96), the Kyrie (pp. 98-99), the "Glory to God" (p. 100), the "Lamb of God" (pp. 112-113), and one option for blessing (p. 114), we stand with the tax collector to ask for God's mercy. He stood "far off," yet in our baptism we stand front and center, seeing the face of God in Jesus Christ.

Wednesday - Especially for Children

What is the "right" answer on the vocabulary test for the meaning of the word justice? School, home, and the world are quick to put an answer down on paper for justice that divides the world into right and wrong categories. Rules are usually involved, and the breaking of those rules seems inevitable. What if Jesus is working off a completely different vocabulary list than what we can comprehend? What if justice really meant "right relationship," something that doesn't seek to divide us at all but to help us meet at a safe coming-together place? Could that be the activity of folks coming together at the worship space to meet God?

Thursday - Life on the Earth

Although scientific knowledge makes the biblical worldview, in which drought was seen as divine punishment, less possible for us, scientists now suggest that human selfishness and our mismanagement of natural resources are indeed responsible for the increasing droughts brought about in climate change. We can join Jeremiah in confessing our sins and in praying for rain.

Friday - Reflection on the Gospel Reading

We who assemble on Sunday are both the Pharisee—people who trust that their religious practices are God-pleasing enough—and the tax collector—people who know their own sinfulness and plead for God's mercy. God responds by justifying the unrighteous.

Saturday - Hymn of the Day

An appropriate hymn for the day is "Lord Jesus, think on me" (ELW 599). This text was written in the early fifth century by Synesius, who lived in Cyrene, North Africa (present-day Libya), during a time that his city was suffering from war and natural disasters. The first stanza, pleading for forgiveness, sounds as if the tax collector could sing it, and later stanzas refer in metaphoric ways to the chaos of Synesius' society.



CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **\$13,055.42** for the week of **October 19th!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Del & Marlene Adolf, in memory of Bruce. **Thank you!**

We are excited to **officially welcome** Pat & Deb Frank, Kevin & Barb Hausauer (Wednesday), Loren Nieuwsma, Brenda Dockter, Edwin & Jeannette Kittler (8:30), and Edith & Jim Fischer (11) as **new members of our church**. Welcome to our Church Family!

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!

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 **tomorrow, October 27th at 5:15pm at Lucky's 13 (915 South 3rd St., Bismarck)**. Questions? Reach out to Pastor Sylvia.

Join us on **Sunday, November 2nd at 6pm for our annual Luminaria Walk** honoring members and loved ones who died in the past year. **Sign-up sheets** to submit names of loved ones is available near the Coffee Hour area, as well as a sign-up for **setting up (12pm on Sunday, November 2nd) and tearing down (7pm on Sunday, November 2nd)** the event.

Brent Weston from the Dakota Zoo will be conducting a presentation for the **Men of Faith at 9:00 AM, on Thursday, 6 November 2025**. Please place this on your calendars.

Please join us **on Thursday, November 13th 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 McCabe United Methodist, (1030 N 6th 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 December 11th at Faith Lutheran, with more opportunities coming soon!

All Women of Faith are invited to the **WELCA Gathering on Saturday, November 15th starting at 1:30pm.** Come listen to speaker Dawn Meier of the Cannon Ball Project through GracePoint Lutheran, enjoy refreshments, and hear about plans for the upcoming year!

Thanksgiving is coming up! Join us on **Tuesday, November 25th 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** will be out soon to bake pies for the event. There will also be **no service on Wednesday, November 26th.**

Message: Pastor Derek Harkins

Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Music: Dmytro Somkin

Worship Assistants:

8:30 - Team C: Ron Schneider, Mary Schneider, GT Solseth, Erica Solseth, Brendan Solseth, Allen Pedersen, Avis Pedersen, Deb Bensen, Orlin Bensen

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, October 27

3:00 Worship & Music
5:00 Altar Guild
7:00 AA

Tuesday, October 28

9:00 Quilting
2:00 Crafts
7:00 Scouts

Wednesday, October 29

All Saints' Wednesday

10:00 Bible Study
5:30 Handbells
6:00 4th Grade P/S
6:00 Church School and
Confirmation
7:00 Worship

Thursday, October 30

6:00 Compass Group
7:00 Executive Committee

Friday, October 31

8:00 NA

Saturday, November 1

Sunday, November 2

All Saints' Sunday

8:30 Worship
9:45 Church School
11:00 Worship
4:00 Cub Scouts
6:00 Luminaria Walk

MISSION Focus



OCTOBER: TRACY'S SANCTUARY HOUSE

Tracy's Sanctuary House is a non-profit that provides temporary sanctuary for out-of-town families during a time when their loved one is facing a medical emergency or life-threatening crisis. They focus on giving families a place of privacy, comfort, and compassion during an extremely difficult time in their lives. This month, we would like to collect gift cards (gas, WalMart, Target, grocery) labelled with the amount, stamps, thank you cards, Kleenex, disinfectant wipes/sprays and household cleaners, to help in their mission.

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

- Galatians 6:2