Wednesday, October 28, 2026
All Saints' Wednesday



Faith Lutheran Church

Mission Statement
"Building a welcoming, nurturing faith community that is guided by Jesus and shares the Gospel."

MINISTERS **Every Member**
SENIOR PASTOR **Derek Harkins**

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING SONG: ELW 513 "Listen, God Is Calling" *

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

READING: see next page

SERMON

SONG: ELW 422 "For All the Saints" *

OFFERING

PRAYER WITH READING OF NAMES

HOLY COMMUNION

BLESSING

SENDING SONG: ACS 950 "Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In" *

DISMISSAL

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

READING(S)

Reading: *Matthew 23:1-12*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 23rd Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses's seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it, but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others, but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others, for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers and sisters. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father, the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted."

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

BRINGING IT HOME

This section provides guidance on how to discuss a passage from the Revised Common Lectionary for the week as a family! The devotions for this week are for Mark 12:28–34.

Reflection Questions

- Jesus interacted with a lot of people, including Jewish leaders who sometimes agreed with him and sometimes didn't. What were Jesus and the scribe discussing in this story? What did Jesus say are the two greatest commandments?
- When the scribe asks his question, how do Jesus and the scribe treat each other in this story? How do they handle their discussion?
- Have you ever had a curious question you really wanted to find an answer to? Whom did you ask, and how did it go? Tell us about it.
- In this season after Pentecost, we practice loving God and our neighbors. When the scribe approached Jesus, he asked his question with openness and curiosity. How does having curiosity and approaching one another with openness show love to your neighbor?
- Jesus said to love God with your whole heart, soul, mind, and strength. How is practicing curiosity a way of loving God with your mind?

Activity

In today's scripture, the scribe was curious and asked Jesus a big question about it. They engage in an open, mutually respectful conversation that allows them to connect with and understand one another to build common ground. Jesus shows us how we can faithfully and lovingly engage with others.

Practice building common ground by being curious about one another with a modified game of "This or That."

Have the group stand together in the middle of an open space. Then, offer everyone a choice between two things (e.g., beach or mountains, travel to the past or the future, sports or art, big party or one-on-one time with a close friend, etc.).

Everyone who chooses one option should gather at one side of the space, while everyone who chooses the other option gathers on the other side. Then, as a group, talk through your opinions on the question until you learn something new about a group member.

The group then regathers in the middle. Then, offer another choice. Repeat as many times as you like.

Afterward, discuss the process of being curious about each other. How might it be more challenging to be curious in different circumstances?

Prayer

God, who asks and answers questions, through Jesus you have shown us how your love inspires curiosity and conversation. As we practice loving you, our neighbors, and ourselves, may we embrace curiosity, remembering your love connects us all. Amen.

Look it Up!

Look up the Chavruta (also spelled chavrusa or havruta) method of study and learning used in Judaism.

It relies on multiple people studying and debating a text together. Discuss the value of learning in this way.



CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **$10,456.14** for the week of **October 25th!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by LeRoy & Janice Anderson, in memory of Randy. **Thank you!**

We honor and remember with deep gratitude the faithful members of our congregation who have entered eternal life in this last year: Arlys Poppke, Joyce Knoll, Marlys Schneider, DeLores Leno, Elmer Allmendinger, Ralph Spier, Doug Halvorson, John Olson, Gene Severson, Virginia Frieson, Cathy Langemo, Eloise Hanson, Arline Emineth, Shirley Evans, Melvin "Corky" Mehlhoff, Neil Modin, Wayne Lindteigen, Charles "Chuck" Nodland, Elaine Anderson, Gary Satern, Patricia "Patty" Satern, Betty Sprecher, Wilma Speidel, James Schatz, Sandra Darling, Patricia Stadig, James Munsch, Eric Barnick, Wes Sprenger, and Mike Link. May their memory always remain a blessing among us.

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour before bed **on Saturday night** as daylight saving time officially ends on **November 1.**

Elections are right around the corner! On **Monday, November 2nd, from 7:00 PM to 7:45 PM,** a **Prayer Vigil for Peace** will be held at **Bismarck United Church of Christ** (1200 E Highland Acres Rd, Bismarck). This event is co-hosted by Bismarck UCC, Heart River Lutheran, Legacy UMC, Lord of Life Lutheran, Lutheran Church of the Cross, and St. George's Episcopal.

There is a **Health Information Fair** for older adults, their families, and caregivers on **Tuesday, November 3rd** from **10:30 am to 2:30 pm.** Come connect, learn, and discover valuable information about services and resources to support you or your loved one if and when they need it. There are **over 20 vendors** on hand to answer your questions. Catch a special presentation by the **ND Alzheimer's Association at 11:00 am in the Missouri Slope Chapel,** and stop for their **Bistro for lunch** while you're there!

Thanksgiving is coming up! Join us on **Tuesday, November 24th at 7pm for our annual Community Thanksgiving Service at Legacy United Methodist Church** (4600 Durango Drive, Bismarck). Join in worship with other area churches, hear from a guest speaker from CATCH (free will offering collected for their ministry), and join us for the **Pie Social** after!

Please note there will be **no service on Wednesday, November 25th,** and our **office will be closed from Wednesday, November 25, through Friday, November 27,** for Thanksgiving.

Want to learn how to be a more engaged citizen in your community? Interfaith Alliance of North Dakota is partnering with the Palm Sunday Path to offer a series of workshops to help you feel equipped to speak about your values - with friends and family, policymakers, and at the upcoming North Dakota legislative session. This **Voicing Your Values** series will be offered Oct-Dec on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 6-8pm at Lord of Life Lutheran Church (1143 N. 26th St). Join for any or all of these sessions as you learn not *what* to say, but how to share effectively about the issues and concerns that are important to you!

November 19 - Voicing Your Values: Letters to the Editor and Written Testimony

Steve Andrist leads this session on how to communicate your values effectively through letters to the editor and written legislative testimony.

December 17 - Voicing Your Values: Testifying at the ND State Legislature

Rudie Martinson leads this session on the process for testifying in person or online at the ND Legislature.

Message & Liturgy: Pastor Derek
Music: Colleen Reinhardt

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CALENDAR

Thursday, October 29

Friday, October 30
5:45 Improv Workshop
8:00 NA

Saturday, October 31

Sunday, November 1
All Saints Day
Daylight Saving Time Ends
8:30 Worship
9:45 Church School
11:00 Worship
4:00 Cub Scouts

Monday, November 2
7:00 AA

Tuesday, November 3
9:00 Quilting
11:00 Worship & Music
2:00 Crafts
7:00 Scouts

Wednesday, November 4
10:00 Bible Study
5:30 Handbells
5:30 BLAST Meal
6:00 Church School & Confirmation
7:00 Worship

MISSION Focus



OCTOBER: LINCOLN COMMUNITY CUPBOARD

The Food Pantry in Lincoln is in need of a few items that are seldom available through bulk distributors. Community members can help stock the shelves with affordable donations from dollar stores, including household cleaners (floor, dish, laundry, and bathroom), feminine hygiene products (pads and tampons), toilet paper, and canned soups for the fall and winter months. Thank you for your generosity!

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
— 2 Corinthians 9:7