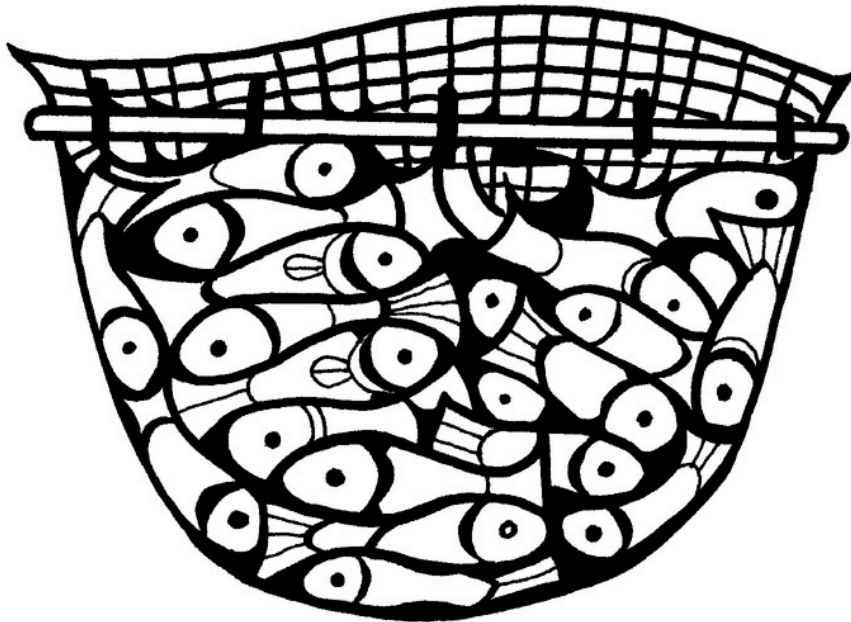


Wednesday, February 5, 2025
Fifth Week After Epiphany
The Holy Spirit: The Giver
of Life and Joy



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

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701-223-2236

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING SONG: ACS 1037 "Christ, Our Peace" x3 *

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

NICENE CREED (Part 4)

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.**

**Who, with the Father and the Son, is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the Prophets.**

READING (see next page)

SERMON

SONG: "The Kingdom of God" x3

**The kingdom of God is justice and peace
and joy in the Holy Spirit
Come, Lord, and open in us
the gates of your Kingdom.**

PRAYERS

OFFERING

COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG: ELW 538 "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth" x2 *

DISMISSAL

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

READING

Luke 5:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 5th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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 Isaiah 6:1-8

Prayer

God of justice, the things filling our hearts with compassion and our brains with curiosity are your invitations to us to help heal the world. When we notice them, may we, with courage and excitement, cry out, "Here I am! Send me!" Amen.

Reflection Questions

- What does Isaiah see during his vision in this scripture?
- Isaiah's people are being attacked by the Assyrian Empire, but they are being protected by God. How did Isaiah feel and respond when he saw his vision of God's power? How did he feel about the Assyrians' power?
- Isaiah felt uncertain about his own abilities to lead and help his people. Have you ever felt unsure about your abilities when facing a challenge? What did you do?
- Even though Isaiah feels unsure, when God calls for someone to lead, he says, "Here I am! Send me!" What do you think helped Isaiah say yes to God, despite his worries?
- We're in the season after Epiphany when we focus on how God calls us to work for justice, just like Isaiah. As you work for justice, name some ways you can say, "Here I am! Send me!"

Did you know?

Did you know the angels in Isaiah's vision were quite shocking in appearance? It's no wonder Isaiah was overwhelmed!

Look up depictions of the seraphim described in this passage. How would you feel if you encountered a mythical creature like a seraph?



**micro
PRACTICE**

Who are the people you can trust with a problem or injustice? Even when they are not available, you can imagine your group of advisors and consider what they might say about your next steps. Your brain is full of helpful advice!

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Guiding Activity

In our scripture for today, Isaiah gets to see something most humans never get to see: God's full might and power. There's a phrase we use to describe when someone gets to see what someone with a lot of power is really like. We say they are "peeking behind the curtain." Isaiah has seen the power of the Assyrian empire as it has invaded and attacked his people. Now, as his people feel powerless after the death of their king, Uzziah, Isaiah is given a glimpse at the mighty power of their God. Not only is God's power greater than any human empire, but it's also a different kind of power. It is a power that protects and empowers others.

Play a charades-like game together with children in your life exploring what it's like to face different kinds of power. Invite someone to act out a particular kind of leadership, selecting from the idea list below. Then, as a group, discern how to ask the type of leadership on display for help. Ensure there are some positive forms of power represented, as well as forms that are not. Then, decide together how you should respond to this person's power. Should you: "Challenge it," "Work with it," "Learn more," or "Call for help?" During each turn, discuss what it would look like to choose each possible course of action and what the outcome might be. If you have a curtain you can use as a prop, you can even have the children in your life "peek behind the curtain" as they encounter each leader. Some types of powerful people:

- Benevolent king or queen
- Strict, but fair, school teacher
- Corrupt politician
- Local activist
- Public servant (e.g. police officer, firefighter, etc.)
- School bully
- Unjust dictator



CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **\$17,469.42** for the week of **February 2!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Judy and Ben Kubischta, in memory of loved ones. **Thank you!**

Our **2025 Flower Chart still has some spots!** Sign up to sponsor altar flowers (cost is usually around \$50) 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.

Save the Date for Rice Pudding during Coffee Hour! On **Sunday, February 16th, we will be serving our famous Rice Pudding between services**, prepared and served by members of our Rice Pudding Committee. Proceeds from the **free-will offering** will go to getting 4 new barstools to go around the new island in our kitchen. Come enjoy this special treat!

Middle and High School Youth, please join us for a **Mock-In, hosted at Trinity Lutheran Church** with other churches in the Bismarck-Mandan area, on **Friday, February 21 from 6pm-10pm!** Call the office at (701) 223-2236 and ask for Kenny for more details! Registration link: <https://form.jotform.com/250085703330144>

We will be **Serving the Banquet at the Dream Center on Saturday, March 1st! Sign ups** to help serve, and bring cupcakes, are available on the back counter.

K-5 Students: join Camp of the Cross for a **Camp Fun Day at Trinity Lutheran Church on Saturday, March 1 from 10am-2pm.**

Registration Link: <https://form.jotform.com/250085955740158>

Save the Date for the 29th Annual **Men of Faith Potato/Chili Feed** fundraiser! Join us on **Wednesday, March 5 at 5pm** for a meal of baked potato, chili and bars, with a free-will offering collected for Camp of the Cross. More info coming soon!

Don't forget to **direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars!** Individuals with certain types of accounts can direct money, donated by Thrivent, to specific non-profits in the area. The **deadline to direct your Dollars is Monday, March 31st.** Make sure to log-in to the online portal, or talk to your Thrivent representative, to select any non-profits you would like to support. In the past, we have used Thrivent Choice Dollars to fund devotionals and Bible Study materials, speakers and special events at Faith Lutheran. Thank you for supporting non-profits!

For the month of February, we are **honoring our Quilting group at Faith Lutheran!** Each year, our quilters make and send 130 quilts to Lutheran World Relief, as well as 30-40 quilts for local causes, such as members in need, recognizing staff, and donations to local non-profits. The group meets every Tuesday morning at 9am if you are interested in joining. **Thank you** for all you do for our community and the world!

MISSION Focus



FEBRUARY: BIO GIRLS

BIO Girls aims to improve the self-esteem of adolescent girls through service to others and self-empowerment, using a life-skills curriculum and small-group mentoring. The BIO Girls program at FLC also helps girls train for a 5k in May. They are currently seeking monetary donations to help with scholarships, supplies for classes, and items for their finale event! Checks can be made out to BIO GIRLS, with Bismarck FLC BIO Girls in the memo line, and mailed to BIO Girls, 4225 38th St S, Suite 202, Fargo, ND, 58104. Thank you for your generosity!

Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. - 1 Timothy 4:12

CALENDAR

Thursday, February 6

9:00 Esther Circle

9:00 Men of Faith

Friday, February 7

8:00 NA

Saturday, February 8

Sunday, February 9

8:30 Worship

9:45 Church School

11:00 Worship

4:00 Cub Scouts

Monday, February 10

Newsletter Deadline

7:00 AA

Tuesday, February 11

9:00 Quilters

2:00 Crafts

6:00 Elementary Committee

7:00 Scouts

Wednesday, February 12

10:00 Bible Study

5:30 Handbells

6:00 6th/7th Grade PS

6:00 Church School

7:00 Worship

Message: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Liturgy: Pastor Derek Harkins

Music: Sounds of Faith