

Wednesday, April 9, 2025
Midweek Service
The Need for Beauty



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

WORDS OF WELCOME

OPENING SONG: ACS 955 "Come to the Water of Life" *

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

READING (see next page)

PRAYER FOR HEALING

PRAYER STATIONS (see next page for instructions)

Personal Healing Prayers (Praying for Beauty)

The Beauty of Holiness

The Fragrance Filled the Room

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF SENDING

SENDING SONG: ACS 925 "Beautiful Things" *

DISMISSAL

READING

Reading: *John 12:1-8*

The Holy Gospel according to John the 12th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

PRAYER STATIONS

Personal Healing Prayers (center)

At this station, you are invited to join the leader in prayer for the healing power of God-given beauty in your life.

The Fragrance Filled the Room (Left side, near pulpit)

At this station, we recall the sensory beauty of the costly perfume Mary wiped onto Jesus' feet. Rub a small amount of lotion into your hands. Take your time, caring gently for your skin, and breathe in the fragrance. Offer a silent simple prayer to God as you do: thank you for beauty.

The Beauty of Holiness (Right side, near organ and cross)

At this station, visual art is offered as a tool for contemplation and prayer. Choose an image for contemplation and consider: What do you notice? What speaks to you? How does it show you a new perspective on the divine?

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Consider using this page to help guide the children in your life to explore how the needs we discuss in service impact our lives. This week we are exploring the need for beauty.

Kids are so good at seeing beauty. They notice the world around them in a unique way, and they bless the adults in their lives by sharing their perspective. One of the joys of being around children is having them point out to you all of the beautiful things they see.

Ask the kids in your life what they've seen today that is beautiful. Give plenty of time for responses. If they need a prompt, you might ask them what they see right in the room that is beautiful. Beauty isn't only visual, so work through the five senses and challenge children to provide examples of beautiful things they've not only seen, but also heard, touched, tasted, and smelled. Ooooh and aaaah over each response. Ask kids what life would be like without beautiful things, and why they think God created such beauty. Exploring what beauty is and why we need it will draw on the kids' wisdom, and it might even help you reflect, too! Dying eggs together is a great opportunity to talk about how we can create beauty ourselves.

Beauty

**will give Jesus dignity
when everything else is
taken from him.**

**It can accompany us,
too, come what may.**

Linnéa Clark
All We Need: Preachers' Notes
Fifth Sunday in Lent

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- When has something seemingly frivolous or wasteful changed your perspective or your life?
- Where has beauty appeared in desperate or painful situations in your life, and how did it transform them?
- How can our worshipping community use beauty more effectively to welcome worshipers and help them connect with God?
- Judas' question presents a false choice between helping the poor and embracing beauty. What role could beauty play to better offer dignity and respect to guests of our congregation? What simple gestures can offer dignity to people who are seeking help?
- Research local public art, like the Bismarck-Mandan Art Trail, murals on buildings around town, sculptures in parks, or art found in locations like the Heritage Center. Who created and installed it? How does it honor and dignify the people who live near it?



Thank you for your offering of **\$14,847.60** for the week of **April 6!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by DaLana Mayer and Todd Erickson. **Thank you!**

There will be **no services on Wednesday, April 16**. Join us for our return to our regular schedule (7pm service only) on Wednesday, April 23.

Easter is almost here! Please join us for **Maundy Thursday, April 17**, at 7pm, **Good Friday, April 18** at 12pm or 7pm, the **Community Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 19th** at 7pm (hosted at Faith Lutheran!) and **Easter Sunday, April 20th** at 7am, 9am, or 11am. Don't forget our **Easter Sunday Continental Breakfast** from 7:30am-11am to support our youth with your free will offering!

Take a look at our **Holy Week and Easter Worship Assistant sign-ups** near the Coffee Fellowship table! If you are interested in helping but unsure of the different roles, talk with one of the pastors who can walk you through what you can help with!

The Faith Crafters have created **handmade Easter cards, table favors and Easter basket stuffers** that they will be selling between services on **Sunday, April 13**. Also, look out after Easter for **handmade Confirmation, Mother's Day, Graduation, Father's Day and Wedding cards** available for purchase.

Come to our next **All Comers' Choir Rehearsals**, where singers (any skill level), are invited to participate in one rehearsal before singing at a service that day. Come on **Maundy Thursday, April 17th** (rehearsal at 6pm, worship at 7pm), **Good Friday, April 18th** (rehearsal at 6pm, worship at 7pm) and **Easter Sunday, April 20** (rehearsal at 8:15am, worship at 9am and 11am).

Join other members for the **2025 Race for Parkinson's, held on Saturday, April 26 at Sertoma Park**. For more information, look for the Bismarck Parkinson's Support Group on Facebook, visit <https://bismarckparkinsons.wordpress.com/>, or reference the poster on the counter beside the sanctuary

Save the Date for our upcoming **Confirmation Luncheon on Sunday, April 27 at 12:15pm in the Fellowship Hall**. Everyone is invited to join us as we celebrate our ninth graders taking the next step in their faith journey! **Confirmation services** will be Wednesday, April 30th at 7pm and Sunday, May 4th at 11am.

Join us on **Sunday, May 11th at 9:45am for our Spring Congregational Meeting!** Come hear about what has been going on in the church, our plans for the future, and vote on new business.

We will be hosting an **AARP Driver Safety Class on Monday, May 5th from 12:30pm to 4:30pm.** Learn from **instructor Allen Dockter** about defensive driving techniques and how to adjust driving to age-related changes. You could also receive a discount on insurance! Course must be taken every three years for the insurance discount. Course is **\$20 per person for AARP members, and \$25 for non-members.** To register, contact the front office at (701) 223-2236, or Allen Dockter at (701) 255-3715.

We are **accepting sponsorships for our NC Trip** this summer! We appreciate any donations to help fund this multi-generational trip to help recovery efforts from Hurricane Helene. Sponsors will also receive updates, and an invitation to a “thank you” dinner after the trip. You can **make a donation to Faith Lutheran with “NC trip sponsor” in the memo line or on a note, or use our Give page on our website.** More information on the different costs for the trip can be found on the bulletin board near our Coffee Hour area.

MISSION Focus



APRIL: HEAVENS HELPERS CLOSET (701)

Heavens Helpers Closet (701) is a non-profit organization that provides free clothing and other personal care items to individuals in our community struggling to meet basic needs. At the church, we will be asking for donations of new men’s and children’s underwear (in packaging, any size), body soap or wash, shampoo, conditioner, and deodorant. An Amazon wishlist, and the process for donating clothing at their location, can be found on their website: www.heavenshelperscloset701.org

“Is not this the fast that I choose:...Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.” Isaiah 58:6-8

CALENDAR

Thursday, April 10

Newsletter Deadline

2:00 Knit & Crochet Group

7:00 Ruth Circle

Friday, April 11

5:00 9th Grade Retreat

8:00 NA

9:00 Middle School/High School
Lock-in

Saturday, April 12

Sunday, April 13

8:30 Worship

9:45 Lent Book Study

9:45 Church School

11:00 Worship

4:00 Cub Scouts

Monday, April 14

7:00 AA

Tuesday, April 15

9:00 Quilting

5:15 BIO Girls

7:00 Scouts

Wednesday, April 16

NO CHURCH SCHOOL

NO WORSHIP

Liturgy: Pastor Derek Harkins & Pastor Sylvia Bull

Music: Linda Lueneberg (12); Kalen Hill (7)

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