

Wednesday, April 23, 2025
Second Week of Easter



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

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING SONG: "This is the Day"

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

READING (see next page)

SERMON

SONG: ELW 171 "Heleluyan (Hallelujah)" *

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG: ELW 375 "Aleluya! Cristo resucito (Alleluia! Christ is Arisen)" *

DISMISSAL

READING

Reading: *John 20:19-31*

The Holy Gospel according to John the 20th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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 Psalm 118:14-29

Reflection Questions

- A psalm is a song or a poem used in worship to help express joy, gratitude, sadness, and several other feelings. The author sings, “You are my God, and I will give thanks to you,” having experienced God’s steadfast love through difficult times. How do you express your thankfulness to God for the love God gives?
- The author talks about God’s love even when others have rejected them. Recall a time when someone helped you feel loved. How did you feel?
- Reflect on other stories you’ve heard from the Bible. Where can you remember God’s steadfast love showing up for the people in those stories?
- We are in the Easter season, where we celebrate the new life we have in Christ because of God’s love. How does God’s act of love change us and the way we live?
- This psalm reminds us to, “give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.” What reminds you to give thanks for God’s goodness every day?

Prayer

God of belonging, everyone is welcome in your love. There is no such thing as “too much” or “not enough.” You value and celebrate everyone. Fill us with your overflowing love to build a strong, vibrant community where everyone belongs. Amen.

Activity

This week, we are reminded of the steadfast love of God in our lives, but sometimes, it can be difficult to remember we are loved. Invite the kids in your life to brainstorm phrases to remind them God loves them and is with them every day. Examples might be phrases like, “God is with you,” “God’s love is forever,” or “You are worthy of God’s love.” If helpful, put some on a whiteboard or butcher paper for everyone to refer back to.

Gather some notecards and art supplies to use. Recall the reminders you brainstormed together, and invite the kids to create reminder cards of God’s steadfast love to exchange with each other, or give to other people.

When everyone is finished, share cards with each other, reminding one another of God’s love. Afterward, swap cards with each other if you would like. Brainstorm strategic places to put them that will help them recall God’s love throughout the week (e.g., in a book, lunch bag, dresser, on a bathroom mirror, etc.). You can also give the cards out to different people you see throughout the week. End with a prayer asking God to help us remember—in the good and the bad—God is with us and loves us forever.

Look It Up!

Have you ever heard of a cornerstone? Cornerstones have been crucial parts of architecture, even as far back as ancient Egypt!

Look up what purposes they serve, like being a reference point for every other stone laid in a building.



**micro
PRACTICE**

Mindfulness and gratitude help us remember truths that keep us grounded when life is challenging.

Choose a verse from Psalm 118 to remind you of God’s faithfulness. Write it on a scrap of paper, and carry it in your pocket.

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CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **\$12,261.20** for the week of **April 20!**

Easter Mums are provided by many contributors, listed in the insert and on the poster on the back counter.

Thank you!

Handmade cards for Confirmation, Mother's Day, Graduation, Father's Day and Weddings are available for purchase on the small display table in the Gathering Area.

Join us **this Saturday, April 26 at 1pm for a presentation on the Senior Companions program**, which connects volunteers 55 and older with older adults to help provide companionship so they can stay in their home, while still having social connections. Refreshments to be provided. Hope to see you there!

Join other members for the **2025 Race for Parkinson's, this 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

Join us **this Sunday, April 27 at 12:15pm for our Confirmation Luncheon 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 30 at 7pm and Sunday, May 4 at 11am.

Are you available Tuesday mornings? We are looking for a few more volunteers to help **cover the office during our staff meeting**. If you would be willing to answer the phone and doors from 9am to around 10:30 am, please call the office at (701) 223-2236. We would love to add you to the rotation!

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.

Our **Summer Worship Hours** will be starting soon! From Memorial Day Weekend (Sunday, May 25) to Labor Day Weekend (Sunday, August 31), we will have **one Sunday service at 9:30 am**, along with our usual Wednesday 7pm service.

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.

Message & Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Music: Kalen Hill

CALENDAR

Thursday, April 24

6:00 Knit & Crochet Group

Friday, April 25

8:00 NA

Saturday, April 26

1:00 Senior Companion Program
Presentation

Sunday, April 27

8:30 Worship
9:45 Lent Book Study
9:45 Church School
11:00 Worship
12:15 Confirmation Luncheon
4:00 Cub Scouts

Monday, April 28

10:00 Shyrrl Lindteigen Funeral
7:00 AA

Tuesday, April 29

9:00 Quilting
2:00 Crafts
5:15 BIO Girls
7:00 Scouts

Wednesday, April 30

Confirmation Wednesday

10:00 Book Study
5:30 Handbells
6:00 Church School
6:00 Lent Book Study
7:00 Worship

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