

Wednesday, January 29, 2025
Fourth Week After Epiphany
**The Paschal Mystery: Passion,
Death, and Resurrection of
Jesus**



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING SONG: ELW 471 "Let Us Break Bread Together" *

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

NICENE CREED (Part 3)

**For our sake Jesus was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried. On the third day he rose from the dead in
accordance with the scriptures.**

**He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

READING (see next page)

SERMON

SONG: ACS 1015 "As a Mother Comforts Her Child" x3 *

PRAYERS

OFFERING

COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG: ACS 950 "When the Saints Go Marching In" (v. 1, 4, 5) *

READING

Luke 4: 21-30

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 4th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

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 Luke 4:21-30

Prayer

Loving God, two things are true: we were made to live together in community, and what we say matters. As we live and interact with the people around us, may we be filled with patience and compassion, understanding and love. Amen.

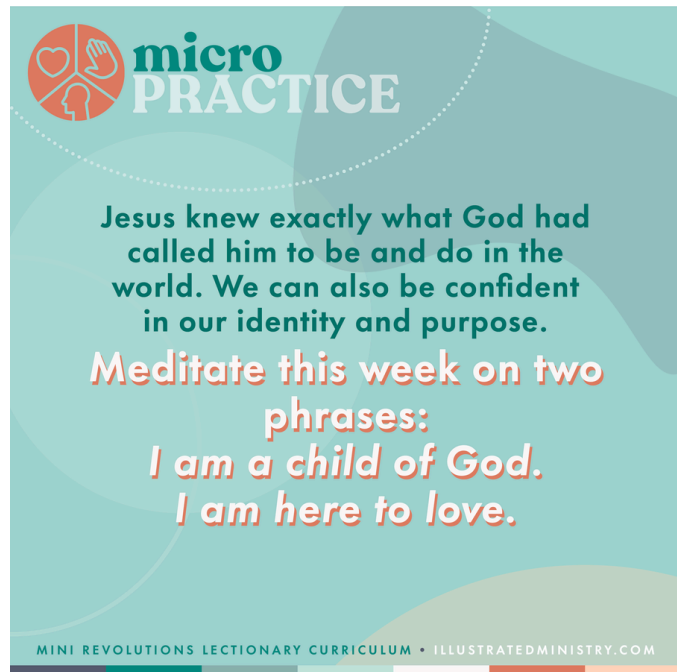
Reflection Questions

- What happened in this story? How did the crowd respond to Jesus when he read from the scroll? How did Jesus treat the crowd, and how did they react to what Jesus said?
- What happened in the story to cause a shift in the crowd's mood? Why did they become angry at Jesus?
- The season after Epiphany is about revealing Jesus as Christ to everyone. In the story, Jesus read from the book of Isaiah and revealed his main message: good news for the poor, freedom for captives, and healing for the oppressed. What reaction or emotion do you experience as you hear Jesus' message?
- In this story, Jesus talks about his main message while withholding his blessing from his hometown, Nazareth. Was Jesus being fair? Share your reasoning.
- Have you ever anticipated someone's future reaction, as Jesus did with people in his hometown? Talk or write about it!

Did you know?

Did you know when people encounter surprises, it activates different parts of the brain?

Look up how the brain processes expectations and surprises, and consider how our expectations shape our reactions to new ideas.



Guiding Activity

In this week's story, Jesus reads from the book of Isaiah and reveals his central message: good news for the poor, freedom for captives, and healing for the

oppressed. Together with children in your life, make a collage symbolizing Jesus' message from Isaiah.

For younger children: You can use pre-cut images and words that reflect good news to the poor, freedom or healing to create the collage. Invite participants to pick out and glue the images that relate to each category to construction paper. You can also encourage participants to draw elements from Jesus' message by reflecting on the following questions. What does "good news to the poor" look like to you? What does freedom look like, or what about healing? Invite creativity!

For older children: *Provide magazines and printed photos, coloring utensils, glue construction paper to create the collage, along with dice.* Assign each individual or group one element of Jesus' message: good news for the poor, freedom for captives, and healing for the oppressed. Invite everyone to create images based on the element they were assigned. You could also work all together on each element one at a time.

At the start of each round, each individual or group will roll their die to determine the artistic guidelines to apply to the theme image.

1. use only three colors (name the colors)
2. incorporate a particular shape (circle/square/ triangle, etc.)
3. use only warm colors
4. use only cool colors
5. create an abstract image
6. add the theme word(s) to the image

When each group or individual's image is complete, glue it to a large poster board. If you prefer a temporary collage, affix the images to a wall or table with painter's tape. Complete as many rounds as you like. When finished, invite the teams to share their images and creative constraints.

Take away: At the end of the activity, discuss how the collage connects to Jesus' mission. How do these words and pictures inspire us to take action in our community?



CHURCH
Announcements

Thank you for your offering of **\$12,199.25** for the week of **January 26th!**

Altar Flowers for the week are provided by Mercy Carkuff, in memory of Greg. **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.

Thank you to those who **purchased ornaments** in memory/honor of loved ones to decorate the church tree during the Christmas season. The **proceeds were used to purchase gift cards** to be given through the Sunshine Fund as needed. The **ornaments are now available for pick up from the back counter.**

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!

The **deadline for our Congregational Trip to Western North Carolina** is coming up on **January 31!** Sign-up soon for our trip to a Disaster Response Mission Camp in Newland, NC from July 27-Aug 2. **Anyone 9th grade and above is welcome to join!** You can speak with Pastor Sylvia or Kenny for more information. Registration link: <https://forms.gle/USzou7LRGd9ndprf6>

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>

K-5 Students: join Camp of the Cross for a **Camp Fun Day at Trinity Lutheran Church on Saturday, March 1, 2025 from 10am-2pm.**

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

MISSION Focus

JANUARY: YOUTHWORKS

Youthworks provides short-term transitional housing and support services to homeless young adults ages 18-24. They also assist families and youth under the age of 18 as well in many different ways. For more information and ways to support this organization check out their website: youthworksnd.org. They are currently looking for menstrual supplies, hats, gloves, winter coats, scarves, new socks, diapers, baby wipes and baby formula.

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? 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? - Isaiah 58:6-7



CALENDAR

Thursday, January 30

Friday, January 31

8:00 NA

Saturday, February 1

Sunday, February 2

8:30 Worship

9:45 Church School

11:00 Worship

4:00 Cub Scouts

Monday, February 3

7:00 AA

Tuesday, February 4

9:00 Quilters

2:00 Crafts

7:00 Scouts

Wednesday, February 5

10:00 Bible Study

4:30 8th/9th Confirmation

5:30 Handbells

5:30 BLAST Meal

6:00 Church School

7:00 Worship

Message: Pastor Derek Harkins

Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Music: Judy Kubischta