# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

# *Sharing God’s Word; Showing God’s Love; Serving God’s World.*

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 2025

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Opening Hymn “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service” vs. 1-3 #712**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

**C: O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where**

 **there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to**

 **console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy**

 **Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**First Reading:**Genesis 45:3-11, 15

3 Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. 4 Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. 5 And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. 6 For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. 7 God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. 8 So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. 9 Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. 10 You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. 11 I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ” 15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him. L: The Word of the Lord.

**C:  Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15:45-50

45 Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. 46 But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. 47 The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. 48 As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. 49 Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. 50 What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

L: The Word of the Lord.  **C:  Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation

###  Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia P. 142

**Gospel**: Luke 6:27-38 **C: Glory to you O Lord.**

27 “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. 29 If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. 30 Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. 31 Do to others as you would have them do to you. 32 “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. 33 If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 34 If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. 35 But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. 37 “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; 38 give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.” P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Message ~ Pastor Dan Lyman**

**Hymn “Where Charity and Love Prevail” vs. 1,4,5 #359**

**Special Music “The Name of the Lord” Inspiration Choir**

**The Apostle’s Creed**

**Passing of the Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to return kindness in place of cruelty. Let our actions

 be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: As animals sleep in their dens and fields lay dormant, and trees rest under a blanket of snow, let them be a

 reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. As the days lengthen and the

 Lenten season nears, may we, with all creation, trust that endings and change lead to life in a new way. God

 of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those

 experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care.

 Teach us how to overcome the traumas of our lives and help others bear their burdens. God of grace, **hear**

 **our prayer.**

P: Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. We especially for our own pantry, for

 local food banks and those who support them, for Lutheran World Hunger Appeal and all the work of

 Lutheran Services of America. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: We remember all those who are currently serving in the military, especially:Daniel Brandl, Carter

 Hildebrandt, Andy Schnell and Ethan Tienor. Be their constant companion and bring them safely home to

 us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for our Bishop Anne Edison-Albright, our presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, our pastor, and for all

 the people of Faith Lutheran Church. We add prayers for Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Demark during

 their time of discernment. Inspire us with your Holy Spirit and lead us in your pathways. God of grace, **hear**

 **our prayer.**

P: Every year is a year with you Lord. We pray for those who are celebrating their birthday this week: Char

 Manke, Kai Meyer, Erin Reinke, Eric Thomsen, Aubree Boll, Trenton O’Leary, Jameson Hetland, Gracelyn

 Mulhaney, LuAnn Helgeson, Jesse Schwoerer and Alyssa Schwoerer. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for all those who are in need of healing and comfort. We pray especially for the family of Marge

 Klessig, Bev Torrison, Carol Nelson, Bertha Kulnick, Bev Hildebrandt, Larry and Sharon Naidl, Judy

 Jorgenson, Jim and Jan Reinertson,Harry Kwasny, Ginger Linsmeier, Jim Franzen, Dennis O’Leary, Sheila

 Crochley, Merle Graf, Wayne Allen Huske. Lord you are the Great Physician. God of grace, **hear our**

 **prayer.**

P:We name now before you, Lord, those in need of your presence and care \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Help them to

 know and firmly believe that you are with them. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your

 compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Offering**

**Offertory Response “Oh That the Lord Would Guide My Ways” vs. 1 #772**

**Offertory Prayer**

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we

 offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,

 now and always.

**C: Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Benediction**

P: The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn “In Christ There Is No East or West” #650**

P: Go in the Spirit of Christ to love and serve the Lord!

**C: Sharing God’s Word, Showing God’s Love, and Serving God’s World!**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Serving Us Today**

Organist: Sue Riesterer Head Usher: Mark Zutz

Greeters: Tom and Rae Madson Acolyte: Alexandra Trepasso

Ushers: Jim Ahrens, Keith Lippert, Tyler Madson Lector: Don Schreiner

Sound Operator & Projection: Makenna Kaderabek Video/Live Stream: Carter Lenzner

**Serving Us Next Week**

Organist: Devin Zahringer Head Usher: Scott Reinertson Greeter: Mardell Tienor Acolyte: Eliza Wilker

Ushers: Delton and Cheryl Duchow, Lori Propson Lector & Communion Aide: Brian Ulness

Sound Operator: Erin Lenzner Video/Live Stream: Bill Riesterer

Projection: Zachary Lenzner

Last Week – Sunday: 87 Wednesday: 37 Offerings to the Lord’s work: $3,248.00

The committee that suggested setting up giving opportunities through the QR code were happy to discover that more and more people are giving through this system. Thanks for giving it a try! QR Code Giving: Just use your smart phone’s QR Code Reader and scan this QR Code to begin your generosity giving! You can set it up to give your gift for a One-Time gift or you can set up a recurring gift (Every Week, Every Two Weeks, Twice a Month (1st & 15th), Monthly, Quarterly, or Annually). You can have your gift taken directly from your bank account or you can give with either your debit or credit card. You can pick the day you want your gift to be given. With this way of giving, you can also give to the General Offering, Church Property, World Hunger, and Lent/Holiday gifts. To view the different giving opportunities: When you first enter the app just scroll down to the line that says “View more giving opportunities” below the “Add to Basket” highlighted line.

Faith’s Opportunities February 23-March 2

**Sunday**  10:00 A.M. Chili Cookoff

 10:15 A.M. Sunday School and Inspiration Choir

**Monday** 9:00 A.M. Women’s Bible Study

 5:30 P.M. Jazzercise

**Tuesday** 3:00 and 6:00 P.M. Bible Study

**Wednesday** 9:00 A.M. Jazzercise

 6:00 P.M. Board of Christian Education

 6:15 P.M. Worship

 7:00 P.M. Confirmation

**Thursday**  8:00 A.M. Quilting

 5:30 P.M. Jazzercise

**Sunday** 8:00 A.M. Bell Choir

 9:00 A.M. Worship

 10:00 A.M. Fellowship Hour

 10:15 A.M. Sunday School and Inspiration Choir

**Food Pantry needs for the week of March 5-12:** Let’s *get personal.* Shampoo for men and women, bar soap, body wash, body lotion, shaving cream and razors for men and women, deodorant, dental hygiene items, toilet paper, facial tissue and anything else personal. Please put items in the shopping carts in the Gathering Space.

****

**All members of the congregation and guests are invited to attend a pizza and game night on March 28th from 6-8pm in the gathering space.** Pizza and drinks will be provided, however please bring a snack to share and your best board games!  We are looking forward to a fun evening full of fellowship with members of all ages. Please sign up via the link below or you may also contact Erin Lenzner at 920-901-7089 and/or emu\_42@hotmail.com. Reservations are appreciated to determine how much pizza will be needed. We hope to see you at this event!

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FAFAF2CA0FAC52-55154688-faith

**Attention high school seniors and college students:** The Faith Lutheran Church Endowment Committee offers scholarships for continuing education. Students can apply for the scholarship up to four times during their continuing education process. Scholarship applications are available at the Information Desk. Scholarship applications must be in the church office by Sunday April 6, 2025.

February and March Stewardship is Fabric Kits

One piece of cotton or cotton blend fabric (no knits or 100% polyester). Fabric should have no stains or holes and cut into pieces measuring:

2 ¼ yards of 60” wide fabric

3 yards of 44” wide fabric

4 yards of 36” wide fabric

2 spools of matching or neutral colored general-purpose thread (250-300 yards each)

If you only want to get 3 yards of 44” wide fabric that is fine but include the 2 spools of thread also. Look for material on sale. Items donated should be marked fabric kits and placed inside the stewardship cabinet across from the church office.

Our Bishop has asked Faith Lutheran Church to host a gathering here in Valders, for Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, our neighbor church in Denmark. WI. They have begun the process to leave the ELCA. The purpose of our gathering is to express our ongoing friendship person-to-person, speak truths in love, and to prayerfully uphold one another. Please attend and bring the sort of snacks you like: cookies, cheeses, sliced fruit. We will have coffee here. We gather Saturday, March 8, from 1:30 to 3:30 PM in the Gathering Space.