# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

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

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 10, 2024

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship “Marvelous Mystery” Derek Luckow**

### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together

 through Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

P: Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

 *Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in**

 **thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved**

 **you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son,**

 **Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will**

 **and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a

 called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the

 entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Opening Hymn “What Wondrous Love Is This” vs. 1-3 #666**

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.**

**Kyrie**  Page 203

**Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.**

**We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.**

**Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.**

**Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.**

**Renew us with your saving pow’r; create in us new hearts!**

**Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

**C: O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us**

 **from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love,**

 **through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one**

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

**First Reading:** Numbers 21:4-9 4From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. 5The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” 6Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. 7The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. 8And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” 9So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

1You were dead through the trespasses and sins 2in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. 3All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. 4But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us 5even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—6and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—9not the result of works, so that no one may boast. 10For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation Page 151

 Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

### Gospel: John 3:14-21 C: Glory to you O Lord. (sung)

[Jesus said:] 14“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 16“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 17“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. 18Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. 19And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. 20For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. 21But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)**

**Message** ~ Pastor Dan Lyman

**Hymn “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” #759**

**The Apostle’s Creed**

**Passing of the Peace** *(We are conscious of the flu and cold season. You may shake hands, but feel free to offer*

 *your elbow for social distancing. There is sanitizer available in each pew. )*

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

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Gracious God, your love unites. Give vision to the global church and foster cooperation in mission. Increase

 inter-religious understanding and ecumenical dialog. Make your church a sanctuary for all fleeing

 persecution, disaster, and war. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P: Creating God, your love enlivens. Teach us to restore balance to the earth’s habitats. Teach us to preserve

 wilderness lands and wildlife. Teach us to cleanse oceans and rivers. Make us good stewards of the earth.

 Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P: Righteous God, your love sets prisoners free. We give thanks for those who courageously witness to your

 liberating love. Free all people from the evils of racism, religious strife, and hatred. Hear us, O God. **Your**

 **mercy is great.**

P: Incarnate God, your love enlightens. Open our hearts and minds to fresh understandings of our faith. Deepen

 our love for you and for one another. Teach us to pray for our enemies. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is**

 **great.**

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 pray for this community of believers, inspire us with your Holy

 Spirit and lead us in your pathways. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

 Kaderabek, Linda Gilbertson, Ava Hammel, Waylynn Christianson, Lois Reinertson, Steve Schwoerer,

 Cameron Tuschel and Otis Berge. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P: We pray for all those who are in need of healing, especially: Bev Hildebrandt, Marge Klessig, Larry
 and Sharon Naidl, Judy Jorgenson, Marlene Thomsen, Jim and Jan Reinertson,Harry Kwasny, Ginger

 Linsmeier, Jameson Hetland (grandnephew of Rae and Tom Madson), Jim Loritz, Merle Graf and Wayne

 Allen Huske. Lord you are the Great Physician. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

 Dylan Conrad, Carter Hildebrandt and Andy Schnell. Be their constant companion and bring them safely

 home to us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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 “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”**

**Offertory Prayer**

P: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all

 people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace.

 We pray this in your name.

**C: Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer (sung by Derek Luckow)**

**Benediction**

P: Beloved, we are God’s own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with

 mercy, fill you with courage, and ☩ give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn “Amazing Grace” #779**

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!**

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**Serving Us Today**

Organist: Sue Riesterer Head Usher: Scott Reinertson

Greeter: Brenda Freiberg Acolyte: Audrey Sorenson

Ushers: Earl and Barb Griffin, John Robley Lector: Bob Wigen

Sound Operator: Loren Ulness Projection: Ethan Ulness

Video/Live Stream: Carter Lenzner

**Serving Us Next Week**

Organist: Sue Riesterer Head Usher: Scott Reinertson

Greeter: John Robley Acolyte: Allison Goehring

Ushers: Jim Ahrens, Tom and Kathy Muench Lector & Communion: Stacy Wilker

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

Projection: Mollie Junk

**Last Week** – Sunday: 104 Wednesday: 65 Offerings to the Lord’s work: $5,415.25

**Faith’s Opportunities March 10-17**

**Sunday** 10:15 A.M. Sunday School, 9th grade confirmation

**Monday** 5:30 P.M. Jazzercise

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

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

 5:00 P.M. Soup and Sandwich Supper

 6:00 P.M. Card Making

 6:15 P.M. Worship

 7:15 P.M. Confirmation and Faith on Fire

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

 5:30 P.M. Jazzercise

**Saturday** 9:00 A.M. Open Pantry

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

 9:00 A.M. Worship

 10:00 A.M. Fellowship Hour and Board of Youth and Family

 10:15 A.M. **NO** Sunday School, Inspiration Choir

**Palm Sunday is March 24** and our Sunday school will lead us in several songs as we wave palms, celebrate, and remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem and crowds praising him at the beginning of Holy Week. \*We have been blessed to be able to order a set of risers for our children to stand on during programs! To offset the cost of the new risers the children will be taking up a noisy offering on this day and again when they sing on Mother’s Day. All who attend will have an easier time seeing their little loved one(s) faces! Following service the children will have an Easter egg hunt in their classrooms followed up with Easter lessons and activities.

Sunday school students will be having an Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 24 after worship and we are in need of candy to fill the eggs. A basket is available next to the church office if you can help out. Thank you.

**Synod Assembly representatives are needed for Friday, May 17 and Saturday, May 18.**  Friday the assembly meets from 11:00 am-7:30pm and Saturday from 9:00am-3:30pm. It is being held at the Oshkosh Waterfront Conference Center. Expenses will be paid for by the church. If interested in attending, please see Pastor Dan. If you can only attend the assembly one day, that is fine.

**There is interest in starting a daytime Women’s Bible Study at Faith.**  The meeting time is tentatively set for Thursday’s at 9:00 AM at church. This day and time could be adjusted to meet the needs of those wanting to participate.  All ages are welcome. There will be a small expense for materials, with the first study being “Becoming a Woman of Simplicity,” by Cynthia Heald.  Please contact Carol Ulness at 920-242-2931or Julie Endries at 920-973-9881 by March 22nd so that materials can be ordered.  The goal is to start this study the first week of April.

Faith’s Pantry is in need of brown paper bags and egg cartons. Please put them in the bins labeled Faith’s Pantry in the Gathering Space. Thank you.

**We are having a Lenten Food Drive to help restock the shelves for Faith’s Open Pantry.** Take a plastic bag or two from the Information Desk in the Gathering Space along with a sheet listing all the items we need in the pantry. Fill the bag, bring back to church and put in the grocery cart located in the Gathering Space. Each week the pantry gifts will be brought forward and blessed at offering time and then used to stock the pantry. Please help us help others in our community and surrounding areas that need a helping hand. Thank you, Sandy Halverson