# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

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

25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023

## **Gathering**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

**C: Amen.**

 *Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy One,

**C: we confess that we are not awake for you.** **We are not faithful in using your gifts.** **We forget the least of our**

 **siblings.** **We do not see your beautiful image in one another.** **We are infected by sin** **that divides your beloved**

 **community.** **Open our hearts to your coming,** **open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,** **open our hands to serve**

 **your creation.** **Amen.**

P: Beloved, we are God’s children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ☩ Jesus you are forgiven, by

 Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation

 of the world.

**C: Amen.**

**Opening Hymn “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” vs. 1, 4, 5 #632**

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 Pages 138-139**

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray

 to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen.**

**Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Righteous God, the earth and all its peoples are yours. You entrust to us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you**

 **with justice and wisdom, give us glad and generous hearts to share your abundant blessings with others, through**

 **Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

7Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. 12At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, “The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm.” 13Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. 14The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. 15That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. 17I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. 18Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord’s wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. 2For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; 7for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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. **Page 142**

**Gospel:** Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. 17In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. 19After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ 21His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ 22And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ 23His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ 24Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; 25so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ 26But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? 27Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ” P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Message ~** Pastor Dan Lyman

**Hymn**  **“Blessed Assurance” vs. 1-2 #638**

**Apostle’s Creed**

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

 *your elbow for social distancing.)*

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

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve. Turn us from

 fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

 **Your mercy is great.**

P: You have been our dwelling place from generation to generation. Sustain the life of the planet; protect

 farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth’s resources. Hear us, O God.

 **Your mercy is great.**

P: You call us to honesty and integrity. Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders. Free any

 who are oppressed, expose all corruption, and bring redemption to victims of injustice. Hear us, O God. **Your**

 **mercy is great.**

P: We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church. Give to all children, youth, and adults who study

 your word a true vision of our loving Savior. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one

 another. 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 leaders 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: Michelle Bratt,

 Cassandra Zutz, Robert Linsmeier, Thomas Voss, Roger Pingel, Kimberly Johnson, Aubree Habermann, Gladys Hansen

 and Luna Tan. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P: We pray for all those who are in need of healing, especially: Carol Nelson, Larry and Sharon Naidl, Judy

 Jorgenson, Marlene Thomsen, Jim and Jan Reinertson,Harry Kwasny, Donald Tienor, Ginger Linsmeier, Neil

 Meissner, Jim Loritz, Merle “Butch” 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

 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 “We Give Thee But Thine Own” vs. 1 #686**

**Offertory Prayer**

P: God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings.

 Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we

 may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

**C: Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving Page 144**

P: The Lord be with you. **C:** **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,

 almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his

 glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on

 earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna.**

 **Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Words of Institution**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Invitation to Communion** P: Come to the table that our Lord has prepared.

**Distribution Hymns “I Love To Tell the Story” vs. 1-3 #661 “O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts” vs. 1-4 #658**

**Prayer after Communion**

P: Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of

 your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

**C: Amen.**

**Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his

 countenance upon you and give you peace: In the name of The Father and The Son ╬ and the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn “Lift Every Voice and Sing” vs. 1-3 #841**

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

Greeters & Ushers: Brian and Mary Thomsen Acolyte: Audrey Sorenson

Lector: Joan Pritzl Communion Aide: Ariana Herrick

Sound Operator: Loren Ulness Video/Live Stream: Bill Riesterer Projection: Judy Harris

**Serving Us Next Week**

Organist: Sue Riesterer Head Usher: Scott Reinertson

Greeter: John Robley Acolyte: Gage Spindler

Ushers: Ron Jones and Lori Propson Lector: Don Domrath

Sound Operator and Projection: Erin Lenzner Video/Live Stream: Mike Lenzner

**Last Week** – Sunday: 140 Wednesday: 54 Offerings to the Lord’s work: $5,934.00

**Faith’s Opportunities November 19-26**

**Sunday** 10:00 A.M. Fellowship Hour and Sunday school

 10:15 A.M. Inspiration Choir ~ Quilt Auction concludes

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

 6:30 P.M. Council meets

**Tuesday** 9:00 A.M. Senior Christians at Four Seasons

3:00 P.M. Bible Study

 6:15 P.M. Thanksgiving Service

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

 **NO Worship or Confirmation**

**Thursday & Friday** Office closed

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

9:00 A.M. Worship

 10:00 A.M. Fellowship Hour ~ **NO** Sunday school

 10:15 A.M. Inspiration Choir

Faith on Fire – Grades 10-12 join us Wednesday, November 29 for pizza and a very competitive game of Friendly Feud! Make sure to bring along a friend who is a trivia master! Pizza will be provided. RSVP on our TeamReach app by Monday November 27.

Worship opportunities (lector, greeter, ushers, etc.) are available to assist with the Christmas Eve Services at 3:00, 5:00 and 10:00 pm. Sheets are available at the Information Desk in the Gathering Space. Thank you for your help.

**The 2024 offering envelopes are in the Gathering Space.** Please secure yours today. Just a reminder that you can dispose of your 2023 envelopes after December 31. New numbers are issued for each year. Thank you.

Lay Sacramentarians are needed to bring communion to our homebound members. Visitation is once a month and the wafer and wine are provided to you. Please see Joyce Sorenson or Sue Riesterer if you are interested in helping out.

**Faith Lutheran Photo Directory** - Please sign up for an appointment time to have your photo taken for our new directory.  You may sign yourself up online (directions are available at the Harmann table in the Gathering Space.)  If you prefer, you may call Joan Pritzl at (920) 905-9791 to make an appointment.  Dates are Wednesday, November 29th through Saturday, December 2nd; with varying times each day. **Also needed** are volunteers to serve as the host during photography appointments.  Please call Joan Pritzl to sign up for a 2 hour time slot or check the Harmann table for a sign-up sheet.

Faith Lutheran Church is again sponsoring the **“Sharing Tree**” which is located in the Gathering Space.  On the tree are tags that represent gift items for two families.  A spending suggestion for each tag is $20.00.  Thanks to your generosity and willingness to help those in need, gift tags supporting a 3rd family has been added to the Sharing Tree. All gifts need to be returned to church unwrapped no later than Wednesday, November 29th.  Any questions can be directed to Julie Endries at 920-973-9881.