# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

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

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 20, 2022

## **Gathering**

**Welcome and Announcements**

P: We begin our worship in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Let us confess our sins and receive God’s promised forgiveness through Christ.

P: Most merciful God,

**C: 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 always 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: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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** “Immortal, Invisible”#834

P: The grace of the 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: Lord God of our salvation, it is your will that all people might come to you through Jesus your**

 **Son. Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness, and the hope of**

 **his resurrection, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!**

**The Holy Scriptures**

**First Reading:** Genesis 43:1-11a, 15

 *This is part of the story of Joseph, and of his brothers, who sold him into slavery. Now Joseph is in charge of the food distribution in Egypt. He has not yet revealed himself as their brother. He is testing their honesty. He has asked for them to bring his brother Benjamin if they want more food.*

 Now the famine was still severe in the land. So when they had eaten all the grain they had brought from Egypt, their father said to them, “Go back and buy us a little more food.”

 But Judah said to him, “The man warned us solemnly, ‘You will not see my face again unless your brother is with you.’ If you will send our brother along with us, we will go down and buy food for you. But if you will not send him, we will not go down, because the man said to us, ‘You will not see my face again unless your brother is with you. ’” Israel asked, “Why did you bring this trouble on me by telling the man you had another brother?” They replied, “The man questioned us closely about ourselves and our family. ‘Is your father still living?’ he asked us. ‘Do you have another brother?’ We simply answered his questions. How were we to know he would say, ‘Bring your brother down here’?”

 Then Judah said to Israel his father, “Send the boy along with me and we will go at once, so that we and you and our children may live and not die. I myself will guarantee his safety; you can hold me personally responsible for him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him here before you, I will bear the blame before you all my life. As it is, if we had not delayed, we could have gone and returned twice.”

 Then their father Israel said to them, “If it must be, then do this: Put some of the best products of the land in your bags and take them down to the man as a gift…

 So the men took the gifts and double the amount of silver, and Benjamin also. They hurried down to Egypt and presented themselves to Joseph. L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15:35 – 38, 42 – 50

 But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?” How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body…So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven. As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven. And just as we have borne the image of the earthly man, so shall we bear the image of the heavenly man. I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that 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 Song** “I Love to Tell the Story”vs. 1 #661

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 6:27 – 38

 “But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

P: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Message—Pastor Howard Batt**

**Hymn** “Take My Life that I May Be”#685

P: Let us affirm our faith together, in the God that calls us through his Son, Jesus Christ, and enlightens

 our minds, empowers us for ministry, and keeps us in true faith, through his Holy Spirit.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Lord Jesus, you raise up leaders throughout the church to proclaim your word of hope. Unite

 the church through the good news of your love so that all put their trust in you and know and

 experience your joy, peace and love in their hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

P: Loving Heavenly Father, you made the mountains and hills, the seas and rivers, and all

 creation. Help us, and all humanity, to be good stewards of all you created and put under our

 care. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

P: Heavenly Father, you sent your Son to be the physician of the soul, and the remedy for sin. ‘

 May you also help those in the medical professions and counselors who care for the sick and

 troubled. Give them the wisdom and strength they need. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our**

 **prayer.**

P: Lord God, we bring before you those in need of your healing & comforting touch. We lift up

 Kevin Schultz, Lynn Burzynski,Harry Kwasny,Connie Schisel, Don Tienor, Lorraine

 Reindl, Delores Johnson,Ginger Linsmeier, Bob Klessig, Doug Wilson, Jim Loritz, Elling

 Jones, Merle Graf, Wayne Allen Huske. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your bountiful

 mercy that we know we have through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen!**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Offering**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Gracious Creator, thank you for your undeserved grace. Thank you for all we receive from your hand. Help us to see how you have abundantly provided for all our needs. And open our hearts to meet the needs of others and your ministry among us. May this offering remind us that first, and foremost, we need to offer ourselves to you. We ask this in the name of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Holy Communion**

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your one and only Son, that all who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to God, broke it and said, “This is my body, given for you.” Again after supper, he took the cup, and after giving thanks to God, he said, “This cup is the New Covenant in my blood, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.”

P: Please come, for all are welcome, guests and everyone. This is the Lord’s Table and all that is required is that one is baptized and believes in Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Amen.

(Please be seated)

**Distribution Hymns “**Let Us Break Bread Together” #471

 “O Living Bread from Heaven” #542

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to

 receive him always with thanksgiving and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our

 Lord**. C: Amen!**

**BENEDICTION**

**Closing Hymn** “Rise Up, O Saints of God”#669

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: Mark Zutz

Greeters: Acolyte: Lucas Spindler

Ushers: Brian and Mary Thomsen Lector: Tiffany Jandrey

Sound Operator: Makenna Kaderabek Projection: Gage Spindler/Stefanie Kaderabek

Video/Live Stream: Hunter Spindler Communion Aide: Kaye Jandrey

**Serving Us Next Week**

Organist: Peggy Madson Head Usher: Mark Zutz Head Usher: Matt Krogh

Greeter: Ava Ulness Acolyte: Addison Spindler

Ushers: Mark and Jen Zutz Family Lector: Erin Lenzner

Sound Operator: Hunter Spindler Projection: Makenna Kaderabek

Video/Live Stream: Gage Spindler and Mike Lenzner

  **Last Week** – Sunday: 67 Video: 66 Wednesday: 34 Offerings to the Lord’s work: $5,050.00

**Known to have been hospitalized or in need of prayer:**  Kevin Schultz, Marlene Thomsen, Lynn Burzynski, Harry Kwasny, Connie Schisel, Donald Tienor, Lorraine Reindl, Delores Johnson, Ginger Linsmeier, Bob Klessig, Doug Wilson, Jim Loritz, Elling Jones, Merle “Butch” Graf, Wayne Allen Huske.

**Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the following who are serving in the military:** Daniel Brandl, Matthew Brill, Kyle and Dylan Conrad, Corey Evenson, Carter Hildebrandt, Jeff Konz and Andy Schnell. If there are others we should be remembering, please inform the church office.

**Faith’s Opportunities February 20-27**

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

**Monday** 6:00 P.M. Televised Worship and Jazzercise

 6:30 P.M. Council

**Wednesday** 6:15 P.M. Worship

 7:15 P.M. Confirmation

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

 6:00 P.M. Jazzercise

**Sunday** 9:00 A.M. Worship

 10:00 A.M. Sunday School and Fellowship Hour

Soup for the Souls

If you enjoy cooking and wish to share some of your culinary tips, join us as we stir up a batch of chicken and rice soup Monday, February 28 at 8:30 a.m. in the downstairs church kitchen.  We'll need help chopping veggies, cutting chicken, and adding just the right amount of seasoning to make a delicious pot of soup.  Hope to see some new faces in our kitchen.

Ash Wednesday Services are at 4:00 and 6:15 p.m. on March 2.