# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

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

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 23, 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 declare our trust in our loving Creator.

**C: God, your love is the one true constant in our lives. When we are overwhelmed by day-to-day stresses, you are there to strengthen us, to guide us, and to ease our burdens. We have come to be renewed by your faithful love. Give us a desire to grow in your Word, to follow Jesus, and to bring your love to a needy world.**

P: Let us also confess our sins and seek God’s forgiveness.

**C: Lord God, I have not loved you with my whole heart and too often I have neglected to love my neighbor as myself. I have not helped others when I could have. Forgive the sins of my actions and inaction, cleanse my heart, and bring me back to you.**

P: God knows our hearts and is always pleased when we come to him in prayer. Let us find joy in the truth of God’s deep, abiding love for us, shown in his Son, Jesus Christ, who died for our sins and who rose again so we would have the hope and joy of life with him here and forever.

**C: Amen!**

**Hymn “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”** #533

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:** Nehemiah 8:1 – 3, 6, 8 – 10

 *The people of Israel had be enslaved by Babylon for nearly 70 years. Persia conquered Babylon and soon released them to return to their homeland. Nehemiah was there leader and Ezra the chief priest. They are credited with organizing and rebuilding Jerusalem.*

 When the seventh month came and the Israelites had settled in their towns, all the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel.

 So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

 Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, “Amen! Amen!” Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

 They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read. Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, “This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep.” For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law. Nehemiah said, “Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

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

**Second Reading:** Romans 13:8 – 10

 Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

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

**Hymn “God’s Word is Our Great Heritage”** #509

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 4:14 – 22

 Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

 All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked.

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

**Message “Gracious Words”** Pastor Jim Wilson

**Hymn “Lord of All Hopefulness”** #765

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.

**Nicene Creed**

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

 **We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the scriptures; He ascended into 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.**

 **We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting your promise to hear us; through Jesus Christ our

 Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

P: Let us prepare our hearts for Holy Communion. In the words of institution we hear Jesus promise of

 forgiveness of sins through his holy and precious blood, and his innocent suffering and death. Let us

 take a moment to reflect on our need for this forgiveness of our sins.

P: Do you believe that you are forgiven of all your sins for Jesus sake?

**C: Yes, I do.**

P: You are forgiven as you have believed. And now, Lord Jesus be present with us as you were

 present with your disciples and make yourself known to us in the breaking of the bread.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**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.”

 **Distribution Hymns “Love Divine”** #631 **“Blessed Assurance”** #638

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**

**Hymn “How Great Thou Art”** #856

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: Paul Franz

Greeters: Tom and Rae Madson Acolyte: Libby Olson

Ushers: Gary and Linda Heeler Lector: Jenniffer Zutz

Sound Operator: Carter Lenzner Projection: Ethan Ulness

Video/Live Stream: Carter Lenzner Communion Aide: Jenniffer Zutz

 **Serving Us Next Week**

Organist: Peggy Madson Head Usher: Paul Franz Head Usher: Matt Krogh

Greeters: Acolyte: Lucas Spindler

Ushers: Lori Propson and Ron Jones Lector: Chase Wilker

Sound Operator: Gage Spindler and Loren Ulness

Projection: Makenna Kaderabek Video/Live Stream: Hunter Spindler

**Last Week** – Sunday: 50 Video: 67 Wednesday: 28 Offerings to the Lord’s work: $4,507.00

**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, Ronald Christianson, Elling Jones (brother of Ron 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 January 23-30**

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

 10:15 A.M. Annual Election and Budget Meeting

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

**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

Start the New Year off by sharing your time with the youth of Faith Lutheran.  Sunday School Teachers are needed in 2022 to explore Bible stories, play games, or lead discussions with the kids.  Sign up on the sheets outside the Youth Office today!

 The Board of Lay Ministry (BOLM) would like to sincerely thank the numerous hard working, diligent, dedicated volunteers, altar guild members, decorators of the church proper, video and projectionist operators, technical support and live stream operators, paid staff members and Pastor Jim Wilson. All these individuals along with other unnamed persons helped to further the FLC ministry to ensure meaningful worship experiences to members and guests alike.

 This again has been an unusual and challenging year where traditional worship practices have been impacted and perhaps changed, but, the remarkable resilience of the FLC members have made the difference. Again, a heartfelt “Thank You” to all. The BOLM truly values and appreciates your contributions of time, talent, and effort.

**Do you have interest in getting the Bell Choir started again? Would you like to be a member of this choir? If so, please give Sue Riesterer a call at 920-775-4190.**

**Soup for the Souls recently made beef barley soup. It is available for our homebound members and is in the freezer in the Gathering Space. Please share with them when you visit.**

Faith’s Pantry is in need of the following items: Toilet paper, Kleenex, paper towel, shampoo and conditioner, dish and laundry soaps, cleaning supplies, canned meals, canned fruit, pancake syrup, mayo and Miracle Whip, barbeque sauce, jelly and jam, Bisquick. Items can be placed in the bins marked Faith’s Pantry at the Information Desk in the Gathering Space.

**Watch “The Chosen”**

Watch **“The Chosen”** for free in the mobile app. You can get it: www.thechosen.tv/app or search "The Chosen" in your Apple or Android app store. **IMBd** is a free streaming service with commercials that has Season 1 of “The Chosen” available. If you have an **Amazon Prime, Hulu** or **Pureflix** subscription you can watch Season 1. Netflix does not have it.