# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

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

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

## **Gathering**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship “He Touched Me” Mixed Choir**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and all our days, and sustains us

 with the gift of grace.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God’s mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy God,

**C: we confess to you our faults and failings.** **Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;** **we take**

 **for ourselves instead of giving to others;** **we spoil rather than steward your creation;** **we cause hurt even**

 **though you call us to heal;** **we choose fear over compassion.** **Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to**

 **follow in your way of life.** **Amen.**

P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This

 promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, ☩ forgives you in Christ’s name, and revives you

 in the Spirit’s power. **C: Amen.**

**Opening Hymn “God, Whose Almighty Word” #673**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship 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: Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for**

 **us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign**

 **with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Scripture Readings**

### First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

1The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” 2Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ 3Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” 4Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” 5He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.
 6When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” 7But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” 8Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” 9Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” 10Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” 11Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” 12He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” 13Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah. L:  The word of the Lord. **C:  Thanks be to God.**

### Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

### 8Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—9for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. 10Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. 11Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. 12For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; 13but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, 14for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” L:  The word of the Lord. C:  Thanks be to God.

### Gospel: John 9:1-41

1As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” 3Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. 4We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. 5As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” 6When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, 7saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. 8The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” 9Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” 10But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” 11He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” 12They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” 13They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” 16Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. 17So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.” 18The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” 20His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 21but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” 22His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. 23Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” 24So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” 25He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” 26They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” 27He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” 28Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” 30The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. 31We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. 32Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. 33If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” 34They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out. 35Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” 36He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” 37Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” 38He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. 39Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” 40Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” 41Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”P: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Message ~ Pastor Dan Lyman**

**Hymn of Response “Amazing Grace” #779**

**Apostles’ Creed**

**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 catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of Christ forever in baptism. Inspire

 us by your love as together we strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God, **receive our**

 **prayer.**

P: Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to

 perceive the beauty of the breadth of your creation, from the grandest mountain range to the smallest

 springtime bud. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: Powerful God, you anoint kings and establish rulers. Guide the work of heads of state and elected officials.

 Encourage them to lead with justice and to remove barriers that impede the well-being of all. Merciful God,

 **receive our prayer.**

P: Shepherding God, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep;

 tend all who are sick and comfort those who grieve. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: God our host, you fill us at your table with more than we could ever ask. Feed us with hunger for justice.

 Equip the feeding ministries of this congregation and community. Nourish us so we can nourish our

 neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: We pray for those who are celebrating their birthday this week: Valerie Valleskey, Cheyenne Propson,

 James Goehring, Terry Evenson, Sherrie Pinkerton, Eliza Wilker, Allison Goehring, Lydia Kuenstler, Ryan

 Valleskey, Kolten Schisel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: We pray for those who are in need of healing: Cheryl Domrath, Sharon Naidl, Judy Jorgenson, Marlene

 Thomsen, Jim and Jan Reinertson,Harry Kwasny, Donald Tienor, Don and Delores Johnson, Ginger

 Linsmeier, Neil Meissner, Eliza Dekker, Matt Kerkhoff, Jim Loritz, Merle “Butch” Graf, Wayne Allen

 Huske. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P:Confident that you not only hear our prayers, but listen to them, you not only listen, but care. You not only

 care, but act with Almighty Love. Confident in your Almighty Love, we name now before you those in need

 of your presence and care \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Help them to know that our prayers are with them and you are

 with them. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

### Passing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**Offering**

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

**Offertory Prayer**

P: God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of

 your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ

 Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. C: **Amen.**

**Words of Institution**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Invitation to Communion**

P: Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

**Distribution Hymns** **“God Loved the World”** #323 **“Jesus Remember Me”** #616

**Prayer after Communion**

P: Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your

 promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

**C: Amen.**

**The Blessing**

P: God, the giver of love, ☩ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this

 lifelong journey.

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn “How Firm a Foundation” #796**

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: Keith and Audrey Lippert Acolyte: Keagan Hougen

Ushers: Austin and Stetson McCulley Communion Aide & Lector: Brian Ulness

Sound Operator: Bill Riesterer Projection: Gage Spindler

Video/Live Stream: Bill Riesterer

**Serving Us Next Week**

Organist: Sue Riesterer Head Usher: Scott Reinertson

Greeters: Tom and Rae Madson Acolyte: Audrey Sorenson

Lector: Judy Harris Ushers: Joan Pritzl and Loren Ulness

Sound Operator: Makenna Kaderabek Video/Live Stream: Jake Kaderabek

Projection: Makenna Kaderabek and Liam Cline

**Last Week** – Sunday: 69 Wednesday: 71 Offerings to the Lord’s work: $4,701.00

**Faith’s Opportunities March 19-26**

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

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

 6:30 P.M. Council meets

**Tuesday** 9:00 A.M. Senior Christians at the Lighthouse Inn

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

 5:00 P.M. Soup and Sandwich Supper in Gathering Space

 6:00 P.M. Card Making in Community Room

 6:15 P.M. Worship

**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, Sunday school

 10:15 A.M. Mixed Choir

Easter flower orders are being taken through Wednesday, March 22. Lilies (short supply), tulips and daffodils are available. Please see the table in the Gathering Space to place your order and for cost of the flowers.