# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

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

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

## **Gathering**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship** **“Amazing Grace” Bell 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 “Savior, Again to Your Dear Name” #534**

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.**

**Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power**

 **of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days,**

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

 **now and forever. Amen.**

**Scripture Readings**

### First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

1The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. 3He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” 4Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. 5Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 6I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.” 7So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. 9Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” 10I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. 11Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ 12Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. 13And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. 14I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.” L:  The word of the Lord. **C:  Thanks be to God.**

### Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11

### 6To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed it cannot, 8and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. L:  The word of the Lord. C:  Thanks be to God.

### Gospel: John 11:1-45

1Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. 3So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” 4But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” 5Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, 6after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. 7Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” 8The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” 9Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. 10But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.” 11After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” 12The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” 13Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. 14Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. 15For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” 16Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.” 17When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. 18Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, 19and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. 20When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. 21Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” 23Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” 24Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” 25Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, 26and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” 27She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.” 28When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” 29And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. 30Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 31The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. 32When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” 33When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. 34He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” 35Jesus began to weep. 36So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” 37But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?” 38Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 39Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” 40Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” 41So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. 42I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” 43When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” 44The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.” 45Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. P: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Message ~ Pastor Dan Lyman**

**Hymn of Response “What Wondrous Love Is This” #666**

**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: You have breathed into us the breath of life. Enliven your church. Deepen our partnerships with our companion

 churches around the globe and bless the work of missionaries who accompany them. Merciful God,

 **receive our prayer.**

P: Your spirit brings life to creation. Enliven the natural world and restore ecosystems in need of healing. Uplift

 prophetic voices that turn us to the needs of the soil beneath our feet and the air all around. Merciful God,

 **receive our prayer.**

P: You redeem the world and its peoples. Free us from systems of oppression. Unbind nations and societies from the

 sins of racism, sexism, and homophobia. Raise up leaders at all levels of government who work to promote the

 dignity of every human life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: You weep when we weep. Be present with those who grieve or who are troubled by illness. You hear us when we

 call to you. Deliver us from the depths of our despair, and free us from the worries that bind us. Merciful God,

 **receive our prayer.**

P: Your Spirit of life dwells in our assembly. Bless the music ministries of this congregation and all who lead us in

 hymns of praise and thanksgiving and in songs of lament and prayer. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: We pray for those who are celebrating their birthday this week: Dennis Hougen, Bailey Goehring, Colt Zutz,

 Robert Argall, Trevor Pinkerton, Deb Schreiner, Carter Schwoerer, Aric Olson, Marlene Thomsen, Jason

 Robley, Kami Christianson. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: We pray for those who are in need of healing: Quinn Jandrey, 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, 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**

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

**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.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**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 “O Lord, throughout These Forty Days” #319**

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.**

**Serving Us Today**

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

**Serving Us Next Week**

Organist: Sue Riesterer Head Usher: Delton Duchow

Greeters: Addison Spindler Acolyte: Gage Spindler

Ushers: Dean and Rose Behnke Family Communion Aide & Lector: Cheryl Duchow

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

**Last Week** – Sunday: 102 Wednesday: 67 Offerings to the Lord’s work: $5,256.00

Flowers are placed in the altar area in loving memory of Linda Exner by her husband Gary.

**Faith’s Opportunities March 26-April 2**

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

 10:15 A.M. Mixed Choir

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

**Tuesday** 6:30 P.M. Lions Club

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

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

 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 (Sunday school students sing)

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

 10:15 A.M. Mixed Choir

We are having an Easter Egg Hunt for our youth Palm Sunday, April 2 and are requesting donations of candy to fill the eggs. If you can help, place your donation in the basket next to the church office. Thank you.

During the month of April, Sunday school students will be collecting a noisy offering for Faith’s Pantry during worship. Bring your coins and make some noise for our pantry!

**Holy Week Opportunities**

**No Worship Wednesday April 5**

**Maundy Thursday, April 6**

**Worship at 6:15 pm**

**Good Friday, April 7**

**Worship at 6:15 pm**

**Saturday, April 8 10:00 a.m.**

**Easter Breakfast set up**

**Easter April 9**

**Worship at 7:00 am Breakfast at 8:00 am Easter Celebration Service at 9:00 am**

**Hey Kids...come join us for your very own night out!  When: Friday April 21st from 5-8pm.**  We will be doing an owl canvas painting with a local artist Lori Christel.  Pizza will be included—followed by games and lots of fun with friends!  Forms and details are available on the table outside of the Youth Coordinator’s office.  **Permission form and fee must be turned into the office or Sunday School teacher(s) by Sunday April 9th.** Cost is $15.00/child.

**April Stewardship is Baptism Quilts**

Materials needed:

1½ yards of baby appropriate cotton material for top & bottom. Can also be a baby flannel.

1½ yards of batting (either cotton or low loft). Can also be a crib size 45x60 in a bag.

 Any cash or gift cards can be given to Christine in the office. Place any items in the Stewardship Cabinet across from the office. Thank you.