# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

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

First Sunday in Lent

March 6, 2022

## **Gathering**

**Welcome and Announcements**

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

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Let us begin by clearing our conscience by confessing our sins. We have not loved God with our whole heart and we have not always loved our neighbors as ourselves. Let us take a moment to reflect on your need for God’s forgiveness, and on Jesus’ redeeming work that sets us free. *Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

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.**

P: Let us lift up our hearts and voices in joyous response to this good news.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Opening Hymn “A Mighty Fortress” #504

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.

**Responsive Reading:** Psalm 3 (selected verses)

P: Lord, how many are my foes! How many rise up against me!

**C: Many are saying of me, “God will not deliver him.”**

P: But you, O Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high.

**C: I will not fear though tens of thousands assail me on every side.**

P: Arise, O Lord! Deliver me, my God!

**C: Strike all my enemies on the jaw; break the teeth of the wicked.**

P: From the Lord comes deliverance.

**C: May your blessing be on your people.**

Hymn of Praise “This is the Feast”Pg. 149 – 150

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

 **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

**C: Most loving God, you want us to give thanks in all things, to fear nothing except losing you, and to lay all our cares on you, knowing that you care for us. Protect us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties. Help us to see past the clouds of this life that may hide from us the light of your eternal love, shown to us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Holy Scriptures**

**First Reading:** Proverbs 25:19-24

 Like a broken tooth or a lame foot is reliance on the unfaithful in a time of trouble. Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on a wound, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart. If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the Lord will reward you. Like a north wind that brings unexpected rain is a sly tongue—which provokes a horrified look. Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife. L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading:** Romans 12:14-21

 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord. On the contrary: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation** p. 142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Gospel:** Luke 6:27 - 36

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

**Message** “When It’s Hard to Love” Pastor Jim Wilson

**Hymn of Response** “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant” #659

Apostles’ Creed

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

Prayers of Intercession

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all our needs are known even before we ask; help us to ask according to your will; and for those good things which we dare not ask, or in our blindness, fail to ask for, grant it for the sake of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

Lord’s Prayer

Offering

Offertory “Let the Vineyards” #184

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray.

**C: Gracious Creator, you open wide your hand and satisfy the desires of every living creature. With these our gifts, we offer ourselves to you. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Holy Communion**

Great Thanksgiving Page 152-153

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Life up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right… …we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

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

Words of Institution

Distribution Hymns “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” #789

 “Have No Fear Little Flock” #764

Post Communion Prayer

P: God of grace and abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ and all His people. Now send us forth in the power of Your Spirit, that we may proclaim Your redeeming love to the world and continue forever, in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**Benediction**

**Closing Hymn** “Precious Lord, Take My Hand” #773

Dismissal

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

Greeter: Mitchell Zutz Acolyte: DJ Schisel

Ushers: Steve and Ginny Schwoerer Lector: Cheryl Duchow

Sound Operator: Loren Ulness Projection: Luke Evenson

Video/Live Stream: Travis Schisel Communion Aide: Cheryl Duchow

**Serving Us Next Week**

Organist: Peggy Madson Head Usher: Scott Reinertson Head Usher: Matt Krogh

Greeter: Mitchell Zutz Acolyte: Whitney Ulness

Ushers: Dennis and Bonnie Gordon Lector: Clarissa Ulness

Sound Operator: Garrett and Loren Ulness Projection: Luke Evenson

Video/Live Stream: Eric Thomsen

**Last Week** – Sunday: 80 Video: 83 Wednesday: 147 Offerings to the Lord’s work: $3,575.05

**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 March 6-13**

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

 10:15 A.M. 9th grade Confirmation

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

**Wednesday** 5:00-6:00 P.M. Soup & Sandwich Supper in Gathering Space

 5:00 P.M. Board of Stewardship

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

 6:15 P.M. Worship

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

 6:00 P.M. Jazzercise

**Saturday** 9:00 A.M. Saturday Circle

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

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

**Soup and Sandwich suppers will again be served prior to Wednesday Lenten Services beginning March 9.  This meal will be available from 5:00-6:00 in the Gathering Space.  This year's free will offerings will go to Pink Heals.** *Pink Heals is an organization whose mission is to financially and emotionally support women, men and children battling any type of cancer in Manitowoc County. They have directly impacted the lives of over 400 cancer patients in our community and have provided over $310,000 in financial assistance to those in need.***All are invited.  If you are interested in preparing and serving a meal, a sign up poster is located in the Gathering Space.**

Dear Friends,

The people of Nelsonville Lutheran Church (ELCA) (3061 Oak St, Nelsonville, WI 54458) have been deeply moved by the scenes of war and destruction in Ukraine and by the plight of men, women and children fleeing the brutality and chaos.  They invite all people of good will to join with them in providing support in this hour of distress. To support and encourage each of you to give promptly and generously, the people of Nelsonville will match every gift - dollar for dollar - up to $100,000 through March 15, 2022.

Right now, Lutheran World Relief teams are working with partners in and around Ukraine. Your gift will deliver urgent support and care, like: food, shelter and other critically needed items; Mission Quilts and Kits for families who fled their homes; and medicine and supplies for clinics. Gifts will be matched through March 15. You can give online at [www.lwr.org/match](https://ecsw.us6.list-manage.com/track/click?u=adc7611e5cadb04ccc1a934a3&id=c6e12f8494&e=04b73f43b9) or by mailing to LWR, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061. Please write “Ukraine Match” in the memo line.