



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

138 3rd Street NW, Valley City, ND 58072

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JULY 27TH, 2025 + 7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*please stand in body and/or spirit)

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God, **you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

HYMN:

"We Who Once Were Dead"

#495

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE (*Read Responsively*)

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;

for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;

that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;

for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;

that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE:

"Glory to God"

p. 139

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth...

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, **you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:20-32

In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom for the sake of the few righteous people there, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.

²⁰ Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹ I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know." ²² So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. ²³ Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶ And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." ²⁷ Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." ²⁹ Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰ Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹ He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." ³² Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

Response: The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 138:1-8

Your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands. (Ps. 138:8)

¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³ When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

SECOND READING: Colossians 2:6-15

The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about "the empty lure" of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection which is enacted in baptism.

⁶ As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸ Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹ In him also you were

circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by the removal of the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹² when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³ And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

Response: The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (*please stand in body and/or spirit)

p. 142

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

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 11th chapter...**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13

In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.

¹ [Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."² So he said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, may your name be revered as holy. May your kingdom come. ³ Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴ And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."⁵ And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷ And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. ⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? ¹³ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Response: The Gospel of the Lord...**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN:

"Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright"

#745

APOSTLE'S CREED (*please stand in body and/or spirit)

p. 105

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 THE PEOPLE

Response: God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERING AND PRAYER

(offering plates are located on the table at the back of the sanctuary)

OFFERING HYMN: "As the Grains of Wheat" #465

HOLY COMMUNION p. 107

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift 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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING p.108

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...we join their unending hymn:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r 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

LORD'S PRAYER p. 112

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS "Lamb of God" p.114

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" #742

"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive" #605

POST COMMUNION PRAYER(*please stand in body and/or spirit) p. 114

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

HYMN "Go, my Children, With My Blessing" #543

SENDING p.115

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

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Tara Anderson, Vice President

Sarah Wangrud, Secretary

Janet Brown, Treasurer



GIVE ONLINE

We, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, welcome all to share Christ's love, grow in faith, and to live a life of service glorifying God.

Our radio broadcast today is sponsored by Howard Lahlum and family in memory of his wife, Audrey.

The Sharing and Service Committee would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the **Viking Athletic Meal** on Sunday, August 17th. This tradition allows us to extend hospitality and care to these young athletes as they begin their school year. We have reached and even exceeded our goal of raising \$250! Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Crazy Days Bake Sale: Faith Lutheran Church is planning a bake sale on Wednesday, July 30th, 9:00 am to noon, at the church. Proceeds will go to supporting the Bridges Backpack Program and Faith Lutheran Ministries.

Epworth United Methodist Men's Annual Corn Feed will be held today, 4:30 – 7:00 pm at the Methodist Church at 680 8th Ave SW, Valley City. See flyers posted for details. Garden produce and bake sale will also be held at the same time. Corn Feed proceeds to support Epworth's Youth Ministry, produce and bake sale proceeds to support United Women of Faith missions.

Our Savior's is sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on August 7th from 11:30 am to 6:00 pm in the church basement. Volunteers are needed to help with registration. A sign up sheet is posted on the information counter under the Missionary Calendar.

We are hosting a Sack Lunch Program for the summer. On Fridays, from May 30th to August 15th, sack lunches will be available to anyone who is in need of a meal, at no cost to them. This is an extension of the Senior High Lunch program, which will return next school year. Sack lunches will be served in the downstairs dining area starting at 11am until supplies are gone for the day. We are looking for volunteers to help prep and serve on Friday mornings, as well as donations. Helpful Donations: Tubs of peanut butter, individual bags of chips, bottled water, sandwich size ziplock bags, brown lunch bags, and fruit cups. Thank you all for helping to feed our community!

Jamestown Area Grief Support Team is offering a Grief Support Group. The group will meet once a week on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, 424 1st Ave S, Jamestown, beginning August 19^h and will run for six weeks. Anyone who has experience the death of someone important to them is encouraged to attend. The group is free of charge, but registration is required. Participants should plan to attend all six sessions. To register, call Charlotte at 701-952-9358 or 701-320-3297 or Cecelia at 701-269-4236

We're beginning a practice at Our Savior's to be mindful of our prayer for one another. Each week, staff will be praying for, and congregation members are encouraged to pray for families of the congregation, by name. This week we pray for the Arlene & John Andrus, Robert Baasch, Donald & Sandra Bauer, Jeremy & Rebecca Baumgartner and Kristen Bear families. *"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone" 1 Timothy 2:1*

As households, let's pray these days for the 2025 ELCA Annual Churchwide Assembly. It will be July 28-August 2 in Phoenix, AZ. Among the items for consideration are the selections of both a Presiding Bishop of the ELCA and a Secretary of the ELCA. This is an important time for our church in the U.S. Please pray for voting members and nominees in this Holy Spirit-led process. For full information, you may go to: <https://www.elca.org/about/leadership/churchwide-assembly>

A look ahead at the week of July 27th – August 3rd, 2025

TODAY: 8:45 am | Coffee & Fellowship
9:30 am | Worship
9:30 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM Radio Broadcast

TUES: 9:00 am | Quilters
9:30 am | President's and Pastor's Meeting
10:30 am | Staff Meeting
1:30 pm | Text Study

WEDS: 9:30 am | Bible Study

THURS: 2:00 pm | Prayer Shawl Ministry

FRI: 11:00 am | Sack Lunch Program
6:00 pm | Wedding Rehearsal


SAT: 7:30 am | Men's Bible Fellowship
4:00 pm | White/McGough Wedding

SUN (8/3): 8:45 am | Coffee & Fellowship
9:30 am | Worship
9:30 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM Radio Broadcast
11:15 am | Worship at St Petri (Nome)

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ? ?

What was the name of the queen who refused to appear before the king of Persia and his guests and, as a result, was deposed?

A. Esther
B. Jael
C. Vashti
D. Milcah




Answer: C (See Esther 1:12.)

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ? ?

According to the fourth Gospel, "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the _____."

A. love
B. life
C. light
D. Lord



Answer: C (See John 1:6-7, NRSV.)