



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

138 3rd Street NW, Valley City, ND 58072

(701) 845 - 1328 | oursaviorsvc.org

SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2025 + 13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God, **we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.**

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ✠ Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

HYMN:

"Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

#772

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

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS/WORKBAGS

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the LORD; or choose death by following other gods.

¹⁵ “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

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

PSALM: Psalm 1:1-6 (read responsively)

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶ **For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (*please rise 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 14th chapter...**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33

Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to

complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

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

SERMON

HYMN:

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

#798

APOSTLE'S CREED (*please rise 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, **receive 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.

"O Jesus, I Have Promised" #810

"We Come to the Hungry Feast" #479

POST COMMUNION PRAYER(*please rise in body and/or spirit)

p. 114

BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN

"Lift High the Cross"

#660

SENDING

p.115

Go in peace. Do not lose heart. **Thanks be to God.**

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Tara Anderson, Vice President
Sarah Wangrud, Secretary
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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 given by Dawn and Don Knutson in honor of their 68th wedding anniversary. Congratulations to you both and wishing you many more to come!

Back to Sunday School and Blessing of the Backpacks : Sunday School kicks off today, Rally Sunday, with a Blessing of the Backpacks, bags and computer bags for students, teachers and education workers during the worship service and a pancake breakfast to follow.

Confirmation begins with a meeting for parents and students on Wednesday, Sept 10th at 6:30pm at Faith Lutheran Church.

Greeters for Sunday Worship: We are looking for greeters for the North and South side doors to welcome worshippers to the service and hand out bulletins. We ask that you be there 15 minutes or so before the service begins. The sign-up sheet is located on the information countertop under the Missionary Calendar. No experience necessary and it is a great way to meet others in our church community.

The Jamestown Area Grief Support Team is hosting a Widow's Retreat October 10-12, 2025 at Maryvale Retreat Center in Valley City, ND. This retreat is an opportunity for any woman who has experienced the death of her husband, whether recently or in the past, to explore and deal with her grief in a relaxing and supportive atmosphere. For more information or to receive a brochure and registration form, please call or text Carol at 701-320-3801. If leaving a voice mail message, be sure to include your name and mailing address.

A Letter to the Congregation: The Church Council met on August 13th and has made some decisions regarding the path forward for staff. A letter has been mailed to all member households. In it are details about discussion sessions and a congregation meeting to be held at 10:15 on September 21st. Discussion sessions will be held today and September 14th during the Coffee and Fellowship following the service. If you are unable to attend the discussion sessions, questions regarding the letter should be directed to Margaret Dahlberg (840-1206).

The Hi-Liner Food Pantry, serving VCHS students and families, continues to collect food donations in the tote in the Gathering Room. To donate to the Bridges Backpack Program, please make your check out to and mail to: **Bridges Backpack Program, Inc., 674 10th Ave SW, Valley City, ND 58072**

Senior High Lunches are being offered once again on Fridays, in the dining hall downstairs. Any students with open campus privileges during their lunch break are welcome. The meal is free. Contact Leslie Rohde (815-685-6628) if you would like to help.

The Backpack Program/Hi-Liner Pantry is asking for donations of individually wrapped snack items such as granola bars, crackers, cookies and chip – things the counselors can quickly grab, as they have many kids that utilize these snacks at school. They are also planning to add a “snack stash” for Jefferson and Washington Elementary Schools. These items can be dropped off in the tub located in the Gathering Room.

Honey Sundays are September 28th and October 5th. People can fill out the form and bring it with payment (\$10/bottle) to the table set up in the Gathering Room area after the service or drop it off at the church office during the week between. All proceeds from the sales go to the youth at the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch.

We're continuing 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 Gwendolyn Crawford, Mary Creviston, Roger & Cynthia Creviston-Lerud, Connie Dahl and Paul & Margaret Dahlberg families. *"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone" 1 Timothy 2:1*

Fall Theological Conference: Pr. Nicholas and Pr. Rich will be attending the Eastern North Dakota Synod Fall Theological Conference, September 8-10, at Fair Hills Resort near Detroit Lakes, MN. The conference at Fair Hills will include presenters focusing on how Christians can live as people connected to each other in a world that can be more and more disconnected. Presentations, conference meetings, worship, conversation, time with colleagues, and presentations from church leaders, are all part of the agenda. They look forward to attending the conference and bringing what they learn to the congregation.

The Congregational Life Committee is organizing a potluck brunch on September 21st, following the Special Congregational Meeting. It is in celebration of the new kitchen. Everyone is welcome and there will be a free will offering. Church committee leaders will be providing the food. Be sure to stop by and check out the beautiful new kitchen and enjoy great fellowship.

A look ahead at the week of September 7th, 2025 – September 14th, 2025

TODAY: 9:00 am | Worship
 9:00 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
 10:15 am | Pancake Breakfast, Sunday School Kickoff
 11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM Radio Broadcast

MON – WEDS: Fall Theological Conference for the pastors

TUES: 9:00 am | Quilters

WEDS: 9:30 am | Bible Study
 6:30 pm | Confirmation Parents and Kids Meeting (at Faith)
 7:00 pm | Committees
 8:00 pm | Council

FRI: 12:00 pm | Sr High Lunch

SAT: 7:30 am | Men's Bible Fellowship

SUN (9/14): 9:00 am | Worship
 9:00 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
 10:15 am | Coffee & Fellowship
 10:15 am | Sunday School
 11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM Radio Broadcast
 11:15 am | Worship at Messiah (Fingal)