



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

138 3rd Street NW, Valley City, ND 58072

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JANUARY 25TH, 2026 + 3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \ddagger one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Mighty God, lover of justice, **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.** Amen.

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in \ddagger Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

"Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling"

#582

GREETING

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

KYRIE

p. 147

HYMN OF PRAISE

p. 148

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

INSTALLATION OF STAFF

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

NOISY OFFERING – Barnes County Food Pantry **"Shine, Jesus, Shine"**

p. 671

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.

¹ There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³ You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴ For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 27:1, 4-9 (read responsively)

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

⁴ One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶ Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸ My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.” Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God’s salvation.

¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been made clear to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. ¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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

p. 151

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

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th chapter...**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles— ¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” ¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. ²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN

“Listen, God Is Calling”

#513

Pr Jared sings Leader part, congregation sings All portion

OFFERING PRAYER

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

OFFERING HYMN

“Praise and Thanksgiving” (v. 1)

#689

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERING AND PRAYER

(offering plates are located on the table at the back of the sanctuary. The offering plates are brought forward during the singing of our offering hymn.)

APOSTLES CREED (*please rise in body and/or spirit)

p. 105

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

HOLY COMMUNION (Sung)

p. 152

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.153

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. 208

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.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Lamb of God"

p. 154

*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.*

*"Here is Bread" #483
"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" #815*

DISTRIBUTION

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

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise  bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN:

"Will You Come and Follow Me" #798

SENDING

p. 155

Go in peace. Do justice. Love Mercy

Thanks be to God.

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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.

Today's Radio Broadcast is in loving memory of Gayle Hanson and to honor her birthday given by her daughter, Brenda Hanson Hull & son-in-law, Jamie Hull.

The OSLC Annual Congregational Meeting will be held today, immediately following the worship service.

Could you spare some time on Fridays to help with the Senior Lunch Program? Dessert—cookies, bars, brownies etc. for 90 are also needed. There is a sign-up sheet on the Information Counter. A thank you for your help is a free lunch that day! *11:45-1:30. Help as needed and Kitchen clean up *Providing treats (Please indicate how many)

The Missionary Calendar for 2026 has been posted. Be sure to stop by and sponsor a special day.

Radio Broadcasts in 2026 are available to sponsor. Please contact Ann in the office if you would like to help with this important outreach ministry. There are currently many Sundays open to sponsor. If you have a special Sunday in mind, please reserve it as soon as possible to ensure it is available. The cost to sponsor each Sunday broadcast is \$100.

Congregation-Wide Devotion

A new Congregation-wide Devotion has started using the book, "Praying the names of God: for 52 weeks", by Ann Spangler. In January and February, you can join the Wednesday Bible Study in-person or online to explore 5 of these names. Or you can use the resource for personal devotion throughout the year. (Zoom Mtg info: www.zoom.us/join, Meeting ID: 882 0486 0202, Passcode: 636901).

Christ in our Home for January, February and March is now available, in both pocket size and large print. Please take one if you'd like one and take a copy to share, if you know someone who'd also like a copy.

FOUND: Gift cards near the north entry of the church, on Monday, Dec. 22, 2025. If you lost some gift cards, please contact the church office to determine if these are yours.

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**

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 Helen & Marlyn Legler, Michael & Kathleen Lentz, Missy & Ryan Leroux, Sandi Ley and Danielle & Jarrod Lindemann families. *"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone" 1 Timothy 2:1*

A look ahead at the week of January 25th to February 1st, 2026.

TODAY: 9:00 am | Worship
9:00 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
10:15 am | Annual Meeting
10:15 am | Sunday School
11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM Radio Broadcast
1:00 – 2:30 pm | Sr High Youth Group

TUES: 9:00 am | Quilters
1:30 pm | Text Study

WEDS: 9:30 am | Bible Study
6:30 pm | Confirmation

FRI: 12:00 pm | Sr High Lunch

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

SUN (2/1): 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 F Radio Broadcast

