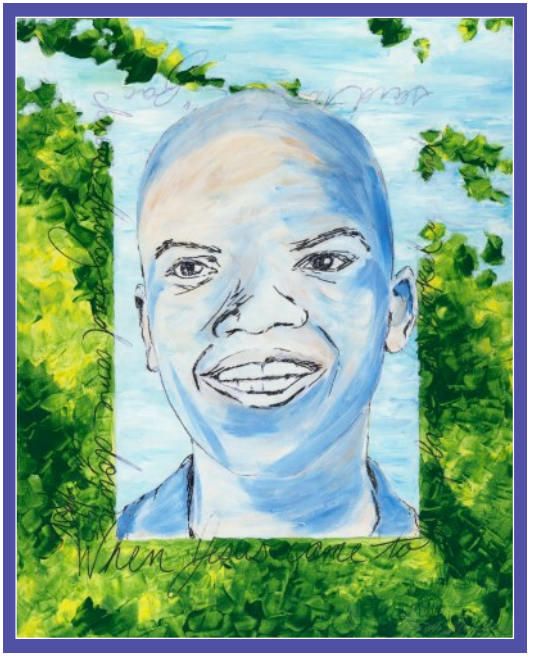
Worship for October 21, 2020

UNRAVELED

SEEKING GOD WHEN OUR PLANS FALL APART



Faith Lutheran Church

Mission Statement

"We are building a welcoming, nurturing faith community that is guided by Jesus and shares the Gospel."

MINISTERS **Every Member**
SENIOR PASTOR **Derek Harkins**
ASSOCIATE PASTOR **Sylvia Bull**

1402 East Avenue C, Bismarck, ND faithbismarck.com 701-223-2236

Pastoral Care Emergency Number: 701-595-0233

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

OPENING HYMN: ELW 510 "Word of God, Come Down on Earth"

Word of God, come down on earth,
living rain from heav'n descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you;
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die,
crucified for our salvation,
saving Word, the world restoring,
speak to us, your love outpouring.

Word that speaks God's tender love,
one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Gracious God,
Zacchaeus valued money over people and power over equality.
He was a sinner, but so are we.
Like Zacchaeus, we are quick to prioritize the wrong things—

Cont. on next page.

Valuing our to-do lists over family time,
Our own success over a relationship with you,
And wealth over generosity.
We lose sight of what really matters.
We lose sight of love.
Forgive us for our ignorance and impatience.
Call us back to the life you long for us to lead.
Reform us by your grace and love.
With humility and gratitude we pray,
Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

People of God,
Our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. In the name of Jesus Christ, + your sins are forgiven. May you experience the mercy and peace of God this day and everyday, and may your life be transformed and reformed by grace. Amen.
Amen.

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD: God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

READING: Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycomore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.' So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.' Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.'

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 669 "Rise Up, O Saints of God!"

Rise up, O saints of God!
From vain ambitions turn;
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts
with nobler zeal might burn.

Speak out, O saints of God!
Despair engulfs earth's frame;
as heirs of God's baptismal grace,
the word of hope proclaim.

Cont. on next page.

Rise up, O saints of God!
The kingdom's task embrace;
redress sin's cruel consequence;
give justice larger place.

Give heed, O saints of God!
Creation cries in pain;
stretch forth your hand of healing now,
with love the weak sustain.

Commit your hearts to seek
the paths which Christ has trod;
and, quickened by the Spirit's pow'r,
rise up, O saints of God!

SHARING OF PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER
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.

OFFERING MOMENT

SENDING: God blesses us and sends us into the world to love and serve our neighbors.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 504 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

Though hordes of devils fill the land
all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
they cannot overpow'r us.

Cont. on next page.

Let this world's tyrant rage;
in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away,
they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!

BLESSING

DISMISSAL
Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

Message: Pastor Sylvia Bull
Liturgy: Pastor Sylvia Bull
Musician: Janine Johannes

Card Shower - 60 Years of Ordination!
Pastor Marv Mutzenberger is celebrating his 60th year of ordination to the ministry of Word and Sacrament, and to celebrate with him First Lutheran Church in Bismarck is having a card shower in his honor! Pastor Marv graduated from Wartburg Seminary and was ordained in 1960. His first parish was in McLaughlin, S.D., he also served in Pierre, SD and Minot, ND. For 41 years, Pastor Marv taught religious and Biblical studies at Bismarck State College. Pastor Marv served as interim pastor here at FLC in 2016-2017. If you'd like to send Pastor Marv a card of congratulations, it can be mailed to First Lutheran Church 800 N 7th St. Bismarck, ND 58501.

Thank you for your gifts of $9,793.00 in fund offerings for last week.

Struggling during this time apart? Visit our website: faithbismarck.com/get-help for resources on mental wellness, parenting, financial assistance, addiction recovery, and more. You are not alone. *God loves you.* We want to walk with you through this hard time. You can also call the office at 701-223-2236 for assistance. Be well and safe!

Just a reminder that we still are collecting Dan's receipts. We are currently at 25,000 in receipts so 1/6 of the way to our next $1,000! The receipt bucket is in the entryway, so please drop them off at the Church the next time you stop by! *Thank you.*

You can **continue to give** to FLC's mission and ministry via mail: (1402 E Ave C, Bismarck, ND 58501), directly through your bank's bill pay feature, electronically through our website, or by using the Give+ app. If you do not already give, please consider committing to a sustaining gift of $5 or $10 a month as we continue to share in ministry together.

QR Code:

Looking for ways to serve God and neighbor during this time? Check out our new "Serve" page on our website faithbismarck.com/serve to learn how you can respond to needs from our partner ministries and the wider community. *Thank you for the many ways you are serving as the church in the world in these days!*

JESUS LOOKED UP
(ZACCHAEUS THE WEALTHY TAX COLLECTOR)

BY HANNAH GARRITY

INSPIRED BY LUKE 19:1-10 | ACRYLIC & INK ON CANVAS

Seeing, taking notice, acknowledging, lifting up—Jesus did all of these things as he looked up at Zacchaeus, calling him down, resting love and responsibility on his shoulders. I teach middle school art. I have spent this school year testing the waters. Each day I try a new collection of inputs for various situations. The most effective one is to stop in at every single student's seat to have a personal conversation with them. In these conversations, I reiterate the assignment, glean information about what the student plans to do, and answer any questions. The byproduct is positive productivity. Is it because I've shown that I care? Is it because I've clarified the expectations? Is it because I simply acknowledged their existence in the room? Is it because I saw them? Middle schoolers don't realize that you can hear and see them from across the room. Their maturity level is simply not there yet. In this image, Jesus looks up with grace. A shimmer of gold on his skin represents the presence of God in him. He takes notice of a selfish, greedy, and immature adult. Zacchaeus' actions make me think he did not mature much after middle school. By the standards of society, exhibited by the comments of those around him, this man does not deserve to be acknowledged. When he is finally seen, all of his immaturity melts away. He immediately rises to the occasion. Take notice, acknowledge, lift up. See.

—HANNAH GARRITY

Bible Verse of Encouragement for Uncertain Times

"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

John 1 4:18

AT A GLANCE...

Thursday, October 22
5:30 Serving The Banquet

Friday, October 23
8:00 NA

Saturday, October 24

Sunday, October 25
No Church School
8:30 Streaming Only Worship

Monday, October 26
7:00 AA
7:00 Book Study - Zoom

Tuesday, October 27
5:00 HR Committee - Zoom
6:00 Compass Group - Zoom
7:00 Executive Group - Zoom

Wednesday, October 28
10:00 Book Study - Zoom
11:30 * Limited Indoor Worship
4:30 (B) 8th & 9th Gr Conf
6 :00 (B) Church School
7:00 Streaming Only Worship

Thursday, October 29

Friday, October 30
8:00 NA

Saturday, October 31
9:30 Altar Guild

Sunday, November 1
8 :30 Streaming Only Worship
9 :45 (A) Church School
6:00 Outdoor Candlelight
All Saints Prayer Service

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FRIENDS OF JESUS

Bold 'n Bossy!

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