



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

138 3rd Street NW, Valley City, ND 58072

(701) 845 - 1328 | oursaviorsvc.org

JULY 12th, 2026, 9:30 am + 7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, Holy Spirit! Ignite our hearts with joy and confidence!

Fill us with the power of the rushing wind that we may faithfully serve you.

Be with us today, and empower us to boldly proclaim Christ Risen.

Come, Holy Spirit! Let the fire of your love consume us.

GATHERING HYMN

“Bring Forth the Kingdom”

(see insert)

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

“ Now the Feast and Celebration”

ELW 167

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹² For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle, and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

PSALM: Psalm 65:1-13 (read responsively)

¹ You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; to you shall vows be fulfilled.

² **To you, the one who answers prayer, to you all flesh shall come.**

³ Our sins are stronger than we are, but you blot out our transgressions.

⁴ **Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.**

⁵ Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

⁶ **You make firm the mountains by your power; you are girded about with might.**

⁷ You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

⁸ **Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰ **You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

¹¹ You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹² **May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who

raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION(*please rise in body or spirit)

p. 124

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!" ¹⁸ "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"The Word of God Is Source and Seed"

#506

APOSTLES' CREED(*please rise in body or spirit)

p. 105

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

*Each petition concludes: "God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**"*

The final petition:

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERING

(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.)

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY HYMN

"What Feast of Love"

#487

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 129

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.**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

p. 130

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Lamb of God"

p. 135

"For the Fruit of All Creation" #679

"Jesus Loves Me" #595

BLESSING FROM THE TABLE

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

And now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's care. **Amen.**

BLESSING (*please rise in body or spirit)

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"You Are Holy "

#525

DISMISSAL

This worship is ended; Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



OUR SAVIOR'S

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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GIVE ONLINE

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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 sponsored by Monte McDaniel and family in memory of Patricia McDaniel.

Christmas in July is coming July 26! - You are invited to wear your favorite Christmas attire or accessories to worship at 9:30am. Children are invited to wear Christmas PJ's, Santa hats, reindeer antlers, etc. We will sing Christmas Carols and hear the scriptures in a different and new way, without all the hustle and bustle of the season. Candy Canes and Hot Cocoa will be available during Coffee Fellowship.

Summer Youth Trip July 20-21 - 15 Youth and 2 Adults will be attending this year! Participants are invited to join us for worship on July 19th to receive a special blessing during worship. The participants NEED OUR HELP! Bring non-perishable food items for The Neighborhood Church, financial donations for Feed My Starving Children, and/or Health Care Supplies for Global Health Ministries. This group will not only be volunteering, but also bringing these donations to each stop. Thank you in advance for your contributions!

Preschool Sunday School Open House - Families with preschool children entering kindergarten in 2027 are invited to a Sunday School Open House on Sunday, July 19 from 4-5pm where they will have a chance to learn more about our Sunday School program, meet caring adults and youth, and participate in fun activities. This is a great chance to welcome and invite friends and neighbors who are not yet connected with Our Savior's. All are welcome!

Splash into Faith - Registration Open - All families with Children K-6 are invited to register for a fun water themed day of VBS at Chautauqua Park (Dakota Pavillion) on Wednesday, August 5th from 9:30-2pm. Adult and Youth Volunteers are need to welcome families and greet children. This event is open to the whole community and a great chance to connect with non-member families. Red Willow staff will lead activities, camp songs, and games.

Great Plains Foodbank Distribution - Epworth UMC is hosting the next food distribution on Tuesday, August 4 from 1:30pm - 3pm. Volunteers are needed to help distribute food to local households

Summer Grocery Store - The Bridges Backpack Program is distributing food every Wednesday between June 4 - August 6, from 5-7pm. This is a free program open to anyone who needs food in Barnes County. In June, Our Savior's volunteers helped 48 households by giving away over 1,000 lbs of food. Financial donation and food items can be donated. **Our Savior's need 2-3 volunteers on July 29th.** Contact Pr. Jared if you are interested in making a donation or to volunteering in July.

Radio Broadcasts: There are currently many Sundays open to sponsor. Please contact the office if you would like to help with this important outreach ministry. 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.

Good Samaritans Quilters are always looking for used sheets and fabric: the quilters are asking, as you clean closets and downsize, to keep them in mind. They are looking for used sheets (no white, please) and fabric (cotton preferred). If you have questions, please contact the office.

The Missionary Calendar for 2026 has been posted. Be sure to stop by and sponsor a special day. The cost for each day is \$25.

IN OUR PRAYERS:

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 Arlene & John Andrus, Robert Baasch, Donald & Sandra Bauer, Jeremy & Rebecca Baumgartner and Laura Becker 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 July 12th to July 19th, 2026.

TODAY: 9:30 am | Worship at City Park
 9:30 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
 11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM Radio Broadcast
 10:30 am | Fellowship and picnic

TUES: 9:00 am | Quilters

WEDS: 9:30 am | Bible Study

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

SUN (7/19): 8:45 am | Coffee and Fellowship
 9:30 am | Worship
 9:30 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
 11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 F Radio Broadcast

