

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Last Sunday \$5,260
Christmas Offering \$8,028
Budget per Sunday \$9,927

Everything we do is made possible through your faithful and generous giving.

WAYS TO GIVE

On our website



In-person



Mail a check to
1300 Ferguson Drive
Great Falls, MT 59404



NEXT WEEK READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6;
Psalm 72;
Ephesians 3:1-12;
Matthew 2:1-12

CHURCH INFORMATION

Monday - Friday | 9 AM - 5 PM
Phone: 406.454.1309
Email: faithlutheran.gtf@gmail.com
Website: faithlutheranGF.com
Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Linked-In!

LIFE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Your story might not look as extraordinary as Esther's. It might not be as exciting as David's or as tumultuous as Rahab's or as terrifying as Mary's. But you don't have to be extraordinary for God to work through you. He can accomplish great things through something as unassuming as prayer or as simple as a meal for a new mother." Grace MacPherson - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

PRAYERS THIS WEEK

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- For the Father's Light, Love, and Peace
- For Discernment Amid Changing World
- For Peace Among the Nations
- For Healing and Comfort

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Tami Harrison, Rudy Robinson, Sean Hoven, Tammie Klinker, Susan Adams, Pat Fournier, Casey Thomas, Pat Strand, Donna Parsons, Tom Moring, Rod & Lou Ann Guy, Callie DiFulgentis, Justin Tews, Tara Knight, Eleanor Jandt, Bob Palmer, Fred Burow, Bob Haensel, Char Schram, Jim & Diane Lowry, Becca Thompson, Leona Wenaas, Robbie Stubbs, Nancy Radford, Monica Fournier, Fred Shauer, Sandy Rittenhouse, Judy Stubbs, Barb Clark, the family of Harry Grosvold

NEED PRAYER?

Call or email the office to be added to this list or to the prayer chain.



JANUARY 4, 2026



WELCOME

Welcome to our church. We trust God will bless you through your worship here today. We believe that the bread and wine we receive in Holy Communion are the true body and blood of Christ, for the forgiveness of sins, so that in receiving them we receive our Lord. If this is your belief, and you have been baptized into the body of Christ, you are welcome to receive the sacrament here. White grape juice is available for those who do not wish to receive wine. Individually wrapped Gluten-free wafers are also available. If coming up to the front is difficult for you, please tell an usher and we will serve you communion where you are seated.

Out of gratefulness for God's blessings, the ministries of Faith are supported by members and friends who give their tithes and offerings in support of the church, the need in our community, and around the world.

We have a family room located to the right of the sanctuary entrance. Our nursery is open ask an usher to show you where it's at.

If it's your first visit please pick up your welcome gift and sign our guest book at the Connection Center. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us at Faith!

Matthew 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

ABOUT US

We are a loving church — called to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

We are a praying church — people of prayer who pray for one another and for the needs of our community, world and all in need.

We are a disciple-making church — committed to living and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and bearing witness to our Christian faith in inviting others to know and follow Jesus.

We are a serving church — serving others in Jesus' name by feeding the hungry, helping the poor and being the presence of Christ in a tangible way.

AS CHRIST-FOLLOWERS WE



THIS IS THE JOURNEY OF FAITH.

JANUARY SPECIAL OFFERINGS

First Sunday of the Month

GREAT FALLS FOOD BANK

Third Sunday of the Month

LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

PROGRAM



Wednesday Bible Study

REVELATION

Beginning January 7th

at 10 am

Join Pastor Alsen
in discovering God's Word
for the Church today.



Love Day Quilters

Thursday, January 8th,
at 9am



SOUL SISTERS



January 13th at 11:30
at Jakers



DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God and WE WILL!

NOTES



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

The Things of My Father

January 4, 2026

AS WE GATHER

What a jump! Only a few days ago we were singing of the Savior's birth in Bethlehem, and the Gospel for today tells us about Jesus as a youth of twelve years conversing with the teachers in the temple! Mary and Joseph must have been completely confused about Jesus' desire to stay in the temple, but it was obvious to Him. Jesus manifested the wisdom of the Father in heaven already as a child, the Son of Mary growing and maturing in mortal frame yet manifesting fully the heavenly wisdom of the Son of God. He surpassed the wisdom of Solomon and became the revelation of the Father that brings salvation to all who believe in Him. Jesus needed to be doing the things of His Father and so should we be as well. This, too, is the Christmas story.

PRESERVICE SONGS "Thy Word" [CCLI Video Amy Grant/Michael W. Smith]
 "Holy Forever" [CCLI Video Chris Tomlin/Jason Ingram/Phil Wickham]

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

✖ PREPARATION ✖

RINGING OF THE BELL

HYMN "O Little Town of Bethlehem" [REC 115 vs. 1-4]

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING PRAYER 1 JOHN 1:8-9

Pastor: Let us pray together. We pray:

People: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9 ESV)

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

CONFSSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

SONG “This Little Light of Mine” [OSB 235 or CCLI Words/piano plays]

OLD TESTAMENT READING 1 Kings 3:4–15

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Ephesians 1:3–14*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 2:40–52*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Ann Derr

SERMON

SERMON SONG “Pass It On” [OSB 164]

NICENE CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Blessed be You, O God our Father, for in Your great wisdom, mercy, and love You have chosen us to be Your own children by faith in Christ. Grant to Your whole church Your light, love, and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Give wisdom, O God, for a mind to discern truth from error, that we may know Jesus Christ and not depart from Him amid the winds of change and doubt that challenge our faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Let Your Holy Spirit seek out and reveal Your salvation for those who hear and believe Your saving Gospel. Cast away all doubt and strengthen the faith of Your people everywhere. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Give peace among the nations, O Lord, that Your Word may not be bound but be proclaimed freely and boldly to all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Bring Your healing and comfort to all who are sick or injured or in any need, especially . . . and those we name in our hearts in this moment of silence. Give confidence in suffering and thankful hearts for Your every blessing. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray as we sing:

LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

DISTRIBUTION

BENEDICTION

HYMN “Shine, Jesus, Shine” [CCLI Video]