



Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church

Enough for everyone

lakenokomischurch.org

JULY 21, 2024



There are many heroes of the faith, people we admire and wish to be. However, there are even more ordinary people of faith - those doing what they can and with what they have to make a difference. This summer will look at bold stories of those often overlooked in our biblical narrative. As we journey with these characters, may they remind us that we all play a role in shaping God's story of redemption and grace. May they awaken us to the faces of our faith in our world today. May they encourage us to know that non-action is ever too small to make a difference.



WELCOME TO LAKE NOKOMIS LUTHERAN CHURCH

We gather in faith that there is **Enough for Everyone**. In worship and community, we seek to grow in love for God and for our neighbor. We trust that we are called and transformed to create a world of abundance. This faith community is committed to genuine, **inclusive welcome**. Our siblings of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions are welcomed and embraced here. And we continue our commitment to **work for racial equity**, firmly grounded in the belief that everyone is a beloved child of God. Visit lakenokomischurch.org to learn more.



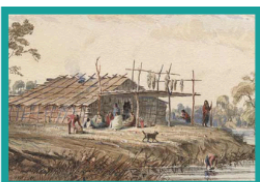
BE OUR GUEST

Are you visiting today? We look forward to meeting you. Feel free to introduce yourself to those around you, and fill out the **Welcome Slip** towards the last page of the bulletin, and drop it in the offering basket.



LET THE CHILDREN COME

We love the joyful noises that little ones make! Kids of all ages are invited to come up front for storytime. If your child needs a break or a creative outlet, check out the carpeted space in the rear of the Sanctuary, or visit the **Kids' Corner** playroom near the Small Sanctuary.



LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge that Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church is located on the ancestral land of the Dakota people. Read the full land acknowledgement at lakenokomischurch.org/land

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

PASTOR

Sara Spohr

READER

Kyle Haemig

USHER

Kathryn Selin

COMMUNION SERVERS

Ginny Rudloff, Jason Buck
Leah Buck, Jenny Dowzak

ALTAR GUILD

Barb Geiger
Jane Wheeler

LEADING MUSIC

Dennis Wallisch
Kathryn Selin

ABOUT THE SERIES



cover art | LISLE GWYNN GARRITY

Having the bravery and confidence to stand up to an inappropriate request from a superior is both paramount to the moral foundation of society, and extremely difficult. We each know deep down when we are doing right or wrong.

In this text, Vashti's modesty and fearlessness resonated with me. I imagined her recognizing that her husband's demand for her to show her beauty to his drunken friends overstepped his bounds.

Her simple reply, "no," is feared by the male "sages who knew the laws" (Esther 1:13). They advise the king to cast Queen Vashti out and to replace her with a new queen. Here I have represented Vashti dancing alone. I see her living into her refusal with grace and beauty, exhibiting independence and strength in her solitary righteousness.

STAFF



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Youth Ministry Intern



**Lake Nokomis
Lutheran Church**
Enough for everyone

5011 31st Ave S
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lakenokomischurch.org

COMING UP

July 28 | Judas Iscariot

August 4 | Eutyclus

August 11 | The Daughters of Zelophehad

August 18 | Philemon

GATHER

PRELUDE

Come Just As You Are by Joseph Sabolick

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

God, We Gather as Your People

God, we gath - er as your peo - ple lives to
Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut
God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when

3

raise our song a - bove, and we dare to claim the
short by fear and shame, so a - fraid of who they
chil - dren far and wide can live their lives with

6

prom - ise of your love. _____ Though the
are and whom they love. _____ May the
9 dig - ni - ty and pride. _____ As they

day may not yet be here, we trust it soon will
mes - sage now be ban - ished that your love is for the
12 grow in strength and stat - ure, may they join us hand in

be, when your chil - dren will be free. _____
few; may their faith in you re - new. _____
hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand _____

Refrain

Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen

wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - 'ry - one in - side.

For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -

long. May that wel - come be our song.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to worship today as people of faith;

Imperfect people

who belong to love

Forgiven people

encircled in grace

Hurting people

who still have hope

Impatient people

who thirst for justice

We are shaped in the way of courage, kindness, solidarity, action and the bold proclamation of the gospel's liberating and reconciling promises.

We are faces of faith.

Today, we look to the faith of Queen Vashti. In the book of Esther, Queen Vashti appears only briefly. The first wife of King Ahasuerus, she refuses her husband's summons to parade before his friends at a party and — after the king and his advisors hold an emergency consultation about her shocking insubordination — is summarily banished. This paves the way for the story of Esther to unfold. Queen Vashti's faithful witness is one of strength, bravery and an inspiring confidence in her own worthiness.

We honor the faithful witness of Queen Vashti.

Today we look to the faith of Fannie Lou Hamer who rose from humble beginnings in the Mississippi Delta to become one of the most important, passionate, and powerful voices of the civil and voting rights movements and a leader in the efforts for greater economic opportunities for African Americans. In 1964, she and Ruby D. Robinson led the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party in their campaign to be seated at the Democratic National Convention, saying that they and thousands of African-Americans like them were "sick and tired of being sick and tired."

In the midst of the civil rights struggle Fannie Lou Hamer said: "We have to realize just how grave the problem is in the United States today, and I think the sixth chapter of Ephesians, the eleventh and twelfth verses help us to know what it is we are up against. It says, 'Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities, against powers, and against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places?' Hamer said, "This is what I think about when I think of my own work in the fight for freedom."

We honor the faithful witness of Fannie Lou Hamer

We give thanks for faces of faith today. Those who stand firm in the belief that all people have worth. Those who stand up against oppressive power and principalities. Those who pave the way for the powerless and silenced to find true significance and belonging. Those who say no to outdated structures that objectify, silence and control. Those who say yes to dignity, respect, and opportunity for all.

We give thanks for faces of faith yesterday, today, and tomorrow. 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.**

SONG OF PRAISE

I Was Glad

Refrain

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us
go to the house of the Lord." I was glad when they
said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."
2 Words that must be spoken, grace that must be heard,
mercy and forgiveness from God's holy word,
here will be repeated; peace to all proclaimed,
shout - ed out in Je - sus' name.

Text: Psalm 122:1, refrain; Jay Beech, stanzas

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

STORYTIME

Children of all ages are invited to come forward at this time. Additional activities are available in the Artist's Corner in the back of the sanctuary.

READING

Esther 1:10-16, 2:1-4

On the seventh day, when the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha and Abagtha, Zethar and Carkas, the seven eunuchs who attended him, to bring Queen Vashti before the king wearing the royal crown, in order to show the peoples and the officials her beauty, for she was fair to behold. But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king's command conveyed by the eunuchs. At this the king was enraged, and his anger burned within him.

Then the king consulted the sages who knew the laws (for this was the king's procedure toward all who were versed in law and custom, and those next to him were Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, the seven officials of Persia and Media who had access to the king and sat first in the kingdom): "According to the law, what is to be done with Queen Vashti because she has not performed the command of King Ahasuerus conveyed by the eunuchs?" Then Memucan said in the presence of the king and the officials, "Queen Vashti has done wrong not only to the king but also to all the officials and all the peoples who are in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus.

After these things, when the anger of King Ahasuerus had abated, he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what had been decreed against her. Then the king's servants who attended him said, "Let beautiful young virgins be sought out for the king. And let the king appoint commissioners in all the provinces of his kingdom to gather all the beautiful young virgins to the harem in the citadel of Susa under custody of Hegai, the king's eunuch, who is in charge of the women; let their cosmetic treatments be given them. And let the young woman who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti." This pleased the king, and he did so.

The Word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

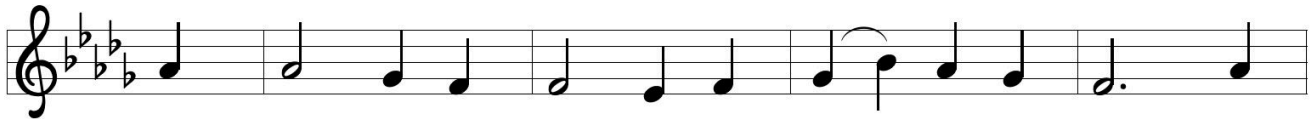
SERMON | Faces of Faith: Queen Vashti

Pastor Sara Spohr

SONG OF THE DAY

It Is Well with My Soul

vs. 1,2,4



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

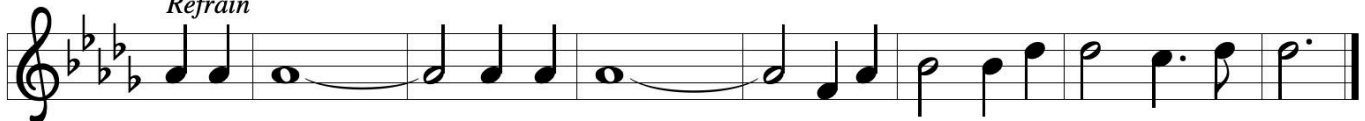


sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888

Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

MEAL



OFFERING

Your gifts make a difference. Thank you for supporting our shared ministry and outreach. Scan the QR code to take advantage of our Simply Giving mobile option. You'll also find baskets in the rear of the Sanctuary for offerings and prayer cards.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

You are invited to pray the Lord's Prayer using these printed words, or the words of your heart's choosing.

Our Father/Mother/Parent in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Everyone is invited to receive the gift of Holy Communion, offered every Sunday. An usher will direct you to the front. Let them know if you'd like to be served from where you're seated. Children are welcome to commune or come forward for a blessing. The bread is gluten-free and made with eggs, olive oil, honey, molasses, Bob's Red Mill gluten-free Wonderful bread mix, Bob's Red Mill gluten-free baking soda, and water. Both wine and grape juice are available. Communion is served by intinction: receive the bread in your hand and then dip it in wine or juice. Pre-packaged individual cups are also available (gluten-free wafer and juice).

COMMUNION SONGS

Come and Join the Feast

by Dennis Wallisch

6 Come and join the feast _____ that is so free-ly, free-ly giv'n. _____ Come and join the feast

_____ of _____ love. _____ God's a - bun - dant care _____ is in the

11 _____ **Fine**

16 bread and wine that we share. _____ So come and join the feast, _____ the feast of _____ love.

21 You don't need no hes - i - ta - tion to ac - cept God's in - vi - ta - tion, for the

26 ta - ble is big e - nough for all. _____ Bring you doubt, and fears, and sor -

_____ row, and a hope for a bet - ter to - mor - row; _____ you can find peace at the ta - ble, the ta - ble of love. _____

SEND

BLESSING *based on Hebrews 12:1-2*

Since we stand surrounded by all those who have gone before, an enormous cloud of witnesses, let us drop every extra weight, everything that clings to us and slackens our pace, and let us run with endurance the race set before us.

We may feel alone, but we aren't. We are surrounded by generations of faithful witnesses. They have run the race of faith and finished well. It is now our turn.

This week, keep your eyes to Jesus, who designed and perfected your faith.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

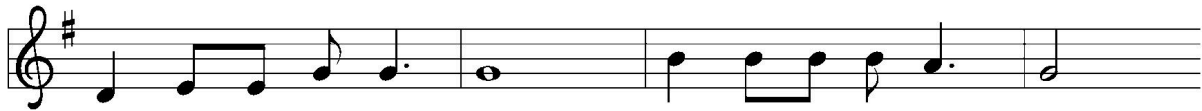
This Little Light



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Lead with love.

Thanks be to God.



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

Saturday, August 3rd

NOKOMIS DAYS

10 AM - 3 PM

NOKOMIS
NOKOMIS EAST BUSINESS ASSOCIATION



FREE food & drinks, kids activities,
face painting, musical performances,
Pride tent, Quilt Studio To Go

10:30 AM 32nd Street Jazz Band

11:30 AM All-Ages Drum & Song Circle



12:45 PM Broadway Revue & more!



Save the date: We have a fun opportunity to welcome neighbors and friends to the New Branches community. On **Saturday, August 3**, New Branches is participating in the 2024 Nokomis Days activities.

Visitors will be invited to enjoy children's games, a drum circle, musical entertainment, the quilt art studio, and refreshments. At the **31st Avenue entrance**, you will find a **Pride** tent where we affirm our commitment to welcome all, pass out stickers and necklaces, and take prayer requests and concerns.

How to participate: **Scan the QR Code** to find out how your time and talents are needed to welcome our Lake Nokomis neighbors to our community of faith. Welcome visitors to our building, our activities, and the warmth of our New Branches collaborative by volunteering to serve in one or more of the roles needed. Stay "tuned" for music opportunities as well.



If you have any questions, please email info@newbranchesmn.org.

BROADWAY REVUE

And maybe you've always wanted to belt...uh...sing that favorite Broadway hit that you know you could do better than the recording if you just had a chance. Now is your chance. Be a part of our Broadway Revue at Nokomis Days. Let **Dennis Wallisch** or **Kevin Werner Hohlstein** know what piece or if you would like us to give you a piece of music to sing and we will take care of the rest.

32ND STREET JAZZ MPLS

One of the groups playing at Nokomis Days is **32nd Street Jazz** featuring **Michael Wilson**, husband of **Becky Sun**. 32nd Street Jazz will be playing at the Driftwood Char Bar on **Thursday, 25 July, at 7:00 pm**. Since they didn't have a gig in June, they will be doing a delayed Pride Month celebration, with a Rainbow of tunes. What color-themed tunes will they play? Come to the Driftwood Char Bar and find out! **\$5 cover**.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

Please be praying for Lake Nokomis children and youth as they head off to Camp Wapo over the next few weeks. First up are our youngest campers attending the Seeds Camp this weekend. Next weekend a dozen or so head off to Youth Camp. They are sure to have a wonderful time connecting with God, nature, one another and themselves. Many thanks to this congregation for helping to make camp accessible to all our families.

Registration is still open for **South Minneapolis Day Camp** using the **QR code below**. Diamond Lake Lutheran is hosting this year. Aug 19-23. You can find those opportunities by going to lakenokomischurch.org/cyf.



JUSTICE & MERCY

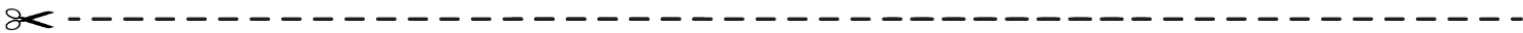
SACRED SITE TOURS July 27 (9 am - 1 pm) or August 27 (10 am - 2 pm)

Take advantage of this opportunity to learn about Minnesota history from a Native perspective through storytelling and experiencing the sites in silence / meditation / reflection. **Healing Minnesota Stories Dakota Sacred Sites Tours** are led by **Rev. Jim Bear Jacobs** (Mohican) and **Kelly Sherman Conroy** (Oglala Lakota). On the tour, you'll visit sites located around confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers, what the Dakota refer to as Bdote, or "meeting place of rivers," including:

- Fort Snelling State Park
- Dakota Internment Camp following the The Dakota-U.S. War
- Pilot Knob Hill, a traditional burial ground.

All tours meet at **Church of St. Peter, 1405 Sibley Memorial Highway in St. Paul**. They're free but a free-will offering is suggested in the range of \$50 - \$75.

**SCAN TO REGISTER
OR GO TO
[mnchurches.org/
what-we-
do/healing-
minnesota-stories](http://mnchurches.org/what-we-do/healing-minnesota-stories)**



We are glad you're here!

We want to get a chance to know you. Please fill this sheet out and place it in the offering basket. Introduce yourself to those around you. Stay for fellowship afterwards!

Date: ___/___/___

Name(s): _____

Best Email Address: _____

Best Phone Number: _____

How did you hear about Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church?

(please check all that apply)

- I am:
- new here
 - visiting again
 - here with friends and family
 - active in another church
 - looking for a church home

- I would:
- like to receive the weekly newsletter
 - like to connect by phone
 - like to connect by email

Find out more about Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church by going to www.lakenokomischurch.org

EDUCATION & CONNECTION



This was the scene on Monday at the last **Discussions on the Deck**. The group talked about Christian Nationalism led by Pastor Angela Denker. So many people. This is what fellowship, community, and hope looks like. We hope you can join the next Discussions in August.



Minnehaha Food Shelf is looking for donations of **bars of soap** throughout the month of **July**. You can leave any donations at the foot of the tree in The Commons. You can always sign up to volunteer or give monetary donations to the food shelf by going to minnehaha.org/foodshelf.

WE PRAY...

- For all the kids and adults heading to Camp Wapo this week.
- For justice and peace among nations where war and violence rage, especially Palestine and Israel, Iran, Myanmar, Iraq, Haiti, Russia and Ukraine, Burkina Faso, and South Sudan...
- For victims of the capsized boat off the coast of Yemen, and for the plight of all migrants...
- For excessive heat warnings, storm threats, and all areas of the nation facing extreme weather...
- For the Southern Baptist Convention as delegates gather for its annual meeting...
- For all victims of violence, including shooting victims in Atlanta, GA and Cornell College (IA) stabbing victims in northeastern China...
- For citizens of Malawi, grieving the death of Vice President Saulos Chilima and others after a plane crash...
- For safety and protection for all travelers...
- For fathers and all who serve as caregivers, role models, and parental figures...
- For advocates and peacemakers who continue to lead society in the work of racial justice and reconciliation...



Prayer for the People

Reach out to the prayer team with your requests, or to join your prayers with others on the team, please email prayer@lakenokomis.org

If you have a prayer request, write it below and place it in the offering basket. Please let us know how you would like to share it.

- Read aloud today in worship
- Share with pastor only
- Share with prayer chain



Name & Contact Info: _____