

Welcome to First Lutheran Church! May God richly bless our time together through silence, in prayer, song, and in studying God’s Word.

Prelude/Chimes “Noel” Louis-Claude Daquin  
With Bell Choir “Light One Candle” Vs. 1 & 2 ELW# 240  
Welcome and Announcements  
Gathering Hymn “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” vs. 1, 2, 3 & 5 ELW# 249  
Greeting  
Confession and Forgiveness  
153rd Year of Faithful Ministry  
Prayer of the Day  
Psalm Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19  
Children’s Activities  
First Reading Isaiah 11: 1-10  
Second Reading Romans 15: 4-13  
Gospel Matthew 3: 1-12  
Children’s Sermon Pastor Lynn Melchior  
Sermon Pastor Lynn Melchior  
Hymn of the Day “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Vs. 1, 4, 6, & 8 ELW# 257  
Creed  
Prayers of Intercession  
Sharing of the Peace with our Neighbors  
Offering “Ave Verum” Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
Offering Hymn “We Give Thee But Thine Own” vs. 1 ELW# 686  
Words of Institution  
Lord’s Prayer  
Communion  
Blessing  
Sending Song “Mourning Into Dancing” Video by Ron Kenoly  
Dismissal  
Chimes and Postlude “Light of Light, Lord of Lords” Tom Birchwood

Congratulations to Mike & Ruth Cathey who were married yesterday.

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December 7, 20252<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

“Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.” MATTHEW 3:10

Do you bear good fruit for Jesus? Do you spend time in prayer or do you waste it with mindless activity? Do you use your talent to help others or are you too busy? Do you use your treasure to support the Church or do you buy more things that go unused. Our time, talent, and treasure are gifts from God. What we do with these gifts is our gift back to Him. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

Light One Candle

The hymn "Light One Candle" was written by Peter Yarrow in 1982 as a pacifist response to the 1982 Lebanon War, though its lyrics were inspired by the Maccabees' revolt and the themes of Hanukkah. The song became a popular Hanukkah song, but its message is broader, incorporating themes of peace, resilience, and the universal struggle for justice.

On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

The hymn "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" originated in 1736 as a Latin hymn by Charles Coffin, a French rector at the University of Paris. It was translated into English by John Chandler in 1837 and is a popular Advent hymn, drawing on the biblical account of John the Baptist calling people to prepare for the arrival of Jesus Christ.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

The hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" originated from 12th-century Latin texts based on the 8th-century "O Antiphons," which are a series of prophetic titles for the Messiah used during the final days of Advent. The text was translated into English in the mid-1800s by John Mason Neale. The familiar tune, "Veni Emmanuel," is thought to have been a 15th-century French funeral hymn.

Mourning Into Dancing

The story behind the song "Mourning into Dancing" is inspired by the biblical passage Psalm 30:11-12, which talks about God turning sorrow into joy. It was written during a time of personal grief and involves being part of a worship dance ministry, leading to the message that even in the midst of pain, one can find hope and believe that Jesus will eventually bring new joy.

No Congregational Voices in December!!

Pastoral Visits: If you would like a visit, especially if you are to be or are hospitalized or are having health issues, please contact the church office at 218-864-5686 or you may contact Pastor Lynn on her cell, 218-298-0396


Your offerings support our

Building, Pastor, Staff and our valuable ministries to the community

2025 November giving through November 30 \$ 28,463.40

This amount includes \$7,500 from the Endowment fund.

(Needed \$27,488 for the month of November)



Thank you for your continued support Sustaining Our Ministry.

Offering Options:  
In person – drop in offering plate  
Mail a check – Send it to: 505 W Holdt St,  
Battle Lake, MN 56515  
Use your banks “bill pay” option  
Direct Giving - <https://blfirstlutheran.org/simple-giving>

Events Upcoming

December 10th — Advent Service

December 12th — FLY — Merry Grinchmas Party

December 17th & 21st — WAFL Christmas program

December 24th— 3 pm and 5 pm Christmas Eve Service

December 25th and 26th — Office Closed

January 9th — FLY Christmas Party Lock in

January 15-16 —Snow Dyeing Class –Sign up at Art of the Lakes

January 23rd — Pasta class —sign up at Art of the Lakes

February 1st — Faith Haven Camp Annual Meeting

February 7th — Weaving class —sign up at Art of the Lakes

February 21st — Game Day — for all ages

153 years of Faithfulness!!

First Lutheran was founded in 1873. We have faithfully ministered for 153 years. 2026 is just around the corner. This holiday season we will be sharing HOPE as we receive the greatest gift ever from God. Commitment forms for 2026 estimate of giving available in December. Let’s continue our steadfast journey into 2026.



Welcome!

We gather together to worship; hearing God’s Word, experiencing God’s grace in baptism and communion and loving our neighbor. Those who are mobility challenged are welcome to remain seated while others stand.

Everyone is welcome to join us for coffee fellowship after service. To learn more about our ministries, visit our website at [www.blfirstlutheran.org](http://www.blfirstlutheran.org) or grab a copy of our newsletter at the Kiosk near the entryway.

If you are visiting, introduce yourself to Pastor Lynn – she would love to meet you!

How do we apply these to our daily life

Isaiah 11:1-10 Perfect Justice. Harmony. Peaceful Coexistence. Sound too good to be true? Not with God at work in our lives!

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 A father asks God to help his son – a future king - be the best he can be. How do you pray for the people in your life?

Romans 15:4-13 Thanks for Jesus, non-Jews are included in God’s people. When was the last time you thanked God for this inclusion?

Matthew 3:1-12 John the Baptist humbly announced Jesus’ ministry. How do you announce Jesus’ ministry? Through your actions, words or both?

Noisy Offering  
December — God’s Global Barnyard  
January — Mission Jamaica

Our Men’s Fellowship **Christmas Food Ministry** will be assisting families experiencing hardship. In our outreach, we are partnering with the Battle Lake and Ashby schools and providing grocery gift cards for their local grocery store. We hope to assist 50 or more families. Make check payable to First Lutheran Church with memo for Christmas baskets. **Thank you for your support.**



Sunday School

Ages pre-K through 6th grade the second Sunday of the month from 9 am to 9:45 am. All are welcome!!



Mary Jane, Sandy, Patricia, Michelle, Suzann, Deryl, Kathleen, Daryl, Sheri, Sean, Cheri, Gerry, Cathy, Karen, Darrell, Jeff, Harold, Jan, Dick, Jeremiah, Anne, Jim, Keith, Joyce, Linda, Justin, Doug, Ray, Bev, Chris, Delores, Shari, Boston, and Cherie.



Weekly Calendar

Sunday, December 7th

10:00 am Worship/Communion  
11:00 am Fellowship

Monday, December 8th

9:00 am Quilters  
12:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous  
2:30 pm Finance  
4:00 pm Bells

Tuesday, December 9th

11:00 am Lydia Circle  
11:30 am Naomi Circle  
5:30 pm Faith Formation  
6:30 pm Council

Wednesday, December 10th

10:00 am Mary Circle  
3:15 pm WAFL  
5:30 pm Confirmation  
6:30 pm Advent Service  
7-9 pm Youth Group  
7:30 pm NA @ Sr. Ctr.

Thursday, December 11th

8:00 am TOPS

Friday, December 12th

11:00 am Meet & Eat potluck  
6:00 pm FLY Merry Grinchmas Party  
8:00 pm AA & Al-Anon @ Sr. Ctr.

Sunday, December 14th

9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Fellowship  
6:30 pm Evening Circle

Our next potluck is December 28th. Anyone interested in joining our congregation, please contact Pastor Lynn. All are welcome.  
Attendance November 3th — 87 Facebook & Youtube — 342



Sunday, December 7th, 2025  
Worship, 10 AM  
Pastor: Lynn Melchior  
Accompanist: Gail Malmgren Nelson  
Bell Choir

Christ Welcomes Everyone!!

First Lutheran Church

“Sharing Hope in Christ”

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