

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude/Chimes	"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"	
Time For Quiet Reflection		
Welcome and Announcements		
"Light one Candle to Watch for Messiah" Vs 1, 2		ELW# 240
Gathering Song	"Prepare the Royal Highway"	ELW# 264
Greeting		
Confession & Forgiveness		
Prayer of the Day		
Prophecy	Luke 1: 68-79	
Money Minute		
First Reading	Malachi 3: 1-4	
Second Reading	Philippians 1: 3-11	
Gospel Acclamation		
Gospel	Luke 3: 1-6	
Children's Sermon		Pastor Lynn Melchior
Sermon		Pastor Lynn Melchior
Hymn of the Day	"My Lord, What a Morning"	WOV# 627
Creed		
Prayers		
Offering	"O Come, All Ye Faithful"	Gordon Young
Offering	"Create in Me a Clean Heart"	ELW# 186
Lord's Prayer		
Blessing		
Sending Hymn	"Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn" vs. 1 & 4	ELW# 242
Dismissal		
Postlude	"Exaltation"	Roger C. Wilson

Advent falls during a busy holiday season. Take a few moments each day to feel the love God has for you!



December 8, 2024

"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..." (PHILIPPIANS 1:9-10)

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that "gift" truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your "obligation" to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them and learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less "stuff" and spend more time with those you love.

How Do We Apply it in Our Daily Lives

Malachi 3:1-4: Malachi predicts John the Baptists preparing the way for Jesus. He also speaks to God preparing us – so that God's reflection in our lives will become clearer. What impurities is God working on with you right now?

Luke 1:68-79: After months of being mute, John the Baptist's father, Zechariah, is moved by the Holy Spirit to speak about Jesus coming and his son's part in preparing the way. How are you preparing for Jesus' birth this year?

Philippians 1:3-11: Paul is grateful for communities of believers who continue to announce the Good News while continuing to grow in love and faith. How do you grow in love and faith? Do you share the Good News with others?

Luke 3:1-6: Is all the naming of rulers and high priests necessary in our gospel? Yes, it is. It not only helps pinpoint the time in history but also helps us understand the magnitude of Jesus' impact. Rulers and religious leaders have been, and will continue to be, impacted by Jesus. Do you see Christianity's impact on your neighborhood?

Revelation Bible Study. December 19th at 1 pm. We will be starting with Chapter 6.

Thank you to all the WAFL Prayer Warriors!!

Proverbs 22:6

"Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it."

Mary Jane, Natasha, Sandy, Ray, Patricia, Michelle, Suzann, Darlene, Kathleen, Daryl, Sheri, Mike, Sean, Cheri, Gerry, Cathy, Tonya, Karen, Darrell, Jeff, Harold, Lou, Jan, Dick, Jeremiah, Dawn, Anne, Jim, Adriel, and Arlyn



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. Please support this project. Mail your check to: First Lutheran Church, 505 W. Holdt St., Battle Lake, MN 56515. Please add in the memo line "Christmas Food Basket" **We are \$900 short of our goal!**

Thank You For Sustaining Our Ministry!

- *In person – drop in offering plate
- *Use your banks "bill pay" option



- *Mail a check – Send it to:

505 W Holdt St,
Battle Lake, MN 56515

***Scan the QR Code to donate now!**

***Direct Giving - <https://blfirstlutheran.org/simply-giving>**

Thank you for your generous giving.

Have you ever wondered about the budgets and costs of your church? Here is an FYI for you.

Weekly \$'s needed for budget: \$7,700
\$'s received for the budget on 12/01: \$ 2,126.00



Designated funds received (non-Budget \$):
\$ 6,246.87

Direct deposits for November 29 to December 5 (designated & General) \$ 1,735.21

THANK YOU!

Events Upcoming

December 11th —5:30 pm Soup Supper with Advent service @6:30 pm

December 13th— FLY Lock-In

December 15th—Special Music Sunday—The Brass Band & the Cline family

December 18th—WAFL Christmas Program @5:30 pm — with Soup & Sandwich supper following the program.

December 19th— 1:00 pm — Revelation Bible Study

December 22nd—WAFL Christmas Program for church service

December 24th—Christmas Eve Services at 3 pm and 5 pm with Hot Chocolate Bar, Photos and kids activities.

January 16th—5:30 to 8 pm — Zormore Fellowship Bingo @ Woodshed

January 19th—11:15 am — Churches United Forum

January 26th — 2 pm to 8 pm —FLY to Andes

February 9th—11 am —Farm Rescue Forum

February 22nd — 7 pm to 11 pm— FLY Neon Night Tubing @ Andes

Welcome!

We are glad you are here. Join us as we worship God and love our neighbors. 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 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!

JOIN US FOR COFFEE , CONVERSATION, AND CHRISTMAS GOODIES EVERY FRIDAY IN DECEMBER TILL CHRISTMAS.



THE DATES ARE DECEMBER 6, 13, AND 20.

WE WILL MEET AT 10 AM IN FELLOWSHIP HALL AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH FOR ANYONE WHO IS STRUGGLING WITH LOSS OF A LOVED ONE, JUST FEELING LONELY, OR STRUGGLING TO GET INTO THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT. WE WILL REMINISCE ABOUT CHRISTMAS PAST, SHARE STORIES, AND JUST BE THERE FOR ONE ANOTHER. THE HOLIDAYS CAN BE A TOUGH TIME AFTER LOSS AND JUST KNOWING THERE IS SOMEONE ELSE STRUGGLING, MIGHT MAKE A DIFFERENCE. I HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! JERI WILMORE, PARISH NURSE

Bell/Chimes choir practice every Wednesday at 1:30 pm in church sanctuary. You are welcome to come and listen to us practice and especially welcome to join the group. The only requirement to join is that you have had at least two years of music and are 16 years old. If interested, call Gail at 763-302-9760.

Our Giving Tree is now set up in the Narthex of the church. Please take a tag for a child in need. Instructions are on the table by the tree. Thank you all for your support. Need to be back to church or the school by December 11th.



Handy Helpers Youth Committee (9th grade and up)

The Handy Helpers Youth Committee is for confirmed young adult members of the church. The purpose of the committee is to provide young adults with a voice and leadership within the church. Handy Helpers will focus on building essential life skills, participate in service projects to care for their community, provide insight and suggestions on how to build a more robust and youthful congregation, meet with church leadership on any issues or areas of concern and continue with faith formation education. The Handy Helpers Committee meets weekly on Wednesdays from 5p-7p. They are responsible for preparing and cleaning up their own dinner.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, December 8th

- 9:00 am Chosen or Eggo
- 10:00 am Worship with Communion
- 11:00 am Fellowship

Monday, December 9th

- 9:00 am Quilters
- 2:30 pm Finance

Tuesday, December 10th

- 9:30 am Lydia Circle
- 10:00 am Naomi Circle
- 2:00 pm Sunday Song Select
- 3:00 pm Worship & Music
- 5:30 pm Faith Formation
- 6:30 pm Council

Wednesday, December 11th

- 10:30 am Mary Circle
- 1:30 pm Bell Choir Practice
- 3:15 pm WAFL
- 5:30 pm Confirmation
- 5:30 pm Soup Supper
- 6:30 pm Advent Service
- 7:30 pm NA @ Sr. Ctr.

Thursday, December 12th

- 8:00 am TOPS
- 1:00 pm Revelation Study

Friday, December 13th

- 8:00 pm AA & Al-Anon @ Sr. Ctr
- 6:00 pm to overnight—FLY Lock-in

Saturday, December 14th

- 1:00 pm Santa Days at Lakes Area Community Center

Sunday, December 15th

- 9:00 am EGGO & Chosen
- 10:00 am Worship / with The Battle Lake Brass Band and special Trio
- 11:00 am Fellowship

Interested in membership?? Let Pastor Lynn know!!



Our next new member and potluck is Sunday, December 29th. Also new member Sunday. Let the office or Pastor Lynn know if interested in joining. All are welcome!

Attendance for Sunday, December 1 — 72 Facebook and Youtube—276



December 8, 2024

Worship 10 AM

Pastor: Lynn Melchior

Organist: Gail Malmgren Nelson

First Lutheran Church

“Sharing Hope in Christ”

505 W Holdt Street
Battle Lake, Minnesota (218) 864-5686

Office Hours:

Monday— Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
office@blfirstlutheran.org
pastorlynn@blfirstlutheran.org
parishnurse@blfirstlutheran.org
waf@blfirstlutheran.org

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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.

Noisy offering

Noisy offering for the month of December will be going to our contributions to God’s Global Barnyard. Animals will be chosen by the WAFL kids when all is collected. Thank you all for your generous contributions.