

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 "All Glory Laud and Honor" Rob Roy Peery

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Vs. 1 & 4
ELW# 631

Greeting

Confession and Forgiveness

Prayer of the Day

Psalm Psalm 15

Youth Activities Slides

First Reading Micah 6: 1-8

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1: 18-31

Gospel Matthew 5: 1-12

Children's Sermon

Pastor Lynn Melchior

Sermon Pastor Lynn Melchior

Hymn of the Day "Build a Longer Table" vs. 1, 3 & 4
ACS# 1062

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace with our Neighbors

Offering "Jubilate Amen" Chester Norman

Offering Hymn "We Give Thee But Thine Own" vs. 1
ELW# 686

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Communion

Blessing

Sending Song "Rise Up, O Saints of God!" ELW# 669

Dismissal

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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

Practicing the Spiritual Principle of Humility

Humility can be defined as the absence of pride or arrogance.

The Benefits of Humility: Comfort for the soul. Enhanced leadership capabilities. Greater self-discipline. Improved job performance. Higher academic grades. Decreased prejudice. Thriving relationships.

The Importance of Humility: It increases compassion and empathy. Individuals who embody humility are more inclined to respect and value the beliefs and opinions of others.

What are instances of Humility? 1. You refrain from considering yourself superior to others. 2. You are aware of your limitations. 3. You abstain from boasting. 4. You recognize that there is always room for improvement and development. 5. You graciously express gratitude. 6. You acknowledge when you lack knowledge on a subject.

Humility grants a clear perception of ourselves, encompassing both our shortcomings and strengths. This self-awareness enables us to identify areas that require growth and allows us to place our trust in God during the process.

Bible Verses: According to Proverbs 11:2, "With humility comes wisdom" and Romans 12:16 states "Live in harmony with one another".

¹ How to Practice 52 Spiritual Principals by Stanley Scott Jr.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Written by Charles Wesley in 1747, "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" was published in *Hymns for those that Seek, and those that Have Redemption* to reflect themes of sanctification, the Holy Spirit, and the desire for divine love to dwell within the believer. It is a theological prayer for spiritual transformation, designed to encourage Christians on their journey toward holiness.

Build a Longer Table

"Build a Longer Table," written by [Dave BJORLIN](#), is a modern hymn from his collection *Protest of Praise*, designed to address contemporary injustices and the need for radical hospitality. It is inspired by the theological concept of "building a longer table, not a higher fence"—a phrase popularized by Fr. Gregory Boyle to combat exclusion and promote sharing abundance with those on the margins.

Rise Up, O Saints of God

"Rise Up, O Men of God" was written in 1911 by American Presbyterian pastor [William Pierson Merrill](#) to encourage a burgeoning men's movement within the church. Inspired by a need for a "brotherhood hymn" and an article called "The Church of the Strong Men," the words came to him on a Lake Michigan steamer.

Your offerings support our

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

2026 January giving through January 28th \$43,414.72

(Needed \$32,257 for the month of December)



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/simply-giving>

Events Upcoming

February 1st — Faith Haven Camp Annual Meeting

February 7th — Babysitting class

February 7th — Weaving class —Art of the Lakes

February 11th — WAFL Valentine dinner

February 18th — Ash Wednesday

February 21st — FLY to Andes

February 21st — Game Day — for all ages

February 25th, March 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th— Lenten Services with Soup Suppers

March 3rd — Blood Drive

March 20th — Escape Room Challenge

March 29th — Palm Sunday

Pastor Lynn out February 2 — March 21st for surgical recovery

Welcome all Tenors and Basses!!

Join us in the month of January and February to learn one song for worship on either February 15th or 22nd. 45 minute

practices on Wednesdays starting January 28th at 6:15 pm. and 9 am on Sundays starting February 1st. Sound files for vocal parts will be texted and/or emailed to you. Contact Cindy Peterson 701-840-0708. Copies of the songs will be available in your church office and at the First Lutheran Church Office in Battle Lake. Invite other men that you know that enjoy singing from the community. It is understood you will not be at every practice. We will be singing at multiple churches on the Sunday you chose."



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 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

Micah 6:1-8 What does God require of us? Note the word is "require" – not ask, not request but *require*. How often do you think about God REQUIRING something from you?

Psalm 15 The psalmist provides a guide for a virtuous life. How are you doing living a blameless life? What ONE thing could you do differently?

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Paradoxical. Contradictory. Opposite. Out of the box. These are words that can be used to describe Jesus' ministry and God's work in our lives. Does this make it harder to be a Jesus follower?

Matthew 5:1-12 The Beatitudes are confusing, profound, and focused on God's Grace and Kingdom. How well do you understand the Beatitudes?

Our next potluck is February 22nd. Anyone interested in joining our congregation, please contact the office. All are welcome.

Attendance January 25th — 74 Facebook and Youtube — 443

**Special Congregational meeting for the Budget Approval today,
Budget spread sheets are available!**

For Lent this year, we will be watching "The Passion of Christ" — 30 minutes per service with 15 minutes of discussion. Warning: This is a violent, realistic depiction and may not be for everyone. Alternative movie will be offered.

February 1, 2026 4th Sunday after Epiphany

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." MATHEW 5:3

The phrase "poor in spirit" can be confusing. Think of it in this sense – poor in spirit means depending on God's providence and not depending on our own self-reliance. Being detached from earthly things (power, money, and comfort) and being attached to heavenly things (charity, sacrifice, and mercy). Denying ourselves from satisfying our desires and helping others obtain their basic needs.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, February 1st

- 10:00 am Worship/ Communion
- 11:00 am Fellowship
- 11:00 am Congregational Budget Meeting

Monday, February 2nd

- 9:00 am Quilters
- 12:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous
- 1:00 pm WELCA Board

Tuesday, February 3rd

- 3:30 pm Bell Choir

Wednesday, February 4th

- 3:15 pm WAFL
- 5:30 pm Confirmation — going to Food Shelf
- 6:15 pm Men's Choir practice
- 7-9 pm Youth Group
- 7:30 pm NA @ Sr. Ctr.

Thursday, February 5th

- 8:00 am TOPS
- 8:30 am Men's Fellowship

Friday, February 6th

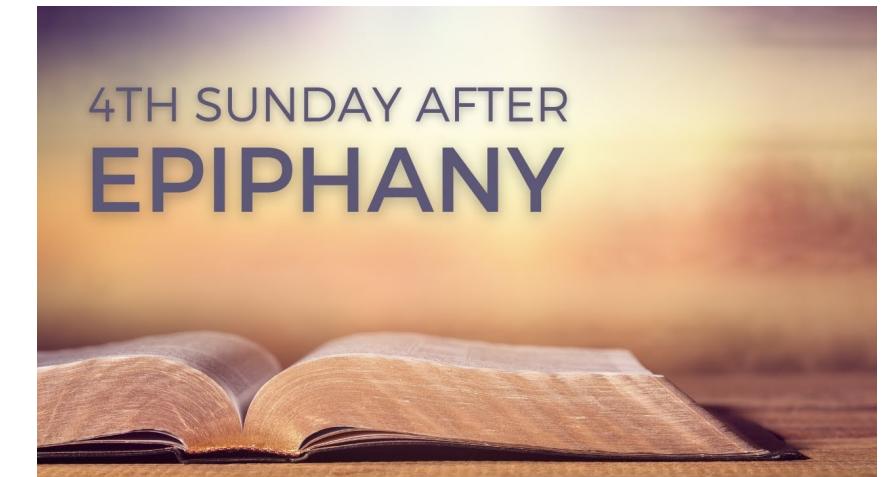
- 11:00 am Meet & Eat
- 7:00 pm AA & Al-Anon

Saturday, February 7th

- 9am-2pm Weaving class (AOL)

Sunday, February 8th

- 9:00 am Men's Choir practice
- 10:00 am Worship/ Communion/ with Pr. Mark Olson
- 11:00 am Fellowship/ an opportunity to find out more about Pastor Olson's mission with White Earth Lutheran/Episcopal Ministry



Sunday, February 1st, 2026

Worship, 10 AM

Pastor: Lynn Melchior

Accompanist: Gail Malmgren Nelson

Christ Welcomes Everyone!!

First Lutheran Church

"Sharing Hope in Christ"

505 W Holdt Street

Battle Lake, Minnesota **(218) 864-5686**

Website: www.blfirstlutheran.org

Noisy Offering

January — Mission Jamaica February — Living Hope Camp
March — B. L. Food Shelf

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



Office Hours:
Monday—Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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