

Welcome to First Lutheran Church!  
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Time For Quiet Reflection

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Song “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me” Vs. 1, 2, & 4

Greeting

Confession and Forgiveness

Prayer of the Day

Psalm Psalm 63: 1-8

First Reading Isaiah 55: 1-9

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13

Gospel Luke 13: 1-9

Children’s Sermon Pastor Lynn Melchior

Sermon Pastor Lynn Melchior

Hymn of the Day “All Who Are Thirsty” Written by Benton Brown

Creed

Prayers

Offering

Offering “We Give Thee but Thine Own” Vs. 1 & 2 ELW# 686

Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer

Communion

Blessing

Sending Hymn “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer” ELW# 618

Dismissal

Postlude

A 2024 RECAP from the Battle Lake Food Shelf:

994 family visits

2,147 individuals served

69,429 pounds distributed

720 Backpacks to students at the Battle Lake School

For every \$1 we can provide 4 meals with food provided by North Country Food Bank in East Grand Forks.

March 23, 2025 3rd Sunday of Lent

“He said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.’” - LUKE 13:7

We can all be like the barren fig tree at times. Do you cling to what you have, or do you generously share with others? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts, He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous; we are called to develop and nurture our gifts; and return them with increase. We are called to be generous with all of gifts; especially the ones that means the most to you.

How Do We Apply it in Our Daily Lives

Isaiah 55:1-9 God’s ways are not our ways. Sometimes it is hard to understand why things happen. It does not seem fair. In those times of unfairness, how do you celebrate your own abundant life in Christ?

Psalm 63: 1-8 Once you have ‘tasted’ God, you ‘thirst’ for more. Have you ever felt that ‘thirst’ for God blocked by pain, anger, or pride?

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Paul uses Israel’s history as a lesson for believers. Do you heed the lessons of the Israelites?

Luke 13:1-9 Accidents and human cruelties are not God’s work. These things may shorten our lives so it is important to repent – we never know when we will die.

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Legend says that Augustus Toplady wrote the hymn during a stormy incident in England. While traveling along the gorge in Burrington Combe, he was caught in a fierce storm and took shelter in a gap in the gorge, where he wrote the original lyrics.

All Who Are Thirsty

The song's message and title directly reference the biblical invitation found in Isaiah 55:1, which reads, "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters".

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" (also known as "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer") is a hymn rooted in the story of the Israelites' journey through the wilderness to the Promised Land, with imagery and narrative drawn from the Bible's Exodus through Joshua.

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



Noisy offerings:

March — Food shelf

May —FLCamp Scholarships

April — Swing Set Landscaping

June — Honor Flight

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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.

Money is an important tool in our ministry.

Thank You!



Every Penny Helps do God’s Work and live out our mission of Sharing Hope In Christ!!

2025 March giving through March 20th: \$18,980.81

Events Upcoming

March 26, April 2, 9 — Lenten Services “Taize Evening Vespers”  
Soup suppers at 5:30 pm—6:15 pm with Service at 6:30 pm

March 23rd — Mission Jamaica Forum

March 31st — 5pm—7pm Otter Tail County Humane Society Spring Fundraiser

April 12th—10 am to 1 pm Easter Egg Hunt

April 13th—12:15 to 6:15—FLY to Skyzone and Chipotle

April 17th — 6:30 pm service — Maundy Thursday

April 20th—8:00 am and 10:00 am Easter Sunday services

April 20th — Easter Breakfast fundraiser between services  
8:30 am to 9:45 am

April 24th — 2orMore Fellowship Series — (Faith vs Works)

April 27th — 11:15 am — Mary Jo Wentz Adult Forum

May 10th — 9 am to 3 pm — Women’s Prayer Retreat

May 11th — Churches United speaker

May 15th — 5:30—7:30 2orMore Fellowship —(Rest & Growth)

May 16th — Fly End of School Lock In

May 18th — Mortgage burning celebration with Bishop Bill Tesch

### 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](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!

Planning for First Lutheran's summer programs has already begun. Registration for both FLCamp and Faith Haven are currently open and registration forms can be found online at [www.blfirstlutheran.org/ministries](http://www.blfirstlutheran.org/ministries).

Faith Haven will be July 27th-July 30th and will be \$50/person.

We are currently at 28 kids registered for FLCamp this summer. We will most definitely be surpassing our headcount for last year. As a result of that we are looking to expand our FLCamp staff. Pay rate is \$15/hr primarily 20-30hrs per week. If you know anyone with experience working with kids please encourage them to apply.

## FLCamp



Our Lenten Services Theme this year is Everything in Between: Meeting God in the Midst of Extremes. This series is an invitation to navigate the polarities in our lives with more faith, intention, and openness.

The following Wednesday Lenten Services will focus on:

March 26	Rest and Growth	Parable of the Fig Tree
April 2	Lost and Found	Parable of the Lost Sheep
April 9	Righteousness and Mercy	Zacchaeus Greets Jesus

Join us as we delve into extremes that we live in every day. The services will follow the Evening Vespers Format and will feature Taizé music. **Soup Suppers will be served from 5:30 to 6:15 pm with services starting at 6:30.**

**The Council heard you!**

**The Creation paintings will remain in their current location!**

### Weekly Calendar

#### Sunday, March 23rd

- 10:00 am Worship/Communion
- 11:00 am Fellowship
- 11:15 am Mission Jamaica

#### Monday, March 24th

- 9:00 am Quilters

#### Wednesday, March 26th

- 10:00 am Good Sam
- 3:15 pm WAFL
- 5:15 pm Bell Choir practice
- 5:30 pm Confirmation
- 5:30 pm Handy Helpers
- 5:30 pm Soup Supper
- 6:30 pm Lenten Service
- 7:30 pm NA @ Sr. Ctr.

#### Thursday, March 27th

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

#### Friday, March 28th

- 8:00 pm AA & Al-Anon @ Sr. Ctr.

#### Sunday, March 30

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



**CLEANING SUPPLIES**

- Laundry Detergent
- Dryer Sheets
- Bleach
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Toilet Cleaner
- Hand Soap
- Dish Soap
- 39 Gal Garbage Bags
- 13 Gal Garbage Bags

**DOG SUPPLIES**

- Purina Dog Chow
- Purina Puppy Chow
- Nyla Bones
- Collars
- Leashes (6ft)
- Slow Feed Bowls
- Balls/Chew Toys
- Iams Dog Food

**CAT SUPPLIES**

- Purina Kitten Chow
- Cat Litter Scoopable
- Cat Litter Clay
- Purina Cat Chow
- Medium Litter Pans
- Wet Cat/Kitten Food
- Assorted Toys

**MISCELLANEOUS**

- Dog & Cat Beds
- Kleenex
- Printer Paper
- Lint Rollers
- Fleet Farm Gift Cards
- Walmart Gift Cards

**Our WAFL students are collecting items for the Otter Tail County Humane Society for the needs for the shelter! Tote in entryway for supplies!**

Women's Ensemble will share their special music during worship Sunday, March 30th. 3 practices - -before church at 9:15 Sunday, March 23rd -after Lenten Service, March 26th approx. 7 pm —before church Sunday, March 30th at 9:15 am Contact Cindy Peterson 701-840-0708 for sound files which will make "10,000 Angels" a quick learn!! Copies of the music are in the church office.

PLANS FOR A MIXED ENSEMBLE TO SING IN CHURCH MAY18. CONTACT THE OFFICE OR CINDY PETERSON 701-840-0708.

**Our next potluck is Sunday, March 30th. Interested in joining? Let Pastor Lynn or the office know!**

**Attendance for Sunday, March 16— 78 Facebook and Youtube—276**

### Prayer is powerful



Wilder is in 2nd Grade  
The son of Garrett and Alexis Nelson  
Jonny is in 4th grade  
The son of Mike and Peggy DiPretero.



**March 23, 2025**

**Worship 10 AM**

**Pastor Lynn Melchior**

**Organist: Anne Taylor**

**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](mailto:office@blfirstlutheran.org)

[pastorlynn@blfirstlutheran.org](mailto:pastorlynn@blfirstlutheran.org)

[parishnurse@blfirstlutheran.org](mailto:parishnurse@blfirstlutheran.org)

[waf@blfirstlutheran.org](mailto:waf@blfirstlutheran.org)

**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.

**Looking for donations of small toys and wrapped candy to be stuffed in the Easter eggs for our community Easter Egg Hunt. These can be dropped off with Missi. Thanking you in advance.**