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	"Prelude and Fugue in C Major"		Johann Sebastian Bach
	Time For Quiet Reflection		
Welcome and Announcements			
Gathering Song	"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"	vs. 1-4	ELW# 632
Greeting			
Confession and Forgiveness			
Prayer of the Day			
Psalm	Psalm 90:1-12		
First Lesson:	Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18		
Second Reading:	1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11		
Gospel:	Matthew 25: 14-30		
Children's Sermon			Pastor Lynn Melchior
Sermon			Pastor Lynn Melchior
Hymn of the Day	"Christ Be Our Light"	vs. 1, 2, & 5	ELW# 715
Creed			
Prayers of Intercession			
Sharing of the Peace with our Neighbors			
Offering	"Prelude in A Minor"		Johann Sebastian Bach
Offering Hymn	"We Give Thee But Thine Own"	Vs. 1	ELW# 686
Lord's Prayer			
Benediction			
Sending Song	"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"		ELW# 888
Dismissal			
Chimes and Postlude	"He Shall Reign"		Robert J. Hughes

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED…OUR SERVICE BEGINS

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

Huge "Thank You" to the Battle Lake Community Fund for the $1,000 grant for Faith Haven Scholarships. Every child should be able to enjoy summer camp!

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November 15, 2026

"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities." - MATTHEW 25:21

God calls us to nurture and develop the gifts He has given us and then generously return a portion with increase. He doesn't want us to waste or hoard the gifts He has given us. He expects us to grow our gifts, to use them wisely, and to be generous with them. Unfortunately, many of us are not generous in proportion to all that God has given us. God asks us to be generous with all our gifts, especially the one that means the most to you.

Free Thanksgiving Meal

As last year was a success, we will provide a free meal on Thanksgiving Day for anyone who walks through our doors between noon and two that day. Sign up for food donations and volunteers available at entrance to the fellowship hall.

Practicing the Spiritual Principle of Wisdom

Wisdom is the Spiritual Principle to practice this week.

Wisdom can be defined as the quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment; the quality of being wise. It is the soundness of an action or decision with regard to the application of experience, knowledge, and good judgment.

The Benefits of Wisdom: 1) **Wisdom** leads to better decision-making. 2) It promotes inner peace and contentment. 3) **Wisdom** creates strong relationships based on empathy and understanding. 4) It helps in solving problems effectively. 5) **Wisdom** leads to personal growth and development.

The Importance of Wisdom: Wisdom is essential for navigating life's challenges with grace and humility. It allows individuals to learn from their experiences and make informed choices that benefit not only themselves but also those around them.

Seven Examples of Wisdom: 1) Seeking advice from those with more experience. 2) Reflecting on past mistakes to avoid repeating them. 3) Listening actively to others with empathy. 4) Considering the long-term consequences of actions, 5) Admitting when one does not know something. 6) Remaining open-minded and flexible in thinking. 7) Practicing patience and understanding in difficult situations.

The Spiritual aspect of Wisdom is the recognition that true wisdom comes from a higher power or universal source of knowledge and understanding. It involves connecting with one's inner self and intuition to make decisions that aligns with one's value and beliefs.

Bible Verses that include Wisdom: *Proverbs 3:13 – "Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding." James 3:17 - "But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere." Proverbs 4:7 -- "The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, Though it cost all you have, get understanding."*

How to Practice 52 Spiritual Principles by Stanley Scott Jr.

Offering Options:

*In person – drop in offering plate
*QR code
*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 and we have this QR code that can be used also. Thank you for your generous giving.

Your offerings support our Building, Pastor, Staff and our valuable ministries to the community.

2026 November giving until 11/11 $ 9,506.96

(Bills paid for the month of October $ 25,936.77)

Events Upcoming

November 18th – AOTL Lefse Class
November 25th – Thanksgiving Meal Prep
November 26th – Free Thanksgiving Community Meal
November 27th – Office Closed
November 29th – Movie Night "Space Jam"
December 2nd – Blue Christmas Service
December 5th -- AOTL Kitchen class
December 6th, 13th, 20th (9:15 – 9:45) Christmas Story Bible Study
December 9th – Advent Christmas Sing-a-long
December 10th – Love Inc. winter wear distribution here @First Lutheran
December 11th – Meet and Eat
December 16th – WAFL Christmas program
December 19th – FLY "The Holiday Hustle" to Fargo
December 20th – WAFL Christmas program
December 20th – Movie Night "Grinch Night"
December 24th – Christmas Eve Services at 3 pm and 5 pm
December 24th -- Hot Chocolate Bar and pictures between Services

Did You Know?

…..that **Faith Formation Committee** has transformed to the **Building Bridges Team**? Building Bridges amongst generations, community and congregation members is an area of focus that can provide a high return in doing God's will. It is about developing relationships, identifying needs and reaching out. Interested in learning more? Come to one of our meetings – 2nd Tuesdays at 5:30 pm each month.

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!

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

The hymn is a poetic, metrical paraphrase of the first few verses of Psalm 90 (traditionally attributed to Moses), contrasting the eternal, unchanging nature of God with the fragile and fleeting span of human life.

Christ Be Our Light

The modern Christian hymn "Christ, Be Our Light" (also known as "Longing for Light") was written and composed in 1993 by British Catholic liturgical composer and community activist Bernadette Farrell. The song draws heavily on scripture, including Isaiah 60:1–3 (rising and shining because God's light has come), Psalm 27, and the prologue of the Gospel of John (John 1:5–9) regarding the light shining in the darkness.

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

The lyrics to "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"—officially titled "America the Beautiful"—began as a poem written by English professor Katharine Lee Bates in 1893. While celebrated as a patriotic anthem describing America's physical majesty ("amber waves of grain" and "purple mountain majesties"), Bates also used the later stanzas to advocate for social justice, calling on the nation to pair its freedom with self-control, mercy, and the elimination of greed.

Our website, **blfirstlutheran.org**, has been updated to reflect how people use church websites today. Take a look!
Thanks to everyone who worked hard to update our website!

How do we apply it to our daily lives?

Zephaniah 1:7,12-18 The prophet was speaking to a people who had become indifferent to God. As a prosperous culture, we can rely on self-sufficiency. Does our self-sufficiency culture make it easier to become indifferent to God? If so, how do we turn back to God?

Psalm 90:1-12 Our time on earth is short – and we should use it wisely. Do you live for the moment or live with our eternal home in mind?

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 We are judged saved through Jesus – but we are still accountable for our actions. Do your actions result from living out your faith?

Matthew 25:14-30 Those who bear no fruit for the Kingdom of God cannot expect to be treated the same as those who bear fruit. What fruit do you bear for the Kingdom of God?

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, November 15th
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Fellowship
Monday, November 16th
9:00 a.m. Quilters
Tuesday, November 17th
4:00 p.m. Bell Choir
6:00 p.m. Creation Stewardship
Wednesday, November 18th
10:30 a.m. AOTL Lefse class
3:30 p.m. WAFL
5:30 p.m. Confirmation
7--9 p.m. Youth Group
7:30 p.m. NA@ Sr. Ctr
Thursday, November 19th
8:00 a.m. TOPS
Friday, November 20th
7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon at Sr. Center
Saturday, November 21st
10:00 a.m. Lake Ave. Apt. Communion
Sunday, November 22nd
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Fellowship



The next potluck is Sunday, November 29th.
Sunday, November 8th — 79 Facebook and Youtube service —202

TECH ISSUES
Our congregational microphones in the sanctuary have some "issues". It is also affecting our live stream sound. We are attempting to resolve them. Please be patient as we figure things out. **I believe that we have taken care of this. Any input when you watch the lives would be welcome Thank you!**

Noisy offerings
November — Christmas Baskets
December — God's Global Barnyard
January – Mission Jamaica

Mary Jane, Sandy, Patricia, Michelle, Suzann, Kathleen, Daryl, Cheri, Karen, Jan, Anne, Jim, Linda, Justin, Doug Ray, Chris, Delores, Lynda, Vera, Sharon, Ron, and family of Dorothy.



Next week: Bring your phone.
Topic: What are you thankful for that is not family, friend or children??



November 15, 2026

Worship: 10 AM

Pastor: Lynn Melchior

Musicians: Gail Malmgren Nelson

First Lutheran Church
Christ Welcomes Everyone!!
"Sharing Hope in Christ"
505 W Holdt Street
Battle Lake, Minnesota **(218) 864-5686**
Website: www.blfirstlutheran.org

Office Hours:
Monday— Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
office@blfirstlutheran.org
pastorlynn@blfirstlutheran.org
parishnurse@blfirstlutheran.org