

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

“To God Be The Glory”

William H. Doane

Time For Quiet Reflection

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Song

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

ELW# 803

Greeting

Confession and Forgiveness

Prayer of the Day

Faith Formation slides

Psalm

Psalm 80: 7-15

First Lesson:

Isaiah 5: 1-7

Second Reading:

Philippians 3: 4b-14

Gospel:

Matthew 21: 33-46

Children’s Sermon

Pastor Lynn Melchior

Sermon

Pastor Lynn Melchior

Hymn of the Day

“Amazing Love(You Are My King) Video

Chris Tomlin

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace with our Neighbors

Offering

“All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”

Oliver Holder

Offering Hymn

“We Give Thee But Thine Own” Vs. 1

ELW# 686

Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer

Communion

Blessing

Sending Song

“Jesus Loves Me”

ELW# 595

Dismissal

Chimes and Postlude

“Come, Come Ye Children”

Henry Purcell

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

Mary Jane, Sandy, Patricia, Michelle, Suzann, Kathleen, Daryl, Cheri, Karen, Jeff, Jan, Jeremiah, Anne, Jim, Keith, Linda, Justin, Doug, Ray, Bev, Chris, Delores, Boston, Lynda, Vera, Sharon, Ron, Carol, and families of Cherie.



Prayer Requests

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October 4, 2026

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the corner stone...”
MATTHEW 21:42

Jesus was rejected by the religious and political leaders of his day, as well as ordinary citizens, but he was still obedient to God, the Father. Similarly, living a stewardship lifestyle may cause you to be “rejected” by others, but we, too are called to be obedient. Saying grace before a meal in a restaurant may attract some strange looks from some. But to others it is a sign that God is alive and well!

Practicing the Spiritual Principle of Gratitude

Gratitude is the Spiritual Principle to Practice this week.

Gratitude refers to the quality of being thankful, showing appreciation, and the readiness to return kindness.

The Benefits of Gratitude include increased happiness, improved mental health, stronger relationships, and better overall well-being.

The Importance of Gratitude lies in its ability to shift focus from what is lacking to what is present, helping individuals develop a positive mindset and outlook on life.

Examples of Gratitude are: 1. Writing in a **gratitude** journal daily. 2. Sending thank-you notes to people who have helped you. 3. Expressing appreciation to loved ones regularly. 4. Reflecting on the good things that happened during the day before going to bed and expressing gratitude for them. 5. Taking a moment to appreciate nature’s beauty and giving thanks for the wonders of the world. 6. Showing kindness and helping others in need as a way of expressing **gratitude** for one’s own blessings. 7. Engaging in a **gratitude** meditation or prayer practice to create a sense of thankfulness and connection to God and things greater than himself.

The Spiritual aspect of Gratitude involves recognizing and acknowledging the blessings and grace in one’s life, and being thankful for them.

Bible verses about Gratitude:
“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1Thessalonians 5:18
“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” Colossians 4:2
“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.” Colossians 3:15

How to Practice 52 Spiritual Principles by Stanley Scott Jr.

Flowers today are given
By Beth Davis in honor of her mother Shirley Neese, who would have been 96 today!!

Congregational voices on 8/30/26 identified the following area of interest for our future:
Bible study/Adult Education
A choir and more frequent bell choir performances
Continue focus on children
Living Hope Camp respite care development

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 September giving \$ 21,900.21

(Bills paid for the month of August \$25,043)

Events Upcoming

October 4th — **TODAY** - SWOT during fellowship

October 4th – **TODAY** – Blessing of the Animals

October 6th — AOTL Lefse making

October 10th — Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat

October 15th — Blood Drive

October 17th — Battle Lake City Jack-O-Lantern Jubilee

October 17th – Fly Corn Maze

October 19th – Confirmation Dinner

October 24th — Conf. 7 WELCA Fall Gathering

October 25th — Reformation Sunday/Confirmation



Fall Festival Oct. 10th, 9-1:30

Mark your calendars. Now is the time to de-clutter your book shelves and your jewelry box. Drop off jewelry by the church office. We do take single earrings. and old class rings if they may have metal value. Books can go under the bench in front of the library. Call Ann at 605 999-4839 if you can help that day. Thanks.

We have a mission: *Sharing Hope in Christ.* How do we implement that? What should our focus be? We can’t be everything to everyone.

TODAY, during fellowship, council will conduct a **SWOT analysis** using YOUR input. (SWOT = Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats). Once we have a list, we can put together areas to grow, safeguard and ponder. YOU are the church. Your input is needed. So please take some time and think about where God is leading us. What opportunities shall we pursue? Or not pursue?

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!

When I Survey the Wonderous Cross

As a young man in England, Isaac Watts grew frustrated that his local independent church only sang rigid, metrical Old Testament psalms. He complained about the poor quality of the music. His father famously told him to stop complaining and write something better.

Amazing Love (You Are My King)

Two days after his conversion, Charles Wesley began to write "And Can It Be" celebrating his conversion. He felt renewed strength to spread the Gospel to ordinary people and it was around then that he began to write the poetic hymns for which he would become known. Thomas Campbell, a Scottish lawyer, turned poet, wrote the music for the hymn in 1825. The modern contemporary song "You Are My King/Amazing Love," written in 1999 by Billy James Foote, is based on this hymn.

Jesus Loves Me

"Jesus Loves Me" began as a comforting four-line poem written by Anna Bartlett Warner for an 1860 novel, Say and Seal, authored by her older sister, Susan Warner.

Why to join a church? Contact Pastor Lynn or the church office if you would like to be a part of our congregation

- Spiritual accountability
- Formal establishment of which Pastor shepherds you.
- You get to vote on congregational matters.



How do we apply it to our daily lives?

Isaiah 5:1-7 We struggle in our relationship with God just as Israel did. How do you go about strengthening that relationship?

Psalm 80:7-15 Repentance means giving up control. Are you ready to give up the controlling aspects of your life?

Philippians 3:4b-14 Paul realizes his credentials were not important when compared to his relationship with Jesus. Sometimes we value things that are, in the long run, not as valuable as we think. What falls into this category for you?

Matthew 21:33-46 The vineyard owner is God. The Pharisees are the wicked farmers. Does it scare you that God's servants are beaten and killed?

Weekly Calendar	
Sunday, October 4th	9:15 a.m. Scripture Study 10:00 a.m. Worship/Communion 11:00 a.m. Fellowship/SWOT forum 2:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals
Monday, October 5th	9:00 a.m. Quilters 1:00 p.m. WELCA Board 6-7:30 p.m. Rural Edge Meeting
Tuesday, October 6th	1:00 p.m. WELCA Study 2:00 p.m. Worship and Music 4:00 p.m. Bell Choir 4:30 p.m. AOTL Lefse Class
Wednesday, October 7th	3:30 p.m. WAFL 5:30 p.m. Confirmation 7--9 p.m. Youth Group 7:30 p.m. NA@ Sr. Ctr
Thursday, October 8th	8:00 a.m. TOPS
Friday, October 9th	11:00 a.m. Meet & Eat Fall Festival Set up 7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon at Sr. Center
Saturday, October 10th	9-1:30 p.m. Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat
Sunday, October 11th	9:15 a.m. Scripture Study 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 4:00 p.m. Love Inc. Fundraiser

The next potluck is Sunday, October 25th.
Sunday, September 20th— 82 Facebook and Youtube service —237

Noisy offerings October — Humane Society November — Christmas Baskets December — God's Global Barnyard
Scripture Study Every Sunday we hear different scriptures – but during worship we do not get a chance to dig into them. For six weeks, starting Oct 4 th , we will learn more about the scriptures on the day we hear them in church. The Scripture Study will begin at 9:15 am and end by 9:45 am. Coffee provided!
Save the Date! Football and Game Day - Oct 25th 11:30 to 1:30 (after Potluck)



October 4, 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