

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

Service of Word and Prayer

Prelude/Chimes	“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”	Martin Luther
Welcome and Announcements		
Gathering Hymn	“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” vs. 1, 3, & 4	ELW# 504
Greeting		
Confession and Forgiveness		
Prayer of the Day		
Special Music—Bell Choir	“Ein Feste Burg”	Martin Luther
Psalm	Psalm 46	
First Reading	Jeremiah 31: 31-34	
Second Reading	Roman 3: 19-28	
Gospel	John 8: 31-36	
Children’s Sermon		Pastor Lynn Melchior
Sermon		Pastor Lynn Melchior
Hymn of the Day	“Will You Come and Follow Me” vs 1, 2, & 5	ELW# 798
Easter Creed		
Prayers of Intercession		
Sharing of the Peace with our Neighbors		
Offering	“Moderato in B Flat”	G. F. Broadway
Offering Hymn	“We Give Thee But Thine Own” vs. 1	ELW# 686
Words of Institution		
Lord’s Prayer		
Communion		
Blessing		
Sending Song	“I Love to Tell The Story”	ELW# 661
Dismissal		
Chimes and Postlude	”Postlude in C”	C. H. Rinck

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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

October 26, 2025

“...for whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.” LUKE 18:14

Pride and ego are the root causes of most of our sins. Thinking your time is so valuable or your talent is better than anyone else or your money gives you status is another way of making those things “gods” before God. Pride is the opposite of humility. Remember, all that we have and all that we are is a gift from God. We should be humbled by God’s incredible generosity and be grateful for all we have been given. Ultimately, gratitude leads us to humility.

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

The greatest hymn by Martin Luther was *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*. He wrote it during the darkest time of the Reformation, a time of widespread persecution from the Catholic Church. For the persecuted, no greater words were there to sing. So powerful was the hymn’s impact during those days that it was dubbed “The Battle Hymn of the Reformation.”

Will You Come and Follow Me

The hymn "Will You Come and Follow Me" was written by Scottish hymnwriters [John L. Bell](#) and [Graham Maule](#) in 1987. Also known as "The Summons," it was inspired by Jesus's call to his first disciples, as described in the New Testament's [Book of Mark \(1:16-20\)](#). The hymn uses a series of questions, a technique reminiscent of the Socratic method, to challenge listeners about the meaning of radical discipleship.

I Love to Tell the Story

The hymn "I Love to Tell the Story" was written by Katherine Hankey in 1866 while she was recovering from a serious illness. She created it from a long poem titled "The Story Told," and the music was composed by [William G. Fischer](#) in 1869. The hymn's popularity surged through the evangelistic campaigns of [D.L. Moody](#) and [Ira Sankey](#), becoming a beloved gospel hymn.

Today we recognize the Protestant Reformation as a major theological, clerical, and cultural transformation that had a significant impact on Christianity and led to new denominations. We celebrate affirming a return to Christianity's main principles: salvation by grace through faith in Christ, guided solely by scripture and dedicated to God's glory.



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. Make check payable to First Lutheran Church with memo for Christmas baskets. Thank you for your support.

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 October giving through October 23rd , \$ 15,540.33

(Needed \$24,683 for the month of September)



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

- October 26th — Baptism class after fellowship
- November 1st — Women’s Retreat
- November 2nd — Daylight Savings (Fall back)
- November 2nd — All Saints Sunday— Installation of Council
- November 7th — Meet & Eat — Potluck lunch and conversation
- November 14th — FLY — Glow in the Dark games
- November 20th — 2orMore Fellowship @ Woodshed (Grief & Hope)
- November 22nd — All Circles 10 am @ Good Sam
- November 23rd — Pastor Birgitta from People’s Church
- November 27th — Thanksgiving
- November 27-28—Office closed
- November 30th — Advent Starts
- December 3rd — Blue Christmas Service
- December 10th — Advent Service

Our homeless neighbors in Jamaica need simple housing. Along with Bethlehem Lutheran in Fergus Falls and Zion of Amor, we have raised \$6,042 toward a \$7,000 home.



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

Jeremiah 31:31-34 A covenant is a sacred agreement between God and a people or individual. Do you have a covenant with God?

Psalms 46 God's power is always available to us. In today's fast paced, technology driven world, how do you remember to rely on God?

Romans 3:19-28 The book of Romans fueled Martin Luther's reformation. What scripture needs to fuel our current reformation?

John 8:31-36 Truth can feel subjective in today's world. How do you separate the truth of Jesus from truth in the digital age?

Noisy Offering

October — Humane Society

November — Matthew House

December — God's Global Barnyard

⁹This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."
Joshua 1:9

Sunday School

Ages pre-K through 6th grade the second Sunday of the month from 9 am to 9:45 am. Our next one will be November 9th. All are welcome!!



Battle Lake Emergency Food Shelf is currently looking for volunteers who are interested in donating their time for various positions on Thursday afternoons. The scheduling is very flexible and generally no more than 2 hours a month. If interested please call Claudia Loll at 218-884-0154 or Peter Eggen at 507-381-8759. Thank you.



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



Weekly Calendar

Sunday, October 26th Reformation Sunday

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship/Potluck

11:30 am Baptism Class

Monday, October 27th

9:00 am Quilters

12:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous

Wednesday, October 29th

3:15 pm WAFL

5:30 pm Confirmation

7-9 pm Youth Group

7:30 pm NA@ Sr. Ctr.

Thursday, October 30th

8:00 am TOPS

Friday, October 31st

8:00 pm AA & Al-Anon at Sr. Center

Saturday, November 1st

9—3 Women's Retreat

4:00 pm Sagerhorn Vow Renewal

Sunday, November 2nd — All Saints —Daylight Savings

10:00 am Worship/Communion/Council Installation

11:00 am Fellowship

Our next potluck is November 30th. Anyone interested in joining our congregation, please contact Pastor Lynn. All are welcome.

Attendance October 19th — 86 Facebook & Youtube — 395

Our First Lutheran Bell Choir Members are:

Maryjane Westre, Nancy Quam, Holly Johnson, Ann Rasmusson, Linda Manikowske, Esther Saetre, Darcy Cowing-Frank, and Marilyn Horgen.

Gail Malmgren Nelson, Director

Thank you bell ringers and Gail for the beautiful addition to our service.



Sunday, October 26th, 2025

Worship, 10 AM

Pastor: Lynn Melchior

Accompanist: Gail Malmgren Nelson

Song Leader: Nancy Quam

Christ Welcomes Everyone!!

First Lutheran Church

"Sharing Hope in Christ"

505 W Holdt Street

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

Website: www.blfirstlutheran.org

Office Hours:

Monday— Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

office@blfirstlutheran.org

pastorlynn@blfirstlutheran.org

parishnurse@blfirstlutheran.org