

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

<b>Prelude/Chimes</b>	“O Worship the King”	William Croft
<b>Welcome and Announcements</b>		
<b>Gathering Hymn</b>	“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”	ELW# 656
<b>Greeting</b>		
<b>Prayer of the Day</b>		
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 119: 97-104	
<b>Money Minute</b>		
<b>First Reading</b>	Proverbs 22: 1-16	
<b>Second Reading</b>	Romans 2: 17-23	
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>		
<b>Gospel:</b>	Luke 15: 11-32	
<b>Children’s Sermon</b>		Pastor Lynn Melchior
<b>Sermon</b>	“The Prodigal Son and the 10 Commandments”	Pastor Lynn Melchior
<b>Hymn of the Day</b>	“Children of the Heavenly Father”	ELW# 781
<b>Temple Talk</b>		Jan Smith
<b>Creed</b>		
<b>Prayers of Intercession</b>		
<b>Sharing of the Peace with our Neighbors</b>		
<b>Offering</b>	“Praise My Soul, The King of Heaven”	John Goss
<b>Offering Hymn</b>	“We Give Thee But Thine Own” vs. 1	ELW# 686
<b>Lord’s Prayer</b>		
<b>Blessing</b>		
<b>Sending Song</b>	“I Love to Tell the Story”	ELW# 661
<b>Dismissal</b>		
<b>Chimes and Postlude</b>	“Onward, Christian Soldiers”	Arthur S. Sullivan

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Mary Jane, Sandy, Patricia, Michelle, Suzann, Deryl, Kathleen, Daryl, Sheri, Sean, Cheri, Gerry, Cathy, Karen, Darrell, Jeff, Harold, Jan, Dick, Jeremiah, Anne, Jim, Adriel, Keith, Joyce, Jo, Linda, Justin, and Cherie.



September 14, 2025

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.” JOHN 3:16

God created us to be in relationship with Him. Sin broke that relationship. Jesus come to earth so that we may reconcile our relationship with God. Following Jesus’ example, we can be blessed with a joy-filled life on earth and eternal life in Heaven. How do you live this out in your daily life?

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

The hymn "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" was written by John Fawcett in 1782 after he chose to remain with his small, impoverished congregation in Wainsgate, England, recognizing the profound value of their unity and love over material wealth. The hymn, first published in 1782, reflects the deep fellowship and shared burdens of Christians bound together by Christ, and it continues to be cherished for its message of eternal unity and love.

Children of the Heavenly Father

The hymn "Children of the Heavenly Father" originated from a poem by Swedish hymn writer Carolina Sandell Berg (Lina Sandell), likely written around 1850. The hymn's comforting lyrics about God's constant care are widely believed to be inspired by the tragic drowning of her father in 1856, a deeply traumatic event she witnessed as a young woman. The original Swedish title is Tryggare kan ingen vara (No one can be more secure), and it was first published in 1855 .

I Love To Tell the Story

The hymn has its roots in a poem written by Arabella Katherine Hankey in 1866 while recovering from an illness. The song became a popular hymn after William G. Fischer set it to music in 1869, though it was originally part of a larger, fifty-stanza poem. Hankey, a wealthy banker's daughter and evangelical supporter, was passionate about missions and teaching. Her poem, divided into "The Story Wanted" and "The Story Told," was used to create this and the related hymn "Tell Me the Old, Old Story"

Annual meeting September 28th following service. Still need some of your reports for a complete annual report!

Noisy Offerings	
September — Love Inc.	
October — Humane Society	November — Matthew House

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/simple-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 September giving through September 11th: \$9,572.29

(Need \$31,435 a month)

Playground installation — Matching funds up to \$20,000.00 !!!

Events Upcoming

September 14th — 9-9:45 am Sunday School for ages 3 through 6th grade (will be once a month)

September 14th — Sermon topic -The Prodigal Son & the 10 Commandments

September 14th — FLY (First Lutheran Youth) Bowling @ Shoreline

September 15th — Overeaters Anonymous-Mondays at noon

September 19th and 20th — WELCA state conference in Alexandria

September 21st — Creation Sunday

September 21st—Ross Hagemeister fishing guide forum

September 25th — 2ormoreFellowship @ Shoreline ( Power & Humility)

September 27th —542 Taste Toasts Traditions here

September 28th —Annual Meeting After Worship

October 5th — Blessing of the Animals

October 10th — FLY to Grandpa’s Arcade

October 11th— Fall Festival/ Trunk or Treat/ Carnival Games

October 16th — Blood Drive

October 23rd — 2ormoreFellowship @ Boathouse (Resistance & Acceptance)

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

Our next potluck is September 28th after our annual meeting. Anyone interested in joining our congregation, please contact Pastor Lynn. All are welcome.

Attendance September 7th — 91 Facebook & Youtube — 366

**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](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!

## **How do we apply these to our daily life**

Proverbs 22:1-16   Practical wisdom is easy to say but hard to enact. What advice did you ignore that you regret?

Psalms 119:97-104   God's commandments are for our benefit. Do they help you or hinder you?

Romans 2:17-23   Integrity is when your heart and mind are aligned with your actions. Do you live with integrity?

Luke 15:11-32   Jesus tells the parable of the prodigal son as a way of looking at sinners. Are some sinners more comfortable to be around than others?

**Fall Festival — October 11th — 9 am to 1:30 pm**

Our annual Fall Festival is approaching faster than we think. It seems like summer just arrived and we are planning for a fall event. You can start looking through your jewelry to donate (watch for a box outside the office), sorting out your books, and planning how you can help. We need bakers, kitchen helpers, lunch assistants, cashiers, and just people to bring around coffee. It is a fun day and easier with more people helping. Also including Trunk or Treat and Carnival games. Contact Ann at 218-862-5066 to see how you can help.

**CONGREGATIONAL VOICES** — September 21st

“What could we do with the library?”

Only light fiction is being checked out and the space is being used mostly for meetings.

**TEXT SUNDAY — September 21st**

**“What is your favorite part of Creation?”**

**Text answers to Pastor Lynn cell phone — 218-298-0396**

Weekly Calendar	
<b>Sunday, September 14th</b>	
9-9:45 am	Sunday School
9:12 am	Altar Guild meeting
10:00 am	Worship
11:00 am	Fellowship
12-2 pm	Fly to Shoreline
<b>Monday, September 15th</b>	
9:00 am	Quilters
10:30 am	Staff
12:00 pm	Overeaters Anonymous
Lynn @ Fall Theological CE	
<b>Tuesday, September 16th</b>	
4:30 pm	Creation Stewardship
Lynn @ Fall Theological CE	
<b>Wednesday, September 17th</b>	
3:15 pm	WAFL
5:30 pm	Confirmation
7—9 pm	Youth Group
7:30 pm	NA@ Sr. Ctr.
<b>Thursday, September 18th</b>	
8:00 am	TOPS
1:00 pm	Revelation Study
<b>Friday, September 19th</b>	
8:00 p.m.	AA & Al-Anon at Sr. Center
WELCA State Conference	
<b>Saturday, September 20th</b>	
10:00 am	Lake Ave. Apts. Communion
WELCA Conference	
<b>Sunday, September 21st</b>	
10:00 am	Creation Worship
11:00 am	Fellowship
11:15 am	Fishing Forum
6:30 pm	Evening Circle
Lynn Out	



**Christ Welcomes Everyone!!**

*"Sharing Hope in Christ"*  
505 W Holdt Street  
Battle Lake, Minnesota **(218)864-5686**  
Website: [www.blfirstlutheran.org](http://www.blfirstlutheran.org)

**Monday— Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
office@blfirstlutheran.org  
pastorlynn@blfirstlutheran.org  
parishnurse@blfirstlutheran.org