

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Northwood, Iowa

641-324-2984

www.flcnorthwood.org

THAT ALL MAY KNOW THE LOVE OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST



Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6th, 2025

9:00 am

Pastor Becky Sogge

Organist/Pianist: Brenda Blanshan

Special Music: Senior Choir

Lay Reader: Dani Gentz

Usher: Petznick family, Anderson family

Counters: Steph Perkins

Sound/Video: Camden Trenhaile, Mark Willand

Communion Set-up: Christa Trenhaile

Prelude:

-Brenda Blanshan

Welcome – Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's
abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One, you are slow to anger and abounding in
steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love
for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you
have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical
hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though
you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant
gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the
way of the cross. **Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to
welcome the wandering ones home. In ☩ Christ your sins are
forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* ELW 324

Greeting

p. 138

Kyrie p. 138

Hymn of Praise...Glory to God p. 139

Prayer of the Day

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Special Music: Senior Choir

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

²⁰ The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

Psalms 126

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.

Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul writes ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: John 12:1-8

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with

him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The word of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Becky

Hymn of the Day *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross* ELW 335

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession

God in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Offering is received in the pews, or electronically through Vanco.

Offering Prayer

Great Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

Lamb of God

Benediction

Blessing and Communion Prayer

Closing Hymn *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* ELW 338

Dismissal

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

-Brenda Blanshan

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome, we are glad you are here!

Join us for coffee in the Fireside Room after worship.

Welcome to First Lutheran's newest members: Jeffrey & Stacie Harms, Mike & Laura Walton and Chad & Alli Wurtzel and their children, Parker & Ava.

There will be an Altar Guild Meeting on Tuesday, April 8th at 4:00pm.

Thank you to Church Council and Staff at First Lutheran for making work so enjoyable. Thank you to the quilters and the congregation for the kind words, cards and gifts. It's has been a blessing to have worked as the Building Manager for many years. -*Troy Bachtle*

First Lutheran is looking for people who are willing to help with counting the offering after church on Sundays. We currently have four teams that rotate weekly, with two people per team. Please let the office know if you are interested or speak with Steph Perkins who is the lead counter.

Come early – stay late on our Wednesdays in Lent. Noon worship will be followed by a soup and sandwich lunch with conversation. Evening worship will begin at 6:00pm with Soup and Sandwiches beginning at 5:00pm.

**First Communion Class for 5th Graders will be
Sunday, April 13 from Noon until 3:00PM.
We will celebrate your First Communion on Maundy
Thursday worship, April 17 at 6:00PM.**

Easter Breakfast

**Join us for Easter Breakfast beginning
at 7:30AM on Sunday, April 20th**

Little Caesars Fundraiser

The proceeds from this fundraiser are used to send our youth to Riverside Bible Camp. You may place your order with any youth, from FLC or DCV, that will be attending Riverside this year. You may also place your order online by going to PizzaKit.com, click on Products, and then Shop. Select "Support a seller I know" and enter Fundraiser ID# 459080. Delivery will be the week of May 12-16.

Mission Project for April

**Meals on Wheels, Manna
and Share Shoppe**

Electronic Income

<u>February</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
\$2,753.65	\$5,921.04

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, April 6	9:00 am	Service with H.C.
	10:10 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	DCV
	6:30 pm	J.H. Youth
Tuesday April 8	11:00am	Staff Mtng.
	7:00 pm	AA-Al-Anon Mtng.
Wednesday, April 9	Noon	Lenten Service
	4:00 pm	Confirmation
	5:00 pm	Soup Supper
	6:00 pm	Lenten Service
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
	7:00 pm	SH Youth
Thursday, April 10	8:30 am	Quilting
	9:00 am	Prayer Group
	6:30 pm	Taekwondo
Sunday, April 13	9:00 am	Service with N.O.
	10:10 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	DCV
	Noon	1 st Communion Class
	3:00 pm	LRH
	6:30 pm	J.H. Youth

Sunday Attendance and Giving

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Giving</u>
March 30	76	\$1,360
March 23	58	\$605
March 16	68	\$1,145
March 9	61	\$1,106