

"Welcome to Worship"

God is here for you,
In the word and sacraments,
in the love of this community.

Welcome - it's great to have you here!
Thank you for choosing to worship with us at
First Lutheran today.

**Fourth Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 15th, 2026
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER**

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Pastor: Pastor Ann Zastrow

Music: Worship Team

Sound: Ryan Wielenberg

Reader: Lori Ilse

Acolyte: .

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Website: www.firstlutheranpipestone.org

Facebook: Google First Lutheran Church
Pipestone FB & click the FB link on the
webpage.



***Scattering seeds of love,
worship & service***

Welcome/Announcements

3-Year-Old Bibles

Call to Worship:

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

C: Amen.

Opening Song: It Is You

Confession and Forgiveness

P: We worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son †
and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires
known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the
thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your
holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the
truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is
faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all

unrighteousness.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **C: Amen.**

Gathering

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Song of Praise: Goodness of God

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hearing God's Word

Psalm 23 (please read responsively)

R: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

C: The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

R: You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

C: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

R: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

C: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Here ends the Reading. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children's Time

P: Please stand in honor of the reading of the gospel.

The **Holy Gospel** is taken from **John 9:1-41**

C: Glory to you O Lord.

As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So, they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore, his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So, for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Song of the Day: Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone

Responding to God's Word

Apostle's Creed – pg 127

Prayers of the Church

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Offering Song: Offering

Offering Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Loving Lord, we confess how often we walk in shadows, blind to the brightness of your love. Yet even still, you call us to bear your light into the world. Help us reflect that radiance through our giving. Let these gifts shine with the hope of Christ, who lived, died, and rose for our sake. Amen.

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Lord's Prayer

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, the Son † and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Sending Song: How Great Is Our God

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the good news. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Welcome! It is GREAT to have you here! Thank you for choosing to worship with us here today.

The Worship Radio Broadcast is sponsored in remembrance of my dad, Tom Benz by Lori Ilse.

† Continuing Prayer Concerns:

We send our healing prayers to: Mildred Carstensen, Maverick Burkard, Carole Sommers, Paul Johnson, Meg Petra (Pastor Ann’s sister) & her wife, Lisa Riek, Ed Hansen, Becky Kaffar, Kristy Henriksen, JoAnn Straw and Kay Dubbelde.

***** If you or someone you know has a Prayer Concern, please call the church office 825-5837 to have it listed in the bulletin and church webpage. You can also email the church office@firstlutheranpipestone.org.**

This Week’s Schedule (March 15th – March 22nd, 2026)

Today: 9:30am – Worship, 3yo Bibles, live-streamed; 3pm – First Communion meeting w/5th gr. parents & students meet with Pastor Ann; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

Tuesday: Noon – Group Circle

Wednesday: 8:15am – Pastor’s Prayer; 6:15pm – Lent service; 6:45-7:15pm - LIFT/Confirmation

Thursday: AM – Pastor Ann out of office (Conf. mtg)

Sunday: 9:30am – Worship, live-streamed; 1pm – Pastor at Good Sam, 2pm – Pastor at Ridgeview. Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

March 2026 Offering	
Monthly Offering needed:	\$17,506.00
Weekly Offering – March 1st	
LENT – March 4th	
Weekly Offering – March 8th	
LENT – March 11th	
Weekly Offering – March 15th	
LENT – March 18th	
Weekly Offering – March 22nd	
LENT – March 25th	
Weekly Offering – March 29th	
MONTH TOTAL:	
Needed per week:	
4-week month = \$4,377/week	5-week month = \$3,502/week

Extra offering books are available on the table in the narthex. Please feel free to take another book if you are running low!!

Simply Giving is also available online by scanning the QR code in the bulletin.

VISITORS – please feel free to scan the QR code (by Offering above) if you wish to give to First Lutheran today.

THANK YOU for giving!!

Noisy Offering for February & March 2026 is being collected for:

Pipestone County Food Shelf

The total amount collected thus far is: **\$230.10**

THANK YOU for your support of these important Outreach needs.



February & March (match-month) Noisy Offering will go to the Pipestone County Food Shelf

A little more about the Pipestone County Food Shelf: Located @ 223 2nd St NW in Pipestone

Website for more information: www.pipestonefoodshelf.com

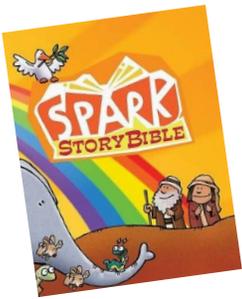
BELL TOWER REPAIR ASSISTANCE

The Property and Management Committee is looking for donations to help with fixing the bell tower water leakage problem. Donations can be made to First Lutheran Church by designating BELL TOWER in the memo line. Cost is estimated to cost \$23,000+.

Repairs expected to begin in the Spring.

Bell Tower Fund balance as of
3/9/2026: \$

THANK YOU to all who have
donated!!! We are getting close!!



CONGRATULATIONS to our 3-Year-Olds receiving their story Bibles today:

*Gracelynn Dwire
*Amelia Rohlk

*Oakley Houselog
*Kaysan Ilse

We are still in need of the following items for the care kits:

- Soap (3-4oz bars)
- Large tooth combs
- Towels (preferably dark colors)

Please bring in any of the listed items and place them in the blue tote in the Narthex!!





Communion Assistants, Lesson Readers and Acolytes are needed!!!

If you are able to help us out, **please** sign up on the clipboard in the Narthex OR you can sign up online by using the QR code to the left <<<.

You can also look to see the schedule for ushers as well – just by scanning the QR code with your phone!



We are looking for a few volunteer drivers to take fellow members to appointments in and out of town.

If interested or if you have questions, contact Cristy Appel.

THANK YOU in advance!



Join us for **Hope Haven's 24th Annual Benefit Auction on Friday, March 27th** at Te Slaa Trucking in Hull, IA (intersection of Hwy 75 & 18). For nearly twenty years, this event has captured the hearts of the communities – an occasion you definitely don't want to miss! Join us in our biggest fundraiser of the year to support Hope Haven's local and international service programs. It's not just an entertaining evening, but also an opportunity to celebrate the impactful work God is doing through Hope Haven. Your support empowers children and adults with disabilities here at home and across the globe.

ENJOY AN EVENING OUT WITH THE ENTIRE FAMILY

- 4:30 pm – Doors Open
- 5:00 pm – Food Booth Opens from Kingdom Boundaries (available for guests to purchase meals and beverages)
 - 5:00 pm – Buy It Now Items
- 5:30 pm – Live Auction (choose from over 450 incredible items for all ages to bid – John Deere Gator, Youth ATV 4-Wheeler, Traeger, Simplicity Lawn Tractor, electronics, trips, furniture, meat bundles, grills, outdoor games, power tools, appliances, toys, gift cards, and so much more!

Catalog of auction items is available on the Hope Haven website: <https://www.hopehaven.org/benefit-auction>



Radio Sponsorships for 2026 are posted on the bulletin board by the office. If you have a recurring yearly sponsorship, please let the office know if you would like to change the date as listed on the schedule. There are **2 open slots (listed below)** so if you would like to get signed up for one, please add your name to one of the open slots on the sheet. If you would like to check your recurring sponsorship, OR sign up online, scan the QR code>>.



THANK YOU all who give to the radio sponsorship – it is a GREAT way to share the ministry here at First Lutheran!!

June 28th

September 20th



First Lutheran has 3 areas of social media for you to get information from. We will do our best to keep things posted and updated as much as possible:

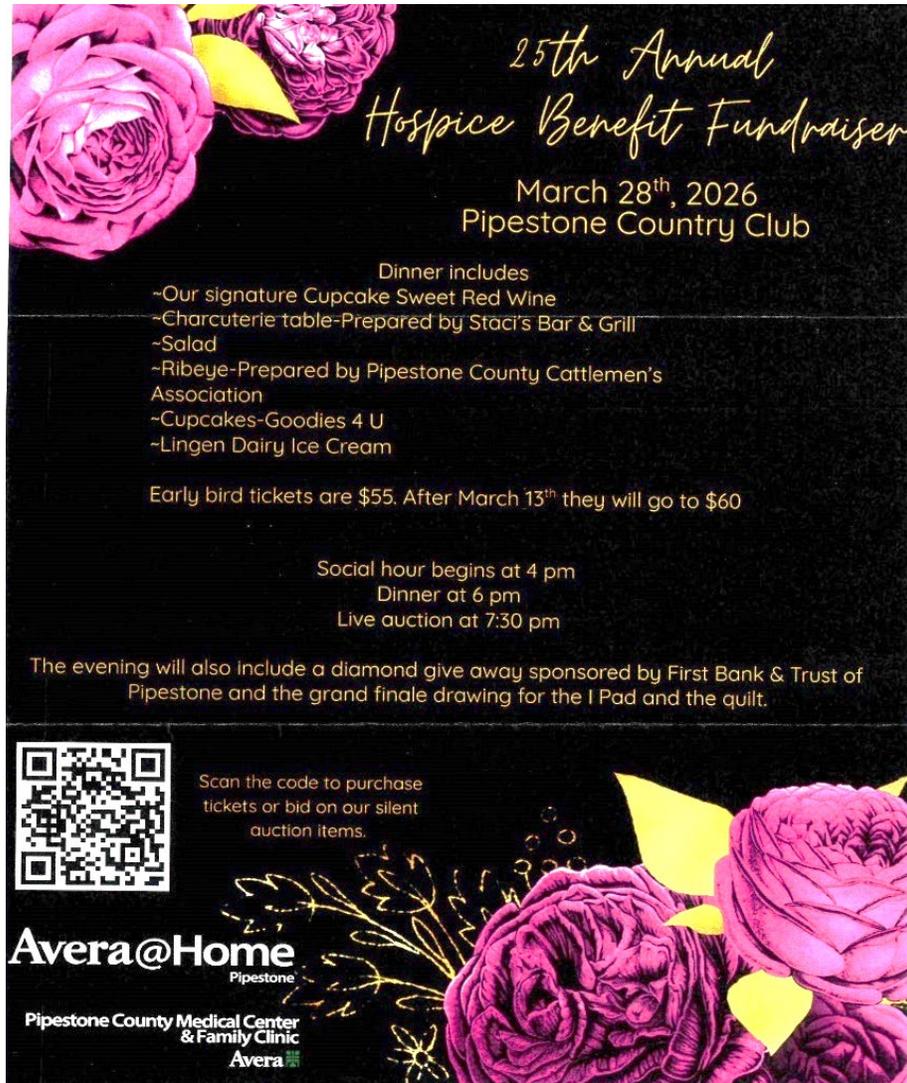
1. Website: www.firstlutheranpipestone.org
2. Facebook: First Lutheran Church ELCA
3. Instagram: flcoff.pipe



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*25th Annual
Hospice Benefit Fundraiser*

March 28th, 2026
Pipestone Country Club

Dinner includes

- Our signature Cupcake Sweet Red Wine
- Charcuterie table-Prepared by Staci's Bar & Grill
- Salad
- Ribeye-Prepared by Pipestone County Cattlemen's Association
- Cupcakes-Goodies 4 U
- Lingen Dairy Ice Cream

Early bird tickets are \$55. After March 13th they will go to \$60

Social hour begins at 4 pm
Dinner at 6 pm
Live auction at 7:30 pm

The evening will also include a diamond give away sponsored by First Bank & Trust of Pipestone and the grand finale drawing for the iPad and the quilt.



Scan the code to purchase tickets or bid on our silent auction items.

Avera@Home
Pipestone

Pipestone County Medical Center
& Family Clinic
Avera



Do you wish to contribute to the Easter Flower fund this Easter? Donations can be given in memory or in honor of your loved ones. These donations will be used to purchase an appropriate number of Easter flowers to decorate the church, with the remainder of the funds to go towards other church projects. You may also bring in flowers from your own home – just please make sure to put your name on it so you can take it home after Easter.

If you would like to order or make a donation, please complete the following information & return this portion to the church office or the offering plates.

NO LATER than Sunday, March 29th, 2026 (Palm Sunday)

I will bring my own from home (**please bring to the church by Thursday, April 2nd, 2026**)

Here is a contribution to the Easter Flower Fund. Amount: \$ _____
(include payment with this form.)

Name: _____ Contact Phone: _____

Contribution is: **in memory of** **in honor of**
(Please print clearly)

Pay to: First Lutheran Church, 401 7th Av SW, Pipestone MN 56164
(Please put "Easter Fund" in the memo line)