

"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.

Second Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 1st, 2026
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Pastor: Pastor Ann Zastrow

Organist: Paul Henriksen

Sound: Mark Zinnel

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webpage.



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

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Worship:

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

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn: ELW #666 – What Wondrous Love Is This

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.

Kyrie: page 184

Hymn of Praise: page 187

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world 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.

Hearing God's Word

First Lesson: Genesis 12:1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So, Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

Here ends the First Lesson. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121 (please read responsively)

R: I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

C: My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

R: The Lord will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

C: Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;

R: the Lord watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

C: the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

R: The Lord will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

C: The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.

Second Lesson: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. For this reason, the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Here ends the Second Lesson. **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 3:1-17**

C: Glory to you O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So, it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that

whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW #323 – God Loved the World (vs 1-4)

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 Hymn: ELW #294 – In the Bleak Midwinter (vs 3)

Offering Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Creator God, your Spirit surrounds and sustains us. As we offer these gifts, stir our quiet faith into confident witness. Replace our hesitant whispers with the courage to speak your truth. Shape our giving into acts of praise. We believe and pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

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Service of Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving/Words of Institution

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Lord’s Prayer

Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Distribution of the Elements

Communion Songs: ELW #325 – I Want Jesus to Walk with Me ELW #674 – Let Us Talents & Tongues Employ

Prayer After Communion

P: Let us pray.

C: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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 Hymn: ELW #803 – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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.

We practice open Communion at First Lutheran. If you believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine, his body and blood shed for you, you are welcome to our table. Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

The Worship Radio Broadcast is sponsored in loving memory of Rae Werner by Steve Werner and family.

† Continuing Prayer Concerns:

We send our healing prayers to: Maverick Burkard, Carole Sommers, Paul Johnson, Jackson Baumann, Meg Petra (Pastor Ann’s sister) & her wife, Lisa Riek, Ed Hansen, Becky Kaffar, Jacob Meyer (Sarah Meyer’s nephew), Kristy Henriksen, Curt Ilse, 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 1st – March 8th, 2026)

Today: 9:30am – Worship, w/Holy Communion, live-streamed; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

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

Thursday: 5:30pm – Executive meeting

Friday: NO SCHOOL – Teacher In-Service

Saturday: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS – turn clocks AHEAD one hour!!!!

Sunday: 9:30am – Worship, w/Holy Communion, live-streamed; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

February 2026 Offering	
Monthly Offering needed:	\$17,505.53
Weekly Offering – February 1st	
Weekly Offering – February 8th	
Weekly Offering – February 15th	
LENT - Ash Wednesday Offering – February 18th	
Weekly Offering – February 22nd	
LENT - Offering – February 25th	
MONTH TOTAL:	

Needed per week (updated 2/2/2026):
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: **\$98.36**

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
2/23/2026: \$

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

During Lent, we are collecting items for the personal care kits. Please bring in any of the listed items and place them in the blue tote in the Narthex!!



Personal Care Kit items:

- 1 light-weight, dark towel
- 2 bath-size bars of soap
- 1 adult-size toothbrush in original package
 - 1 sturdy comb
 - 1 metal nail clipper



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!



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!



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 **3 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

December 13th



First Lutheran is now on Instagram! We will do our best to keep things posted and updated as much as possible. We now have 3 areas of social media for you to get info from:

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