

"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.

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 17th, 2026
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Guest Pastor: Pastor Heather Culuris

Music: Worship Team

Sound: Neil Johnson

Reader: Vivian Brockberg & Olyvia Weber

Acolyte:

Communion Assistant: Cristy Appel

CONTACT: 401 7th Ave SW,
Pipestone, MN 56164 507.825.5837

Email:

office@firstlutheranpipestone.org

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

Call to Worship:

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

C: Amen.

Opening Song: Goodness of God

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: How Great Thou Art

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

**C: O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each
other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through 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: Acts 1:6-14

When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 (please read responsively)

R: Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered; let those who hate God flee.

C: As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away; as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

R: But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

C: Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds; I Am is that name, rejoice before God!

R: In your holy habitation, O God, you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

C: you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.

R: O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

C: the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

R: You sent a bountiful rain, O God; you restored your inheritance when it languished.

C: Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

R: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

C: You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens; you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.

R: Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

C: How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel, giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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 17:1-11**

C: Glory to you O Lord.

After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

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

Sermon

Graduate's Quilt Presentation

Litany for the Graduates

P: Let us give thanks for these graduating seniors. We rejoice in God's goodness and guidance in your life. We gather to pray God's blessings in your life and to send you out in love.

C: Gracious God, surround these graduates with your grace. Bless them with hope as they move into their future. Help them to put the knowledge, skills and insights gained through their education to use for the good of all people.

P: Creator God, bless the parents and the families of the graduates. Thank you for the love, guidance, support and encouragement they have offered through the years. Empower and equip parents to send these graduates out into the world. May they entrust their children to your love and guidance.

C: Remind us as parents, families and a congregation that these youth are yours. Remind us that you will be with them when they feel alone or overwhelmed. Remind us to let them go into your care, service and love. Strengthen their many talents and skills and instill in them a confidence in the future you have planned.

P: When they are hurt, give them healing hands and healing words.

C: When they sense confusion, give them wisdom.

P: When they encounter scarcity,

C: give them a heart and compassion to serve and love their neighbor.

P: For these graduates pursuing a higher education,

C: grant them the knowledge that they will need in their chosen fields and the wisdom to apply that knowledge to every facet of life.

P: For when they go into the workforce,

C: grant them a sense of wisdom. May they be faithful in whatever and wherever you call them. Guide them through the confusing and complex issues in life that they will face.

P: God of the past, present and future, we thank you for these young people and guiding them to this time in their life. We entrust them to your care, for they are your children. Wherever you lead these graduates and their families, grant them your peace which passes all understanding. Grant them hope and courage to face the future and surround them with your love which is never-ending.

Sending of the Graduates

C: May the road rise up to meet you and the wind be on your back. May the sunshine be warm upon you and the rain fall gently down. May God ever hold you in the palm of His hand. May God gently hold you and enfold you. May the stars come out to greet you as you lie your head down to rest. May the moonlight smile upon you and your dreams be ever blessed. Amen

Song of the Day: Voice of Truth

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: He Knows My Name

Offering Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Majestic God, your love is a shelter of peace and hope. You calm our fears and nourish our dreams. Accept these offerings as signs of our joy and trust. May they be used to serve your world with faithfulness and praise. 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: ~All Who Are Thirsty ~The Potters Hand ~Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Prayer After Communion

P: Let us pray.

C: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen 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 Song: Hear Our Praises

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you. 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 honor of my grandson, Brennan’s graduation by Darlene Muller.

† Continuing Prayer Concerns:

We send prayers of comfort to Robert & Teri Petersen on the passing of Teri’s mother, Mary Meyer last Saturday and to Marge Christensen on the passing of her brother-in-law, Rick Bortnem. We continue our healing prayers to: Vera Newgard, Maverick Burkard, 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 (May 17th – May 24th, 2026)

Today (Graduate Sunday): 9:30am – Worship w/Pastor Heather Culuris and Holy Communion, recognition of 2026 graduates & presenting of Quilts, live-streamed; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

Tuesday: 9:30am – FLCW Group Circle; 12:00pm & 5:00pm- Sunday Service broadcast on Public Access TV (channel 3)

Wednesday: 7:30pm – Baccalaureate @Christ the King (please note this change).

Sunday (1st day of Pentecost): 9:30am – Worship w/Ingrid Wielenberg, live-streamed; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

May 2026 Offering	
Monthly Offering needed:	\$17,506.00
Weekly Offering – May 3rd	
Weekly Offering – May 10th (Mother’s Day)	
Weekly Offering – May 17th (Grad. Sunday)	
Weekly Offering – May 24th	
Weekly Offering – May 31st	
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 May 2026 was collected for:
Lutheran Disaster Relief/Response



The total amount collected was: **\$65.09**

THANK YOU for your support of these important Outreach needs.

Noisy Offering for May will be going to Lutheran Disaster Relief.

A little more about Lutheran Disaster Relief: Lutheran disaster relief provides immediate and long-term support to communities affected by natural and man-made disasters, combining emergency aid, recovery assistance and community resilience programs.

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
5/11/2026: \$

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



Congratulations to our 2026 Graduates!



† Ava Boucher – daughter of Dave & Jill Boucher

Ava will be going in to the Air National Guard and then on to USD for Dental Hygienist

† Vivian Brockberg – daughter of Eric & Kristen Brockberg

Vivian will be attending the University of Minnesota-Duluth with a double major in biology & psychology

† Dustin Eslick – son of Dar Eslick

Dustin plans on joining the Army

† Olyvia Weber – daughter of Jason & Nicole Weber

Olyvia will be attending SDSU with a major in History and minoring in Art History & Museum Sciences.

Graduation is a time for reflection on the labors of the past, the accomplishments of the present and the possibilities of the future. Go out into the world and make your light shine bright! We will be here cheering you on!

Help Wanted: Person(s) to mow the lawn at the parsonage during the summer. Will need your own mower.

Contact Mark Zinnel if you have any questions.





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!



All of our Radio Slots are FILLED!!!!!!

A HUGE THANK YOU to all who have signed up to sponsor our radio broadcasts. We are so blessed to have that ministry and without your sponsorship, it wouldn't be possible to reach those who listen each week.

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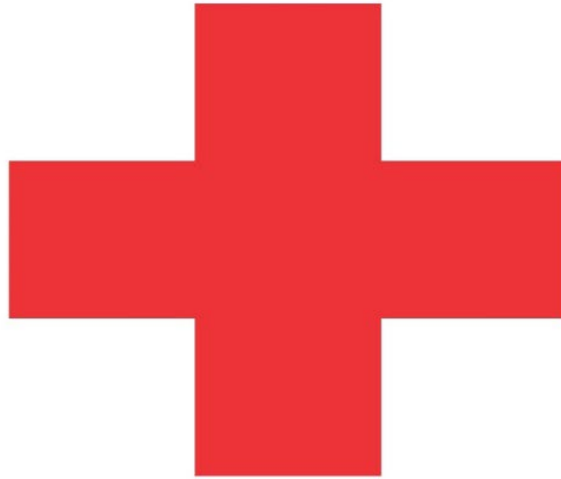
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Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
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American Red Cross



Blood Drive
First Lutheran Church

Social Hall
401 7th Ave SW
Pipestone, MN 56164

Tuesday, June 16, 2026
12:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: PipestoneMN to schedule an appointment.



Scan to be directed to
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**Come to give blood 6/1-28 for a \$15 e-gift card +
chance to win a \$7.5K prize! See rcblood.org/June.**



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