"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 of Easter Sunday, May 11th, 2025 GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church Pastor: Pastor Ann Zastrow Music: Worship Team Sound: Ryan Wielenberg Readers: 2025 Graduates Acolyte: Kale Mastbergen Communion Assistant: Cristy Appel

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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: Oceans

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the **†** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (*a moment of silence for personal reflection*)

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left

undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. 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: pg 138 Hymn of Praise: pg 140

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us

all that is well-pleasing in your sight, 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 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time, she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So, Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner. Here ends the First Lesson. **C: Thanks be to God.**

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.

Second Lesson: Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason, they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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 10:22-30

C: Glory to you O Lord.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So, the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I

know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

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

Sermon

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 their 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.

C: Amen.

Hymn of the Day: A Mother's Prayer

Responding to God's Word

Apostle's Creed

Prayers of the Church

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer

P: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

C: Amen

you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. 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:** ~The Potters Hand ~I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry ~Make Me a Servant **Prayer After Communion** P: Let us pray. your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen. Blessing P: The God of all grace t bless you now and forever. C: Amen. Sending Hymn: This World is Yours Dismissal C: Thanks be to God. P: Go in peace. Christ is with you. *****



Offering Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As

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

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 today in honor of the graduating Class of 2025 by Bob & Tami Taubert

Continuing Prayer Concerns:

We continue our prayers of healing for Curt Ilse, Joyce Kunz, Diane Leslie, 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 11th – 18th, 2025)

Today (Mother's Day/Senior Sunday: 9:30am – Worship, w/Holy Communion, live-streamed; 2025 Graduating FLC Seniors receive their quilts from the FLCW; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

Tuesday: 8:30am - Ministerial Meeting

Wednesday: 8:15am – Pastor's prayer; 7:30pm – Church Council meeting

Sunday: 9:30am – Worship, live-streamed; Three-year-olds receive Bibles, New members received; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

May 2025 Offering		
Monthly Offering needed:	\$21,150.00	
Weekly Offering – May 4th		
Weekly Offering – May 11th		\$
Weekly Offering – May 18th		\$
Weekly Offering – May 25th		\$
	MONTH TOTAL:	

Needed per week:

4-week month = \$5,288/week

5-week month = \$4,230/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!!

Direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars

Today!

DID YOU KNOW – if you are a Thrivent member: You may be earning Thrivent Choice Dollars that can be designated to your church or a designation of your choosing? Every little bit counts and so far this year, we have gained about \$300 from members who have designated their Thrivent Choice Dollars to First Lutheran!!

Log in to thrivent.com and scroll to the bottom of the Account Overview page to see your available Choice Dollars[®]. You can choose where you would like your Choice Dollars to go. Works very much like a rewards program so check out your options today!!!

Noisy Offering for APRIL/MAY 2025 is being collected for: LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

The total amount collected thus far is: \$175.90. THANK YOU for your support of these important Outreach needs.

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 right >>>.

> 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:

Website: www.firstlutheranpipestone.org

Facebook: First Lutheran Church ELCA Instagram: flcoff.pipe

<u>A note from Lori (in the office)</u>

**THANK YOU to all who have been praying for Curt. He was diagnosed with cancer on his tongue at the end of March. On April 28th, he underwent a 14-hr surgery to remove the tumor on his tongue as well as some cancerous lymph nodes. *He is currently home recovering before we move on to the next phase of this cancer journey. I will be in the office as* much as I can but for now, I am working from home as I care for him. Thank you to Pastor Ann who has been manning the fort while I work from home and to all who have offered to help where needed.

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Shetek Lutheran Ministries 27TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Supporting the ministries at camp making it possible for many campers to attend our programs

JUNE 23 2025 || 8:30 AT SLAYTON GOLF COURSE www.shetek.org

INCLUDES 18 HOLES OF GOLF, LUNCH, SPECIAL EVENTS, & PRIZES GOLF CART PROVIDED \$75 PER GOLFER



 UNABLE TO ATTEND?
 No WORRIES! Call or email a bid in ahead of time, (507) 763-3567 or email camp@shetek.org. Members of our quilt committee will bid for you the day of the auction. Bids must be in by June 26, 2025.