

"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.

19th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, October 4th, 2026
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Worship Leader: Pastor Margo Martens

Music: SOS Music (iPad) – Cristy Appel

Sound: Jason Weber

Reader: Wielenberg family

Acolyte: .

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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.

Confession and Forgiveness – (please stand)

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. 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: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW #832 – My Lord of Light

Greeting

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 (please speak responses)

Hymn of Praise: pg 139 – Glory to God (begin singing when music begins)

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
(Please be seated)

Hearing God's Word

First Lesson: Isaiah 5:1-7

I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

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

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 80:7-15 (please read responsively)

R: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

C: You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.

R: You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

C: The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

R: You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.

C: Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

R: The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

C: Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;

R: behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.

Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: 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; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. 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 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. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow, I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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 **Matthew 21:33-46**

C: Glory to you O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another,

and stoned another. Again, he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So, they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?" "Therefore, I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.** *(please be seated)*

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW #732 - Borning Cry

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism



Holy Baptism of: Cortland Cole Lytle

Parents: Cole & Marah Lytle

Sponsors: Jason & April Steenstra, Andrew Lytle and Ericka Lytle

Responding to God's Word

Prayers of the Church

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great

P: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Offering Hymn *(please stand for the hymn):* ELW #801 – Change My Heart O God

Offering Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Holy God, you guide us to live lives of honesty, justice, and peace. As we present our offerings, may our giving reflect our desire to walk in your ways. Use these gifts to further your kingdom of love. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

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Lord's Prayer

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: ELW #595 – Jesus Loves Me

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.

The Worship Radio Broadcast is sponsored in celebration of our grandchildren's birthdays: Emma, Noah, Shailey, Carter, Micah and Ty by Scott & Gail Barduson.

✠ Continuing Prayer Concerns:

Our thoughts and prayers to Kristen & Eric Brockberg and their family on the passing of Kristen's mom, Hope. We also send prayers of comfort to Karen Hellie and her family on the passing of Ron. Ron's visitation will be at Hartquist - Pipestone Chapel from 4-7pm this afternoon. His service will be here on Monday at 10:30am.

We give our healing prayers to: Bob Larson (Lynne Dalen's dad), Mary Meyer (Sarah Meyer's sister), Randy Claussen, Paul Cunningham (brother-in-law of Robert & Teri Petersen), Mary Lou Bjagan, Vera Newgard, Maverick Burkard, 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. Please feel free to send a card of encouragement to anyone listed above. Addresses are posted on the Caring Cards sheet hanging on the south post in the Narthex. THANK YOU in advance!!**

This Week's Schedule (October 4th – October 11th, 2026)

Today: 9:30am – Worship w/Pastor Margo Martens, Lytle baptism, live-streamed; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

Tuesday: 1:30pm – Food Shelf meeting (Fireside room)

Wednesday: 6:15 – 7:15pm – LIFT/Confirmation; 7:00pm – Church committee meetings

Thursday: 9:30am - Quilting

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

September 2026 Offering	
Monthly Offering needed:	\$17,506.00
Weekly Offering – September 6th	
Weekly Offering – September 13th	
Weekly Offering – September 20th	
Weekly Offering – September 27th	
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 September 2026 was collected for:

The Banquet in Sioux Falls

The total amount collected was: **\$263.60**

THANK YOU for your support of these important Outreach needs.



October Noisy Offering will go to ELCA - GOOD GIFTS.

More about GOOD GIFTS: As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we believe that God is calling us into the world — together. And with generous, loving hands, we can make a difference. ELCA Good Gifts is your opportunity to provide critical support to the ministries and programs. Your donation will be used where it is needed most (see info on last page of bulletin).

October 2026 Worship Leaders:

- † TODAY - October 4th – Pastor Margo Martens (w/Lytle baptism)
- † Sunday, October 11th – John Lupkes
- † Sunday, October 18th – Pastor Mark Jamison (w/communion)
- † Sunday, October 25th – Mark Carlson

We welcome today in Holy Baptism

Cortland Cole Lytle

Cortland was born on July 3rd, 2026 to
Cole & Marah Lytle

Cortland joins a sister, Emersyn and his great-grandfather is Larry Harkema

May you forever be blessed from this day forward beloved child of God!



We are in NEED Communion Assistants, Lesson Readers and Acolytes!!!

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 – just by scanning the QR code with your phone!

Many hands make for light work – please consider being one of the many hands!!!!

Volunteers In Mercy will be hosting a sit-down Thanksgiving dinner on Thanksgiving Day (11/26) starting at 11 AM at the Pipestone Christian Reformed Church. Our goal is to bless others in the name of Christ by offering community, friendship, and a welcoming place for anyone who does not have somewhere to go on Thanksgiving. We are looking for volunteers to help in several areas: setting up, food prep, serving, cleanup, etc. Come at whatever time works for you. If you are able to help, please call or text Shelli DeRuyter at 507-820-1425.



ROUND-TABLE CHIT-CHAT: The Round-Table committee's job is to collect information for the next step in the search for a new pastor. We want to hear your thoughts, ideas, wants, needs – of your church, your pastor, etc. Old & young members, families, kids – your input matters more than you know. We would like to have a few more Chit-Chats in the next month or two so be watching for more Chit-Chat's – after church or while the kids are at LIFT on a Wednesday. Our committee values your input so please don't be afraid to talk to one of us or drop us a note in the offering plate, Input Box (narthex) or the office mailbox.



Round Table Committee (Lori Ilse – lead, Tom & Diane Dunn, Danielle Ossefoort, Marit Sterud & Mike Wussow)

Input received so far:

Preaching/Church life	Mix of traditional & modern (contemporary) styles, inspires & motivates, services are engaging, interesting to listen to, sermons with meaning and you can understand, enjoys youth ministry, tries their best to listen to wants/needs of congregation, relatable & up-beat, sermons that connect with modern day life.
Personality/home life	Younger perhaps with a family, ambitious/self-motivated, personable/easy to talk to/welcoming, good with all ages, active in the community
Church ideas	Coffee bar/food for more ways to gather/fellowship, more church activities (lock-ins, life skills, etc)

Thank you to those who have already submitted notes – IT'S AWESOME! Keep the input coming – Please encourage others to do the same!!!

Congregation Input Box

Please know that we need EVERYONE to be involved in some way in the search for a new pastor. So, we have placed a lovely box (WHITE) in the Narthex. Using the scratch paper in the pews (paper also available by the box), please let us know a few things:

- Likes/Dislikes of pastors you have heard preach (here or elsewhere, no names please)
 - List top 3 things you feel are important in a church.
 - Traits of a good pastor (what you feel are good traits).
 - Any other things you feel may be helpful.

We do not want any names, we just ask for your honesty in letting us know your needs as a person of faith, what you would like to see for our younger members in their faith journey, etc. It is very important to keep an open mind and not look at the here and now, but what we want to see down the road. We want to do what we can to ensure that First Lutheran is here for future generations – we need your help, we need your input.

***Please understand that there is no way to possibly fill everyone's needs and wants but we want to get a good idea of where to begin. THANK YOU!!!*

Words of Encouragement

The Christian does not think God will love us because we are good, but that God will make us good because He loves us.

God will meet you where you are in order to take you where He wants you to go.

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God's Global Barnyard

An animal can make a world of difference for a family in need. Animals provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops and offspring to sell at the market. With one gift, you can help a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty for good.



Cow

A cow's milk, meat, fertilizer and calves can quickly strengthen a family's financial security.

\$500



Chicks

Chicks begin laying eggs at just a few months old, offering nutritious, protein-rich meals for families who are hungry.

\$10



Goat

Fresh milk from a goat is very nutritious and can be used to make products like yogurt and cheese to sell at the market.

\$50



Honeybees

Bees pollinate plants and boost crop growth — helping the wider community. Soaps and candles can be made from their wax and sold at the local market.

\$20



Pig

Within months after birth, piglets grow to weigh over 200 pounds — bringing a big payoff at the market.

\$30



Fish Farm

A fish farm and training in good business economics can provide a lifetime of meals for a community.

\$250

Give through your congregation by visiting

ELCA.org/goodgifts or by sending a check to

ELCA Good Gifts, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.

Please indicate your gift in the memo line of your check.

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