

"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.

**16th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 13th, 2026
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER**

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Worship Leader: Kristen Brockberg

Organist: Paul Henriksen

Sound: Jason Weber

Reader: Sarah Meyer

Acolyte: .

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Pipestone FB & click the FB link on the webpage.



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

Welcome/Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

L: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: 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.

L: 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.

L: 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 #482 – I Come With Joy

Greeting

L: 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

L: Let us pray.

C: O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Hearing God's Word

First Lesson: Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So, they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 103:8-13 (please read responsively)

R: Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;

C: you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.

R: You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

C: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

R: As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us.

C: As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O Lord.

Second Lesson: Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also, those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God. For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

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

Children's Time

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

The **Holy Gospel** is taken from **Matthew 18:21-35**

C: Glory to you O Lord.

Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason, the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. So, the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into

prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So, my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart." The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW #824 - This Is My Father's World

Apostle's Creed

Responding to God's Word

Prayers of the Church

L: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great

L: Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen

Offering Hymn: ELW #839 – Now Thank We All Our God (vs 1 & 3)

Offering Prayer:

L: Let us pray.

C: God of Grace, you continually forgive and renew us. Teach us to extend that same mercy to others. Transform these offerings into ministries of compassion that reflect your love to the world. We give with grateful hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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Lord's Prayer

Benediction

L: 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 #546 – To Be Your Presence

Dismissal

L: 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 honor of our grandchildren by Paul & Kristy Henriksen.

✠ Continuing Prayer Concerns:

We send our thoughts and prayers to Gayl Thode and her family on the passing of her sister, Jana Willey this past week. May God give you all strength and peace at this difficult time. We give our healing prayers to: Mary Meyer (Sarah Meyer's sister), Randy Claussen, Mavis Pierson, Paul Cunningham (brother-in-law of Robert & Teri Petersen), Mary Sacco, Mary Lou Bjugan, Vera Newgard, Maverick & Carly 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!!**

A sincere THANK YOU from Rusty Hartke for all the thoughts and prayers. He said he is doing well!!

This Week's Schedule (September 13th – September 20th, 2026)

Today: 9:30am – Worship w/Kristen Brockberg, live-streamed, LIFT Kick-Off Event following worship; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

Tuesday: 12:30-6pm – Bloodmobile in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday: PM – Lori out of office; 6:15-7:15pm – first night of LIFT/Confirmation

Sunday (New Member Sunday): 9:30am – Worship w/Mark Jamison, New Members & Holy Communion, 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: **\$0**

THANK YOU for your support of these important Outreach needs.



September Noisy Offering will go to The Banquet in Sioux Falls

(First Lutheran will be serving there on Wednesday, September 30th. Contact the church office if you can help with meal prep during the day – we are in need of at least 4 people.)

A little more about The Banquet: The Banquet meal ministry began in 1985 with a simple mission — to provide nourishment and fellowship for those in need. What started with just one meal per week has grown into a thriving program that now serves 16 meals every week across two locations in Sioux Falls.

First Lutheran is very proud to be able to help serve & provide meals for families at the Banquet for so many years!

September 2026 Worship Leaders:

- † TODAY - Sunday, September 13th – Kristen Brockberg
- † Sunday, September 20th – Pastor Mark Jamison (w/Holy Communion & New Members)
- † Sunday, September 27th – Ingrid Wielenberg



- **TODAY - Sunday, September 13th** : LIFT Kick-Off – all are welcome to join us at SW Park (across the street) *(we are also looking for a few more teachers for LIFT as well as a music person for our LIFT kids)*
- **Wednesday, September 16th**: Confirmation for students in grades 6 to 8 will meet – more details to come
 - **Sunday, September 20th**: New Member Sunday – see info below
- **Wednesday, September 30th** – First Lutheran to help serve at the Banquet in Sioux Falls – ***we will need at least 4 meal preppers during the day – contact the church office if you are able to help with the meal prep.***
Youth & chaperones will be bussed down to serve after school. Details to come!



We are so excited to officially welcome our newest members to First Lutheran!! Letters have been sent out to those who have expressed an interest in joining our family here at FLC. If you are not yet a member and would like to join, please contact Lori in the office so we can get the information to you right away.

Please remember – ALL ARE WELCOME and we are just so thankful to have each and every one of you here!!



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!!!!



Blood Drive
Pipestone Community
First Lutheran Church

Social Hall
 401 7th Ave SW
 Pipestone, MN 56164

Tuesday, September 15, 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.



The American Red Cross and Hello Kitty are releasing exclusive NEW merch! Come give blood Sept. 1-20 for a super-cute Red Cross x Hello Kitty collectible item, while supplies last!



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. The committee invites you to sit and visit with us this Sunday at SW Park. 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 if you aren't able to visit this time, perhaps we can chat next time – 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
Personality/home life	Younger perhaps with a family, ambitious/self-motivated, personable/easy to talk to/welcoming, good with all ages

Thank you to those who have already submitted notes! 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!!!*

Pipestone Women's Connection cordially invites you to a luncheon at the Christian Reformed Church, Pipestone
on **Monday, September 21, 2026**

\$10.00 (includes tax) - 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm (First time guest tickets are complimentary.)

FEATURE: JD Rieck Plumbing - Nichole Rieck will talk about the services they offer.

SPEAKER: "Joy in the Journey"

Judie Colyer at Ankeny, IA

Judie shares how to experience JOY in the middle of life's challenging journey.

Reservations for lunch and complimentary childcare by Thursday, September 17th.

Please call *Deb: 507-820-1456 * Marian: 507-820-1272 * Susan: 507-920-6675

CANCELLATIONS ARE NECESSARY BY SUNDAY, September 20.

Words of Encouragement

If our ears of faith are open, our hearts will be open as well.

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.

~Psalm 95:7-8

Be ready to share your love and faith with others today.

Stand firm...with our feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

~Ephesians 6:14-15

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LIFT Links:

Registration: <https://forms.gle/5sSqAPNkEoB73gQn6>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/firstluthlift>

