

"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.

1st Sunday of Christmas

January 1st, 2023

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Pastor: Pastor Ann Zastrow

Organist: Paul Henriksen

Sound: Mark Zinnel

Reader: Kristy Henriksen

Communion Assistant: Cristy Appel

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Church Pipestone FB & hit 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 Hymn: #296 – What Child Is This

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.**

Kyrie: Page 147

Hymn of Praise: Page 149

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

**C: O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know
your presence in our lives and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory. As you protected the infant Jesus, so
defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Hearing God's Word

First Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

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

Psalm 72:1-14 (please read responsively)

R: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

C: that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;

R: that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

C: Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

R: May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

C: Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.

R: In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

C: May he rule from sea to sea, and from the river Euphrates to the ends of the earth.

R: May his foes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust.

C: May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.

R: May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

C: For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.

R: He has compassion on the lowly and poor and preserves the lives of the needy.

C: From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.

Second Lesson: Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles — for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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

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

The **Holy Gospel** is taken from **Matthew** (Matthew 2:1-23)

C: Glory to you O Lord.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no

means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead. Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

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

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: #300 – The First Noel

Responding to God's Word

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of the Church

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer

Offering / Offering Hymn: #292 – Love Has Come (vs 1)

Offering Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our 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 Hymns: #270 – Hark the Herald Angels Sing
#482 – I Come with Joy (vs 1,2,5)

Prayer After Communion

P: Let us pray.

C: Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

God's People Sent Forth

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: #290 – Go Tell It on The Mountain

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.

****Please note that beginning January 1st, 2023, communion will be on the 1st and 2nd Sunday of each month.**

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. Apple juice and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

The Worship Radio Broadcast today is sponsored in honor of Betty Ann Stueven's birthday by Dwight and Sheila Horton & family.

† Continuing Prayer Concerns: Please keep Lance Oye, Joyce Kunz, Sharon Blom, Helen Miller, Bob Fritz and Jan Harkema in your prayers this week.

***** 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. Please email the church office@firstlutheranpipestone.org or call 825-5837 when someone is no longer needed to be on the prayer concerns list.**

This Week's Schedule (Jan. 1st to Jan. 8th)

Today: 9:30am – Worship/Holy Communion at the church & live streamed. Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

Monday: Office Closed

Wednesday: 6:15pm – L.I.F.T./Confirmation; 7:00pm – Church committee meetings; 12pm & 5:00pm - Sunday Service broadcast on Public Access TV (channel 3)

Thursday: 9:30am – Quilting; 1:00pm – P.I.M. meeting

Friday: Epiphany begins

Sunday: 9:30am Worship/Holy Communion at the church & live streamed. Nehemiah Bible Study (Lesson 5) after Worship; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

December 2022 Offering	
Monthly Income Needed to Operate>>	\$17,800.00
Weekly Offering – Dec. 4th	\$4,970.37
Other Income – Parsonage – Dec. 4th	\$0
Weekly Offering – Dec. 11th	\$5,401.27
Other Income – Parsonage – Dec. 11th	\$1050.00
Weekly Offering – Dec. 18th	\$4,732.84
Other Income – Parsonage – Dec. 18th	\$0
Weekly Offering – Dec. 24th – Christmas Eve	\$4,470.10
Other Income – Parsonage – Dec. 24th Christmas Eve	\$100.00
Weekly Offering – Dec. 25th Christmas Day	\$673.25
Other Income – Parsonage – Dec. 25th Christmas Day	\$50.00

Extra offering books are available on the table in the narthex. Please feel free to take another book if you are running low or contact the church office if you would like one sent to you!! Simply Giving is also available online.

Noisy Offering for JANUARY will be collected for: Diaper Drive thru Pipestone Family Services

Any sizes are needed and may be brought into the narthex or church office. Cash donations are also welcome for purchasing additional diapers as needed for families.

The total amount collected in December for God's Global Barnyard was \$390.45.

Thank you for your support of these important Outreach needs.

2023 Radio Broadcast Sponsors

If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast in honor of a loved one, in celebration of a birthday, etc. the sign up for 2023 is posted in the hall by the offices. Spots are going fast so get signed up TODAY!!

Cost of a radio sponsorship is \$58, payable to First Lutheran Church (please write "Radio" in the memo line).

Thank you in advance for giving to this great ministry!

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Upcoming Events – mark your calendars!!

Date	Event	Additional information
April 28-29, 2023	Confirmation Retreat	More information will be forthcoming.

*Register for these events online at: www.shetek.org or contact the church office for a registration form.

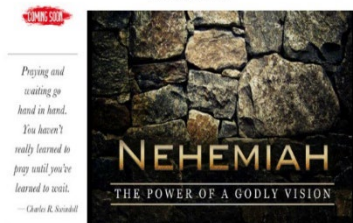
All members should have received an email or a letter in the mail regarding log-in information as well as how to get your picture and family information updated in the online church directory. Information is also available on our website so make sure to check that out. We would love to have everyone's picture included in the directory so that Pastor Ann can get to know your face as well as your name!



Parsonage Project:

We are so thankful to have Pastor Ann all settled into our parsonage!! Please consider donating toward the \$80,000 project (this is also a tax-deductible donation). Identify your check as going toward the **parsonage project**. We are lucky to be debt free as a church and would like to pay for the remodel entirely through generous donations from our members and from funds available in accounts held within the church. Having an updated home for our Pastor supports our ministry in the community. Please consider contributing to our mission in this way. The total amount donated to this date is **\$72,020.00.** *Thank you for your support of this mission.*

HAND ME ANOTHER BRICK: TIMELESS LESSONS ON LEADERSHIP
The Matter at Hand
Survey of Nehemiah



All are welcome to join in on our book study!
Contact the church office to sign up or to order a book.
Books can also be purchased on Amazon.
Dates for Book Study will be as follows right after worship:
January 8th, February 12th, March 12th and April 16th

First Lutheran Church "Partners in Ministry"

"Partners in Ministry" is a program that is now available at First Lutheran. We are excited have people who will be making home visits, provide a listening ear, and prayer support to members of First Lutheran Church. The "Partners in Ministry" servants are also willing to bring communion to people who are unable to attend worship. These volunteers are here to serve the greater community of First Lutheran. Are you facing surgery and want prayer? We are here for you. Would you like a friendly visitor to share in your journey of faith and life? We are here for you. Call the church office 825-5837 to find out more information. The people who are willing to serve as your "Partners in Ministry" are:

Nancy Finzen
LaDonna Myers

Carol Johnson
Mavis Pierson

Becky Kaffar
Judy Stubbe

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