

"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 in Lent

March 10th, 2024

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Pastor: Pastor Ann Zastrow

Organist: Paul Henriksen

Sound: Jason Weber

Reader: Debbie Reinert

Acolyte: Tommie Chaulsett

Communion Assistant: Tami Taubert

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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 Hymn: ELW #848 –

Give to Our God Immortal Praise!

Confession and Forgiveness

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

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We

are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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

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 147

Hymn of Praise: pg 149

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, 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: Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So, Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So, Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (please read responsively)

R: Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God's mercy endures forever.

C: Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,

R: gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

C: Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted.

R: They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door.

C: Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD and you delivered them from their distress.

R: You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave.

C: Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.

R: Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

Second Lesson: Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace, you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

Children's Sermon

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

The **Holy Gospel** is taken from **John** (John 3:14-21)

C: Glory to you O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already,

because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW #323 – God Loved the World (vs 1,2 & 4)

Responding to God’s Word

Apostle’s Creed

Prayers of the Church

P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer**

P: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

Offering / Offering Hymn: ELW #186 – Create in Me a Clean Heart



Offering Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through 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: ELW #666 – What Wondrous Love is This
ELW #779 – Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound**

Prayer After Communion

P: Let us pray.

C: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Benediction

P: The God of all grace † bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn: ELW #803 – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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 today in celebration of Max Taubert's birthday by his family.

† Continuing Prayer Concerns: We continue our prayers of comfort to the families of Chuck Schroyer, Bill Sorenson and Janice Harkema. We continue our healing prayers for Kay Dubbelde and Erin (Hellie) Schroeder.

***** 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 (March 10th - March 17th)

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

Tuesday: 8:30am – Ministerial meeting

Wednesday: 8:15am – Pastor's Prayer; 5:30pm – Lenten service; 6:15pm - L.I.F.T./Confirmation & 5th gr First Communion instruction; 7:30pm – Church Council meeting; 12:00pm & 3:00pm- Sunday Service broadcast on Public Access TV (channel 3)

Thursday: 9:30am – Quilting; 1:30-5pm – Food Shelf work day

Friday: 10:00am – Bill Sorenson visitation w/service at 11:00am; 5:00pm – Confirmation students leave for confirmation retreat.

Saturday: 7:00pm – Confirmation youth return from retreat.

Sunday: 9:30am – Worship at the church, live-streamed; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

Noisy Offering for FEBRUARY & MARCH will be collected for: The local Food Shelf

The total amount collected for the local Food Shelf thus far is: **\$383.46**

Don't forget the March Match!!! Double your donation!

Thank you for your support of these important Outreach needs.

March 2024 Offering

Monthly Offering needed: \$21,265.00	
Weekly Offering – March 3 rd	
Lent Wednesday Offering – March 6 th	\$
Weekly Offering – March 10 th	\$
Lent Wednesday Offering – March 13 th	\$
Weekly Offering – March 17 th	\$
Lent Wednesday Offering – March 20 th	\$
Weekly Offering – March 24 th (Palm Sunday)	\$
Maundy Thursday Offering – March 28 th	\$
Good Friday Offering – March 29 th	\$
Weekly Offering – EASTER – March 31 st	\$
MONTH-END TOTAL:	

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!!

Beautiful Life Conference 2024 is hosting a **Teen Night for girls grades 7-12**, and a **Women's Conference** this spring! Both events will feature speaker, writer, and radio-girl, Debbie Griffith! Debbie is an animated entertainer and a passionate encourager, activated by God's grace to help you live freely in His goodness.

The **Women's Conference** will be **Saturday, April 13** from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with doors opening at 8 a.m. In addition to being a great speaker, you will also experience powerful worship, meaningful connections, and even a little shopping! Breakfast and lunch are included in the registration fee. Gluten-free options will be available. Registration is \$50 per person.

Girls Teen Night featuring Debbie Griffith on teen girl friendships, will be **Friday, April 12** from 7-9 p.m. We would like every teen to hear about the importance of being a good friend and having good friends, so we are offering this as a FREE event to girls grades 7-12.

Please register for either event at <https://arcluv.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2150113> or call the church office at (507) 283-8600. Pre-registration is REQUIRED by April 1. NO tickets available at the door. Both events will be held at American Reformed Church, 304 N Fairview Drive, Luverne, MN.

Pipestone Women's Connection cordially invites you to a luncheon at the Christian Reformed Church, 800 2nd Ave. S.E., Pipestone on **Monday, March 18th, 2024.**

\$10 (includes tax & tip) * 12:00 p.m. – 1:30

First time guest tickets are complimentary.

FEATURE: "Meinders Community Library Services"

Librarian Jody Wacker will share about the services available at the library and how the remodeling project is progressing.

SPEAKER: Delaine Shay, Sioux Falls, SD

Title: "Finding Joy in New Beginnings"

Author Delaine Shay will share how she was able to overcome the pain of her past tragedies and find true joy in a new life.

Reservations for lunch and complimentary childcare by **Thursday, March 14th**, please.

Please call * Rosie: 605-201-6484 * Marian: 507-820-1272 * Susan: 507-920-6675

CANCELLATIONS ARE NECESSARY BY **SUNDAY**, March 17th.



40 Days of Lent/40 Personal Care Kits Project

Items Needed are:

- 1 new bath-sized towel
- 2 bath-sized bars of soap (4-5 oz) any brand, in original wrapping
- 1 adult-sized toothbrush (in original packaging, multi-packs are accepted)



- 1 sturdy, wide-tooth comb



Place items in the purple collection tote in the Narthex!!

Important Upcoming Dates & Events for Children & Youth in March

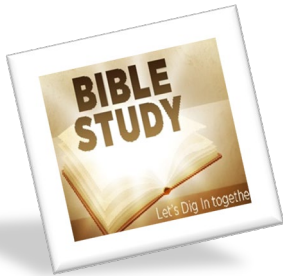
Wednesdays, March 13th & 20th: 6:15pm – 7:15pm - 1st Communion for 5th grade in Youth Room

Wednesday, 13th & 20th: 5:30pm - Lent service, LIFT / Confirmation until 6:45pm.

Thursday, March 27th – 5th gr bread baking (time TBD)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

PALM SUNDAY & CAMP SUNDAY will be on Sunday, March 24th. Camp Shetek will be here to participate in worship and we will also have a Palm Parade for the kids for Palm Sunday!!!



Are you interested in Bible Study topics or some resources for the library? Check out this catalog link for some ideas you would like to see made available here at First Lutheran.

www.VisionVideo.com

RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORSHIPS FOR 2024

If you have signed up for a recurring radio sponsorships in the past, OR if you would like to get signed up for a spot, please stop in to the church office, check the list posted in the Narthex or you can check it online (www.firstlutheranpipestone.org) for the 2024 sponsorship schedule. There are a few spots left. Cost of the Radio

Sponsorship is \$58.00 and is considered a donation so can be used as a tax deduction.

Please contact Lori in the church office if you have any questions or need to make any changes.

Thank you for your continued support of our ministry through the radio sponsorship ministry! 😊

Open Radio Slots for 2024

~~April 28th~~

June 30th

October 20th

May 12th

~~September 1st~~

December 15th

May 19th

October 13th

If you would like to sign up for any of the open radio sponsor slots, please contact Lori in the office or go to our website for the link to get signed up. THANK YOU!!!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MEALS ON WHEELS HOME MEAL DELIVERIES

There are volunteers needed to deliver home delivered meals for Pipestone on Tues, Thurs. and Fri. If there are a couple of people on a route it is only 1 hour from 10-11. If there are businesses who promote volunteering, it would be great to get those, or churches who would like to help with any of those days & times?

All help is appreciated.

If you are interested, call Kristy at 507-822-7654. Thank you so much!



Quilts, Rugs & Cookbooks For Sale

If you are looking for some beautiful homemade gifts, check out the rugs and quilts in the Fellowship Hall. Quilts are \$50 and rugs are priced on their individual tags. Payments can be made to the FLCW and put in the office mailbox.

We also have church cookbooks available for sale too for \$5!!



How can we serve you better or are we doing OK?! Drop us a note and let us know your thoughts/ideas for First Lutheran. We would like to hear from you, so feel free to send us a note in the offering plate!

Wishing you a very blessed week!!

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Do you wish to contribute to the Easter Flower fund this Easter? Donations can be given in memory or in honor of your loved ones. These donations will be used to purchase an appropriate number of Easter flowers to decorate the church, with the remainder of the funds to go towards other church projects. You may also bring in flowers from your own home – just please make sure to put your name on it so you can take it home after Easter.

If you would like to order or make a donation, please complete the following information & return this portion to the church office or the offering plates.

NO LATER than Sunday, March 24th, 2024 (Palm Sunday)

I will bring my own from home (**please bring to the church by Thursday, March 28th, 2024**)

Here is a contribution to the Easter Flower Fund. Amount: \$ _____
(include payment with this form.)

Name: _____ Contact Phone: _____

Contribution is: **in memory of** **in honor of**
(Please print clearly)

Pay to: First Lutheran Church, 401 7th Av SW, Pipestone MN 56164
(Please put "Easter Fund" in the memo line)