

"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 19th, 2023
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Pastor: Pastor Ann Zastrow

Organist: Paul Henriksen

Sound: Brandon Willey

Reader: Lori Ilse

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Facebook: Google First Lutheran 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: #793 – Be Thou My Vision

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 138

Hymn of Praise: Page 139

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hearing God's Word

First Lesson: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

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

Psalms 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: Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

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 **John** (John 9:1-41)

C: Glory to you O Lord.

As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I

do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So, they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore, his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So, for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

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

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: #843 – Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



HOLY BAPTISM of Mikaia Ray Alfson – page 227 (front of hymnal)

Parents: Brandon & Stephanie Alfson

Sponsors: Creighton & Tanya Schroyer & Laura Rudie

Baptismal song: #732 – Borning Cry

Responding to God's Word

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

Offering / Offering Hymn: #692 – We Are an Offering

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.

Lord's Prayer**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: # 661 – I Love to Tell the Story

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 today in remembrance of Tom Benz by his family.

† Continuing Prayer Concerns: We keep Robert Baerenwald in our prayers as he prepares for surgery on April 10th. We also continue to keep Carly Burkard, Lance Oye, Sharon Blom and Jan Harkema in our prayers.

***** 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 19th to March 26th)

Today: 9:30am – Worship w/Holy Baptism (Alfson) at the church live streamed; 3:00pm – First Communion Class (5th gr students and parents); Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

Wednesday: 5:30pm - Lenten service; L.I.F.T. & confirmation will meet after the service; 12:00pm & 3:00pm- Sunday Service broadcast on Public Access TV (channel 3)

Thursday: 9:00am – 1:00pm Pastor Ann hosting Conference meeting – Fireside Room; 9:30am – Quilting

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

March 2023 Offering	
Monthly Income Needed to Operate>>	
Lenten Service (Ash Wednesday) – March 1st	
Weekly Offering – March 5th	
Lenten Service – March 8th	
Weekly Offering – March 12th	

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 FEBRUARY & MARCH will be collected for: Pipestone County Food Shelf

The total amount collected for the Food Shelf to-date is **\$243.30**.

Please note that in March, donations will be MATCHED!!! Checks are accepted and can be made out to the Food Shelf.

Thank you for your support of these important Outreach needs.



Today we welcome to the family here at First Lutheran Church
Mikaia Ray Alfson
Daughter of Brandan & Stephanie Alfson who was born March 10th, 2022.
Welcome to you Miss Mikaia!

First Lutheran is part of the Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations, and therefore we are able to attend the association's annual meeting. It will be Saturday, April 29, 2023, from noon-3 pm, at the college. It includes lunch (free), speakers, a tiny bit of business, and honoring of an alumnus. If there someone who is a graduate of Gustavus, or has/had a family member attending Gustavus who might like to attend this annual meeting, please see Pastor Ann!



2023 SWO Convention
Date: Friday, May 5, 2023
@ Shetek Lutheran Ministries,
14 Keeley Island Drive, Slayton, MN
Theme: Renew, Redo, Rejoice
Theme Verse: Zephaniah 3:17b

Shetek Conference for Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering – Saturday, April 22nd, 2023 in Windom, MN:
From 9:30am to noon, please RSVP for the luncheon by April 15th. Please send your RSVP to: Karen Skarphol – phone: 507-822-0785 OR by email: jkskarp@windomnet.com.

Pipestone County Hospice Grief Counseling

Pipestone County Hospice will be holding a 6-week adult grief support from April 13th to May 18th at the Pipestone County Hospice House. Grief support groups allow individuals mourning the loss of a loved one the chance to come together in a safe environment to discuss their experiences. Mourners are given a space to share his/her thoughts and emotions. The group will discover coping skills, discuss identity changes, and find support. Meetings will be on Thursdays from 7:00pm – 8:00pm. For more information or to register, please call (507) 825-6024.

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.**

The **37th Annual Shetek Quilt Auction Fundraiser** will be held Saturday, June 24 in the Activity Center at Shetek Lutheran Ministries camp. The quilt committee invites churches, individuals, quilting groups and Shetek friends to participate with the donation of quilts, wall hangings, table runners, wood crafts, needlework, theme baskets etc. We will be mailing out forms for you later. If you would like your items to be seen online, please drop them off at the camp by May 1st, 2023.

“ Items can be delivered to the camp office or mailed to the camp.

Shetek Lutheran Ministries - 14 Keeley Island Drive - Slayton MN 56172

	Week	2-4 Grade	4-6 Grade	7-9 Grade	10-12 Grade	Specialty	Cross-Generational	Offsite Opportunities
1	June 11-16		4 th -6 th Grade	Confirmation Camp 7 th -9 th Grade	CIT Training		ABC Camp June 11-12 GPGC June 14-16	
2	June 18-23	<i>4-H Camp</i>						10 th -12 th Flambeau River Ramble
3	June 25-30	3 rd -4 th Mini June 25-27	4 th -6 th Grade	7 th -9 th Grade			GPGC June 28-30	
4	July 5-7	2 nd -3 rd Mini July 5-7	4 th -6 th Mini July 5-7	7 th -9 th Mini July 5-7			GPGC July 5-7	
5	July 9-14				Agape - Ages 14 + July 9-14	SOS Camp July 10-14		
6	July 16-21		4 th -6 th Grade	7 th -9 th Grade			ABC Camp July 16-17 Family Camp July 21-23	
7	July 23-28 Christmas in July	3 rd -4 th Mini July 23-25	4 th -6 th Grade	7 th -9 th Grade			GPGC July 26-28	
8	July 30-August 4	3 rd -4 th Mini July 30-Aug1	4 th -6 th Grade	Confirmation Camp 7 th -9 th Grade			GPGC Aug 2-4	
9	August 6-11		4 th -6 th Grade			Explorer Camp (5 th -8 th Grade)	ABC Camp Aug 6-7 GPGC Aug 9-11	



S H E T E K
LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

2023 Summer Schedule

www.shetek.org

Early Bird registration is due by April 1st. To register online, go to: www.shetek.org

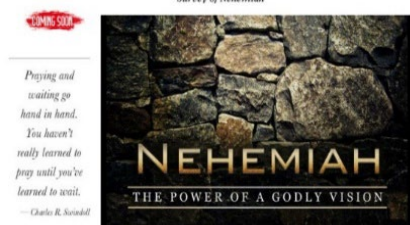
Additional Events at Shetek Lutheran Ministries:

Saturday, March 18 th Saturday, April 22 nd OR Sat., September 30 th	8:30am – 4:00pm	Pre-Marriage Workshops - \$30 includes rolls, coffee and lunch
Saturday, March 25 th	6:00-8:00pm	Shetek Square Dance
Sunday, March 26 th	9:00am – 1:00pm	Sugarbush Pancake Breakfast – free will donation!

CHURCH DIRECTORY 2022

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. Let the office know if you need someone to take your picture for the directory. We can help you with that as well!!





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:
LAST ONE - 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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During the month of March our congregation is joining people of good will from across the state to help alleviate hunger. Minnesota FoodShare's March Campaign is the largest food drive in the state, and congregations like ours are the heart of the campaign.

Individuals in Minnesota accessed food shelves a total of 5,505,100 times in 2022. This was an increase of 1,900,000 visits from 2021. That's a 53% increase.

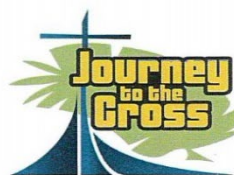
During 2022, the Pipestone County Food Shelf distributed 187,064 pounds of food, representing 143,895 meals, to 6841 individuals. That's a 75% increase over 2021.

This year our congregation will be collecting both food and cash contributions February 27 thru April 9, 2023. Donations made during the March Campaign are important to help the Pipestone County Food Shelf secure additional grant funding from Minnesota FoodShare and help provide nutritious food for those in our community that are in need.

Donations of cash or food can be made directly to:
Pipestone County Food Shelf
223 2nd Street N.W.
Pipestone, MN 56164

ALL LOCAL DONATIONS REMAIN IN PIPESTONE

Journey to the Cross



Three Strands Lutheran Parish is sponsoring Journey to the Cross, an outreach and educational event for our parish congregations and community. This powerful program invites families to experience the road to Calvary and the path to the empty Easter tomb. Through activities based on Scripture, participants experience the joy of Palm Sunday, the disappointment of Judas' betrayal, the devastation of the crucifixion, the jubilation of the resurrection, and so much more.

Small groups of people will walk to 13 sites for activities that relate to the Passion event. At each station, they will engage their senses will be engaged through an experience-focused activity and interaction with biblical characters that teach the biblical Passion account. Site activities include:

- Tasting Passover foods and learning about the Lord's Supper.
- Praying with an olive garden owner who tells about the Garden of Gethsemane.
- Touching a crown of thorns and seeing a whip to imagine the true pain of Jesus' trials and suffering.
- Listening to an angel and Mary, wife of Clopas, report about Jesus' resurrection.
- and much more.

Free! Sunday, March 26th
2:00 to 4:00 pm
Trinity Lutheran Church
401 Wall St. E., Jasper, MN. **Free!**

Three Strands Lutheran Parish is a joint parish formed by Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Pipestone, St. John's Lutheran Church in Trosky, and Trinity Lutheran Church in Jasper, Minnesota. For more information check our website threestrandsparish.com or pastormoeller@threestrandsparish.com

DAILY INSPIRATION:

Faith is unseen but felt, faith is strength when we feel we have none, faith is hope when all seems lost.

Return portion below ↓-----↓ Return portion below



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, April 2nd, 2022 (Palm Sunday)

- ☐ I will bring my own from home (**please bring to the church by Thursday, April 6th, 2023**)
- ☐ 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)
