

"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.

Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 26th, 2023
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Pastor: Pastor Ann Zastrow

Organist: Paul Henriksen

Sound: Mike Straw

Reader: Gen Velde

CONTACT: 401 7th Ave SW,
Pipestone, MN 56164 507.825.5837

Email:

office @firstlutheranpipestone.org

Website:

www.firstlutheranpipestone.org

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: #758 – You Are the Way

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: Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, 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: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." So, I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus, says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

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

Psalm 130 (please read responsively)

R: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;

C: O LORD, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

R: If you were to keep watch over sins, O LORD, who could stand?

C: Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.

R: I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

C: My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.

R: O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

C: For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Second Lesson: Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason, the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in 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 11:1-54)

C: Glory to you O Lord.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So, the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am

going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So, the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So, they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what he had done. So, the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the council, and said, "What are we to do? This man is performing many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and destroy both our holy place and our nation." But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all! You do not understand that it is better for you to have one man die for the people than to have the whole nation destroyed." He did not say this on his own, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus was about to die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but to gather into one the dispersed children of God. So, from that day on they planned to put him to death. Jesus therefore no longer walked about openly among the Jews but went from there to a town called Ephraim in the region near the wilderness; and he remained there with the disciples.

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

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: #608 – Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

Responding to God's Word

Apostle's Creed

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: # 452 – Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death (vs 1, 2, 4 & 5)

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 honor of my daughter, Kaitlyn's birthday and in remembrance of my grandmother, Theresa Benz by Lori Ilse.

† 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 26th to April 2nd)

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

Tuesday: 9:30am – FLCW Group Circle

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)

Sunday: 9:30am PALM SUNDAY Worship w/Holy Communion 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 1 st	
Weekly Offering – March 5 th	

Lenten Service – March 8 th	
Weekly Offering – March 12 th	
Lenten Service – March 15 th	
Weekly Offering – March 19 th	

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 \$273.10.

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.



Hope Haven, Inc. will host their Annual Benefit Auction on Friday, March 31st at Te Slaa Trucking in Hull, IA (corner of Hwys 75 & 18). Help support individuals with disabilities through this exciting evening of fun and fellowship. The schedule: 4:30 PM doors open, 5:00 PM food booth opens, and 5:30 PM choose from over 450 items in the live auction.. Visit hopehaven.org/events to see a preview catalog of items. The whole family is invited to this community fundraiser!

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.

DON'T FORGET!!! ~ 40 Days of Lent/40 Personal Care Kits

Since we did such a great job last year with the Personal Care Kit project during Lent, it is back for 2023!

A box has been placed in the Narthex for the needed items. The kits will be assembled after Easter and taken to the SW MN Synodical Convention in May for shipment to LWR.

Needed items 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
- 1 metal nail clipper (we have plenty of these already!)

Last year the 40 kits goal turned into 60 kits! Let's do that or better this year. Thanks for your help with this project.

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!!

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Additional information</i>
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		4th-6th Grade	Confirmation Camp 7th-9th Grade	CIT Training		ABC Camp June 11-12 GPGC June 14-16	
2	June 18-23	4-H Camp						10th-12th Flambeau River Ramble
3	June 25-30	3 rd -4 th Mini June 25-27	4th-6th Grade	7th-9th Grade			GPGC June 28-30	
4	July 5-7	2 nd -3 rd Mini July 5-7	4th-6th Mini July 5-7	7th-9th 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		4th-6th Grade	7th-9th 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	4th-6th Grade	7th-9th Grade			GPGC July 26-28	
8	July 30-August 4	3 rd -4 th Mini July 30-Aug1	4th-6th Grade	Confirmation Camp 7th-9th Grade			GPGC Aug 2-4	
9	August 6-11		4th-6th Grade			Explorer Camp (5th-8th Grade)	ABC Camp Aug 6-7 GPGC Aug 9-11	



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:

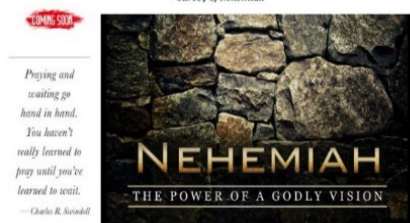
Saturday, April 22 nd OR Sat., September 30 th	8:30am – 4:00pm	Pre-Marriage Workshops - \$30 includes rolls, coffee and lunch
TODAY - March 26 th	9:00am – 1:00pm	Sugarbush Pancake Breakfast – free will donation!

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!!



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



Only one session remains!
All are welcome to join in on our book study!
The FINAL date for the Book Study will be as follows right after worship: Sunday, 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.

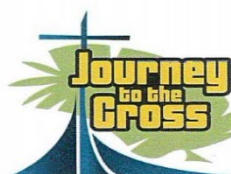
Individuals in Minnesota accessed food shelves a total of 5,505,100 times in 2022. This was an increase of 1,900,000 visits from 2021. That's a 53% increase.

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 **Free!**
Trinity Lutheran Church
401 Wall St. E., Jasper, MN.

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:

From the least to the greatest, God freely gives His forgiveness to all who believe in Christ.

Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me.

~Ephesians 3:8

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)
