

"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.

**First Sunday of Advent
November 26th, 2023
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER**

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Pastor: Pastor Ann Zastrow

Organist: Paul Henriksen

Sound: Jason Weber

Reader: Nancy Johnson

Acolyte: ??

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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: ELW Hymn #436 –
Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying**

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 148

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hearing God's Word

First Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself, we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

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

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19 (please read responsively)

R: Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

C: In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

R: Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

C: O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?

R: You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

C: You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

R: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

C: Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.

R: And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

C: Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Children's Sermon

Lighting of the Advent Candle – the Prophecy Candle

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

The **Holy Gospel** is taken from **Mark** (Mark 13:24-37)

C: Glory to you O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know

when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW Hymn #244 – Rejoice, Rejoice Believers

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 Hymn #257 –
O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs 1 - 2)**



Offering Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

Benediction

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

Sending Hymn: ELW Hymn #246 – Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!

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 memory of Virginia Spicer by Gene Spicer.

† Continuing Prayer Concerns: We pray for Sheila Horton and Carol Foss as they recover from surgery, and we continue prayers for Erin (Hellie) Schroeder and Jan Harkema.

***** 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 (November 26th – December 3rd)

Today (1st Sunday of Advent): 9:30am Worship at the church, live-streamed; Advent Bible Study following worship;
Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

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

Thursday: 9:30 – Quilting (last one of 2023)

Saturday: Equipping Congregations

Sunday: 9:30am – Worship at the church, live-streamed; Advent Bible Study following worship

November 2023 Offering	
Monthly Income Needed to Operate>>	\$17,800.00
Weekly Offering – November 5th	
Weekly Offering – November 12th	
Weekly Offering – November 19th	

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 barcodes on the yellow pew tags or signs in the Narthex.

Noisy Offering for November is being collected for: Kiwanis (for toys, food and winter gear as needed).

The total amount collected was: **\$27.80**

Thank you for your support of these important Outreach needs.

Mark Your calendar Items:

Important Upcoming Dates & Events for Children & Youth in November:

Wednesday, November 29th: 6:15pm - LIFT / Confirmation resumes

Wednesday, December 6th: 6:15pm - LIFT / Confirmation

Wednesday, December 13th: 6:15pm - LIFT / Confirmation

Would you like to be more involved in your church? Please consider being on one of several church committees here at First Lutheran. It is a great way to give input and to help your church grow for future generations. New eyes make for new ideas and new beginnings! Elections will be held in January 2024. Please contact the church office if you are interested.



The Al Opland Singers will present their Christmas show "Finding The Hope Of Christmas" on November 30, December 1 and 2 at 7:30pm and December 3 at 2:00pm at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center. This show will take you on a journey of commercial Christmas and Santa Claus at the beginning, to finding the true Reason we celebrate Christmas, the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for students.



F.L.C.W Fundraiser



Are you looking for some Christmas gifts, birthday gifts, shower or wedding gifts? Well, check out the stuff at

'That's My Pan' website for the FLCW fundraiser. You can browse the products, change the colors, etc. and you can see what it will look like. It is all online but if you need some help, you can stop into the church office or contact Kristy Henriksen for assistance! It's pretty cool so check it out!!!!!! Orders are by TOMORROW, NOVEMBER 27TH!!

Go to: www.thatsmypan.biz/flcw OR scan the QR code.



Equipping Congregations Day

Saturday, December 2nd, 2023, at Vinje Lutheran Church in Willmar, MN

8:30am – 3:00pm

ALL ARE WELCOME:

~Congregation members
~Council Officers
~Christian Educators

~Worship & Youth Leaders
~Pastors
~ EVERYONE!

Childcare available

Go to: [Registration Open - Equipping Congregations Day | Southwestern Minnesota Synod ELCA \(swmnelca.org\)](http://Registration Open - Equipping Congregations Day | Southwestern Minnesota Synod ELCA (swmnelca.org))
go to the NEWS tab.

****Sunday, December 3rd, 2023 @5pm - Shetek Lutheran Ministries Scandinavian Dinner****

All you can eat buffet for \$20 with Lutefisk, meatballs, lefse & more!!

Advanced paid registrations were due by November 27th. Here's how you can register:

~Go to www.shetek.org

~email: camp@shetek.org

~call: 507-763-3657



PIPESTONE COUNTY CHRISTMAS CARE

Several groups in the Pipestone Community are working together to distribute new toys for local children ages 12 & under as well as holiday meal totes for individuals, families and seniors in financial need. If you would like to help by donating a new toy, please bring one in and put it in the new toy collection box in the Narthex.

FINAL Pick up will be on Tuesday, December 5th, 2023.

THANK YOU in advance for your support of others in our community!!



We "know" the story of Jesus' birth from children's Christmas programs. But do we really know what scripture says? How many of the birth narratives contain angels? Would the wise men have met the shepherds? Where did Mary and Joseph live? How did they, and how do we, know that Jesus is really the Messiah? To find out the answers to these and other questions, come to a Bible Study after worship on Sundays: November 26, December 3, December 10, and December 17! If you can't make all of the sessions, that's okay! Bring your Bible, your questions, your coffee and treats, and join us in the Fireside Room!

**Join us for Fellowship in the Narthex following worship!!
If you would like to bring goodies to pass or to help serve, sign-up sheets are in the Narthex also!**



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. ***We just received a few more rugs so check them out. We won't be getting more until AFTER Christmas!!*** Payments can be made to the FLCW and put in the office mailbox.

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



CHURCH DIRECTORY

If you have any pictures of church events that you have taken and that you would like to share and have put in the church directory, please bring them by the church office, send them via email or you can bring them in on a USB. This has been a one-person project so any pictures you have to share would be GREATLY appreciated!!



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST A PRINTED COPY OF THE CHURCH DIRECTORY, PLEASE

CONTACT Lori IN THE CHURCH OFFICE BY PHONE OR BY LEAVING A MESSAGE IN THE OFFERING PLATE.

I hope to have printed directories done by December. Thank You!!

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Daily Inspiration:

Do not let any set of circumstances intimidate you. The more challenging your day; the more of My Power I place at your disposal.

"Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always."

~Psalm 105:4