

"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 **Sunday, April 6th, 2025** **GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER**

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Pastor: Pastor Ann Zastrow

Organist: Paul Henriksen

Sound: Neil Johnson

Readers: Wielenberg family

Acolyte: Kelsey Sneller

Communion Assistant: Ingrid Wielenberg

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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 #836 – Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

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.

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 138

Hymn of Praise: pg 140

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, 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: Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

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

Psalm 126 (please read responsively)

R: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

C: Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

R: The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

C: Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses of the Negeb.

R: Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

C: Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had; these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow, I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

Children's Time

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

The **Holy Gospel** is taken from **John 12:1-8**

C: Glory to you O Lord.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared

about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW #712 – Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

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: ELW #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.



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 #522 – As We Gather at Your Table

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.

Blessing

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

Sending Hymn: ELW #551 – The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

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 memory of Jim Spicer by Gene Spicer.

† Continuing Prayer Concerns:

We continue to give prayers of healing to Carol Veen, Pastor Ann, Joyce Kunz, Diane Leslie, JoAnn Straw and Kay Dubbelde.

***** 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 (April 6th – April 13th, 2025)

Today: 9:30am – Worship, w/Holy Communion, live-streamed; Gr 5 First Communion instruction – 4-7pm; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

Monday: Office closed – 1:00-4pm

Tuesday: 8:30am – Ministerial meeting; 1:30pm – Food Shelf mtg in Fireside Room

Wednesday: 8:15am – Pastor's Prayer; 6:15-6:45pm –Lent service, 6:45-7:15pm - LIFT & Confirmation; 7:30pm – Church Council

Thursday: 9:30am – Quilting; 1:30pm – FLC work at Food Shelf

Saturday: 8:00am - WELCA Spring Conference in Dovry, MN

Sunday (PALM SUNDAY): 9:30am – Worship, w/Holy Communion, live-streamed; Palm Parade & ALL LIFT kids sing; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

March 2025 Offering	
Monthly Offering needed:	\$21,150.00
Weekly Offering – March 2nd	
Lent Offering – March 9th Ash Wednesday	
Weekly Offering – March 9th	
Lent Offering – March 12th	
Weekly Offering – March 16th	
Lent Offering – March 19th	
Weekly Offering – March 23rd	
Lent Offering – March 26th	
Weekly Offering – March 30th	

	MONTH TOTAL:	
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<p>Needed per week:</p> <p>4-week month = \$5,288/week</p> <p>5-week month = \$4,230/week</p>

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!!

Giving Statements for the 1st Quarter of 2025 are available in the Narthex! Please make sure to grab yours TODAY!!!



DID YOU KNOW – if you are a Thrivent member: You may be earning Thrivent Choice Dollars that can be designated to your church or a designation of your choosing? Every little bit counts and so far this year, we have gained about \$300 from members who have designated their Thrivent Choice Dollars to First Lutheran!!
 Log in to **thrivent.com** and scroll to the bottom of the Account Overview page to see your available Choice Dollars®. You can choose where you would like your Choice Dollars to go. Works very much like a rewards program so check out your options today!!!

Noisy Offering for FEBRUARY/MARCH 2025 was being collected for:
The Pipestone County Food Shelf

The total amount collected was: **\$277.36.**
Noisy Offering for April & May will go to Lutheran Disaster Response.
THANK YOU for your support of these important Outreach needs.



Communion Assistants, Lesson Readers and Acolytes are needed!!!
 If you are able to help us out, please sign up on the clipboard in the Narthex OR get signed up online by using the QR code below.



PLEASE MAKE A POINT TO FILL OUT A TIME AND TALENT SURVEY!!! There are copies on the table in the Narthex, on the back of this bulletin or you can find it on our website as well as a link on our Facebook page!
DEADLINE BY PALM SUNDAY!!!!



First Lutheran is now on Instagram! We will do our best to keep things posted and updated as much as possible. We now have 3 areas of social media for you to get info from:

1. Website: www.firstlutheranpipestone.org
2. Facebook: First Lutheran Church ELCA
3. Instagram: flcoff.pipe

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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, April 13th, 2025 (Palm Sunday)

- ☐ I will bring my own from home (**please bring to the church by Thursday, April 17th, 2025**)
- ☐ 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)