

"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.

**Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 7th, 2025
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER**

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Pastor: Pastor Ann Zastrow

Organist: Paul Henriksen

Sound: Ryan Wielenberg

Reader: Debbie Reinert

Acolyte: .

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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 #256 – Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Confession and Forgiveness

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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive our sins,

known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **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.

(NEW Liturgy) Kyrie: pg 184

Hymn of Praise: pg 187

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; 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: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. Here ends the First Lesson. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7; 18-19 (please read responsively)

R: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

C: that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;

R: that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

C: Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

R: May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

C: Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.

R: In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

C: Blessed are you, Lord God, the God of Israel; you alone do wondrous deeds!

R: And blessed be your glorious name forever, and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen

Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Here ends the Second Lesson. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children's Time / Advent Candle (Love)

Advent Hymn: ACS #905: We Are Waiting for Jesus (vs 1) - music is on the screen

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

The **Holy Gospel** is taken from **Matthew 3:1-12**

C: Glory to you O Lord.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW #249 – On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry

Responding to God’s Word

Apostle’s Creed

Prayers of the Church

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Offering Hymn: ELW #253 – He Came Down

Offering Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Holy God, as we offer our gifts today, we do so with hearts that long for your renewal. Just as John the Baptist called us to prepare the way of the Lord, we repent of the ways where we have failed to live faithfully. May these offerings be an outward sign of our desire to turn our hearts toward you, to bear good fruit, and to serve you with integrity. 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 Songs: ELW #254 – Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

ELW #715 – Christ, Be Our Light

Prayer After Communion

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.

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: ELW #264 – Prepare the Royal Highway

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the good news. **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 in memory of Louie Muller by Darlene Muller and family.

† Continuing Prayer Concerns:

We keep in our prayers Sarah Meyer and her nephew, Jacob Meyer, Mildred Carstensen, Kristy Henriksen, Curt Ilse, Joyce Kunz, 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 (December 7th – December 14th, 2025)

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

Tuesday: 8:30am – Ministerial meeting

Wednesday: 8:15am – Pastor's Prayer (hosting); 6:15pm – Contemporary Service; 6:45-7:15pm – LIFT/Confirmation; 7:30pm – Church Council meeting.

Saturday: 1:00-3:00pm – Kaffi-Ti

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

November 2025 Offering

Monthly Offering needed:	\$21,150.00	
Weekly Offering – November 2 nd		
Weekly Offering – November 9 th		
Weekly Offering – November 16 th		
Weekly Offering – November 23 rd		
Weekly Offering – November 30 th		
MONTH TOTAL:		

Needed per week:

4-week month = \$5,288/week

5-week month = \$4,230/week

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!!

Noisy Offering for November & December 2025 is being collected for:

Youth Project (Christmas Toy drive)

The total amount collected was: \$136.09

THANK YOU for your support of these important Outreach needs.



For the Youth project, they are also collecting the following items as suggested through the SW Crisis Center. Items may be placed in the box in the Narthex. Gift Cards can be placed in the office mailbox for safe keeping. Any additional items will be purchased with the Noisy offering funds that are raised for the FLC Youth annual shopping trip:

Gift Cards for Gas & Groceries

- local grocery stores or gas stations

Winter Items

- Hats
- Mittens
- Gloves

Gifts for Older Kids (Tweens & Teens)

- LEGO sets
- Water bottles
- Basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, volleyballs
- Nail & makeup items
- Board games
- Headphones

BELL TOWER REPAIR ASSISTANCE

The Property and Management Committee is looking for donations to help with fixing the bell tower water leakage problem. Donations can be made to First Lutheran Church by designating BELL TOWER on memo line. Cost is estimated to cost \$23,000+. Repairs expected to begin mid-November.

Bell Tower Fund balance as of
12/1/2025:

THANK YOU to all who have
donated!!!

KAPFI-TI
 Saturday, December 13th, 2025
 1:00 - 3:00p.m.



***Join us in the
 afternoon!***

at First Lutheran Church
 401 7th Avenue SW
 in Pipestone

SCANDINAVIAN SPECIALTIES:

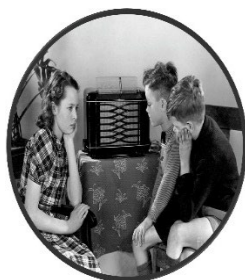
Rosettes, Krumkaka, Fruit Suppe,
 Sandbakkels and Lefse
 OTHER BAKED ITEMS...
 American Christmas goodies!



Check out our other items:
 Quilts, Denim Rugs & Cookbooks

FEATURING Christmas cranberry cake with
 butter sauce!

*Come to shop, sit & enjoy Scandinavian treats,
 coffee & conversation!*



Radio Sponsorships for 2026 are posted on the bulletin board by the office. If you have a recurring yearly sponsorship, please let the office know if you would like to change the date as listed on the schedule. There are **11 open slots** so if you would like to get signed up for one, please add your name to one of the open slots or scan the QR code>>.

THANK YOU all who give to the radio sponsorship – it is a GREAT way to share the ministry here at First Lutheran!!



Pipestone Women's Connection cordially invites you to a luncheon at the Christian Reformed Church,
 Pipestone on **Monday December 8, 2025.**

\$10 (includes tax) *12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

First time guest tickets are complimentary.

FEATURE: Val Klumper, Linda Ewing and Keith Maine will provide a mini concert of Christmas music.

SPEAKER: Heidi Studer Elder of Dent, MN "The Greatest gift of All". Heidi will illustrate the elements of gift giving as she shares about the most precious and greatest gift ever given to mankind.

Please call DEB: 507-820-1456 * MARION: 507-820-1272 * SUSAN: 507-920-6675

CANCELLATIONS ARE NECESSARY BY SUNDAY, December 7.



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 you can sign up online by using the QR code to the left <<<.



Instagram

FOLLOW US ON
facebook

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



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

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 plate or go online to www.firstlutheranpipestone.org to print one online or email to the church.

NO LATER than Sunday, December 14th, 2025

- ☐ I will bring my own from home (**please bring to the church by Friday, December 19th, 2025**)
- ☐ Here is a contribution to the Poinsettia Fund. Amount: \$ _____
(Please include payment with this form.)

Name: _____ Contact Phone: _____

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