

"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.

**15th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 6th, 2026
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER**

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Worship Leader: Pastor Margo Martens

Music: SOS Music Service – iPad, Lori Ilse

Sound: Neil Johnson

Reader: Lori Ilse

Acolyte: .

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Facebook: Google First Lutheran Church
Pipestone FB & click the FB link on the webpage.



***Scattering seeds of love,
worship & service***

Welcome/Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

(silence for personal reflection)

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only

forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW #731 – Earth and All Stars

Greeting

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 (please speak responses)

Hymn of Praise: pg 139 – Glory to God (begin singing when music begins)

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Hearing God's Word

First Lesson: Ezekiel 33:7-11

So, you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus, you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 119:33-40 (please read responsively)

R: Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.

C: Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching; I shall keep it with all my heart.

R: Lead me in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.

C: Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.

R: Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood; give me life in your way.

C: Fulfill your promise to your servant, which is for those who fear you.

R: Turn away the reproach that I dread, because your judgments are good.

C: Behold, I long for your commandments; by your righteousness enliven me.

Second Lesson: Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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 **Matthew 18:15-20**

C: Glory to you O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

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

Children's Time

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW #807 - Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Apostle's Creed

Responding to God's Word

Prayers of the Church

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great

P: Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen

Offering Hymn: ELW #839 – Now Thank We All Our God (vs 1 & 3)

Offering Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Faithful God, your Word speaks truth into our lives and calls us into joyful community. As we offer our gifts, may your love shine through our giving. Increase our commitment to share the Gospel with gladness and praise. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

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Lord's Prayer

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: ELW #836 – Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

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 in memory of Joe Douty by Bob & Mieke Douty.

† Continuing Prayer Concerns:

We give our healing prayers to: Randy Claussen, Mavis Pierson, Paul Cunningham (brother-in-law of Robert & Teri Petersen), Pastor Mary Sacco, Mary Lou Bjugan, Vera Newgard, Maverick & Carly Burkard, 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. Please feel free to send a card of encouragement to anyone listed above. Addresses are posted on the Caring Cards sheet hanging on the south post in the Narthex. THANK YOU in advance!!**

This Week's Schedule (September 6th – September 13th, 2026)

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

Monday: Office Closed – Labor Day

Wednesday: 6:00pm – LIFT teachers meet; 7:30pm – Church Council meeting

Thursday: 9:30am - Quilting

Sunday: 9:30am – Worship w/Kristen Brockberg, live-streamed, LIFT Kick-Off Event following worship; Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

August 2026 Offering	
Monthly Offering needed:	\$17,506.00
Weekly Offering – August 2 nd	
Weekly Offering – August 9 th	
Weekly Offering – August 16 th	
Weekly Offering – August 23 rd	
Weekly Offering – August 30 th	
MONTH TOTAL:	
Needed per week:	
4-week month = \$4,377/week	5-week month = \$3,502/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 August 2026 was collected for:

Pipestone United Way

The total amount collected was: **\$76.79**

THANK YOU for your support of these important Outreach needs.



**September Noisy Offering will go to The Banquet in Sioux Falls
(First Lutheran will be serving there on Wednesday, September 30th.)**

A little more about The Banquet: The Banquet meal ministry began in 1985 with a simple mission — to provide nourishment and fellowship for those in need. What started with just one meal per week has grown into a thriving program that now serves 16 meals every week across two locations in Sioux Falls.

First Lutheran is very proud to be able to help serve & provide meals for families at the Banquet for so many years!

The FLCW ladies have assembled 113 school kits from supplies that were brought in!!

THANK YOU to all who have donated!! You have made some school kids' start to their school year amazing!!!



September 2026 Worship Leaders:

- † TODAY, September 6th – Pastor Margo Martens
- † Sunday, September 13th – Kristen Brockberg
- † Sunday, September 20th – Pastor Mark Jamison (w/Holy Communion & New Members)
- † Sunday, September 27th – Ingrid Wielenberg



- **Sunday, September 13th:** LIFT Kick-Off - more details to come
(we are also looking for a few more teachers for LIFT as well as a music person for our LIFT kids)
- **Wednesday, September 16th:** Confirmation for students in grades 6 to 8 will meet – more details to come
 - **Sunday, September 20th:** New Member Sunday – see info below
- **Wednesday, September 30th:** First Lutheran to help serve at the Banquet in Sioux Falls – ***we will need at least 4 meal preppers during the day – contact the church office if you are able to help with the meal prep.***
Youth & chaperones will be bussed down to serve after school. Details to come!



NEW MEMBER SUNDAY – Sunday, September 20th, 2026!!

We are so excited to officially welcome our newest members to First Lutheran!! Letters have been sent out to those who have expressed an interest in joining our family here at FLC. If you are not yet a member and would like to join, please contact Lori in the office so we can get the information to you right away.

Please remember – ALL ARE WELCOME and we are just so thankful to have each and every one of you here!!

We NEED Communion Assistants, Lesson Readers and Acolytes!!!

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 <<<.

You can also look to see the schedule for ushers – just by scanning the QR code with your phone!

Many hands make for light work – please consider being one of the many hands!!!!





Blood Drive
Pipestone Community
First Lutheran Church

Social Hall
401 7th Ave SW
Pipestone, MN 56164

Tuesday, September 15, 2026
12:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: PipestoneMN to schedule an appointment.



The American Red Cross and Hello Kitty are releasing exclusive NEW merch! Come give blood Sept. 1-20 for a super-cute Red Cross x Hello Kitty collectible item, while supplies last!



Congregation Input Box

Please know that we need EVERYONE to be involved in some way in the search for a new pastor. So, we have placed a lovely box (WHITE) in the Narthex. Using the scratch paper in the pews (paper also available by the box), please let us know a few things:

- Likes/Dislikes of pastors you have heard preach (here or elsewhere, no names please)
 - List top 3 things you feel are important in a church.
 - Traits of a good pastor (what you feel are good traits).
 - Any other things you feel may be helpful.

We do not want any names, we just ask for your honesty in letting us know your needs as a person of faith, what you would like to see for our younger members in their faith journey, etc. It is very important to keep an open mind and not look at the here and now, but what we want to see down the road. We want to do what we can to ensure that First Lutheran is here for future generations – we need your help, we need your input.

***Please understand that there is no way to possibly fill everyone's needs and wants but we want to get a good idea of where to begin. THANK YOU!!!*

Thank you to those who have already submitted notes! **Keep the input coming** - Please encourage others to do the same!!!

Pipestone Women's Connection cordially invites you to a luncheon at the Christian Reformed Church, Pipestone on **Monday, September 21, 2026**

\$10.00 (includes tax) - 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm (First time guest tickets are complimentary.)

FEATURE: JD Rieck Plumbing - Nichole Rieck will talk about the services they offer.

SPEAKER: "Joy in the Journey"

Judie Colyer at Ankeny, IA

Judie shares how to experience JOY in the middle of life's challenging journey.

Reservations for lunch and complimentary childcare by Thursday, September 17th.

Please call *Deb: 507-820-1456 * Marian: 507-820-1272 * Susan: 507-920-6675

CANCELLATIONS ARE NECESSARY BY SUNDAY, September 20.

Words of Encouragement

If our ears of faith are open, our hearts will be open as well.
Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.
~Psalm 95:7-8

Be ready to share your love and faith with others today.
Stand firm...with our feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.
~Ephesians 6:14-15

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LIFT Links:

Registration: <https://forms.gle/5sSqAPNkEoB73gQn6>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/firstluthlift>

