

"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.

2nd Sunday of Advent
December 4th, 2022
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Ministers:

Members of First Lutheran Church

Pastor: Pastor Ann Zastrow

Organist: Paul Henriksen

Sound: Neil Johnson

Reader: Tami Stevens

Acolyte: Zack Sneller

Advent Candle/Readers:

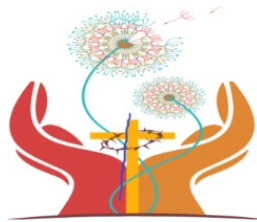
Ryan & Ingrid Wielenberg family

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

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Hymn #239: Hark the Glad Sound (vs 2)

(please sing as lighters/readers come up as well as return to their seats)

Call to Worship:

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God. **C: Amen.**

Opening Hymn: #254 – Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

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 147

Hymn of Praise: Page 149

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 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

Psalm 146:5-10 (please read responsively)

R: Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,

C: whose hope is in the LORD their God;

R: who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;

C: who keeps promises forever;

R: who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.

C: The LORD sets the captive free.

R: The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

C: the LORD loves the righteous.

R: The LORD cares for the stranger;

C: the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

R: The LORD shall reign forever,

C: your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Second Lesson: James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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** (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 the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. 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; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; 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.**

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: #264 – Prepare the Royal Highway

Responding to God’s Word

Apostles’ Creed

Prayers of the Church

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer

Offering / Offering Hymn: #715 – Christ Be Our Light (vs 5)

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.

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: #618 – Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer

#465 – As the Grain of Wheat

#477 – I Received the Living God

Prayer After Communion

P: Let us pray,

C: God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

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: #246 – Hark A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding (vs 1,3,4,5)

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.

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. Apple juice and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

****Please note that beginning January 1st, 2023, communion will be on the 1st and 2nd Sunday of each month.**

The Worship Radio Broadcast today is sponsored in memory of Virginia Spicer by Gene Spicer and family.

† Continuing Prayer Concerns: Please keep Renae & Les Kramer in your thoughts and prayers. Renae's mother passed away Tuesday afternoon. (Renae was the church office manager until 2016). Continued prayers for Janice Harkema she continues to deal with health issues.

***** 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. Please email the church office@firstlutheranpipestone.org or call 825-5837 when someone is no longer needed to be on the prayer concerns list.**

This Week's Schedule (Dec.4th to Dec. 11th)

Today: 9:30am – Worship/Holy Communion at the church & live streamed. Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

Wednesday: 6:15pm – L.I.F.T.; 7:00pm – Committee meetings; 12pm & 5:00pm - Sunday Service broadcast on Public Access TV (channel 3)

Saturday – 9:00am – 11:00am – Annual Kaffi-Ti

Sunday: 9:30am Worship/Holy Communion at the church & live streamed. Bible Study after worship. Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

November 2022 Offering	

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 for DECEMBER will be collected for: God's Barnyard

The total amount collected in November for World Hunger was \$121.90.

Thank you for your support of these important Outreach needs.

Pipestone Women's Connection cordially invites you to a luncheon at the Christian Reformed Church, 800 2nd Ave. S.E., Pipestone on **Monday, December 12**, 2022, 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm.

\$10 (includes tax & tip) *First time guest tickets are complimentary.

FEATURE: We'll get a 'sneak peek' at the next Arts & Mentoring Project led by Reggie Gorter and Brenna Jones! Some of the cast will present a few of their best songs from "Scrooge, The Musical", which is coming to the Performing Arts Center December 16-18.

SPEAKER: Cynthia Shepperd, Egan, SD.

Title: "A Christmas Heart" with humor and heart, Cynthia will give us something to think about as we anticipate the Christmas holiday.

Reservations for lunch and complimentary childcare by **THURSDAY, December 8th** please.

Please call Rosie: 605-201-6484; Marian: 507-820-1272; Susan: 507-920-6675

Cancellations are necessary by Sunday, December 11th.

Children's Christmas Program 2022

Mark your calendar to come join us for the Children's Christmas Program on Sunday, December 18th at 9:30am!



Christmas Services

First Lutheran will have one service on Christmas Eve (Saturday) at 4:00pm with Communion and we will have another service Sunday morning at the normal worship time (with NO communion).

Do you have some good, gently used coats? First Lutheran is collecting winter coats for Bomgaars. Boxes are available in the Narthex. Deadline for the coats is December 30th.

Don't forget the First Lutheran's **Annual Kaffi-Ti** on Saturday, December 10th from 9:00am – 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall. We are in need of more workers/helpers and baked goods!!

Sign-up sheets are available in the narthex, or you can contact the church office to let us know what you would like to do to help make our Kaffi-Ti a success.

FLCW CHRISTMAS QUILT RAFFLE!!

Tickets are on sale for the BEAUTIFUL Christmas quilt that is on display in the Narthex!!!

\$2 per ticket; 3 for \$5.00 OR 6 for \$10.00. The winning ticket will be drawn at the end of Kaffi-Ti on December 11th.
GET A TICKET - YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!!

HELP WANTED!!! We are looking for a Treasurer for First Lutheran Church. Knowledge of QuickBooks would be beneficial. Please contact the church office or Nancy Johnson if interested.

We are looking for **COMMUNION SET-UP HELPERS!!!**

The Communion committee is in need of a couple more volunteers. Communion set-up helpers are responsible to set up communion 1-2 months a year. Training will be provided. If you are willing to help, please contact Gail Barduson at 215-0628.

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Upcoming Events – mark your calendars!!

Date	Event	Additional information
December 27	*Winter Fun Day	For grades 3rd thru 6th – snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, indoor activities, crafts, etc. Register by Dec. 16th.
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.**

CHURCH DIRECTORY 2022

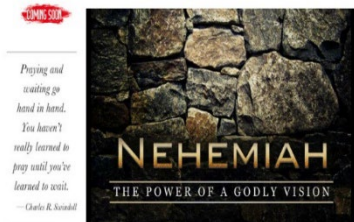
All members should have received an email or a letter in the mail regarding log-in information as well as how to get your picture and family information updated in the online church directory. Information is also available on our website so make sure to check that out. We would love to have everyone’s picture included in the directory so that Pastor Ann can get to know your face as well as your name!



Parsonage Project:

We are so thankful to have Pastor Ann all settled into our parsonage!! Please consider donating toward the \$80,000 project (this is also a tax-deductible donation). Identify your check as going toward the **parsonage project**. We are lucky to be debt free as a church and would like to pay for the remodel entirely through generous donations from our members and from funds available in accounts held within the church. Having an updated home for our Pastor supports our ministry in the community. Please consider contributing to our mission in this way. The total amount donated to this date is **\$69,470.00.** *Thank you for your support of this mission.*

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



All are welcome to join in on our book study!
Contact the church office to sign up or to order a book.
Books can also be purchased on Amazon.
Dates for Book Study will be as follows right after worship:
December 11th, January 8th, February 12th, March 12th and
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

Carol Johnson

Becky Kaffar

LaDonna Myers

Mavis Pierson

Judy Stubbe

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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 plates

NO LATER than Sunday, December 18th, 2022

- I will bring my own from home (**please bring to the church by Thursday, December 22nd, 2022**)
- Here is a contribution to the Poinsettia Fund. Amount: \$ _____
(include payment with this form.)

Name: _____ Contact Phone: _____

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