

***"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.

**4th Sunday of Advent**  
**December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER**

**Ministers:**

Members of First Lutheran Church

**Pastor:** Pastor Ann Zastrow

**Organist:** Paul Henriksen

**Sound:** Neil Johnson & Brandon Willey

**Reader:** LIFT Kids

**Advent Candle/Readers:**

Eric & Kristen Brockberg,  
Vivian, Aubrey & Elle

**CONTACT:** 401 7<sup>th</sup> Ave SW,  
Pipestone, MN 56164 507.825.5837

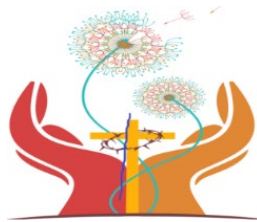
**Email:**

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 4)**

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

**Call to Worship:**

P: Christ, the One who was, and is, and is to come,  
welcomes you to this place. As one body, with one voice, we  
honor and glorify the giver of wisdom, counsel, knowledge  
and joy.

**C: Amen. So be it!**

**Opening Hymn: #257 – O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs 1,  
3, 5, 8)**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Let us lay before God and one another the distances  
between us, the impatience, idolatries, and lack of  
compassion that form our confessions this day. For if we say  
we have no sin, we deceive ourselves. Yet in mercy, God will  
forgive us and renew us.

**C: Gracious and welcoming God, have mercy on your  
people.**

**We confess that we do not always believe in you as we ought. We do not heed your word each day in all that we say and do. We do not see our neighbors, families and friends as beloved children whom you have made. In your mercy, forgive us, for we repent of our ways and look to your power to heal us and raise us up, so that, at the last, you will gather us to you and give us peace. Amen**

P: The reign of God has come near; the repentant will be judged with righteousness. In the name of Christ, you are forgiven. Be filled with hope, believing in the power of the risen Christ to bring you to new life. Rejoice and believe!

**C: Amen.**

**Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



# The Savior's Birth

## A Nativity Skit

**Messenger 1:** Kelsey Sneller

**Congregation Hymn:** #283 - O Come All Ye Faithful

**PreK to 1st Grade**

Christmas Bells

**Messenger 2:** Elle Brockberg

O Little Town of Bethlehem

<b>Joseph</b>	Elliott Sterud
<b>Inn Keeper 1</b>	Millie Danks
<b>Inn Keeper 2</b>	Lane Wielenberg
<b>Inn Keeper 3</b>	Alika Houselog
<b>Mary</b>	Eleanor Stangle

**Congregation Hymn:** O Holy Night

**Messenger 3:** Oliver Sterud

Away In A Manger

<b>Shepherd 1</b>	Caleb Ossefoort
<b>Shepherd 2</b>	Lane Wielenberg
<b>Shepherd 3</b>	Otto Johnson
<b>Reader 1</b>	Oliver Sterud
<b>Reader 2</b>	Elle Brockberg
<b>Reader 3</b>	Alika Houselog

**Congregation Hymn:** #270 - Hark the Herald Angels Sing

**Shepherd 3:** Otto Johnson

**Messenger 4:** Millie Danks

**Wise Man 1** Conner Thode

**Wise Man 2** Connor Ilse

**Wise Man 3** Kashton Schroyer

**Messenger 5:** Lane Wielenberg

**OFFERING - Congregational Hymn:** We Three Kings

Baby Jesus Song

**Messenger 5:** Lane Wielenberg

**Congregation Hymn: #267 - Joy To The World**

**Messenger 1:** Kelsey Sneller

**PreK to 1st Grade**

What's the Baby's Name?

**SPECIAL THANK YOU**

**Congregation Hymn: #290 - Go Tell it On the Mountain**



A Christmas Creed

**I believe in God, who gives us the best of Godself.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, the Song of God, born in Bethlehem on Christmas night, for me and for the world.**

**I believe in the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem.**

**I believe in the One whose spirit glorified a little town and whose spirit still brings music to persons all over the world, in towns both large and small.**

**I believe in the One for whom the crowded inn could find no room, but who transformed the place by his very presence.**

**I believe in the One who the rulers of the earth ignored and the proud could never understand; whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons with hungry hearts.**

**I believe in the One who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible.**

**I believe in the One whose cradle was a mother's arms, who looked as persons and made them see what God's love saw in them, who by love redeemed sinners, and lifted human weakness up to meet the strength of God.**

I confess my ever-lasting need of God: the need of forgiveness for my selfishness and greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, who overshadowed Mary, who was present at Bethlehem, who continues to work in my heart, and helps me to trust in God's promise, both now and forevermore.  
Amen.

#### Prayers of Intercession

P: God in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer

#### Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

#### BLESSING

P: God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, † bless you now and forever.

Q: Amen

Closing Hymn: #266 - All Earth Is Hopeful

#### Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is near.

Q: Thanks be to God

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**Welcome! It is GREAT to have you here! Thank you for choosing to worship with us here today.**

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

### THANK YOU FOR JOINING US for the Children's Christmas Program 2022

A very special thank to you ALL of our LIFT kids!! We are so blessed to have each and every one of you. Without you and your voices, we wouldn't be able to share the joy of Jesus' birth! Thank you to Miss Davis and all the LIFT helpers for without you and your work with all of these amazing kids, this wouldn't be possible. Wishing you all a very blessed, safe and Merry Christmas and an even better New Year!



**The Worship Radio Broadcast** today is sponsored in loving memory of Louie Muller by Darlene Muller and family.

**† Continuing Prayer Concerns:** Please keep Lance Oye, Bob Fritz and Joyce Kunz in your prayers this week. 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.18<sup>th</sup> to Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>)**

**Today:** 9:30am – Worship/Children’s Program at the church & live streamed. Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)

**Wednesday:** NO L.I.F.T; 12pm & 5:00pm - Sunday Service broadcast on Public Access TV (channel 3)

**Saturday:** CHRISTMAS EVE 4:00pm - Christmas Eve service

**Sunday:** 9:30am Worship/Christmas Day service at the church & live streamed. Radio: 10:30am aired on KLOH (1050 AM)



**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 is being collected for: God’s Global Barnyard**

The total amount collected to date for God’s Global Barnyard is \$11.37.

*Thank you for your support of these important Outreach needs.*

**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.**

**2023 Radio Broadcast Sponsors**

If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast in honor of a loved one, in celebration of a birthday, etc. the sign up for 2023 is posted in the hall by the offices. Spots are going fast so get signed up TODAY!!

Cost of a radio sponsorship is \$58, payable to First Lutheran Church (please write “Radio” in the memo line).

Thank you in advance for giving to this great ministry!



**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).**

**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!!**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Additional information</b>
<b>April 28-29, 2023</b>	<b>Confirmation Retreat</b>	<b>More information will be forthcoming.</b>

**\*Register for these events online at: [www.shetek.org](http://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.

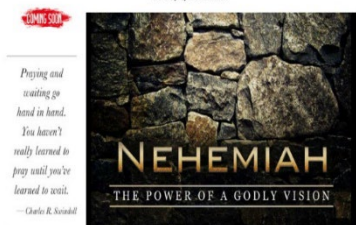
We would love to have everyone's picture included in the directory so that Pastor Ann can get to know your face as well as your name!



### **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 **\$70,520.00**. *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:  
January 8<sup>th</sup>, February 12<sup>th</sup>, March 12<sup>th</sup> and April 16<sup>th</sup>***

### **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  
LaDonna Myers**

**Carol Johnson  
Mavis Pierson**

**Becky Kaffar  
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 TODAY (Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022)**

- I will bring my own from home (**please bring to the church by Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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)

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