



Welcome to First Lutheran Church

309 Second Street North, PO Box 21, Pine River, MN 56474

Church Office: 587-2316

www.1stluth.org

Presentation of Our Lord

February 2, 2025

Welcome and Announcements *(Please pass the attendance pad along the pew. If you are a visitor, please include your mailing address.)*

Opening Hymn: “We are Marching” (ELW 314) (on back page)

***Confession & Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

**Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.**

**Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.**

Show us your lovingkindness.

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ’s ways.**

Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In ✝ Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like washers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD, as in the days of old and as in former years.

Psalm 84

¹ How dear to me is your dwelling,

O LORD of hosts!

² **My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;**

my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

³ Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king and my God.

⁴ **Happy are they who dwell in your house! They will always be praising you.**

⁵ Happy are the people whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

⁶ **Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.**

⁷ They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

⁸ **LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O LORD God of Jacob.**

⁹ Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your anointed.

¹⁰ **For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.**

I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

¹¹ For the LORD God is both sun and shield, bestowing grace and glory; no good thing will the LORD withhold from those who walk with integrity.

¹² **O LORD of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!**

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18

¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, [Jesus] himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested. ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work powerful deeds? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a} But strive for the greater gifts.

*Gospel Announcement

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word,

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul, too.”

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom, and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

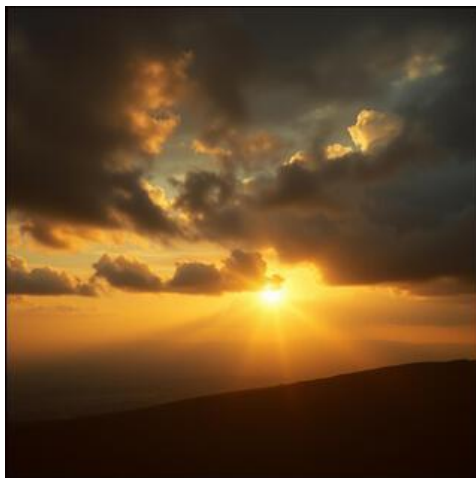
Thanks be to God.

Children’s Message

Message- “A Light Lifted High”

Pastor Hans Anderson

Pastor Hans Anderson



Song of the Day: "Shine, Jesus Shine" (ELW 671)

Refrain



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.



Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;



send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be - light!



1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -



dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,



set us free by the truth you now bring us.
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.



Refrain

Shine on me, shine on me:
Shine on me, shine on me:

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***Statement of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

***Prayers of the People:**

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God of generations, you instilled in Anna and Simeon faith, dreams, and the welcome of a child. Bless elders who embody faith and hope; bless the newly baptized. Energize us to share faith from generation to generation.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of creation, in you the sparrow finds a home and we find lush valleys and living water. Bless the birds of the air, the animals of the valley, and renew our stewardship of this bountiful creation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of the nations, strengthen our resolve to care for all children and strive for peace among nations. Refine our nation where we have failed to root out racism and guide us in truth-telling and reconciliation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of hope, many long to see your presence revealed amid challenging circumstances. We pray for the following God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of the people, you are made known in caring ministries. Bless those who serve as communion servers, homebound visitors, baptismal sponsors, confirmation mentors, and as prayer support. Reveal yourself in the neighborly care we give and receive. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

Amen.



Offering

♩ = 100 C N.C. F G

Ev - 'ry - bod - y's got some - thing to of - fer; young and old, the

4 C Am F G

prince and the pau - per. Ev - 'ry - bod - y's got some - thing to of - fer in the name of the Lord.

*Offertory Prayer

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always.
Amen.

Pastor Hans Anderson

What is a sacrament ? c.b.c.

g.o.g.g.

p.e.a.

What is Holy Communion?

Holy Communion is the _____ and _____.
of our Lord Jesus Christ
given with _____ and _____.
instituted by Christ himself for us
to _____ and _____.

*Words of Institution

*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;
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

† Communion †



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Holy Communion Distribution at the rail

Babies N Bibles & Club 45 go upstairs to the Nursery

*Post Communion Prayer

Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,
Amen.

*Blessing:

The Spirit of the triune God
† bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.
Amen.

***Sending Hymn: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" (ELW 815)**



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of right - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: Kathleen Thomerson
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***Dismissal:**

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.



Reader: Kaye Schroeder
Communion Server: Roger Hoplin II
Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt
Sound:
Ushers: Paul Pearson
Altar Guild: Penny Siewert, JoAnn Nelson & Irene Gearey
Coffee: Art & Shirley Schmidt
Counter: Holly Knutson

The Week Ahead

Sunday, February 2, 2025

Presentation of Our Lord

Worship Service 9:00 AM

Babies N Bibles and Club 45 following communion

Fellowship & Coffee Time 10:00 AM

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

Bible Study 10:00 AM

Thursday, 6, 2025

Dorcas Circle 9:00 AM

Sunday, February 9, 2025

5th Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Service 9:00 AM

Babies N Bibles and Club 45 following communion

Fellowship & Coffee Time 10:00 AM

Announcements

To view **Sunday Services** via Zoom, go to www.zoom.us and select the blue “Join a Meeting” link at the top center of your screen. Type in the following Meeting ID number and click the blue “Join” button.

Sunday worship, 9:00 a.m. – Meeting ID 893 3233 9261 Passcode: 053380

Bulletins can be sponsored for \$25.00 per week. The sign-up sheet is on the *Called to Serve* bulletin board in the Narthex.

Last week’s **Noisy Offering** will be giving \$116.06 to Freedom Ranch in Brainerd. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile cause.

Dear Families with younger children: we enthusiastically welcome you and your growing family to celebrate the worship service with us. *Please relax.* We understand that God put the wiggle in children and we want them to feel welcome -- it’s their church, too! Be sure to participate in the service as kids learn how to “do” church by watching you. Quiet activity bags are available in the back of the church. Talk about church at home and in the car and address any curiosities children have.

Finally, THANK YOU for joining us -- we know it takes a lot of hard work and effort to get here.!

We are also looking for additional members for the **Altar Guild**. Volunteers help prepare communion each week, in teams of two or three. New volunteers will be paired with an existing member. If you are able to help, please see Annette Newton.

Thank you to the faithful supporters of First Lutheran Youth who bring aluminum cans and leave them by the garage door. This is an ongoing fundraiser for youth activities

Prayers of Healing, Care and Joy

Those with medical concerns...

Caleb Prushek, great nephew of Jane Orth

Cleone Hoplin

Grace Anderson

Lila Kersey

Gordon & Sharon Greenwald



Those in the service...

Senior Master Sergeant Bradford, son of Bill & Kaye Schroeder

Major A.J. Depman, nephew of Bill & Kaye Schroeder

Sgt Christopher Krecklau, son of Mary & Randy Krecklau

E-6 Nathaniel & E-6 Amanda Mitchell, nephew of Mary & Randy Krecklau

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025 **Attendance:** 103

Offering

Jan. 26, 2025	\$2,431.00	Weekly Budget:	\$3,301.40
Direct Deposit:	\$ 275.00		
Total Offerings:	\$2,706.00		

Year-to-Date (Fiscal year starts September 1)

2024-2025 Giving:	\$67,462.41	Expenses:	\$59,522.06
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Income less Expenses for December:

\$17,513.00 - \$12,368.98 = \$5,144.02

If you would like a visit from pastor or have a pastoral care need, please contact Pastor Hans Anderson at 218-820-9166 or email him at pastorhanspineriver@gmail.com

Clearwater Couple's Retreat 2025:

The 4 Seasons of Marriage

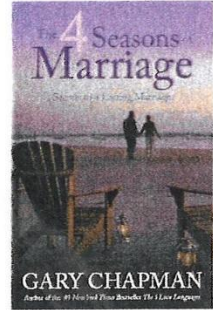
When: Feb. 28- Mar. 2 (7 pm on Friday until 1 pm on Sunday)

Where: Clearwater Forest Camp & Retreat Center

Cost: \$350/couple

Leaders: Pastors David and Sarah Parker

Pastor Hans and Erin Anderson



It will be spring at Clearwater, but is your marriage also in the season of spring? Come to Clearwater Forest to enjoy a meaningful weekend learning about the four seasons of marriage and how your marriage can thrive in any season! There will be time for couples to be together

on their own as well as time for large-group activities. Here are some of the fun activities we have planned:

♥ Love Song Karaoke

♥ Worship with Vow Renewal

♥ Couple's Board Games

♥ Quality time with your special someone!

Goals for the weekend:

1. Learn about the reoccurring seasons of marriage
2. Identify which season of marriage you and your spouse are currently in.
3. Learn seven relationship strategies for any season.
4. Spend meaningful time with your spouse.
5. Reconnect with the other couples and/or get to know new couples!
6. Have fun!

This retreat will be partially based on the book *The 4 Seasons of Marriage* by Gary Chapman, author of the #1 New York Times Bestseller *The 5 Love Languages*. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Anderson,

Clearwater Forest Executive Director, at
eanderson@clearwaterforest.org or (218) 678-2325

To register, go to clearwaterforest.org!

Opening Hymn: "We are Marching"

We are march - ing* in the light of God, we are march - ing in the
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -

light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,
nyen' kwen-khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-khos',

we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,
Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,

we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,
Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba

we are march - ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

Text: South African traditional; tr. *Freedom is Coming*, 1984
 Music: South African traditional; arr. *Freedom is Coming*
 Tr. and arr. c. 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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