



Welcome to First Lutheran Church

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

Church Office: 587-2316

www.1stluth.org

7th Sunday after Epiphany/Camp Sunday/Noisy Offering/Bible Presentation

February 23, 2025

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

Bible Presentation

At the time of your baptism, your parents and sponsors promised faithfully to bring you to the services of God's house, to teach you the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, to place in your hands, the Holy Scriptures, and to provide for your instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of your baptism and in communion with the Church, you may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

First Lutheran youth receiving bibles today are: Kylie Bergem, Calvin Hoplin, James Kepner, Jaxon Kepner, Tucker Shamp, Jace Norman, Adam Lindquist, Mason Dinnel, Kayley Orth, Connor Rowell, and Jonathan Rowell.

Opening Hymn: "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" (ELW 656)

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.
Music: Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

Public Domain

***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,

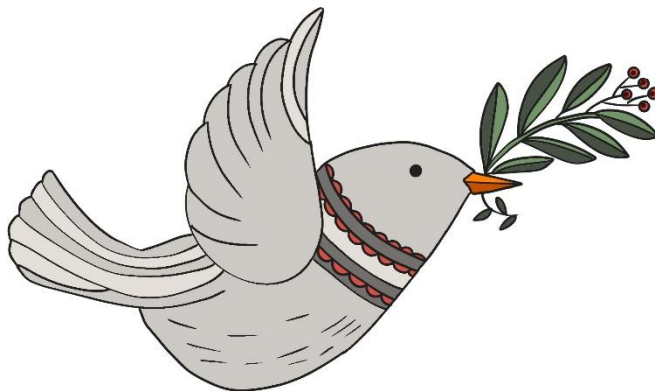
live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



First Reading: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

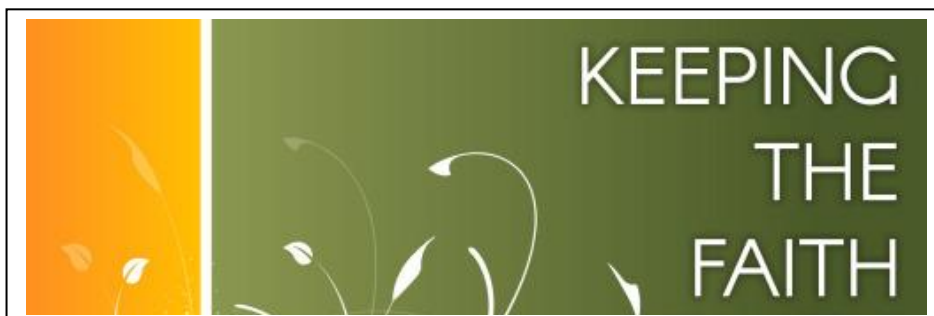
³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.’ ” ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

¹ Do not be provoked by evildoers;
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
² **For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**
³ Put your trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.
⁴ **Take delight in the LORD,
who shall give you your heart’s desire.**
⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in
the LORD,
and see what God will do.
⁶ **The LORD will make your vindication as
clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday
sun.**
⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.
Do not be provoked by the one who prospers,
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess
the land.
¹⁰ **In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they
will not be there.**
¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.
³⁹ **But the deliverance of the righteous comes
from you, O LORD;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**
⁴⁰ You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and
deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.



Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first but the physical and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, made of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As one of dust, so are those who are of the dust, and as one of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the one of dust, we will also bear the image of the one of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

***Gospel Announcement**

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

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ “But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; ²⁸ bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children’s Message

Camp Vermilion Staff

Noisy Offering

Message

Camp Vermilion Staff



Song of the Day: "Light Shone in Darkness" (ELW307)



1 Light shone in dark - ness at the world's cre - a - tion,
2 Light shone in dark - ness at the new cre - a - tion;
3 Light shines in dark - ness till the full cre - a - tion;



bath - ing in beau - ty na - ture's rev - e - la - tion. All that has be - ing,
Christ rose in glo - ry, won for us sal - va - tion. Sing, earth and heav - en,
Christ's bod - y, groan - ing, suf - fers trib - u - la - tion, longs for God's jus - tice,



cry in ad - o - ra - tion, "Praise for the light. A - men!"
hymns of ju - bi - la - tion, praise for the light. A - men!
glob - al trans - for - ma - tion, prays for the light. A - men!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: Mark Sedio, b. 1954

Text © 2001, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

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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.

Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. We pray for the following..... God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities. 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

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of 100. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system has a key signature of one flat (F major) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics for the first system are: "Ev - 'ry - bod - y's got some - thing to of - fer; young and old, the". The second system starts with a measure rest (4) and continues with the lyrics: "prince and the pau - per. Ev - 'ry - bod - y's got some - thing to of - fer in the name of the Lord." The chords indicated above the notes are C, N.C., F, G, C, Am, F, and G.

***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.

***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

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: "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" (ELW 608)**

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain
watch - ing for you and for me. "Come home, come home!
mer - cies for you and for me? Come home, come home!
par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!"

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847-1909
Music: Will L. Thompson

***Dismissal:**

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.



Reader: Rene Frigaard
Communion Server:
Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt
Sound: Tyler Hoplin
Ushers: Paul Pearson
Altar Guild: Rene Frigaard & Annette Newton
Coffee: Art & Shirley Schmidt
Counter: Holly Knutson

The Week Ahead

Sunday, February 23, 2025

7th Sunday after Epiphany/Camp Sunday/Noisy Offering/Bible Presentation

Worship Service 9:00 AM

Babies N Bibles and Club 45 following communion

Fellowship & Coffee Time 10:00 AM

Monday, February 24, 2025

Kitchen Committee 4:00 PM

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

Bible Study 10:00 AM

WOW 3:30 PM

Meal 5:00 PM

Video 6:00 PM

Confirmation 6:00 PM

Sunday, March 2, 2025

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Worship Service 9:00 AM

Babies N Bibles and Club 45 following communion

Fellowship & Coffee Time 10:00 AM



Maverik Kamholz reading the Action Bible that our youth are receiving this morning.

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

First Lutheran youth receiving bibles today are: Kylie Bergem, Calvin Hoplin, James Kepner, Jaxon Kepner, Tucker Shamp, Jace Norman, Mason Dinnel, Adam Lindquist, Kayley Orth, Connor Rowell, and Jonathan Rowell.

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

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 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.

Today’s **Noisy Offering** will be going to Heifer International. Heifer International works to end hunger and poverty with the communities they serve. By supporting and training the world’s farmers, ranchers, and female business owners, they are investing in a new breed of success. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile cause.

Thank you to Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry for worshipping with us today. Families as you register your children for Summer Bible Camp REMEMBER: First Lutheran Church will pay all Summer Bible Camp Costs after the deposit. (If deposit is a challenge contact Denice Smith at 218-820-4522). Transportation to and from camp is the responsibility of the camper’s family. Carpooling has been a tradition in the past. Camp registration information is available at www.vlm.org. There are early registration, sibling and bring a friend discounts.



A Lenten Stewardship Project

First Lutheran Church Women will be collecting donations of bars of soap.

The collection box will be in the church narthex. Donations can be given anytime the church is open. The bars of soap collected will be given to the My Little Church, the Tiger's Den Food Shelf and the Pine River Backus Food Shelf.



Lenten Soup Suppers

Soup groups are needed!!!

Soup suppers for 2025 will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 5 and continue through April 9. The sign up sheet for volunteers and food donations is posted in the narthex.

Please come every Wednesday for a warm meal and the Lenten Church Service. Food for your body and soul—begins at 5:00 pm and done by 7:00 pm



Thank you to Babies n Bibles and Club 45 for the precious addition to the table decoration at First Lutheran

Prayers of Healing, Care and Joy

Those with medical concerns...

Caleb Prushek, great nephew of Jane Orth

Cleone Hoplin

Grace Anderson

Lila Kersey

Kayci Finley



Those in the service...

Senior Master Sargeant 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