

# Welcome to First Lutheran Church

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

Church Office: 587-2316

[www.1stluth.org](http://www.1stluth.org)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent/*Noisy Offering*

March 23, 2025

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

**Opening Hymn:** "Light Dawns on a Weary World" (ELW 726)(*on back page*)

## \*Confession & Forgiveness

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

**Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate One,  
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
but our lives do not always reflect you  
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion  
you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality  
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,  
even though you have set us free again and again.**

**We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.**

**Transform our lives  
and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God's arms are always stretched open wide  
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In ✝ Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

**Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

**Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9**

- <sup>1</sup> Hear, everyone who thirsts;  
come to the waters;  
and you who have no money,  
come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
without money and without price.
- <sup>2</sup> Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread  
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
and delight yourselves in rich food.
- <sup>3</sup> Incline your ear, and come to me;  
listen, so that you may live.  
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
my steadfast, sure love for David.
- <sup>4</sup> See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
a leader and commander for the peoples.
- <sup>5</sup> Now you shall call nations that you do not know,  
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,  
for he has glorified you.
- <sup>6</sup> Seek the Lord while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;
- <sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake their way  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
- <sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
- <sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**Psalm 63:1-8**

<sup>1</sup> O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land where there <sup>1</sup> is no water.

<sup>2</sup> **Therefore I have gazed upon you in  
your holy place,  
that I might behold your power and your  
glory.**

<sup>3</sup> For your steadfast love is better than life itself;  
my lips shall give you praise.

<sup>4</sup> **So will I bless you as long as I live  
and lift up my hands in your name.**

<sup>5</sup> My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

<sup>6</sup> **when I remember you upon my bed,  
and meditate on you in the night watches.**

<sup>7</sup> For you have been my helper,  
and under the shadow of your wings I will  
rejoice.

<sup>8</sup> **My whole being clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.**

**Second Reading:** Leviticus 19:23-25

<sup>23</sup>“When you come into the land and plant all kinds of trees for food, then you shall regard their fruit as forbidden; three years it shall be forbidden to you; it must not be eaten. <sup>24</sup>In the fourth year all their fruit shall be set apart for rejoicing in the LORD. <sup>25</sup>But in the fifth year you may eat of their fruit, that their yield may be increased for you: I am the LORD your God.

**\*Gospel Announcement**

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

**Gospel: Luke 13:6-9**

<sup>6</sup> Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the man working the vineyard, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ <sup>8</sup> He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Children’s Message**

Pastor Hans Anderson

**Noisy Offering**

**Message- “Valley of Death”**

Pastor Hans Anderson



Song of the Day: "O, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" (MAJ 91)

♩ = 66-72

*A*<sup>sus4</sup> D D/F# G D G A G/B A/C# D

1. Oh, the deep, deep love of Je - sus—Vast, un - mea - sured, bound - less, free—  
 2. Oh, the deep, deep love of Je - sus—Spread His praise from shore to shore!  
 3. Oh, the deep, deep love of Je - sus—Love of ev - 'ry love the best—

*A*<sup>sus4</sup> D G Bm D/A Em/G Bm/F# Em D

Roll - ing as a might - y o - cean In its full - ness o - ver me!  
 Praise His mer - cy, praise His good - ness; Praise His love for - ev - er - more.  
 'Tis an o - cean vast of bless - ing; 'Tis a ha - ven sweet of rest.

Bm G/B D/A Em/G A<sup>7</sup>/D D A<sup>7</sup>(sus4)/E G D/F# G Bm

Un - der - neath me, all a - round me Is the cur - rent of His love—  
 How He watch - eth o'er His loved ones, Died to call them all His own;  
 Oh, the deep, deep love of Je - sus—'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;

Em D/F# G Bm G maj7 G add2 D/F# Em/G Bm/F# G/A D

Lead - ing on - ward, lead - ing home - ward To His glo - rious rest a - bove.  
 How for them He in - ter - ced - eth, Watch - eth o'er them from His throne.  
 And it lifts me up to glo - ry, Lifts me up e - ter - nal - ly.

*Text:* Samuel Trevor Francis, 1898; alt.

*Music:* Stephen M. Jones, 2023 | DEEP LOVE

Text alt. and music © 2024 IRI

## **\*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:**

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church, called to be a witness to all peoples. Grant humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and congregations, that they may call upon you in making decisions. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for the earth, called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations, called to protect their inhabitants and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries, that all the world may have enough to live. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in need, called to receive your compassion. Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted through natural disasters and human conflict. Aid communities in coming together to mourn, heal, and rebuild. We pray for the following.....God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly, called to welcome its neighbors to the table of your grace. Bless food pantries, community gardens and kitchens, clean water projects, and all ministries that address human hunger and thirst. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.  
**Amen.**

## Offering

### \*Offertory Prayer

Gracious Provider,  
you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.  
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those  
treasures with others,  
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.  
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**

Generous Host,  
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.  
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,  
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,  
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**\*Blessing:**

God our tender parent,  
God the crucified one,  
God the reconciling Spirit,  
✝ bless you now and forever.  
Amen.



**\*Sending Hymn: "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" (MAJ107)**

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the  
 2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -  
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood up - on the cha - os  
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, all trav - 'lers guard in

rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its  
 mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and  
 dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and  
 dan - ger's hour from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: oh, hear us when we  
 calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: oh, hear us when we  
 give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: oh, hear us when we  
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1825-1878, alt.  
 Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

Public Domain

**\*Dismissal:**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**Thanks be to God!**





**Reader:** Jan Otness  
**Communion Server:**  
**Zoom:** Cora Hohnstadt  
**Sound:** Rene Frigaard  
**Ushers:** Paul Pearson, Jace & Vince Norman  
**Altar Guild:** Val Johnson & Jodi Perry  
**Coffee** Hoplin Families  
**Counter:** Brenda Anderson

## The Week Ahead

### Sunday, March 23, 2025

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent/Noisy Offering*

Worship Service 9:00 AM  
**Babies N Bibles and Club 45 following communion**  
Fellowship & Coffee Time 10:00 AM

### Wednesday, March 26, 2025

WOW  
SOUP SUPPER 5:00 PM  
Lenten Service 6:00 PM

### Sunday, March 30, 2025

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent*

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](http://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. This week’s bulletin is sponsored by the Lindquist family in memory of Evan. The sign-up sheet is on the *Called to Serve* bulletin board in the Narthex.

### *Lenten Soup Suppers*

*Soup suppers for 2025 are continuing 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*

## 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.

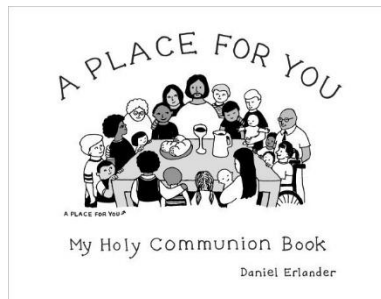


**FLCW continues to collect used eyeglasses** for donation to the Minnesota Lions Club. Accepted are eyeglasses (frames with lenses intact), non-prescription eyeglasses and reading glasses. (no lenses without frames or frames without lenses please). The basket for these donations is on the small table as you come in the side door by the Seek Him Room.



Please make sure you designate your Choice Dollars by March 31<sup>st</sup>, or they are forfeited. Thank you.

Today's **Noisy Offering** is going to the Pine River Backus Food Shelf. March is Minnesota Food Shelf month. Thank you for donating!



**Wednesdays in Lent** we are using this workbook immediately following the Holden Evening Worship to meet and discuss in small groups. It has been very well received. Please join us!

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](http://www.vlm.org). There are early registration, sibling and bring a friend discounts.



# *Prayers of Healing, Care and Joy*

## **Those with medical concerns...**

Caleb Prushek, great nephew of Jane Orth

Cleone Hoplin

Grace Anderson



## **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, Mar. 16, 2025**

**Attendance: 87**

### **Offering**

Mar. 16, 2025	\$2,047.00	Weekly Budget:	\$3,301.40
Direct Deposit:	\$ 75.00		
Monthly Transfer:	\$2,134.00		
Ash Wednesday:	\$ 795.26		
Total Offerings:	\$5,051.26		

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

2024-2025 Giving:	\$90,941.67	Expenses:	\$83,533.69
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### **Income less Expenses for February:**

\$12,034.00 - \$12,639.41 = (-\$605.41)

If you would like a visit from pastor or have a pastoral care need, please contact Pastor Hans Anderson at 218-820-

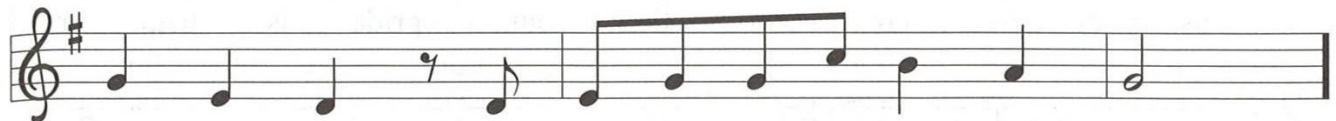
# Opening Hymn: "Light Dawns on a Weary World"



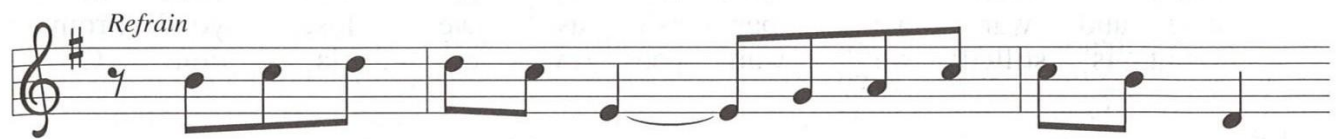
1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.



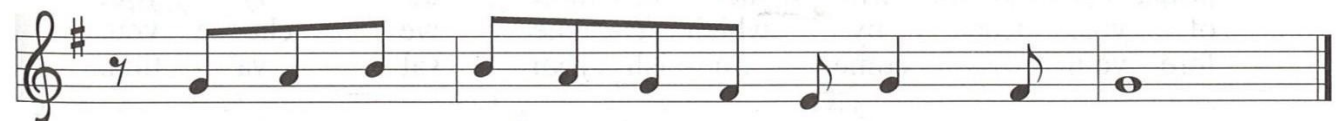
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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