

# 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)

Pastor Hans Anderson

**Baptism of Our Lord Sunday/Church Council Installation**

**January 7, 2024**

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome and Announcements**

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



## **Installation of Council**

*Council members who are returning to their positions are invited to come forward:*

Secretary:	Jan Brasel
Worship and Music:	Anne Holm
Property	Art Schmidt
Children's Ministry:	Melanie Lindquist
Youth:	Kayci Finley
Mission:	Camden Zinda
Finance:	Gloria Johnson
Adult Education:	Penny Siewert

**Pastor:** We give thanks for these people who have answered the call and are beginning their service on the congregation council and have been newly elected to the positions in which they will serve. I would invite them to please come forward:

President	Denice Smith
Vice President:	Val Johnson
Stewardship:	Barb Richards

**Pastor:** We give thanks for the service that these people have given to this congregation in the time that they have served on council. I invite them to stand to be recognized.

President:	Shirley Schmidt
Vice President:	Kaye Schroeder
Stewardship:	Sandy Gilbertson

Pastor: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ liberated you from sin and death and made you members of his church. Through Word and Sacrament you have been nurtured in faith.

St. Paul writes: There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives to everyone ability for particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person, for the good of all.

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation. You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith reflect God, in whose name we gather. You are to work together with other members to see that the worship and work of Christ are done in this congregation, and that God's will is done in this community and in the whole world. You are to be diligent in your specific area of serving, that the one Lord who empowers you is glorified. You are to be examples of faith active in love, to help maintain the life and harmony of this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Are you ready to accept and faithfully to carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected—if so, answer, “Yes, by the help of God.”

**2024 Council Members: Yes, by the help of God.**

*Congregation stands.*

Pastor: People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized? If so, answer, “Yes, by the help of God.”

**People: Yes, by the help of God.**

Pastor: I now declare you to be installed as officers and council members of this congregation. May God bless you with the Holy Spirit, that you may prove faithful servants of Christ.

**People: Amen.**

Baptized  
IN THE NAME OF THE  
THE SON AND THE  
Father,  
Holy Spirit

**Baptism Hymn: "Baptized in Water" (ELW 456)**

1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his  
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's

prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Seward, b. 1932  
Music: Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version  
Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company  
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

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**Sacrament of Holy Baptism  
of Daisy Darlene Johnson**

Pastor: In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

**Presentation: I present Daisy to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.**

Pastor: In Christian love you have presented Daisy for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring her to the services of God's house, and teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As she grows in years, you should place in her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for her instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of her Baptism and in communion with the Church, she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ. Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

*Parents & Sponsors: I do.*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things. By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that those who are here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom. To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**People: Amen**

Pastor: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize. Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

*Parents & Sponsors: I do.*

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People:** 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.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People:** 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.

Pastor: Daisy, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Pastor: God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon this child: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence. **Amen**

Pastor: Daisy, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

*(A lighted candle is be given to the sponsor of the child)*

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Pastor: O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon Tanner and Stephanie, parents of Daisy. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for this child. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with this child the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Pastor: Through Baptism God has made Daisy a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

**People:** We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and worker with us in the kingdom of God.  
**Amen.**



### **\*Confession and Forgiveness**

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth,  
wind sweeping over the waters.

**People: Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Pastor:** God, our rock and refuge,

**People:** **We pour out our hearts before you.**

**We have known you but have not always loved you.**

**We have wounded one another**

**and sinned against you.**

**We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit  
dwelling in each of us.**

**Remember your covenant.**

**Renew your creation.**

**Restore us,**

**that we might proclaim your good news to all.**

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these words:*

**Pastor:** The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken:

The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of † Jesus Christ,

your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

**People:** **Amen.**

**\*Prayer of the Day:**

**Pastor:** Let us pray

**People:** Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*Gospel Announcement**

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

**People:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**\*Gospel: Mark 1:4-11**

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

**Pastor:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Sermon- "Today is a Good Day!"**

**Pastor Hans Anderson**

**Offering**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

**People:** Blessed are you, Holy One,  
for all good things come from you.  
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.  
Meet us at this table,  
that we receive what we seek  
and follow your Son, Jesus,  
in whose name we pray.  
**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 †**

*All who believe in the death and resurrection as given in this bread and wine are welcome to the table today.  
Please follow usher's guidance to come forward to receive communion and then return to your seat.  
Gluten free wafers are available from the communion server upon request.  
You are welcome to this Table of our Lord.*



## Holy Communion Distribution

This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with

mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,  
with mer - cy and love.

bro-ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

Text: Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960  
Music: Anne Krentz Organ  
Text and music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

BROKEN AND BLESSED  
5 4 7 5 4 6

### \*Post Communion Prayer

People: Giver of every gift,  
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.  
Raise us to life by your power  
for the benefit of all and to your glory,  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### \*Blessing:

Pastor: God who names you,  
Christ who claims you,  
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,  
✠ bless you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

People: **Amen.**



**\*Sending Hymn: "O Living Breath of God" (ELW 407)**



1 *So-plo de Dios vi-vien - te que en el prin-ci - pio cu-bris-te el a - gua,*  
1 O liv-ing Breath of God, wind at the be-gin - ning up - on the wa - ters;  
2 O liv-ing Breath of God, by whose pow'r the Son came to birth a - mong us;  
3 O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing us to life through bap-tis-mal wa - ters;



*So - plo de Dios vi - vien - te que fe - cun - da - ste la cre - a - ción:*  
O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing the cre - a - tion to won-drous birth:  
O liv-ing Breath of God, who to the cre - a - tion gives life a - new:  
O liv-ing Breath of God, sigh-ing with cre - a - tion for free-dom's birth:

*Refrain / Estribillo*



*Ven hoy a nues-tras al - mas, in - fún - de - nos tus do - nes;*  
Come now, and fill our spir - its; pour out your gifts a - bun - dant.



*So - plo de Dios vi - vien - te, oh San-to E - spí - ri - tu del Se - ñor.*  
O liv-ing Breath of God, Ho - ly Spir - it, breathe in us as we pray.

Text: Osvaldo Catena, 1920–1986; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923  
Music: Swedish folk tune  
Spanish text © 1979 Editorial Bonum; tr. © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

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**\*Dismissal:**

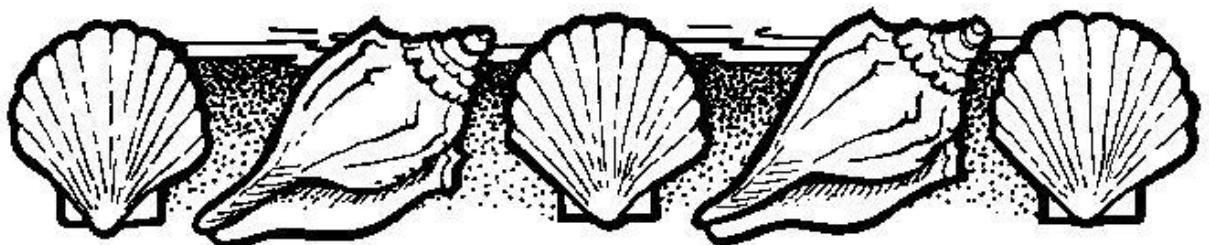
Pastor: Go in Peace. You are God's beloved.

People: Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**

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**Reader:**  
**Communion Assistants:**  
**Zoom:** Tyler Hoplin  
**Sound:** Chuck Brasel  
**Ushers:** Paul Pearson & Paul Sasse  
**Altar Guild:** Jan Brasel & Penny Siewert  
**Counter:** Neil Smith

**Next Sunday's Readings:** 1 Samuel 3:1-10, Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18, 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, John 1:43-51

## The Week Ahead

### Sunday, January 7, 2024

*Baptism of our Lord Sunday/Church Council Installation*

Worship Service ( <i>in-person &amp; Zoom</i> )	9:00 AM
Coffee & Fellowship	10:00 AM
Sunday School	10:15 AM

### Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Confirmation	6:00 PM
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### Sunday, January 14, 2024

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*

Worship Service ( <i>in-person &amp; Zoom</i> )	9:00 AM
Coffee & Fellowship,	10:00 AM
Sunday School	10:15 AM

*If you are not able to attend the Worship Service in person, you will still be able to listen to the sermon or watch video of the service online at the First Lutheran website.*

*Links will be on First Lutheran's website and on our Facebook page by Monday morning.*

## Announcements

**Sunday Services** at First Lutheran continue to be in-person and via Zoom. To join us 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. (You won't need to create an account.) Type in the appropriate Meeting ID number and click the blue "Join" button.

Sunday worship, 9:00 a.m. – Meeting ID is 823 6162 1569 Passcode is 367288.

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

# Prayers of Healing, Care and Joy

Those with medical concerns...

Caleb Prushek, great nephew of Jane Orth  
Cleone Hoplin  
Barb Richards  
Lars Larson  
Doc Cadwell  
Clifford, great grandson of Leonard and Jan Nelson  
Bonnie Bandy, sister of Shirley Schmidt  
Andy Anderson



Those in the service...

MSgt Bradford, son of Bill & Kaye Schroeder  
Captain A.J. Depman, nephew of Bill & Kaye Schroeder

## ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023

Attendance: 80

### Offering:

Dec. 31, 2023	\$1,561.00	Weekly Budget:	\$3,132.40
Direct Deposit:	\$ 75.00		
Total Offering:	\$1,636.00		

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

Giving:	\$51,832.10	Expenses:	\$43,437.53
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Income less Expenses for December:

\$15,471.00 - \$11,182.32 = \$4,288.68

If you would like a visit from pastor or have a pastoral care need, please contact Pastor Hans Anderson at 218-820-2969 or email him at [pastorhanspineriver@gmail.com](mailto:pastorhanspineriver@gmail.com)



## The Church Season of Epiphany

The Festival of Epiphany is always on January 6<sup>th</sup> (thirteen days after Christmas) and the season of the church year that follows is about the unwrapping of the Father's gifts to the world of his only-begotten Son ('epiphany' is a Greek word for 'to be visible'). Christmas was about Jesus as fully human -- a baby son born to Mary and laid in a manger. But Epiphany is about a Jesus who is fully divine—the Son of God.

On the first Sunday after the Epiphany we always observe the Baptism of our Lord, and on the last Sunday of the season—before Ash Wednesday—we always read about Jesus' Transfiguration. These two occasions bracket the season of Epiphany because they most clearly reveal who Jesus is: the divine Son of God. At both occasions the voice of God the Father spoke from Heaven, declaring what Jesus' human flesh had hidden from the world: "This is my Son!" At the same time, the readings for the Sundays in Epiphany present us with a real conundrum. Jesus hid the manifestations of his deity, so that his glory remained a secret and a mystery, even while he was revealing it to those he called.

Epiphany is the second oldest festival of the Christian church (only Easter is an older observance). Originally, Epiphany celebrated four different events, all on one day: the birth of Jesus, his Baptism, his first miracle, and the visit of the Wise Men. Each of these is a revelation of God to humanity.

Eventually, the celebration of Christ's birth was separated out and became Christmas, twelve days earlier, so that the season of Christmas began with the revelation of Christ to Israel (represented by the shepherds at Bethlehem) and ended with the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles (represented by the Wise Men). Epiphany is therefore sometimes called "The Gentiles Christmas."

Over the centuries, the other two celebrations were also separated. The celebration of Jesus' Baptism was moved to the first Sunday after Epiphany and the commemoration of his miracle at the wedding at Cana moved to the second Sunday after Epiphany.

