

Welcome to First Lutheran Church

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

Church Office: 587-2316

www.1stluth.org

Pastor Hans Anderson

Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

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

Opening Hymn: “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross” (ELW335) **(On Insert)**

*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,
who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Holy God,

People: **we confess that we are caught in snares of sin
and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors
are hungry and cold.**

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.

We let hurts grow into hatred.

**For all these things and for sins only you know,
forgive us, Lord.**

Amen.

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

Pastor: Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world,

God draws near to us,

breaks every snare of sin,

washes away our wrongs,

and restores the promise of life through ✠ Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

***Prayer of the Day:**

Pastor: Let us pray

People: **O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

¹ When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ² And I will make my covenant between me and you and will make you exceedingly numerous.” ³ Then Abram fell on his face, and God said to him, ⁴ “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵ No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶ I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷ I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. ¹⁵ God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶ I will bless her and also give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

Psalm 22:23-31

²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴ **For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me
but heard when I cried to him.**

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great
congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶ **The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.
May your hearts live forever!**

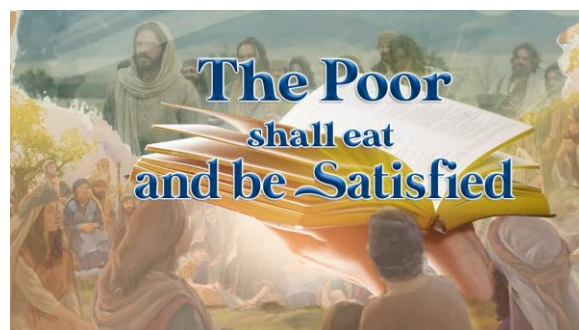
²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.

²⁸ **For dominion belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.**

²⁹ To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth
bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.

³⁰ **Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord**

³¹ and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet
unborn, saying that he has done it.

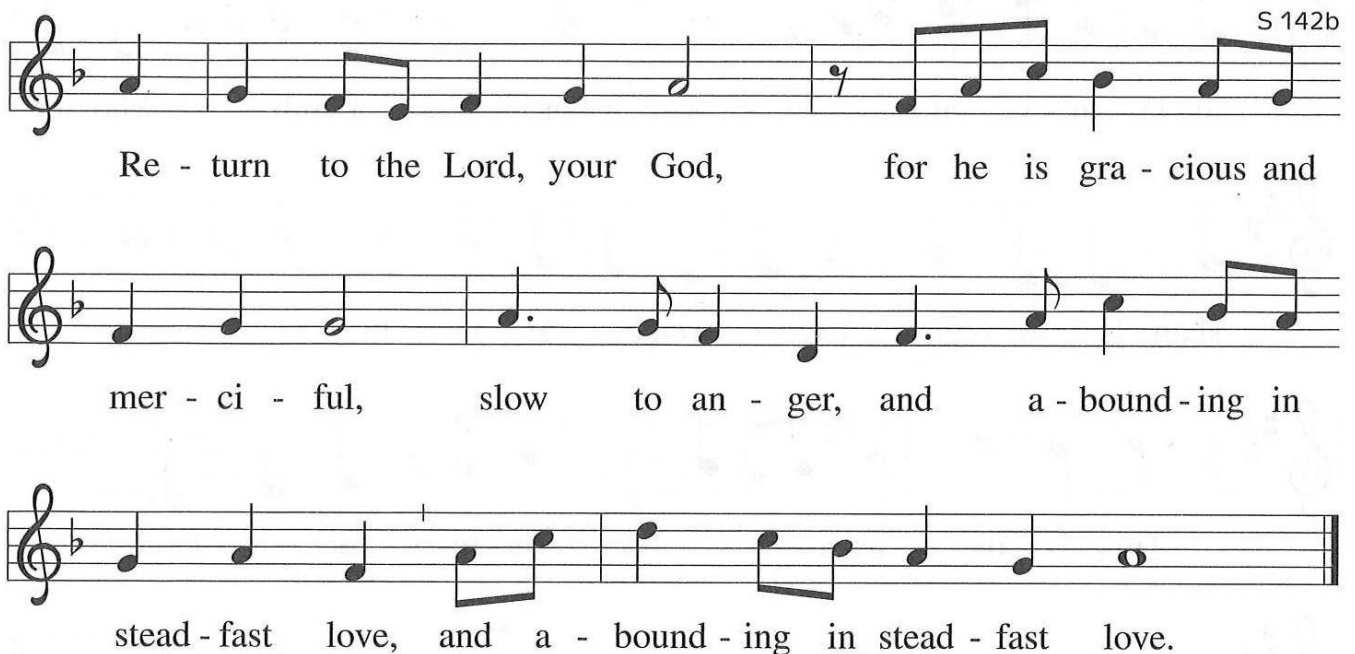


Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸ Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So shall your descendants be." ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), and the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰ No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² Therefore "it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³ Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵ who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Gospel Acclamation



S 142b

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

*Gospel Announcement

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel:** Mark 8:31-38

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly is seated.

Children’s Message

Noisy Offering

Sermon- “Footsteps Followed”

Pastor Hans Anderson



Song of the Day: "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me" (ELW 325)

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

***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 Intercession:**

Pastor: Trusting in God’s promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

Pastor: We turn to you for meaning, holy God. Nurture in your children the gifts of the Spirit poured out in baptism and let the mind of Christ guide the church. Give wisdom and discernment to our bishops, pastors, deacons, teachers, and leaders. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: We turn to you for renewal. Save lives and ecosystems threatened by pollution and a changing climate. Cleanse the earth’s waters and restore the soil. Preserve rainforests, deserts, and wildlife, that generations to come may cherish your creation. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: We turn to you for justice. Uphold the worth and dignity of every person, especially any who experience hatred and rejection because of gender, ability, sexual orientation, color, ethnicity, or religion. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: We turn to you for healing. Send compassionate helpers to any who suffer because of war and violence. Shelter unhoused people, befriend those who are lonely, bring hope to any in despair, and console the bereaved. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: We turn to you for purpose. Remind us of your faithfulness to this congregation. Increase our trust in your guidance and keep us near the cross. Grant that our acts of service will express Christ’s sacrificial love. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

People: Amen.



Offering



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and
give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*Offertory Prayer

**People: Jesus, you are the bread of life
and the host of this meal.**

**Bless these gifts that we have gathered
that all people may know your goodness.**

**Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.**

We pray this in your name.

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.



OUR FATHER,
WHO ART IN
heaven

† 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.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. The first system has the lyrics: "This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with". The second system has the lyrics: "mer-cy and love. with mer - cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,". The third system has the lyrics: "bro - ken and blest. Heal us and make us one." The music is in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment features block chords and simple melodic lines.

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

Holy Communion Distribution

*Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
People: Amen.

*Post Communion Prayer

People: Generous God,
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
now make us one loaf to feed the world;
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.
Amen.

*Blessing:

Pastor: God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and † give you peace.

People: Amen.

***Sending Hymn:** “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” (ELW 802) (On Insert)

***Dismissal:**

Pastor: Go in peace. Share your bread.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Reader: Roger Hoplin II
Communion Assistants:
Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt
Sound: Val Johnson
Ushers: Paul Pearson & Matt Shamp
Altar Guild: Jan Brasel & Leigh Metcalf
Counter: Holly Knutson

Next Sunday’s Readings: Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, John 2:13-22



The Week Ahead

Sunday, February 25, 2024

2nd Sunday in Lent

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

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Lenten Worship

Soup Supper	5:30 PM
Holden Evening Prayer	6:30 PM

Sunday, March 3, 2024

3rd Sunday in Lent

Worship Service (<i>in-person & 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 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 823 6162 1569 Passcode 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.

CAMP SUNDAY! Wear your camp t-shirts on March 10, 2024 as we welcome Katie Maurer, The Director of Programs, for Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry. Katie will have information about Summer Bible Camp opportunities for youth and adults. 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. Camp registration information is available at www.vlm.org. There are early registration, sibling and a 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.

This Week’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.


New Orleans style Beignets

Support our Senior High Youth!



your craving... Buy a Beignet. Beignets are a doughnut like pastry that accompany a cup of coffee wonderfully!
Dates to dine delightfully... **February 18th & 25th.**
March 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th.

First Lutheran has 8 senior high youth and 2 adults attending the National Youth Gathering this Summer. 30 to 40 thousand youth from all over the country will be coming together to gather, worship and serve in New Orleans...a.k.a “NOLA or the Big Easy.” On Sunday mornings in Lent, the Senior High youth will be serving these delicious pastries for a free-will fundraiser. Please support the youth and support



The Senior High Youth attending the National Youth Gathering are **Ashley Shamp, Maddie Knapp, Kaya Anderson, Hudson Juel, Zarian English, Camden Zinda, Blake Haglin, and Bella Raasch**. The adults accompanying these youth are **Pastor Hans Anderson and Kayci Finley**.

ayers of Healing, Care and Joy

Those with medical concerns...

Caleb Prushek, great nephew of Jane Orth

Cleone Hoplin

Barb Richards

Lars Larson

Clifford, great grandson of Leonard and Jan Nelson

Bonnie Bandy, sister of Shirley Schmidt

Andy Anderson

Denny Aleckson

Harvey and Marion Kelley

Penny Siewert



Those in the service...

MSgt Bradford, son of Bill & Kaye Schroeder

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

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024 Attendance: 62

Offering:

Feb. 18, 2024	\$1,559.00	Weekly Budget:	\$3,132.40
Direct Deposit:	\$ 75.00		
Total Offering:	\$1,634.00		

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

Giving:	\$72,008.05	Expenses:	\$58,189.38
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Income less Expenses for January:

\$12,879.67 - \$10,968.45 = \$1,911.22

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

The Chosen

Lenten Challenge: For anyone who has not joined us for the Chosen Videos this past Fall, the Lenten Challenge will be to watch them at home. For people who have seen the videos, please read the corresponding scripture and/or rewatch episodes:

<https://www.angel.com/the-chosen>

We will start the videos again as a group on April 3, 2024.

“You are Chosen.” The sermon series will be based on the first 6 “chosen” episodes. The format for Wednesday Evenings will be 5:30 soup & 6:30 worship. Holden Evening Prayer will be sung on Wednesdays this Lent.

Wednesday Lent Schedule

February 28 th	Soup Supper	“Shabbat”
March 6 th	Soup Supper	“Jesus Loves the Little Children”
March 13 th	Soup Supper	“The Rock on Which It is Built”
March 20 th	Soup Supper	“The Wedding Gift”
March 27 th	Soup Supper	“Indescribable Compassion”

