

# 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

Fifth Sunday in Easter

April 28, 2024

Prelude

Sunday School Appreciation

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



## New Member Installation

### PRESENTATION

Val: We have several individuals to welcome as members to First Lutheran Church, a member of the Northeastern Minnesota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, on this New Member Sunday. If these individuals would join Pastor Anderson at the font. As they are doing so, I'll introduce them. Joining us by affirmation are Lisa, Ryan & Madison Burnett, Drew, Savannah & Landon Heida, Tanner, Stephanie and Daisy Johnson, Mark & Carlene Lange, Kyle, Lindsey & Warren Krause, Peter & Shawn Moeller, Dustin, Danielle & Evelyn Rollins, Steve, Kim & Lily Ann Rollins, Ron & Jenny Kiffmeyer, Richard Hopkins, Rebecca, Kaden & Kayley Orth, Gus & Glenda Fisker, and Jeremy Wagner. These individuals have been worshiping with us, been involved in our community of faith, and desire to make public affirmation of their baptism by joining this congregation.

Pastor: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these new members, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these, our sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

**People: Amen.**

### PROFESSION OF FAITH

Pastor: Lisa, Ryan, Madison, Drew, Savannah, Landon, Tanner, Stephanie, Daisy, Mark, Carlene, Kyle, Lindsey, Warren, Peter, Shawn, Dustin, Danielle, Evelyn, Steve, Kim, Lily Anna, Ron, Jenny, Richard, Rebecca, Kade, Kayley, Gus, Glenda, and Jeremy, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? If so, answer, "I renounce them."

New Members: I renounce them.

Pastor: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

New Members: I renounce them.

Pastor: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

New Members: I renounce them.

Pastor: And you, all the people of First Lutheran Church, gathered here representing this specific congregation and the Church of Christ as a whole, I ask you to confess your faith, the faith into which we baptize. 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, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.**

## AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Pastor: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

If so, please respond, "I do, and I ask God to help and guide me."

New Members: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

Pastor: People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**People: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Pastor: Stir up in these new members the gift of your Holy Spirit: 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, both now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

Val: Let us rejoice with and welcome our sisters and brothers in Christ whom we have received this day through affirmation of baptism as members of First Lutheran Church:

**People: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

Val: It is appropriate to welcome these new members with applause, as they return to their seats and worship continues with the Sharing of the Peace.

**\*Sharing the Peace**Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: And also with you**

**Opening Hymn:** "All Are Welcome" (ELW 641) (Verses 1 & 5)(printed on back page of bulletin)



Welcome

## \*Gospel Announcement

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to John.

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

## \*Gospel: John 15:1-8

<sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly is seated.*

Children’s Message

**Pastor Hans Anderson**

Noisy Offering

Sermon- “Fruitful Fungi”

**Pastor Hans Anderson**



What is fruitfulness? The word *fruit*, or a variation of it, is used fifty-five times in the New Testament and refers to a variety of results. Each one of the following is considered by God to be fruit: (repentance) (Matt. 3:8; Luke 13:5-9), (practicing the truth) (Matt. 7:16-21; Col. 1:10), (answered prayer) (John 15:7-8), (an offering of money given by believers) (Rom. 15:28), (Christlike character, and winning unbelievers to Christ) (Rom. 1:13). Paul said that he wanted to preach in Rome "in order that I might obtain some fruit among you also, even as among the rest of the Gentiles" (Rom. 1:13 NASB). The fruit of a believer is another believer.

Considering the Great Commission that Jesus gave to the church, I believe that the definition of fruitfulness for a local church must include growth by the conversion of unbelievers. Paul referred to the first converts in Achaia as the "first fruit of Achaia" (1 Cor. 16:15 NASB).



Song of the Day: "Jesus Shall Reign" (ELW 434) (Verses 1 & 5)

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his  
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners  
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
 throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -  
 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -  
 hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with

shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.  
 Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

Public Domain

## \*Prayers of Intercession:

Pastor: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

Pastor: We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. God of grace,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. God of grace,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering. God of grace,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**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: Risen One,  
you call us to believe and bear fruit.  
May the gifts that we offer here  
be signs of your abiding love.  
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.  
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 and grape juice are available from the communion server upon request.  
You are welcome to this Table of our Lord.*

**Holy Communion Distribution**

Sunday School Children Sing

**\*Post Communion Prayer**

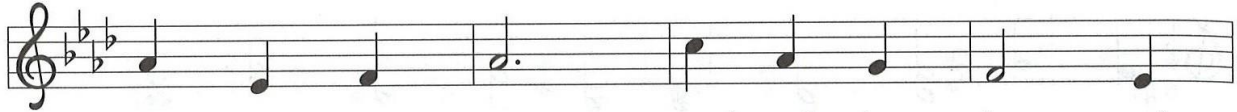
**People: Shepherding God,  
you have prepared a table before us  
and nourished us with your love.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
to proclaim your goodness  
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,  
our redeemer and friend.  
Amen.**

**\*Blessing:**

**Pastor: The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✠ bless you now and always.**

**People: Amen.**

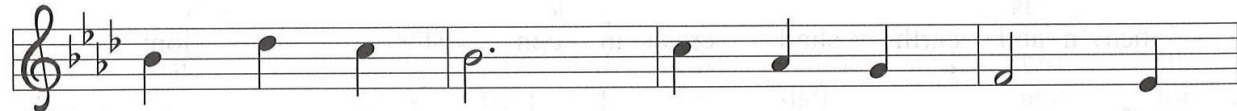
**\*Sending Hymn: "Earth and All Stars" (ELW 731)(Verses 1 & 5)**



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!  
 2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!  
 3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!  
 4 Class-rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!  
 5 Knowl - edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



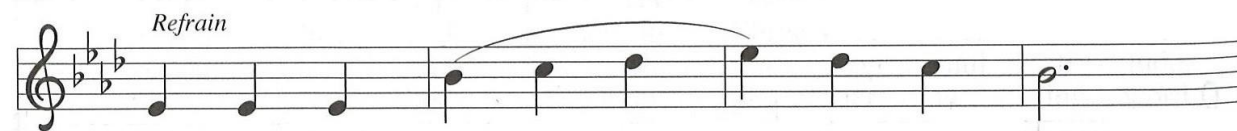
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!  
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!  
 Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!  
 Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!  
 Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!



\*Dismissal:

Pastor: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

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**Reader:**

**Communion Assistants:**

**Zoom:**

Cora Hohnstadt

**Sound:**

Val Johnson

**Ushers:**

Paul Pearson & Sanchez Guerrero

**Altar Guild:**

Irene Gearey, Penny Siewert & JoAnn Nelson

**Counter:**

Irene Gearey

## The Week Ahead

### Sunday, April 28, 2024

*5th Sunday in Easter/Noisy Offering/New Member Sunday*

Worship Service (*in-person & Zoom*)

9:00 AM

New Member Potluck

10:00 AM

### Monday, April 29, 2024

Kitchen Committee

4:00 PM

### Wednesday, May 1, 2024

*Chosen Video*

Supper

5:00 PM

Video

6:00 PM

### Thursday, May 2, 2024

Dorcas Circle

9:00 AM

### Sunday, May 5, 2024

*6th Sunday in Easter*

Worship Service (*in-person & Zoom*)

9:00 AM

Coffee & Fellowship,

10:00 AM



# Announcements

To view **Sunday Services** via Zoom:

Sunday worship, 9:00 a.m. – Meeting ID 818 0653 9643 Passcode 428158.

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

This morning, we will be having a **potluck** in honor our new members. Please join us!

Today's **Noisy Offering** will be going to Lutheran Disaster Response. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ingoing assistance to those in need.

**"Quiet Activity Bags"** are available for children's use during worship. They are at the back of the sanctuary on the right-hand side.

Thank you to our dedicated teachers, **Melanie Lindquist, Barb Richards, and Tiffany Bergem**. Thank you also to our musicians, **Kim Terhaar and Kaye Schroeder**. Your commitment to our kids is important and appreciated!

## Prayers 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

Gordon Greenwald, friend of Cora Hohnstadt

Vera Wahl, Sister of Ethel Hopper

### Those in the service...

SMSgt Bradford, son of Bill & Kaye Schroeder

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

#### ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

Sunday, April 14, 2024                      Attendance: 95  
April 21, 2024                                      90

#### Offering:

Apr. 14, 2024            \$1,804.00      Weekly Budget:    \$3,132.40  
Apr. 21, 2024            \$1,661.45  
Direct Deposit:        \$ 350.00  
Total Offerings:       \$3,815.45

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

Giving: \$99,402.50                      Expenses: \$83,075.70

Income less Expenses for March:

\$16,203.00 - \$12,267.13 = \$3,935.87

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 Chosen

May 1, 2024

5:00 PM Meal

6:00 PM Video

## Episode 3- “Matthew 4:24”





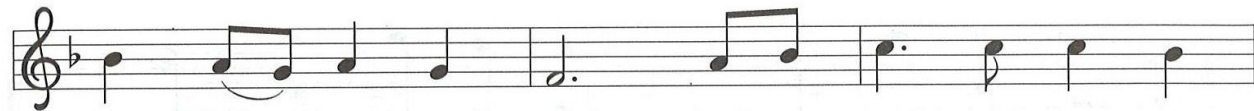
Opening Hymn: "All Are Welcome" (ELW 641) (Verses 1 & 5)



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger:  
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.