

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 Easter

April 7, 2024

Prelude

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

Sunday School Children Sing

Sharing the Peace

Opening Hymn: "In Christ Alone"

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand



***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

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,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Look, here is water!

People: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia**

Pastor: Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.
Look, here is water!

People: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia**

People: **Amen.**

***Prayer of the Day:**

Pastor: Let us pray

People: **Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, 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: Acts 4:32-35

³² Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³ With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵ They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.



Psalm 133

¹How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!

²**It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.**

³It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there the LORD ordained his blessing,
life forevermore.

Second Reading: I John 1:1-2:2

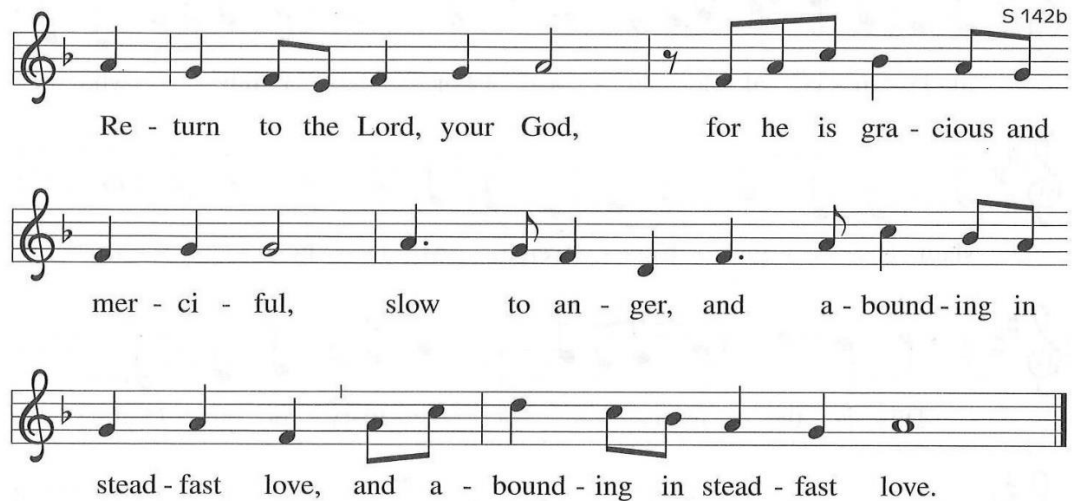
¹ We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— ³what we have seen and heard we also declare to you so that you also may have fellowship with us, and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

² My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.



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 John.

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

*Gospel: John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly is seated.

Children's Message

Sermon- "Confessing Thomas"

Pastor Hans Anderson

Song of the Day: "The Power of the Cross"

Verse 1

Oh to see the dawn of the darkest day
Christ on the road to Calvary
Tried by sinful men torn and beaten then
Nailed to a cross of wood

Chorus 1

This the pow'r of the cross
Christ became sin for us
Took the blame bore the wrath
We stand forgiven at the cross

Verse 2

Oh to see the pain written on Your face
Bearing the awesome weight of sin
Ev'ry bitter thought ev'ry evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow

Verse 3

Now the daylight flees now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows His head
Curtain torn in two dead are raised to life
Finished the vict'ry cry

Verse 4

Oh to see my name written in the wounds
For through Your suff'ring I am free
Death is crushed to death life is mine to live
Won through Your selfless love

Chorus 2

This the pow'r of the cross
Son of God slain for us
What a love what a cost
We stand forgiven at the cross

***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: 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: Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. 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 are available from the communion server upon request.
You are welcome to this Table of our Lord.*

Holy Communion Distribution

***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: “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us**

Verse 1

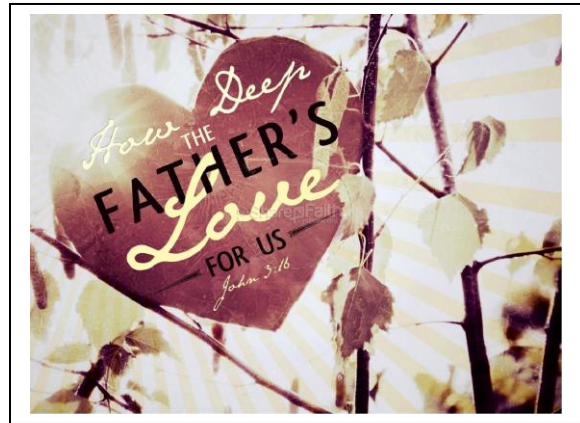
**How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory**

Verse 2

**Behold the Man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished**

Verse 3

**I will not boast in anything
No gifts no pow’r no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom**



*Dismissal:

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

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

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Reader:	Val Johnson
Communion Assistants:	Kaye Schroeder
Zoom:	Tyler Hoplin
Sound:	Sandy Gilbertson
Ushers:	Paul Pearson & Sanchez Guerrero
Altar Guild:	Irene Gearey, Penny Siewert & JoAnn Nelson
Counter:	Irene Gearey

The Week Ahead

Sunday, April 7, 2024

2ⁿ Sunday in Easter

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

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Chosen Video

Supper	5:00 PM
Video	6:00 PM

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Naomi Circle, meet at church	1:30 PM
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Friday, April 12, 2024

Legacy Chorale	7:00 PM
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Sunday, April 14, 2024

3rd Sunday in Easter

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

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 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.

New Member Classes start today and continue April 14th, with New Member Sunday on April 28. Please see Pastor Hans if interested.

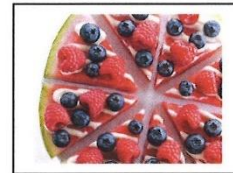
Thank you to **Neil & Denice Smith** for providing burgers for last Wednesday’s meal!

Thank you to everyone who gave bars of soap to the Lenten FLCW Mission Project. 138 bars of soap were received and shared with the Tiger Den Food Shelf at the Pine River Backus School, Forst Lutheran’s MY Little Church and the Pine River Backus Area Food Shelf. God’s Work, Your Hands!



Friday, April 12th @ 7 PM, the Legacy Chorale will be at First Lutheran Church.

They will be performing songs from the Sound of Music and Schubert. We will be having fruit pizza following the concert.



A free will offering will be taken.

Please join us for this wonderful
event.

“Quiet Activity Bags” are available for children’s use during worship. They are at the back of the sanctuary on the right-hand side.



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

Penny Siewert

Gordon Greenwald, friend of Cora Hohnstadt

Those in the service...

SMSgt Bradford, son of Bill & Kaye Schroeder

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

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

Sunday, March 24, 2024

Attendance: 82

Offering:

Mar. 24, 2024 \$1,774.00 Weekly Budget: \$3,132.40

Direct Deposit: \$ 275.00

Total Offering: \$2,049.00

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

Giving: \$86,902.05 Expenses: \$75,583.94

Income less Expenses for February:

\$11,473.25 - \$10,623.83 = \$849.42

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

April 10, 2024

5:00 PM Meal

6:00 PM Video

Episode 8 “I Am He”

