



# First Lutheran Church

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Lead Pastor: Joe Skogmo

Associate Pastor: Lauryl Ivers

**Sunday, October 1, 2023 • 8:30 AM • 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INVOCATION

## GATHERING HYMN

*God is Here*

ELW #526, vs. 1-3

- 1 God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.
- 2 Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;  
here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.  
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,  
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.
- 3 Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

**P/C:** Have mercy on us, O God. **We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor. We have sought glory for ourselves and have treasured that which does not satisfy, often at the expense of our neighbor. Give us the courage to be generous like you are generous, to be merciful as you are merciful, and to love as you love. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**C:** God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## MUSICAL MESSAGE

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing (Congregation join us on Verse 3)*

Jubilate Choir

- 3 Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen!  
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!  
On heaven's blissful shore His goodness we'll adore,  
Singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!

## RESPONSIVE PSALM

*Psalms 25:1-9*

**R:** To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**C:** O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

**R:** Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

**C:** Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

**R:** Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

**C:** Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

**R:** Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

**C:** Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

**R:** He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way.

## SCRIPTURE READING

*Philippians 2:1-11*

<sup>2</sup> If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

R: The word of the Lord.     **C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Page 205

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.  
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.  
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## GOSPEL

*Matthew 21:23-27*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.     **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>23</sup> When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" <sup>24</sup> Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup> Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup> But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup> So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

P: The Gospel of Our Lord.     **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Pr. Joe Skogmo

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*All are Welcome*

ELW #641, vs. 1, 3 & 5

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

**Refrain: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

3 Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:     **Refrain**

5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:     **Refrain**

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

*Apostle's Creed*

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

P: Lord in your mercy,     **C: Hear our prayer.**

## SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.     **C: And also with you.**

## NOISY OFFERING

*Hope for the Holiday—Lutheran Immigration & Resettlement Service*

## OFFERING & OFFERTORY HYMN

*Now Thank We All Our God*

ELW #840, vs. 3

- 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

P:/C: Loving God, receive this offering for the building up of your kingdom: the proclamation of your word and the loving of our neighbor. Amen.

## COMMUNION

### Words of Institution

### Lord's Prayer

C: 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; and 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.

### Distribution

### Post Communion Blessing & Prayer

C: Gracious God, at this table you have nourished our body and soul with food and drink. As you have been food and drink for us, transform us to be food and drink for one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## BENEDICTION

## SENDING HYMN

*On Our Way Rejoicing*

ELW #537

- 1 On our way rejoicing gladly let us go.  
Christ our Lord has conquered; vanquished is the foe.  
Christ without, our safety; Christ within, our joy;  
who, if we be faithful, can our hope destroy?

**Refrain: On our way rejoicing; as we forward move,  
hearken to our praises, O blest God of love!**

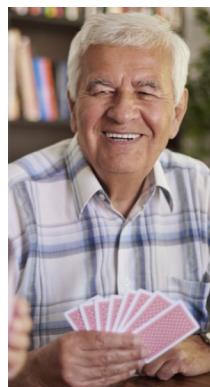
- 2 Unto God the Father joyful songs we sing;  
unto God the Savior thankful hearts we bring;  
unto God the Spirit bow we and adore,  
on our way rejoicing now and evermore. **Refrain**

## SENDING

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

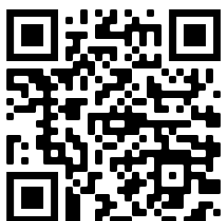


### Morning Out Group Respite

Participants enjoy fun activities like playing cards or doing crafts. This is a great way for people age 60+ experiencing memory loss to make new friends in a safe environment with trained volunteers. During this time, Caregivers can run errands, visit with friends and family, or just take some time to relax. Fees for this service are based on a sliding fee scale.

**First Lutheran Church  
Tuesdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Pre-registration required.  
218-220-7517



### Ways to Give

**ONLINE:** [firstlutheranchurch.com](http://firstlutheranchurch.com)—One-time, weekly, monthly or quarterly.  
Checking, savings or credit card. (*fees associated with credit card usage*)

**TEXT:** 218-228-3228—Text your donation amount to the number listed above  
& follow instructions that are texted to you. (We suggest you add the phone  
number above as a contact in your phone for future use.)

**CHECK/CASH:** 912 Lake Avenue, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TAI JI QUAN CLASS**—A new 12-week session will start Tuesday September 26<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM in the Rec Room. Tai Ji Quan has proven to help with balance and strength. Everyone is welcome. We will meet every Tuesday and Thursday. If you have questions about the class or would like to join, please contact Denise.

**FLC WOMEN REMINDR**—The WELCA Fall Cluster reservations are due October 1. You can also register at the door on Saturday, October 7 or in the church office as well. Forms are available on the volunteer table in the lower narthex. More information about the event can be found in the announcement below.

**ELCA WOMEN'S FALL CONFERENCE**—The Women of the ELCA will be hosting the Fall Conference on Saturday, October 7th at First Lutheran Church in Detroit Lakes. A presentation on the Sheltering Ministry will be given by Mackenzie Hamm, a Bible Study will be led by Pastor Lauryl Ivers and Special Music will be performed by Emma Duncan. Cost for the event is \$15. Registration and coffee will begin at 8 AM and the program will begin at 9 AM. Please RSVP by Sunday, October 1. Registration forms can be found on the volunteer table.

**NEW MEMBER WELCOME**—We plan to welcome new members to FLC on Sunday, October 8 during either of the worship services or Wednesday, October 11 at the 6 PM worship service. If you would like to become a member of First Lutheran Church, please complete the Membership Form located on our website by clicking on 'Membership' under the Who We Are tab OR fill out the form on the table outside the sanctuary and place it in the offering plate. Please note, if you are unable to make those new member dates, you can still become a member at any time! Please call the office for more information!

**UPCOMING BOOK STUDY OPPORTUNITY**—Reverend Dr. Roy Hammerling, Professor Emeritus Concordia College, will be leading a book study here at First Lutheran Church. Speaking of Religion is the book that will be featured in the study. The book was authored by Hammerling several years ago and approaches the topic with compassion, conviction, and civility. This study will be offered Sundays, October 22 and November 5, during the education hour – 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM in the library. What a dynamic opportunity to participate in a book study led by the author of the book! Please plan to join us and be better prepared to participate by acquiring a copy of the book through Amazon Books or Thrift Books or the Bluebird Book Store (Detroit Lakes). If you have any questions or need some assistance, please visit with either Sarah or Melissa in the office. Hope you join us!

**PR. LAUREL'S FAREWELL**—We will celebrating Pr. Lauryl on Sunday, October 29 between worship services starting at 9:30 AM. Breakfast will be served. Please come and wish Pr. Lauryl farewell and help her celebrate her new adventure. We will also be offering a farewell and Godspeed prayer during both worship services. All are welcome to attend!

### Prayers for God's People

Brent Blake  
Joe Morrison  
Dale Pepelnjak  
Julie Manke  
Bill Wegscheid  
Judy Ford  
Arthur Strauss  
Kathy Lampton  
Jim Buchholz  
Connie Graber  
Lisa Weber  
Arlis Beto  
Dave Nustad  
Sue Ashmore  
Pam Graham  
Kathy Larson  
Brian

### Prayers of Comfort for the Family of

Sandra McCormack  
Sue Ashmore  
Doug Coen

*Names are kept on the  
prayer list for 3 weeks;  
please update the office  
if you wish to remain on  
the list longer.*

**CREATION CARE NOTE**—Check the energy efficiency rating before purchasing appliances. Ratings run from A to G, with A being the most efficient and G being the least efficient. Higher rated appliances may have higher costs to purchase initially, but save money in the long haul. Look for appliances at rated C or higher.

### Join Us For Worship

**RADIO:** KDLM 1340-AM & 93.1-FM at 10 AM.

**WEBCAST:** Live-streamed on [firstlutheranchurch.com](http://firstlutheranchurch.com)

**IN PERSON:** In the sanctuary Wednesdays at 6 PM or Sundays at 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM.

**TELEVISION:** On Saturdays at 9 AM on Arvig Cable channel 14.

**Welcome Visitor!**

Date of Visit: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I'm a guest of: \_\_\_\_\_ I'm a member of: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am interested in learning more about First Lutheran Church.