



# First Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 8, 2026 | Third Sunday in Lent

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.



## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INVOCATION

### GATHERING SONG | *Baptized and Set Free* | ELW#453 vs 1, 3-4

1. We are people created, chosen by God.  
Then we're washed, ever gently, in mercy and love.  
Sin has power no more.  
Jesus opened the door  
to a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more.
3. We are nourished by water, all living things,  
and by life that the Spirit abundantly brings.  
As we journey toward home,  
may your presence be known: precious river, ever-flowing,  
now carry us home.
4. Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song.  
All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong.  
Not enslaved, but set free!  
From now on, all will be  
one in Jesus, one in water, baptized and set free!

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Merciful God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out our offenses. Release us from the guilt and shame we carry, and renew a right spirit within us. Teach us your ways, and uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## HOLY BAPTISM

Names of Baptized: Annika Joy Muckenhirn | Parents: Kyle & Kayla Muchenhirn  
Sponsors: Ryan and Renae Hampton

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus...

**C: We renounce them.**

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

**C: 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.**

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**All: 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.**

**MUSICAL MESSAGE** | *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* — Arnold B. Sherman | *Alleluia Ringers*

## FIRST READING | *Exodus 17:1-7*

<sup>1</sup> From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup> The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup> But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. <sup>6</sup> I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

## RESPONSIVE PSALM | *Psalm 95:1-7*

R: O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**C: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

R: For the LORD is a great God and a great King above all gods.

**C: In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.**

R: The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

**C: O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**

R: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture  
and the sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice!

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | ELW pg. 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 | *John 4:5-1, 16*

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 4th Chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup> One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup> When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" <sup>7</sup> The ill man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me." <sup>8</sup> Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." <sup>9</sup> At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a Sabbath. <sup>10</sup> So the Jews said to the man who had been cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your mat." <sup>11</sup> But he answered them, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Take up your mat and walk.'"

<sup>16</sup> Therefore the Jews started persecuting Jesus, because he was doing such things on the Sabbath.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON | Pr. Joe Skogmo

### HYMN OF THE DAY | *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* | ELW #611

1. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;  
I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad.
2. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.
3. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav'ling days are done.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

## 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.**

## SHARING OF PEACE

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

**OFFERING / NOISY OFFERING** | *March: Becker County Food Pantry*

**OFFERTORY SONG** | *Holy, Holy, Holy* | *ELW #473*

1. Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.  
My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy God. **(Sing 2x)**

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

## BENEDICTION

**SENDING SONG** | *Behold Our God*

Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand?  
Kings and nations tremble at His voice. All creation rises to rejoice.

**Chorus: Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come, let us adore Him.  
Behold our King, nothing can compare. Come, let us adore Him!**

Who has given counsel to the Lord? Who can question any of His Words?  
Who can teach the One who knows all things?  
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds? **Chorus**

Who has felt the nails upon His hands, bearing all the guilt of sinful man?  
God eternal, humbled to the grave, Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign! **Chorus**

**Bridge** (*Choir and Worship Team sings this*)

**Chorus 2: Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come, let us adore Him.  
Behold our King, nothing can compare. Come let us adore.**

**Chorus: Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come, let us adore Him.  
Behold our King, nothing can compare. Come, let us adore Him!**

## SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE CHOSEN BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays at 1 pm. in the library  
Through March 10. Season 2 of  
the Chosen begins March 17.

### JOIN IN THE DISCUSSION

Sunday, March 8 & April 12  
@ 10:30am in the library  
As you know, Pastor Joe,  
Pastor Matthew and the  
confirmation students have been  
sharing questions with the  
congregation on Sunday  
mornings. Now you have an  
opportunity to join in the  
discussion. in an informal and  
fun environment!

### PERSONAL CARE KITS

The Women of FLC are now col-  
lecting items to make Personal  
Care Kits for Lutheran World  
Relief. Items needed are: nail  
clippers, adult toothbrushes,  
sturdy combs, light weight, dark  
colored bath towels & bath  
sized bar soap. A collection box  
is available outside of the church  
office through the end of May.

### DREAM BIG DONATIONS

Reminder, when writing a check,  
please write "Dream Big" or  
Capital Campaign" in the memo  
line. Gifts denotate with  
"building" may be used for  
current repairs & maintenance  
and will not be used towards  
your pledge. Thanks for your  
help!

### SPRING BREAK

No Oasis on March 11 & no Kids  
Fellowship on March 15

### WANT TO TRY CONFIRMATION AGAIN?

On select Wednesdays you can  
come to the sanctuary from 6:30-  
7:30pm and join our 7<sup>th</sup> &  
8<sup>th</sup> graders for their confirmation  
lesson. Upcoming lessons:  
**3/18: Theology: Creation 3/25:  
Theology: Baptism & Communion**  
**4/8: Theology: The Cross vs. Glory**

### PIE AUCTION

Sunday, March 22

You are invited to join us for this  
fun and delicious event. All funds  
will go towards our summer high  
school trip to Wolf Ridge. Want to  
support this event? We are look-  
ing for donations of pie & baked  
goods to auction off. A signup is  
at the information table outside  
of the church office.

### HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER TRIP

July 19-23| Wolf Ridge  
Environmental Learning Center,  
Finland, MN

Registration is now open! For  
more information, check out our  
website or contact Olivia, YFM  
Director.

### Prayers for God's People

Ongoing prayers for:  
Bill Wegschied, Cole Woltjer,  
Gretta Frisch, Judy Wood, Larry  
Kjono, Tyler Wilson, Dave & Pam  
Nustad, Cami Eckhoff, Atticus,  
Kathy Larson, the Blake Family,  
and Ethan Jacob.  
Prayers of comfort for those who  
mourn the loss of a loved one.

### MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays @ noon  
Join us Wednesdays in Lent for  
worship and a study of the book  
of Psalms. A soup &  
sandwich lunch to follow the  
service each week. Everyone is  
welcome — invite a friend!

### EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to order flowers  
in honor/memory of a loved one  
to be displayed on Easter  
Sunday, order forms are now  
available. Forms are at the  
information table, by the office  
or scan the QR code to pay  
online.



## EASTER at FLC

Palm Sunday |  
March 29

Maundy Thursday | April 2  
Worship services @ 12 & 6pm

Good Friday | April 3  
Worship services @ 12 & 6pm

Easter Sunday  
Worship services @ 8:30,  
9:30 & 10:30am

### Thanks for worshipping with us!



First  
Lutheran  
Church

Lead Pastor: Joe Skogmo  
Associate Pastor: Matthew Rossler  
Music Director: Karen Bimberg

### GIVE ONLINE

#### Prefer electronic giving?

Set up an automated method and frequency  
that works best for you by using the  
**QR code.**

Then, if you like, drop the **green laminated  
slip** in the offering plate.



First Lutheran Church | 912 Lake Ave, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 | Ph: 218.847.5656  
email: flc@firstlutheranchurch.com | web: firstlutheranchurch.com

