



# First Lutheran Church

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Lead Pastor: Joe Skogmo

Associate Pastor: Lauryl Ivers

**Sunday, September 17, 2023 • 8:30 AM • Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

*In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INVOCATION

## GATHERING HYMN

*Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death*

ELW #452, vs. 2-4

- 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear release,  
to give the Spirit's unity, the very bond of peace.
- 3 There is one body and one hope, one Spirit and one call,  
one Lord, one faith, and one baptism, one God who made us all.
- 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;  
with kind and gentle hearts forgive as God in Christ forgave.

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P/C: Most merciful God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: **O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## MUSICAL MESSAGE

*Meditation on Beautiful Savior—arr. by Cathy Moglebust*

Alleluia Ringers

## TEMPLE TALK

*Lutheran Campus Ministry—MSUM*

Jason Baumgartner

Donations can be made at [www.crossroadsumsum.ddock.gives/](http://www.crossroadsumsum.ddock.gives/)

## FIRST READING

*Genesis 50:15-21*

<sup>15</sup> Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" <sup>16</sup> So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup> 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup> Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." <sup>19</sup> But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup> So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

## RESPONSIVE PSALM

*Psalm 103:1-8*

R: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

C: **Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—**

R: who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

C: **who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

R: who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

C: **The LORD works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.**

R: He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

C: **The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

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 18:21-35*

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

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times."

<sup>23</sup> "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves."

<sup>24</sup> When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, <sup>25</sup> and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup> So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'

<sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup> Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup> But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup> Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup> And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup> So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

## SERMON

Pr. Joe Skogmo

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Change My Heart, O God*

ELW #801

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.  
You are the potter; I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.  
Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

## 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

*FLC Youth & Family Ministries*

## OFFERING & OFFERTORY HYMN

*Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service*

ELW #712, vs 1

1 Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed:  
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;  
consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift which you impart.

## 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

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

ELW #547

- 1 Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave. The supper is ended.  
Oh, now be extended the fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all. Your grace shall incite us,  
your love shall unite us to work for your kingdom and answer your call.
- 2 With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living,  
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—our faith ever sharing,  
in love ever caring, embracing God's children, the whole human race.  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;  
unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living  
with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

### SENDING

**P:** Go in peace and serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

### POSTLUDE

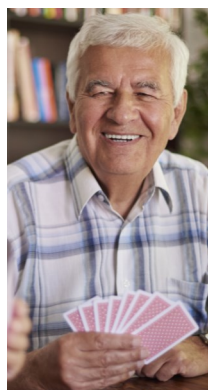
### Join Us For Worship

**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.



### 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

**UPCOMING EVENT**—Seeing in Color by Scott Geieselhart Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. This inspirational presentation will take the place of worship that evening. The presentation is meant to educate audiences about PTSD, addiction, and suicide. All are welcome, including youth and families. There will be volunteers in the Rec Room during this presentation leading various activities for children and families who do not wish to attend the presentation.

**TAI JI QUAN CLASS**—A new 12-week session will start Tuesday September 27<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.

**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.

**CALM THE CHAOS**—A women's support group will begin meeting on Mondays at 6:30 PM in the FLC Conference Room on Monday, September 25. Join them for support and friendship among women struggling to manage kids, parents and busy careers. It's a chance to unwind and focus on you.

**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!

### 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  
Sandy McCormack  
Arlis Beto  
Dave Nustad  
Sue Ashmore  
Brian

### Prayers of Comfort for the Family of

Sandra Lee McCormack

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

### CREATION CARE NOTE

A paste of baking soda and water makes a good scrub for your sink or bathtub. It can also unclog your sink. Sprinkle the soda down the drain, add vinegar, and let it sit for 15 minutes, then wash down with hot water.

**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.