



# First Lutheran Church

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Wednesday, December 13, 2023 · 6 PM · First Sunday of Advent

## WELCOME

*John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.*

### GATHERING SONG

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

### INVOCATION

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

**P/C:** Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. In your compassion forgive us our sins known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, 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.

### GOSPEL

*Mark 1:1-8*

### SERMON

Pr. Joe Skogmo

### CHRISTMAS CAROL

*Away in a Manger*

ELW #277, vs 1 & 2

### SHARING OF PEACE

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

**C: And also with you.**

### NOISY OFFERING

*FLC Agape Fund*

*The FLC Agape Fund is used to help our homeless guests who come into the church with needs including rental assistance, short term hotel stays, bus tickets, food vouchers, clothing vouchers and more!*

**November Noisy Offering total was \$574.23 going towards Feed My Starving Children. THANK YOU!**

### OFFERING & OFFERTORY CAROL

*What Child is This?*

ELW #196, vs. 1

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

### COMMUNION

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Distribution

Post Communion Blessing & Prayer

### BENEDICTION

### SENDING SONG

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

ELW #289, vs. 1 & 3

### SENDING



### 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

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**—The Advent & Christmas season is made more beautiful when the church is filled with beautiful poinsettias. If you would like to share flowers, please complete an order form & return it to the church office by Friday, December 15. Cost is \$12.00 per plant. Order forms can be found on the on the volunteer table.

**ADVENT MINI CONCERTS**—We are celebrating Advent with our final Annual Mini Christmas Concerts at 12:05 PM on Wednesday, December 20th. Following the concerts there will be a free will offering soup and sandwich lunch. More information about the concerts can be found on the flyer hung on the bulletin board OR on the signs on the dining room tables.

**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**—Please join us on Sunday, December 24 for Christmas Eve worship. We will be offering a contemporary worship service at either 3:30 PM or 5 PM and a traditional candlelight service at 7 PM. There will be NO Christmas Day service this year.

**HOLIDAY HOURS**—The FLC office will be closed from Monday, December 25 through Wednesday, December 27 in recognition of the Christmas holiday. The office will also be closed on Monday, January 1 in recognition of New Years Day.

**WFLC TREAT SALE**—The Women of First Lutheran are again inviting your participation in this major event. The Sweet Sale will take place from 9:30 AM until noon on Sunday, December 17, just in time to stock up for holiday gatherings with friends and family. Items can be dropped off at the church from 9:30 to 11:30 AM, Saturday, December 16th. If you are unable to drop them off Saturday, you can bring them before the sale starts on Sunday morning. Thank you!

**CHILDREN & YOUTH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**—There is no Sunday/Wednesday School or Confirmation starting December 17 and December 20. Classes will resume on January 7 and January 10.

**BLOOD DRIVE**- December 27, 2023 7:30am-1:00pm. Give the gift of life this Christmas. Currently, there is a CRITICAL NEED for all blood types. Each donation can help multiple patients. Just think, it could be someone you love who needs blood. Please consider donating to help these patients in need. To schedule an appointment, go to [donors.vitalant.org](http://donors.vitalant.org) and use the blood drive code: detroitlakes or call Denise at

218-847-5656.

**CHRISTMAS DECORATION TAKEDOWN**—We will enjoy the decorations thru Advent and the 12 days of Christmas and then take them down on Saturday, January 6th. We will begin at 9:00 AM. If you have a little time to spare that morning, we'd love to see you.

**ALTAR GUILD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**—Christmas is fast approaching and we are in need of Altar Guild Volunteers at all three of the Christmas Eve Services. Please sign up to help in the sacristy.

### Prayers for God's People

Brent Blake  
Joe Morrison  
Dale Pepelnjak  
Bill Wegscheid  
Judy Ford  
Kathy Lampton  
Lisa Weber  
Dave Nustad  
LeeAnn Hanson  
Harriet Barrett  
Isaak Berg  
Sandy Hanson  
Sue Visser  
Ashley Anderson & Family  
Liz Mathison  
Ernie Mancini  
Gill Gigstead  
Dick Dahlin  
B.R.  
Brian

### Prayer's of Comfort to the family of:

Olivia Gunderson

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

### CREATION CARE NOTE

Minnesota's largest source of electricity is renewable energy, which includes wind power. In 2022, renewables contributed 31% of the state's total in-state electricity generation. Among these, wind energy accounted for three-fourths of the renewable contribution, making Minnesota the ninth state in the nation in terms of wind's share of total generation.

**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.