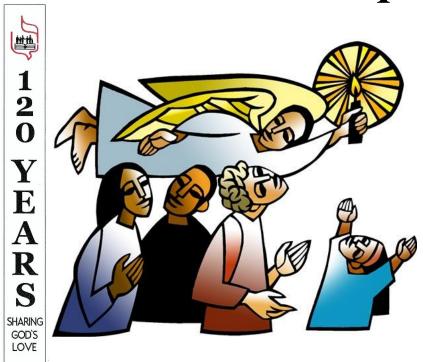
Welcome to Worship!



Gathering as a people of God since 1904

FIRST LUTHERAN – ELCA THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

916 Main St. Williston, ND 58801 701-572-6363 www.flcwilliston.com

On Facebook @ First Lutheran Church – Williston, ND NURTURING FAITH FOR LIFE

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 30th, 2025 9:30 a.m. WORSHIP WELCOME VISITORS. IF YOU ARE SEEKING A NEW CHURCH HOME, PLEASE CONSIDER FIRST LUTHERAN

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG Please Stand

ELW 434

Jesus Shall Reign



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

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songs

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

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The Rite of Holy Baptism For Lennon Marlene Oas

In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

The sponsors present the candidate with these words:

R I present Lennon Marlene to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

P In Christian love you have presented Lennon Marlene for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring her to the services of God's house, and teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As she grows in years, you should place in her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for her instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of her Baptism and in communion with the Church, she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

R I do.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that she who is here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of she who is cleansed by this water and bring her forth as an inheritor of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen

P I ask you our Baptismal party, as well as the assembled people of God, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

P Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

C I do.

P Do you believe in God the Father, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and God the Holy Spirit as we profess in the words of the Apostles' Creed?

C I do.

P Lennon Marlene is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

P God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Lennon Marlene: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

C Amen

The minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

P Lennon Marlene, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

R Amen

A lighted candle may be given to the baptized (to the sponsor of a young child) by the minister who says:

P Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

When small children are baptized, this prayer may be said.

P Let us Pray:

O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon Joshua and Paige. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for Lennon Marlene. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their children the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

Stand

The ministers and the baptismal group turn toward the congregation

- P Through Baptism God has made this new sister a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.
- **Q** We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and worker with us in the kingdom of God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray:

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The assembly is seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON.

PRAISE SONG ELW 423

Shall We Gather at the River



- 1 Shall we gath er at the riv er, where bright an gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-'ry bur-den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv er, soon our pil-grim-age will cease;



with its crys-tal tide for - ev - er flow-ing by the throne of God? we will walk and wor-ship ev - er, all the hap-py gold - en day. grace our spir-its will de-liv - er, and pro-vide a robe and crown. soon our hap-py hearts will quiv - er with the mel-o - dy of peace.



Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;



gath-er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

FIRST READING ISAIAH 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains

and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,

to the house of the God of Jacob,

that he may teach us his ways

and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction

and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations

and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation;

neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk

in the light of the Lord!

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

ROMANS 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

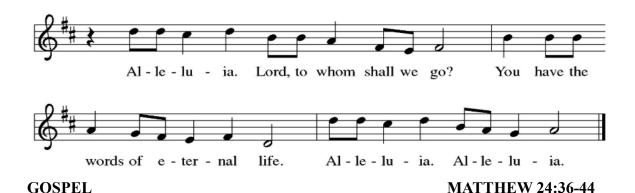
¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand to welcome the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew

C Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

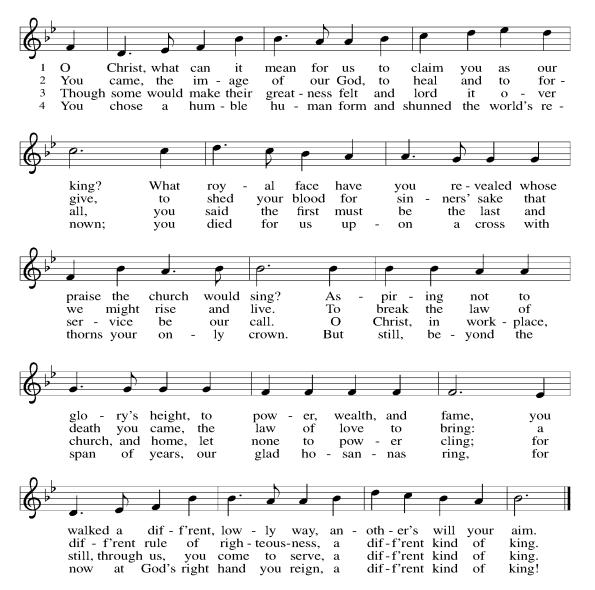
C Praise to you, O Christ.

MEDITATION

Pastor Zach Harris

Stand

O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us



Text: Delores Dufner, osB, b. 1939

Music: ALL SAINTS NEW, Henry S. Cutler, 1824-1902

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APOSTLES CREED

P God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' 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 INTERCESSION

A In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

A God of the people, we come seeking wisdom and instruction. Uphold and strengthen lay leaders, teachers, deacons, pastors, and bishops. Teach us your ways and lead us in your paths. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A God of the earth, we seek your goodness in the grandeur of creation. Empower us to care for forests and oceans, as we see you in the world around us. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A God of the nations, grant wisdom to leaders, judges, and mediators. Cast out words of hate and transform them into words for building up community. Remake implements of war to sow peace. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A God of healing, bring comfort and strength. We pray for our kindred and companions who are ill or despairing especially those we name at this time... and those affected by HIV and AIDS as we remember World AIDS Day. Surround all with care and consolation. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A God of new possibilities, when addiction wounds, jealousy tears down, and relationships fray, show us how to journey with one another. Nurture therapists, counselors, and sponsors in their care for others. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A God of all time, build up our lives that we would reflect your grace. At the last, bring us with Adrienne Stepanek, Opal Smith and all the saints to your holy city where peace and goodness make a home. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

⚠ Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

C Amen.

PEACE

A The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please share Christ's peace with those around you

OFFERTORY

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

(The offering is a part of our service when God's people respond to His goodness with gifts to support God's work in the world. Malachi 3:10 promises us that our 10% tithe of our wealth will not go unrewarded, and we are encouraged to give offerings above the tithe. An offering is not expected of our guests, but if you consider First Lutheran to be your church home, know that all your gifts support ministries both locally and globally.)

OFFERING MUSIC

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us Pray:
Nourishing God,
you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert.
Through this meal, satisfy our parched places,
that we may rejoice and be for the world
signs of your kingdom come.

C Amen.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Words of Institution

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORDS PRAYER

P Let us pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples:

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 power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

Please stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Delta Let us Pray:
God our host,
at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.
Send us forth, eager to share the feast,
welcome the stranger,
and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P May God who comes among us,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG ELW 855

Crown Him with Many Crowns



- 1 Crown him with man y crowns, the Lamb up on his throne;
- 2 Crown him the vir gin's Son, the God in car nate born,
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be hold his hands and side,
- 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri-umphed o'er the grave
- 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po ten tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own. whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn; rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau-ty glo - ri - fied. and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save. cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub-lime.





For

thou hast died

for

me;

hail!

and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty. the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem. but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys-ter - ies so bright. who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die. thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

All hail,

Re - deem - er,

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Keep awake.

C Thanks be to God.

Remember our Mission: "The Mission of FLC is

To share God's Love by Engaging, Inspiring and Renewing."

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CROSS TALK

You are welcome to experience God's love here at First Lutheran, where our lives are changed by the promises God has made to us through Jesus Christ. We pray that the Holy Spirit will profoundly engage you as we worship our Lord, together!

Hearing transmitters are available at the Main Street entry. If you need assistance, ask one of the ushers or greeters. Please return the transmitter after worship.

If you are interested in electronic giving, please contact the church's Financial Admin, Randi Jangula, at 572-6363 or office@flcwilliston.com.

Help us help you! If you or a family member is hospitalized or homebound and need a visit, please contact the church office. We have no way of knowing unless you speak up.

Restroom locations - Downstairs at church entrance, in north & south hallways to Fellowship Hall. A handicapped facility is near the door to the big kitchen.

Help Needed!! We are needing a few people to step up and help with the radio broadcast on Sunday mornings!! With a little bit of training, you will be good to go and we can relieve Bill Glen from always having to do it!!!

Call the office if interested.



The Radio Broadcast today is in Memory of Larry Lynne and is given by Marilyn Archer.

ATTENTION ALL COMMITTEES!

Please submit your annual committee reports to Randi by Friday, December 26, 2025. Reports can be dropped off at the main office or emailed to office@flcwilliston.com.

Thank you!

Pastor Zach Harris

Deacon Lynea Geinert

Music & Worship Coordinator Meriel Lora

Music Director Carmen Delaney

Trinity & Our Saviors Cindy Gardner

Sound Tech Zach Myhrer

Greeter

Ushers Karen Bates, Dave Mischke

Reader Arnie Siversen

Communion Servers Tina Hanson, Diane Hagen

Coffee Hour

The Gospel Choir Group is holding practice.

- All are welcome!
- Contact Carmen Delaney at (701) 609-1987 for more information.
- On the 2nd Sunday of each month the Gospel Choir practices in the Sanctuary after the church service.
- On the 4th Sunday of each month, the Gospel Choir sings in church.

Upcoming Youth Group Activities Sunday December 7th from 1:00-4:00 pm

All youth group (grades 6-12) Christmas Cookie Decorating in the Kitchen Please RSVP to Baylee Hanson 701-770-2179 by Sunday November 30th.

USHERS, GREETERS, AND READERS

Can you Help? We need individuals to serve as ushers, greeters, and readers for Sunday morning worship and the upcoming Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex on Sunday morning and at the reception desk during the week.

THIS WEEK AT FLC

Sunday, November 30

9:30 am Worship Service -S 9:45 am Sunday School following Children's Sermon

Monday, December 1

8:30 am Pastors/Lay Text Study
1: -- 3 pm Adult Quilting - QR
3:30 to 5:30 pm Kids Quilting Class - QR
6 pm Williston Chorale Practice - Chapel
7 pm Property Committee

Tuesday, December 2

7 am Men's Bible Study Gramma Sharon's 5 pm Executive Committee – MR 6:30 pm Personnel Committee - MR

Wednesday, December 3

9:30 am Faith Circle - P
2 pm WELCA Bible Study - P
6 pm Advent Meal - FH
6:30 pm Advent Service - Chapel
6:30 pm Wed School

Thursday, December 4

10 am Coffee Hour – P
12 noon Men in Mission - P
1:30 pm Pray, Knit, Chat - P
3:30 to 5:30 pm Kids Quilting Class QR
6:30 pm Cub Scouts - YR

Friday, December 5

Saturday, December 6 Sunday, December 7

9:30 am Worship Service -S 9:45 Sun. School Christmas Program Practice following Children's Sermon 10:30 Annual Congregational Trust Meeting Following Service - S

1 – 4 pm Youth Group Cookie Decorating - K

aptism



Prayers for healing and comfort:

Scott Shackelford, Abby Cymek,
Opal Smith, Janelle VandeBerg,
Bob Benson, Darin Swensrud, Jean Lewis,
Vern Hendrickson, Dan Bloomquist,
Marion Hughes, Ron Raymond,
Sawyer Smith, Hector Miray
Sympathy and prayers:

The family of Adrienne Stepanek, and the family of Opal Smith

Military Service Members

Isaac Haugen, Lars Conway

Prayer List Updates?

Please look at the prayer list. Those listed on the Prayer list will remain there for a period of four (4) weeks unless a request is received to be removed earlier. More info? Call 701-572-6363

Week of November 23 – November 28

- Weekly Offering \$ 3,207
- Last week DISCIPLES 106 were sent out in God's name to make a difference. We go out to do the same

Please welcome
Lennon Marlene Oas into our FLC Family!
Parents are Joshua Paige Oas
Sponsors are
Jake and Megan Fisketjon

STEWARDSHIP

It's all about gratitude. It's all about giving back It's all about God.

Direct – Cash or check donation into the plate, always welcome!

Online – Make a donation on our website:

www.flcwilliston.com

Text to Donate – Make a donation via Text message. Simply text the word "Give" to 833-934-3039

Click on the link in the response and follow the prompts to complete your donation!

Search "Tithe.ly Church App" in your phone App Store or Google Play.
Simply download and find
First Lutheran Church, Williston ND

Click on the Give button.

First Lutheran Church 916 Main Street Williston, ND 58801

Tithe.ly is our online donation processor when giving through our Facebook page and our Livestream. If you are set up with a username and password through **Vanco**, they will not work with **Tithe.ly**.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 7
Annual Congregational Trust Meeting
following 9:30 am Worship

<u>Saturday, December 13</u> WELCA Bake Sale – 2:00 pm FH

> Sunday, December 14 Williston Chorale Concert

2:00 pm Sanctuary <u>Wednesday, December 24</u> Christmas Eve Service 4:30 pm

Thursday - Friday December 25 - 26 Christmas Day and Friday following Christmas. Office closed Thursday, January 1, 2025 New Years Day - Office Closed

Children & Youth Calendar

7th - Whole Group Practice (During Sunday School)

7th - Youth Group grades 6 -12 1 - 4 pm Cookie Decorating Kitchen

8th - Committee Meeting (6:00pm in the Parlor)

14th - Christmas Program (During Sunday School including Wednesday School)

14th - Gingerbread Houses (After Church Service in the Fellowship Hall)

21st - No Sunday School

23rd - No Wednesday School/Confirmation

25th - Christmas Day

28th - No Sunday School

30th - No Wednesday School/Confirmation



Gloria Dei Food Pantry Needs Volunteers!

The need for food assistance in our community

is growing every day.

It takes volunteers to help distribute food boxes Tuesdays and Thursdays at Gloria Dei between 9:00 am and 3:30 pm.

They are only asking for you to commit to 2 hours of your time.

What a great way to show our gratitude this holiday season for all of the blessings our Heavenly Father has showered on us this year. For more information contact Joscelyn the Gloria Dei church office at 701-572-2667.

SAVE THE DATE FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH (FLC) - WILLISTON ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY - JANUAURY 25, 2026 Following 9:30 am Worship

The purpose of the Annual Congregational Meeting is to:

- Ratify the amendment to the FLC Constitution to bring it into alignment and compliance with the 2025 National Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) Constitution.
- Ratify the updated by-laws and resolutions.
- Approve the 2026 FLC Budget and Nominations.
- Approve any other new resolutions.

SAVE THE DATE! December 7th

Annual Congregational Trust Meeting

Following 9:30 Worship Service The grant requests are available for review and are located in a binder located at the reception desk.



Donation envelopes for 2026 have arrived and are located next to the Receptionist Desk.



AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE IN THE OFFICE.

Ticket Prices: Adults & High School: \$25 Youth – Junior High &

> Grades: \$10 Pre-School Free

The **Lutefisk Committee** Needs empty ice cream containers with lids.

The containers may be left on the counter in the kitchen.

Thank you!

Advent will s

Thursday December 4th
Time: Noon - Location: Parlor
Speaker Jon Cole
KUMV - Sports
Meal provided by
Dale Haugen and Steve Slocum
All Men are Welcome!

Men in Mission

Advent will soon be upon us.
We will, once again, be holding
Wednesday evening meals and worship
together. The meals will be served at 6:00
pm with worship beginning at 6:30 pm.
The following Groups are serving:

ADVENT MEALS AND WORSHIP

December 3: BeFrienders

December 10: Christian Concerns December 17: Dave Brevik and Duane DeMars

As we approach the Advent and Christmas Season we think of traditions. It is a tradition at First

Lutheran Church to display many poinsettias around the altar during the Christmas season. If you would

like to share a poinsettia, either in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special person, it will be

placed with others for the Christmas services and then it is yours to take home AFTER THE

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE. Each plant purchased this year comes in a 6-inch covered pot for \$15.00.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND BRING IT IN OR MAIL IT TO THE CHURCH

OFFICE ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 7TH. PLEASE PRINT!!!

YOUR NAME:

Attached is \$ for plants.

Plants.

In Honor of: