

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

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Sunday, August 23

13th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. WORSHIP

Pastor Stephen Hilding

WELCOME VISITORS.

***IF YOU ARE SEEKING A NEW CHURCH HOME,
PLEASE CONSIDER FIRST LUTHERAN***

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

Laura Story, and Cliff Duren

Arr by Jared Haschek and Dan Galbraith

Verse 1

Come Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the
earth Thou art Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart

Verse 2

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring
By Thy own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thine glorious throne

Chorus 1

Come thou great Redeemer, come Emmanuel Bless the nations with Your presence here
Born our souls to rescue, born to save Your very own Long expected Jesus, make our
hearts Your home

Verse 3

Come Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the
earth Thou art Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart

Chorus 2

Come now great Redeemer, come Emmanuel Bless the nations with Your presence here
Born our souls to rescue, born to save Your very own Long expected Jesus, make our
hearts Your home

Chorus 3

Come now great Redeemer, come Emmanuel Bless the nations with Your presence here
Born our souls to rescue, born to save Your very own Long expected Jesus, make our
hearts Your home

Tag

Come thou long expected Jesus come now long expected Jesus

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

P Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

C Amen.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life.
Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

P Let us pray:

C Amen.

The assembly is seated.

The assembly is seated

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 51:1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Open Our Eyes Lord

Open our eyes, Lord. We want to see Jesus to reach out and touch Him,
And say that we love Him.

Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen; open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

Open our eyes, Lord. We want to see Jesus to reach out and touch Him,
And say that we love Him.

Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen; open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

MEDITATION

Pastor Stephen Hilding

Please stand.

Arr by Don Chapman

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou Art, Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my tre Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true Son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's Joy's, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, what ever be fall, Still be my Vision, O Ruler of All.

Heart of my own heart, what ever be fall, Still be my Vision, O Ruler of All.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

A God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland and wilderness—all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your creation. Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster. Guide the work of relief agencies and peace-making organizations. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day especially those we name at this time... Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A We thank you and praise you for giving us your Church dear Lord. We ask you to pour out your grace upon our new Bishop Lisa Lewton who will be installed Saturday, August 29. We ask that you abundantly bless Bishop Lewton, and that you strengthen and protect her as she carries out your work. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

RESENTATION 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.*

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Words of Institution

THE LORDS PRAYER

**☩ 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION DISTRUBUTION/ MUSIC

Please stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - BENEDICTION

He is exalted, the King is exalted on High.
I will praise Him.
He is exalted, forever exalted and I will praise His name.

He is the Lord. Forever His truth shall reign.
Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on High.

He is exalted, the King is exalted on High.
I will praise Him.
He is exalted, forever exalted and I will praise His name.

He is the Lord. Forever His truth shall reign.
Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on High.

*You are the Lord. Forever Your truth shall reign.
Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.*

You are the Lord, Forever Your truth shall reign. Heaven and earth
Rejoice in Your holy name.
You are exalted, the King is exalted on high.

You are exalted, the King is exalted on high.

DISMISSAL

[P] Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

[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.

2027 TRUST FUND REQUEST FORMS are available at the receptionist's desk. Please fill them out and return them to the church office by Sept 21st. For in-house committees there is the simplified form and for outside organizations the longer form. Thank you



TRUST FUND REMINDER

Please remember that the Trust Fund year ends September 30th. If you have grant monies to use up please do so and get the receipts to Randi by the middle of September.

Thank you!



“GATHERED BY GRACE” SERMON SERIES

Before we step into a new season of ministry, Christ first gathers us. In August, we follow Matthew's Gospel as Jesus feeds the hungry, reaches frightened disciples, widens the table of mercy and leads us by the way of the cross. In this rhythm, God prepares the church in grace. As Rally Day approaches, we are gathered again around the love of Christ so that we may be sent again for the sake of the world.

Pastor	Stephen Hilding
Deacon	Lynea Geinert
Music and Worship Coordinator	Meriel Lora
Our Saviors	Cindy Gardner
Sound Tech	Zach Myhrer
Greeter	Marilyn Sandaker
Ushers	Arnie Siverson, Dave Mischke
Reader	Kathy Sinclair
Coffee Hour	Kathy Sinclair
Communion Servers	Kathy Sinclair

Membership

Are you curious about becoming a member of First **Lutheran Church** or learning more about our faith, mission, and community? We would love to talk with you! Whether you are new to First Lutheran, returning after time away, or simply exploring what membership means, we welcome your questions and interest.

Our **New Member Orientation Classes** will be held after worship in the parlor on:

September 20th and September 27th

These gatherings are an opportunity to learn more about our ministry, our Lutheran faith and the mission God has given First Lutheran.

We will celebrate and welcome new members during
New Member Recognition Sunday on October 4th.

 *Church Office Phone 701-572-6363*

 *Pastor Stephen's Email: stephen@flcwilliston.com*

We look forward to getting to know you and walking together in faith.

THIS WEEK AT FLC

Sunday, August 23

9:30 am Worship Service -S

10:30 am Coffee Hour – FH

Monday, August 24

8:30 am Pastors/Lay Text Study

1:00 -3:00 pm Adult Quilting – QR

Tuesday, August 25

7 am Men's Bible Study Gramma Sharon's

1 pm Staff Meeting

Wednesday, August 26

2 pm -Women's Bible Study P

Thursday, August 27

10 am - Coffee Group - P

11 Finance Committee- MR

1:00-3:00 pm Adult Quilting - QR

1:30 pm Pray, Knit, Chat – P

6 pm –Cub Scouts Mtg - YR

Friday, August 28

Saturday, August 29

Sunday, August 30

9:30 am Worship

10:30 am Coffee Hour – FH

2:00– 4 pm Open House – Ice Cream
Social - Bill & Ruth Glen Farewell -FH



Help Needed!!

**We need volunteers to help
with the radio broadcast on
Sunday mornings!!**

**With a little bit of training,
you will be good to go.**

***Text Zach Myher for more
Information! 218-688-2333***

Prayer for healing and comfort:

Pastor Zach Harris, Jean Lewis,
Doug Lehman, Mabel Colebank,
Ron Raymond, and Sawyer Smith

Sympathy and Prayers:

Military Service Members

Tayder Jones, Isaac Haugen,
Lars Conway, Cecilio Benn, Jorn Everson

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 August 16 – August 21

- **Weekly Offering 6,702**
- **Last week 88 DISCIPLES** were sent out in God's name to make a difference. We go out to do the same this week.

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.

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!



Tithe.ly Church App –

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



**Today's Radio
Broadcast is in
memory of
Lila Quarne and is
given by
Oscar Quarne**

Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 30th -

2 pm to 4 pm Open House – Ice Cream Social
Going Away – Reception Bill and Ruth Glen- FH

Tuesday, September 1st

12 Noon – Harvest Hope Gathering
Great Plains Food Bank Luncheon - FH

Sunday School/Wednesday School

Volunteer Teacher Training –

Date to Be Determined

Thursday, September 3

Noon - Men in Mission – P

Sunday, September 6

10:30 am Farewell reception -Meriel Lora

Monday, September 7 – Office Closed

In observance of Labor Day the office will be
closed.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION CLASS

September 20 and 27 following Worship - P

Rally Sunday - September 13

More info coming soon!

Rally Wednesday - September 16

Wednesday School and

Parent/Youth Confirmation Orientation

Sunday, September 20

First Day of Sunday School

12:30 – 4pm Open House – Lyla Semenko -FH

Wednesday, September 23

First Day of Wed Meal, Wed Worship,
Wed School and Confirmation Classes

NEW – REVISED FORMAT

Your New Wednesday Night Routine

5:30 PM – Community Meal:

6:00 PM – Worship Service:

6:50 PM – Renewed Confirmation & Children's
Church

7:30 PM – Youth Group

Sunday, October 4

9:30 am Worship & New Member Recognition
Sunday on October 4th.

MUSIC & WORSHIP MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENT

After nearly **seven years of faithful service** to First Lutheran Church, **Meriel Lora**, our Worship and Music Coordinator, has submitted his resignation. Meriel's final day with us will be **September 6, 2026**.

Throughout his years of ministry at First Lutheran, Meriel has shared his gifts of music, leadership, worship planning, and numerous special musical events with dedication and grace. His contributions have enriched our worship life, fostered meaningful congregational participation, served the larger Williston Community, and helped create countless moments of reflection and praise.

We are deeply grateful for Meriel's commitment to First Lutheran and for the many ways he has helped lead our congregation in worship over the past seven years. While we are saddened to see him leave, we give thanks for his ministry among us and wish him God's abundant blessings as he begins this next chapter.

Please keep Meriel in your prayers and take the opportunity in the coming weeks to thank him for his service and wish him well. A reception will be held for Meriel in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 6 during the Coffee Hour following the 9:30 am Worship Service.

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

Matthew 25:23

First Lutheran Church Council & Staff



**Men in Mission is meeting Thursday,
September 3, 2026 at noon in the
Parlor.**

**Ron Walters from Heartview
Foundation will be the speaker.**

Meal will be provided.

All Men are invited.



Visit Us & Connect

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Watch for information on how to register Online or using paper copies. We will be email information next week.

DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION INCLUDING EMAIL, CURRENT ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER.

Call the office at 701-572 6363 to update. Thank you!

YOUR ONE-STOP Wednesday WORSHIP SPOT!






Dinner • Worship • Community • Service

A welcoming Wednesday evening for the whole community!

Rally Wednesday Sept. 16

- **5:30PM Community Meal**
Fellowship Hall.
- **6:00PM Contemporary Worship**
Chapel. An Interactive experience for all ages.
- **6:50PM Parent & Student Orientation**
Confirmation. Church School. Youth Ministry.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

WILLISTON, NORTH DAKOTA
916 Main Street | www.flcwilliston.com

Come for dinner.
Stay for worship.
Leave *connected.*



VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS NEEDED TO CONTINUE 4-H YOUTH QUILT CLASSES



As most of you know, Bill & Ruth Glen are moving to Bloomington, Illinois Sept. 9th. Therefore, FLC needs some helping hands to continue with the 4-H kids Sewing/Quilting Classes. Currently, they have classes 3:30 to 5:30 pm Mondays & Thursdays each week with two different groups of kids. The class teaches kids to sew and provides fun and easy projects for them to make. Bev Brevik volunteers on Mondays and Jan Stoner from Gloria Please let Bev & Ruth if you can volunteer to keep this program going strong.

- **Fall Classes Start Thursday, September 10th. 4-H Members register with the local extension office. FLC youth please contact the church office for more information**



HARVESTING HOPE GATHERING

Join us for lunch and a brief presentation on local hunger-relief efforts through

Great Plains Food Bank.

September 1, 2026 • Noon-1:00 p.m. First Lutheran Church RSVP by August 26:

701-354-1374

Personal Hygiene Ministry Timeline

August 31 Begin to accept donations

September 4 Deadline for naming submissions

September 13 Rally Sunday Hygiene Drive

October Wednesday Serve Night-date to be determined

Personal Hygiene Kits Shopping Lists

Please bring in new, unopened full-size items

Men:	Shampoo	Women:	Shampoo
	Soap		Conditioner
	Toothbrush		Soap or body wash
	Toothpaste		Toothbrush
	Dental Floss		Toothpaste
	Razor		Dental Floss
	Shaving cream or gel		Razor
	Deodorant		Deodorant
	Wash cloth		Wash cloth
	Nail clippers		Nail clippers
	Comb		Comb or brush
			Tampons or pads
Children:	Shampoo-no tears		
	Soap or body wash		
	Toothbrush		
	Toothpaste		
	Dental floss		
	Wash cloth		
	Comb or brush		

FREE PIANO

Small spinet Baldwin Acrosonic
Piano is available for free. You
will be responsible for moving it.
Interested?
Call Lori at 701-571-6161.

THE GOSPEL CHOIR GROUP IS HOLDING PRACTICE.

- All are welcome!
- On the 2nd Sunday of each month the Gospel Choir practices in the parlor before the 9:30 am Worship Service.
- On the 3rd Sunday of each month, the Gospel Choir sings in church.
- *Contact Karla Osborn at (701) 570-3987 for more info.*



Join Us for an Ice Cream Social!

for Bill & Ruth Glen

Please join us as we thank and celebrate Bill and Ruth Glen.



Sunday, August 30



2:00-4:00 p.m.



Fellowship Hall

Come enjoy ice cream, fellowship, and the opportunity to share your appreciation for all Bill and Ruth have meant to First Lutheran Church.

Thank You, Bill & Ruth!

Thank you, Bill and Ruth Glen, for your faithful service to First Lutheran Church. Through your involvement with **sound ministry, construction projects, quilting, and countless other acts of service**, you have made a lasting impact on our congregation. You have been an important part of our ministries and our church family. May you leave FLC knowing that God placed you in Williston for a purpose and that your efforts have made a difference.

"God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people."

Hebrews 6:10

WELCA

- Faith and Hope Circles will resume Bible Study in September.
- Our weekly bible study continues at 2 pm on Wednesdays.
- Project of the Month is to support School Kits

Lutheran World Relief Kits

SCHOOL KIT ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Include the following items in each School Kit:

 x1	 x4	 x
One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag, approximately 14" x 17", with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)	Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10½"; no loose-leaf paper	One box of 16 or 24 crayons
 x1	 x1	 x1
One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other	One pencil sharpener	One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
 x5	 x5	 x1
Five unsharpened No. 2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band	Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band	One 2½" eraser