Welcome to Worship!



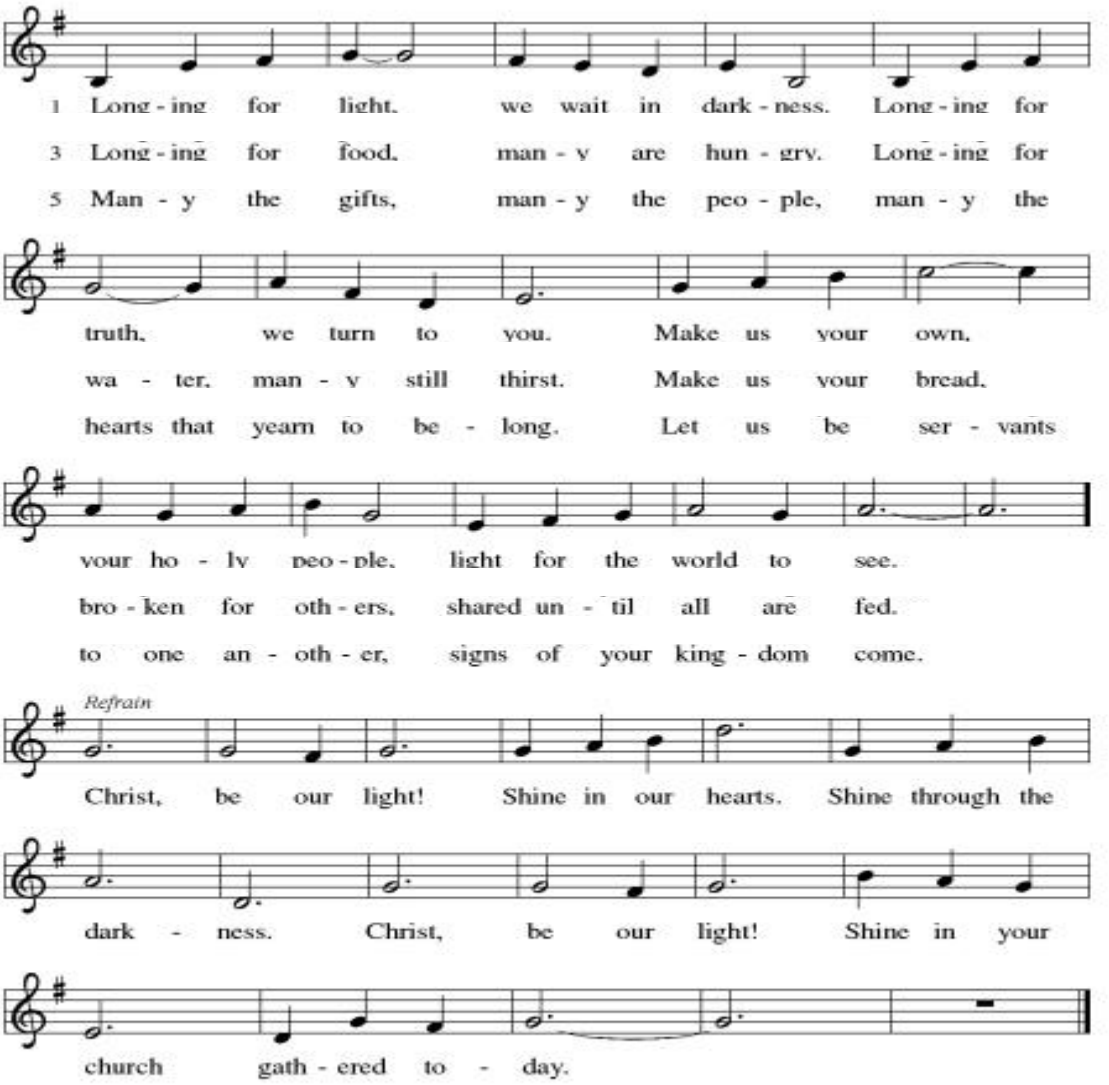
Gathering as a people of God since 1904

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, November 29, 2026
First Sunday of Advent
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 Christ, Be Our Light ELW 715



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.
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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who calls out to the weary,
whose word endures forever.
C Amen.

P A voice cries out in the wilderness,
"Make straight the way of the Lord!"
We are called to confess our sin
and turn back toward God's love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Comforting God,
C we are your people,
but we have neglected to call on your name.
We are your people,
but we have not remembered your ways.
We are your people,
but we have forgotten your hold on us.
We are your people,
but now we fade like a leaf,
and our sins, like the wind, take us away.
Restore us as your people.
Cleanse us from our sin,
and clothe us in your righteousness.

P "Comfort, comfort my people!" says your God,
who has clothed you with the garments of salvation
and wrapped you in the robe of righteousness.
God has given you a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
In the name of ☩ Christ, your sins are forgiven:
Rejoice in the Lord!
Rejoice in the Lord!
C Amen.[Thanks be to God!]

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

P Let us pray:
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, 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 MESSAGE (No Sunday School Today) **Pastor Stephen Hilding**

LITANY FOR LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

P In the temple, an old priest was told, "Do not be afraid"— and still, he did not believe.
C **We light this candle for everyone who has ever doubted a promise too good to be true.**
P His silence was not the end of the story. Something was still growing.
C **We light this candle for the waiting that feels like nothing, but hides something more.**
(light candle)
P Fear did not get the final word for Zechariah. It will not get the final word for us.
C **Come, Lord Jesus. We are waiting—afraid, and yet, hoping.**

FIRST READING **ISAIAH 64:1-9**

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
2 as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
5 You meet those who gladly do right,

those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
7 There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING **1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9**

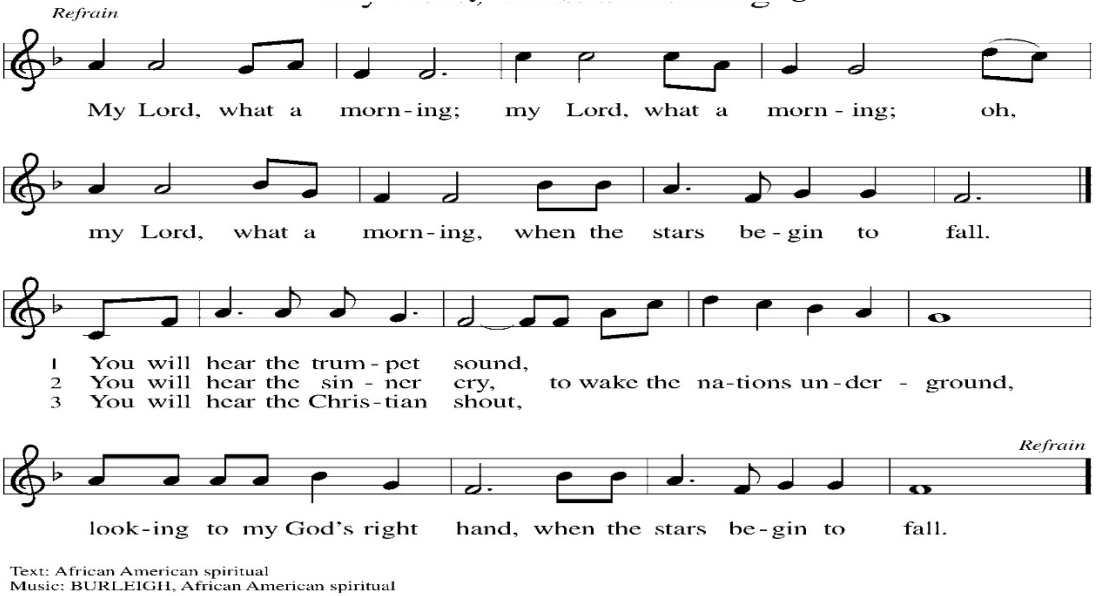
As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—7 so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God. *Please stand to welcome the Gospel.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **My Lord, What a Morning** **ELW 438**



Text: African American spiritual
Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST LUKE… **LUKE 1: 5-25**

5 In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who
belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the daughters of
Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. 6 Both of them were righteous before God, living
blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. 7 But they
had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.
8 Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, 9 he
was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the
Lord to offer incense. 10 Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of
the people was praying outside. 11 Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord,
standing at the right side of the altar of incense. 12 When Zechariah saw him, he was
terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. 13 But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid,
Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and
you will name him John. 14 You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his
birth, 15 for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong
drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. 16 He will turn many of
the people of Israel to the Lord their God. 17 With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go
before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children and the disobedient to the
wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." 18 Zechariah said
to the angel, "How can I know that this will happen? For I am an old man, and my wife is
getting on in years." 19 The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God,

and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. [20] But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

[21] Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering at his delay in the sanctuary. [22] When he did come out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. [23] When his time of service was ended, he returned to his home.

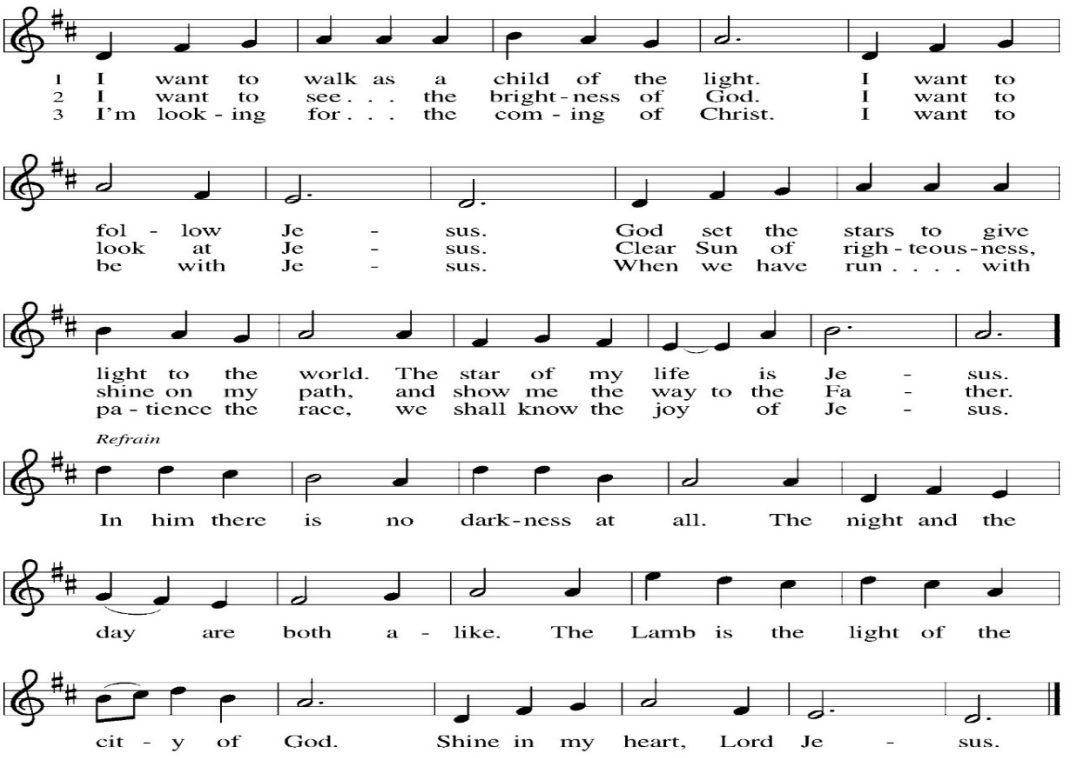
[24] After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, [25] "This is what the Lord has done for me in this time, when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people."

P **The** Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MEDITATION **Pastor Stephen Hilding**

SERMON SONG **I want to Walk as a Child of the Light** **WOV (blue book) 649**



Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A Strengthen your church in this season of anticipation. Nourish all people who gather around word and water, bread and cup. Reassure any whose faith feels dry that you are always near. God, in your mercy,
C receive our prayer.

A Come and restore the earth. Give rest to weary lands and renewed life to species at risk. Make us wise stewards of the places we call home. God, in your mercy,
C receive our prayer.

A Bring peace among all nations and communities. Embolden leaders to seek creative and sustainable resolutions to war and conflict. Show us new possibilities in places where peace has been elusive (*especially*). God, in your mercy**,**
C receive our prayer.

A Sustain all who are heavy with weariness, grief, illness, or worry (*especially*). Comfort families who are estranged from one another and any who are separated from loved ones. God, in your mercy,
C receive our prayer.

A Inspire liturgists, preachers, musicians, and all who lead our worship and prayer. May we be prepared as we await Christ's coming this Advent season. God, in your mercy,
C Amen.

A You embrace all the saints from the far reaches of the earth. We remember with care all who have died and now abide in their eternal home. God, in your mercy,
C receive our prayer.

PEACE

A The peace of Christ be with you always.
C And also with you.

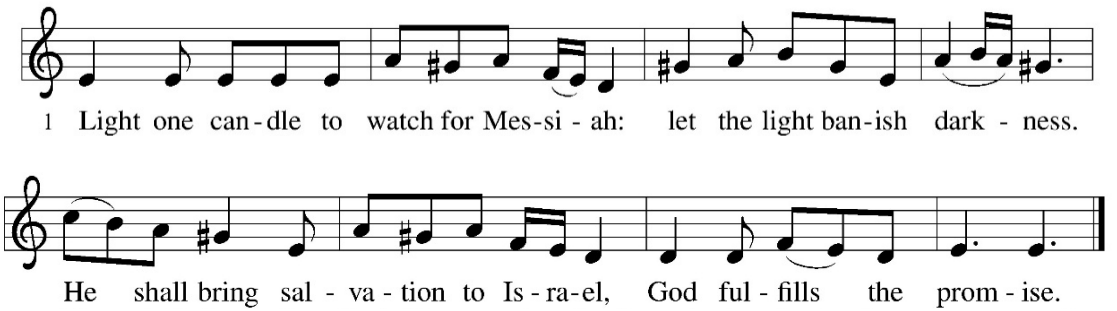
*Please share Christ's peace with those around yo**u.***

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 Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah WOV 630 WAYNE L. WOLD



OFFERING *Please stand.*

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

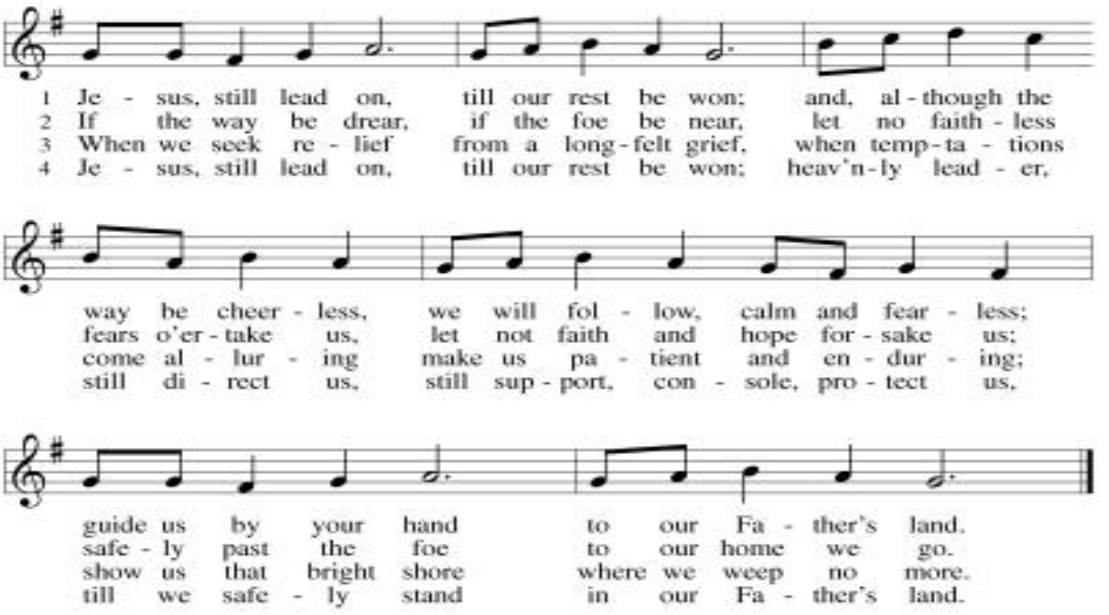
The Words of Institution

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

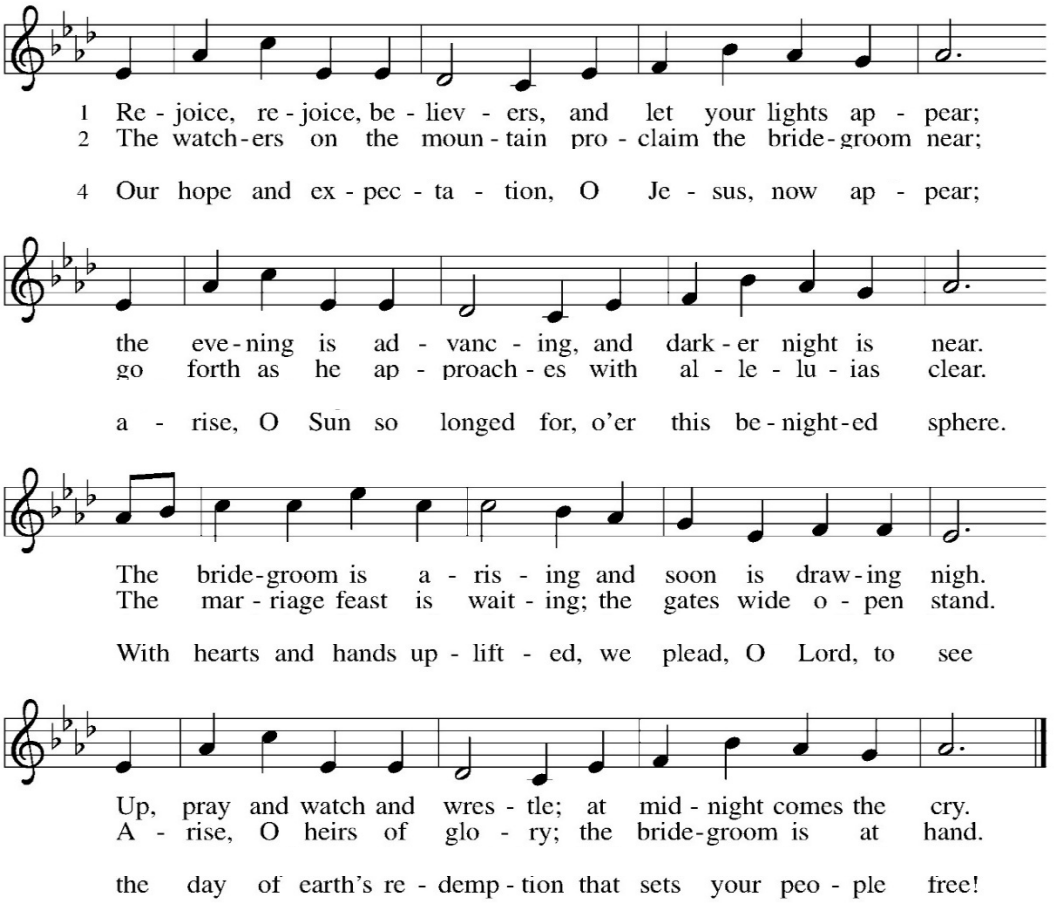
COMMUNION DISTRUBUTION/ MUSIC Jesus, Still Lead On LBW 341



Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG **Rejoice, Rejoice Believers** ELW 244



Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

DISMISSAL

P Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
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.



Sunday, December 6th, 2026
Annual Congregational Trust Fund Meeting
Following 9:30 Sunday Worship

The binder containing the 2027 FLC Trust Fund Grant requests will be available to look through at the receptionist's desk. Please do not remove the binder from the church building. Our Annual congregational Trust Fund Meeting is Sunday Dec 6th immediately following the 9:30am church service in the sanctuary.



Today's Radio Broadcast is given in Honor of Ron and Roxanne Raymond's 55th Wedding Anniversay and is given by Tammy & Kyle Rossland and Kids

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!

Church Office Phone 572-6363

Pastor Stephen's Email: stephen@flcwilliston.com

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

Pastor

Pastor	Stephen Hilding
Deacon	Lynea Geinert
Director of Worship & Music	Anthony Morris
Musicians:	Karla Osborn
Our Saviors	Cindy Gardner
Sound Tech	Zach Myhrer
Greeter	Phyllis Stokke
Usher	Steve Rehak, Dave Mischke
Reader	Arnie Siverson
Coffee Hour	
Communion Servers	

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.*



Saturday, December 12 1-4 pm

Live Nativity, Hayrides, Cookie, Decorating – Family Event

Springbrook Bible Camp

Epping, ND

THIS WEEK AT FLC

Sunday, November 29
First Sunday of Advent
9:30 am Worship Service -S
NO Sunday School
10:30 am Coffee Hour
POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE TODAY
Monday, November 30
8:00 am Pastor's/Lay Preachers Text Study
1:30 Adult Quilting - QR
6:30 – 9:00 pm Concert Chorale - P
7 pm Scouts - FH
Tuesday, December 1
7 am Men's Bible Study Gramma Sharon's
1 pm Staff Meeting – MR
5 pm Executive Committee
6:30 pm Personnel Committee
Wednesday, December 2
2 pm -Women's Bible Study P
5:30 pm - Wednesday Meal
6:00 pm contemporary worship – C
Wednesday School or Confirmation
Thursday, December 3
10 am - Coffee Group - P
1:30 pm Pray, Knit, Chat – P
6 pm – Cub Scouts Mtg - YR
Friday, December 4
Saturday, December 5
Sunday, December 6
9:30 am Worship
9:45 pm Sunday School
10:30 am Annual Congregational Trust Meeting - S
10:30 am Ruth Gulikson – 95th Birthday Coffee & Cake during Coffee Hour – FH

Prayer for healing and comfort:

Tracy Larsen, Terry Markle,
Pastor Zach Harris,
Lorna Sandvik Skavlem
Jean Lewis, Sandra Robertson Johnson
Tara Gratz,
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
November 22- November 27

Weekly Giving – 19,653
Attendance
Sunday, November 22 – 158
Wednesday, November 25 - 38
196 DISCIPLES were sent out in God's name to make a difference. We go out to do the same this week.

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who serves as volunteers on Sundays, Wednesdays, and the many activities during the week. There are many opportunities.
We are looking for individuals to work two hours at least once a month on Tuesday.
Please call the office 701-570-6363 if you would like to know more about volunteer opportunities at First Lutheran.

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

Women of the ELCA

Have you ever wondered how you can help WELCA with projects and events?
Would you like to contribute to ***Lutheran World Relief kits or quilts*** but are unsure what to buy? WELCA has donation envelopes at the reception desk We greatly appreciate all the support you have given these projects over the years.

THANK YOU!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 29
9:30 am Worship Service - S
NO Sunday School
10:30 am Coffee Hour – FH
10:30 am Christmas Decorating



POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE SUN. – NOV. 29TH

Thursday, December 3
Noon – Men in Mission - P
Sunday, December 6
10:30 am Annual Congregational Trust Meeting - S
10:30 am Ruth Gulickson – 95 Birthday Coffee & Cake during Coffee Hour – FH
Monday, December 7
Potato peeling for lefse K
Tuesday, December 8
Flatbread/Lefse Bake K, FH
Saturday, December 12
1 pm Coffee & Pie – FH
2 pm Bake Sale – FH
Wednesday, December 16
6 pm-Hymn Sing – Christmas Carols
Thursday, December 24
4:30 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – S
7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - C

Ruth Gunlikson 95th Birthday December 6, 10:30 am during Coffee Hour – Fellowship Hall

The fellowship hour following the 9:30 am Worship service on December 6th will be hosted by the daughters of Ruth Gunlikson in honor of Ruth's 95th Birthday. Please join us to share stories and enjoy a cup of coffee and a piece of cake to celebrate this special day!



Advent Sermon Series

WEDNESDAY ADVENT MEALS & SERVICES
– MEAL 5:30 PM
Fellowship Hall
ADVENT SERVICE
6 PM Chapel
DECEMBER 2 -
DECEMBER 9 -
DECEMBER 16 -



Church Decorating– Please stay today to help decorate the sanctuary, fellowship hall and Parlor after 9:30 am Worship



Dec. 7 - Potato peeling for lefse
Dec. 8 Flatbread/Lefse Bake
Dec. 12 - 1 pm Pie and Coffee
Dec. 12 - 2 pm Bake Sale
Dec. 13 - 9:30 am Sunday School Program
Dec. 13 - 10:30 am Gingerbread Houses - FH
Dec. 13 - 2:00 pm Williston Chorale Concert
Dec. 16 - 6 pm Hymn Sing - Christmas Carols
Dec. 24 - 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Service - S
Dec. 24 - 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service - C

Wednesday Meals Assignments:
Dec. 2nd----------Befrienders-----Deacon Lynea ---------- POTLUCK
Dec. 9th----------Property--------- Greg Everson
Dec. 16th ----------FOOD COMMITTEE
Dec. 23rd ----------No Meal
Dec. 30th----------FOOD COMMITTEE
FOOD COMMITTEE: Kathy Sinclair, Sandy Winter, Kathy Loomer, Jeri Engberg, Lisa Zunich, Kathy Ekblad

HOLIDAY BAKE SALE

The First Lutheran Bake Sale will be held **December 12, 2026 at 2pm**, In the Fellowship Hall. You are invited to come and contribute.

Selling will begin promptly at 2 pm. Pie and coffee will be served for $5 starting at 1 pm. Encourage your friends to come for some delicious homemade goodies.

Potato Peeling for Lefse is scheduled for December 7th in the Church Kitchen.

Bake Sale Committee- Faith Circle and Hope Circle

All baked goods should be boxed, covered in Saran Wrap and packaged by the dozen or ½ dozen. Bring each item labeled and priced. **Please bring items to the Fellowship Hall by 10 am on Saturday December 12th.** The Pie check-in will be on the kitchen counter.

We would like each family to consider contributing baked goods. If you are unable to bake, a cash donation would be appreciated! Flatbread and lefse bake will be Tuesday December 8th.

Lefse	$8 {3 per package)	Sandbakkels	$10 per dozen
Flatbread	$8 per box	Krumkaka	$10 per dozen
Plain Bread	$5-10 per loaf	Rosettes	$10 per dozen
Fancy Bread*	$5-10 per loaf**	Fattigman	$10 per dozen
Julekaka	$8-10 per loaf	Berlinerkranser	$10 per dozen
Buns	$5-7 per dozen	Spritz (decorated)	$10 per dozen
Fancy rolls	$12 per dozen**	Bars	$7-10 per dozen
Candy	$8-12 Per dozen	Almond Cake	$12 per cake
Plain Cookies	$6 per dozen	Fruit Cake	$10-12 per loaf
Fancy Cookies	$8-10 per dozen	Popcorn Cake	$12-15 per cake
		Kuchen	$10-12 per cake

*Cranberry, Date etc.

** Price depending on size and decor

Student Name: _____

Confirmation Sermon Notes Sunday, November 29

Sermon Notes 11/29 - Luke 1: 5- 25

1. **When the angel appeared to Zechariah, what was his first reaction, and why do you think people often feel afraid when God calls them to something new?**

2. **The angel told Zechariah, "Do not be afraid." What promise did God give Zechariah and Elizabeth that showed God was in control of their future?**

3. **How can Zechariah's story encourage us to trust God even when we have doubts or when God's plans seem impossible?**

4. **What is one fear that students face today, and how does God's message, "Be not afraid," speak to that situation?**


"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."
(John 1:5)
Christmas Eve Thursday, December 24
Worship Volunteers
Sign-up sheets are available in Narthex on Sundays and at reception desk during the week.
Members of all ages and newcomers are welcome to volunteer!
4:30 PM Service - Sanctuary
Volunteer Huddle at 4:00 PM in the Parlor
1 Advent Lighting Family
1 Prayer Family
5 Readers
1 Acolyte
1 Cross Bearer
6 Greeters
4 Ushers
13 Communion Servers
7:00 PM Service - Chapel
Volunteer Huddle at 6:30 PM in the Parlor
1 Advent Lighting Family
1 Prayer Family
5 Readers
1 Acolyte
1 Cross Bearer
3 Greeters
4 Ushers
4 Communion Servers
6 Student Roles
"To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord." (Luke 2:11)
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
WILLISTON, NORTH DAKOTA

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 **$20.00**. **PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND BRING IT IN OR MAIL IT TO THE CHURCH OFFICE**

ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 29TH. PLEASE PRINT!!!

YOUR NAME: _____

Attached is $_____ for _____ plants.

Poinsettia ORDERS

In Honor of:

_____

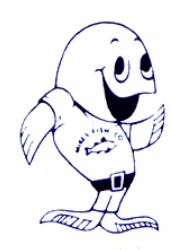
_____

In Memory of:

_____

_____

First Lutheran Church - Williston
93rd Annual Lutefisk Dinner



Saturday, February 27, 2027
Lutefisk Dinner Tickets are now available in the office
$25 Adults and High School Students
$10 Jr. High and Grades
Preschoool free