



Abide in me.

JOHN 15:4

April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter
9:30 AM Worship

First Lutheran Church
709 5th Ave. – P.O. Box 218
Washburn, North Dakota 58577
www.flcwashburn.com
701-462-3775

PRELUDE AND BELLS

AS WE GATHER

(As we come to faith, the Holy Spirit joins us to Jesus Christ and seals our life in His giving us Christ's own strength, hope and peace throughout our earthly lives. Today's worship invites us to connect ever more deeply to Christ as we live each day joined to the Savior who loves us. Welcome to today's worship service.)

WELCOME

(put prayer requests on yellow cards)

HYMNLBW #518
“Beautiful Savior”

Beautiful Savior

518

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of

God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love thee, Tru - ly I'd
 flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
 spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
 God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -

serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 pur - er, He makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
 ra - tion, Now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESSp. 56

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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 loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

FIRST READING Acts 8:26-40

(Philip’s journey led him to a road between Jerusalem and Gaza where he encountered an Ethiopian eunuch who came to faith in Christ Jesus.)

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there

was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." ³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

SECOND READING 1 John 4:1-11
(St. John invites us to genuinely love other people, not just with words but also with action, just as our Heavenly Father loved us not simply with words, but with action.)

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the

antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error. ⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

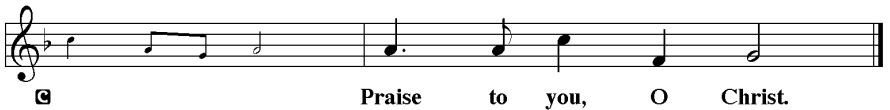
P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING.....John 15:1-8
(Jesus uses the familiar image of a vine to describe the nature of our relationship with him. He is the true vine that gives life to, and supports, the entirety each and every branch, causing us to live fruitful lives that honor him.)

¹{Jesus said,} “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMONPastor Paul Krueger
 “Life Works When...” – John 15:1-8


APOSTLES’ CREED.....p. 65

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

SPECIAL MUSIC Bell Choir
"Do Lord"

OFFERINGS ARE RECEIVED

OFFERTORY



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

FIRST COMMUNION LITURGY

P: The following young people have been instructed and are now presented for admission to Holy Communion:

Ayzlee Carlson
Danica Carlson
Blaik Havig
Callie Lorentzen

Cade Richards
Liam Solomonson
Maxwell Vetter
Tia Vetter

P: In Holy Baptism these young people were received into the family of the church and accepted by Christ as his own. As a gift of his love our Lord Jesus gave his church his Holy Supper and invited his own to receive this sacrament in faith for the forgiveness of their sins, as he said: Do this in remembrance of me. Now these young people have learned what Christ has done for them and the gift that is being offered them. They know what it means that they are sinners and need forgiveness. They know the joy of being loved and accepted by him. They are eager to say thank you by sharing the love they have received. Therefore, as members of the family they are now ready to receive the Lord's Supper.

To young people:

P: Do you believe that in Holy Baptism God accepted you as his child?

Answer: I believe.

P: Do you believe that you should share in the Lord's Supper with joy because in it Christ comes to you, forgives your sins, and strengthens you to trust him and to love one another?

Answer: I believe.

P: You are about to be admitted to the Lord's Supper. The church invites and expects you to come regularly to the services of God's house to hear what he has to say to you and to thank him for everything. You will also have to continue to be taught so that you may better understand and live in the Christian faith. You will want to come to the

Lord's Supper as often as you can. When you are old enough, you will be confirmed and take a more active part in the church and its work. All this will help you to live as God wants you to live as his own baptized child. So I ask you:

Do you promise to do this, knowing that God will help you?

Answer: I do, with the help of God.

To congregation:

P: You have heard the confession of these young people and the obligations they have accepted. God's whole family shares the concern and responsibility for helping them to grow up in Christ. On behalf of the church and of the young person's whom you serve as sponsors, will you help them to fulfill their promise?

Answer: We will, with the help of God.

P: By the authority of the church, I now invite you, young people to the Lord's Table to receive with us his gracious presence in this sacrament.

All stand

Silent prayer by all present for those now admitted to the Lord's Table.

P: O God, whose son Jesus Christ loved the young and called them to him: We ask you to bless these young people and to strengthen them in their faith through his gracious presence in the sacrament, so that as they grow physically and mentally, they may also continue to grow spiritually, and so may bring blessings into the lives of others, and honor to your holy name. We ask it in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

P: The blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you always.

C: Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

First Communion Youth and Parents – Altar Rail
All Others - (2 Aisle Floor Stations)

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION:

Lamb of God – p. 72

☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

LBW #203 – “Now We Join in Celebration”

LBW #346 – “When Peace, like a River”

LBW #221 – “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

Now We Join in Celebration

1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion At our Sav - ior's in - vi -
 2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, Fill our hearts with ho - ly
 3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion As one fam - 'ly of God's

ta - tion, Dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, Clothed in - stead in
 rap - ture! For this bread and cup of bless - ing Are for us the
 chil - dren, Rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, One in you with

joy and won - der; For the Lord of all ex - is - tence,
 sure pos - sess - ing Of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry,
 God our Fa - ther. Give us grace to live for oth - ers,

Put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence, Stoops a - gain in love to
 Of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry, Pledge of your un - fail - ing
 Serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers, Seek - ing jus - tice, love, and

meet us, With his ver - y life to feed us.
 pres - ence, Fore - taste here of heav'n - ly glad - ness.
 mer - cy Till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

© Text: Joel W. Lundeen, b. 1918
 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

SCHMÜCKE DICH
 LMD

When Peace, like a River

1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way;
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come,
 3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought;
 4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,

When sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What -
 Let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol; That
 My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is
 The clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The

ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
 Christ hath re - gard - ed my help - less es - tate
 nailed to his cross, and I bear it no more.
 trum - pet shall sound, and the Lord shall de - scend;

It is well, it is well with my soul.
 And hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 E - ven so it is well with my soul.

221

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, Our true faith con - fess - ing, The
 2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing To God ev - er - liv - ing, The

peo - ple of God from his dwell - ing take leave.
 tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.

The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed The
 Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er car - ing, Em -

fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve. The
 brac - ing his chil - dren of each tribe and race. With

seed of his teach - ing, Re - cep - tive souls reach - ing, Shall
your feast you feed us, With your light now lead us; U -

blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all. His
nite us as one in this life that we share. Then

grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us To
may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing Give

work for God's king - dom and an - swer his call.
hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

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

C: Amen

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S 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 the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

BENEDICTION

Psalm 32:10

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✕ give you peace

Numbers 6:24-26

In the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

"On Our Way Rejoicing"

CLOSE OF SERVICE

260

On Our Way Rejoicing

1 On our way re - joic - ing Glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther Joy - ful songs we sing;

Christ our Lord has con - quered; Van - quished is the foe.
Un - to God the Sav - ior Thank - ful hearts we bring;

Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
Un - to God the Spir - it Bow we and a - dore,

Who, if we be faith - ful, Can our hope de-stroy?
On our way re - joic - ing Now and ev - er - more.

Refrain

On our way re - joic - ing; As we for - ward move,

Hear-ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

*Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.
Tune: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879*

HERMAS
65 65 65 D

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1.

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Today's Worship Leaders & Volunteers – Thank You!

- INTERIM PASTOR..... Pastor Paul Krueger
- ACOLYTES.....Brady Nelson & Kyle Albers
- USHERS/GREETERS Wade & Stacy Boeshans
- READER Maxwell Vetter
- COMMUNION ASSISTANTS Sue Winter
Elmer & Arlene Schwarz
- ORGANIST Theresa Petersen
- VIRTUAL SERVICE Nate Fiedler
- ALTAR GUILD..... Janet Hanson & Nicole Albers
- FELLOWSHIP/COFFEE HOUR Gary & Cindy Thiel
- SERVICE GROUP COORDINATORSRick & LeAnn Richard
Randy & Janet Hanson

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INTERIM PASTOR: Paul Krueger email:

revpaulkrueger@gmail.com

Cell phone: 701-240-4712

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY: Jeannette Rost

Church Office: 701-462-3775

Email: flc@westriv.com

Website: www.flcwashburn.com

COORDINATOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES: Melissa Rothe

Email: fly@westriv.com

OFFICE HOURS: T-T-F 9:00 am - 12:30 pm, 1:30 - 3:30

W – 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

ORGANISTS: Theresa Petersen and LeAnn Richard

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Randy Hall

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR: Gwen Hall

CUSTODIAN: Jeff Schmidt

Our Mission

“Working hand in hand to know Christ and make Christ known through Worship, Christian Education, Evangelism, Fellowship, Caring Ministries, and Service.”

Welcome to all who have come to worship.

Jesus said, “My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples” (John 15:8, NRSV). Part of discipleship is worship, which strengthens us to bear the fruit of love. Welcome.

Visitors

We welcome all visitors to First Lutheran today and ask that you sign our guest book in the narthex.

Nursery

The nursery, located beside the narthex, is available for use for any parent feeling the need to use it during worship services with their child.

Thank you for your giving

Sunday, April 21, Attendance – 103

Online Viewing – 26

General Fund & Plate Giving - \$2,658.00

Hearing Assist

First Lutheran has hearing assist systems to be used during the worship services. If you feel you could benefit from this or want to try it, please see the ushers in the narthex.

Holy Communion

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Receive the bread into your open, flat palm. Ask if you wish to receive grape juice or a gluten free wafer. Alert an usher if you, or someone you know, needs communion served in the pew.

Pastoral Care

Please call Pastor Paul (701-240-4712) or the church office (701-462-3775) if you or a loved one are in the hospital or know you will be going to the hospital. The church does not get informed of your stay by any of the hospitals even if you are registered under our congregation's name. We want to make sure you get pastoral care. Thank you!

This week we pray for:

This Week's New Prayer Requests:

Prayers of Christian Sympathy:

Long Term prayer requests:

Members: Alton Krebsbach, Melisa Chrest, Howard Johnson, Karen Goehring

* The person in parenthesis is who the person is related to or friends of. Please feel free to ask these individuals how best you can pray for their family/friend.

This month we pray for:

Members: Alice Richard, Jackie Olson

Friends & Family: Jerry Smith, Warren Pauling (Audrey Pauling), Scott Wagner (Arden & Sande Wagner)

This Quarter we pray for:

Members and Nonmembers: Perry Thyberg, Corrine Kerzmann (Donna Gunderson)

Military Prayer and Card List

We pray for the Men & Women in our Military who protect our country, especially those assigned to serve overseas or away from home.

- **Members of First Lutheran on Active Duty in the Military and the National Guard:**
SGT Bryce Rost – Army National Guard
SPC Olivia Retterath – National Guard - Deployed
SPC Christian Gardner – Army National Guard
SPC Cassidy Sommer – National Guard
SGT Jonathan Melvard – Army National Guard
- **Friends and Family on Active Duty in the Military and in the National Guard:**
SGT Dustin Enockson – National Guard
Emily Johnson – Air Force
Bryar Anderson – Marines
1SGT Jordan Ternes – Army National Guard
Tech. SGT Andre Austin – Air Force
Hunter Feigum – National Guard
Morris Duffy – Medical Air Guard
Brandon Searcy – Navy – Deployed
Adam Walsvik – National Guard

Notice of Prayer List Policy

We have a monthly /quarterly prayer list cycle. When you add someone to our prayer list the request will remain on our monthly list for four weeks and then be removed. If you would like to have the request moved to our quarterly list, please contact the office and the request will be added to our “This Quarter we pray for:” list for the next three months. Please help us keep our prayer list current by communicating updates to the office at 701-462-3775. Thank you all for your faithful prayers for all of God’s people.

Large Print Bulletins

We have large print bulletins for those wanting or needing larger print. Ask the ushers for one.

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers today are from Chris & Nicole Albers in honor of their son Caden’s college graduation and grandson, Kevin’s kindergarten graduation on May 10th.

First Communion

Congratulations to the following for completing their First Communion study. They will take their first communion today: Ayzlee Carlson, Danica Carlson, Blaik Havig, Callie Lorentzen, Cade Richards, Liam Solomonson, Maxwell Vetter and Tia Vetter.

Super Sunday Supper

Join us today, April 28th, from 4:00 – 6:00 pm for our Super Sunday Supper. They will be serving Chicken, Potatoes & Gravy, Corn and Dessert. Everyone welcome. Free-will offering. Questions or to schedule a meal delivery call Judy @ 701-220-4410 or Rhonda @ 701-315-0656.

Mother’s Day Floral Workshop

Raising Hope Ministry is hosting a Mother’s Day Floral Workshop on Wednesday, May 1st, from 5:30 – 7:00 pm at Frontier Floral & Gifts for mother’s who have endured pregnancy and infant loss. Please contact the church office at 462-3775 by Monday, April 29th, to register!

Let's Taco 'About Jesus!

Everyone is invited to join the Sunday School next Sunday, May 5th, for their end of year celebration with a Taco Bar meal. They will be serving immediately following fellowship hour/Sunday School until gone. Freewill donation.

Mother's Day Tea

The FLCW Mother's Day Tea scheduled for Sunday, May 5th, has been cancelled due to other conflicts.

FLCW Outing

All women of First Lutheran are invited to the FLCW Outing on Wednesday, May 15th. They will be touring the Assumption Abbey in Richardton, going for lunch and then on to the Taylor Nursery in Taylor. Everyone will meet at the church at 8:30 that morning to carpool. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex.

Join the MEDIA TEAM!

- Slide Operator: Use an iPad to change the slides during a church service. You can sit in your usual pew!
- Behind the Scenes Builder: Create, organize, and import the slides before a service.

Willing to learn now? Melissa is ready to train anyone now! Contact Melissa Rothe to learn more!

Youth Group Helper Wanted

Are you willing to help with the youth? Pastor Paul and Melissa are looking for one or a few individuals to help out with a few different youth related activities and events this summer (late June-August 4th). We will have an informal meeting on May 5th during fellowship hour to discuss the possibilities.

Mother The Camp

There is a plastic tub in the Narthex for the annual MOTHER THE CAMP donations. A list of food items, kitchen supplies, housekeeping, office supplies, craft items, and maintenance supplies is on the tub, with lists tacked on the bulletin board for the taking. Any donations help to reduce the operating costs of the camp. Donations will be collected until Sunday, May 12, 2024, and then will be packed up for delivery to the Camp.

Camp of the Cross Camp Scholarships

THANKS to the FLC Church Council, FLCW, Evangelism Committee and an anonymous party, all registration fees will be covered for the FLC campers to Camp of the Cross Ministries this summer. Please let Peggy Moran know by **May 19, 2024**, if you have any campers registered so funds can be sent to the camp before camp season begins.

Connections

The March/April issue of *Connections* is in the magazine rack in the narthex. Take a copy today to read updates on the LCMC and NALC plus other interesting articles.

Our Daily Bread and Portals of Prayer

The March/April/May issue of *Our Daily Bread* and the April - June 2024 issue of *Portals of Prayer* are in the magazine racks in the narthex. Pick up a copy to use with your daily devotions.

COMMUNITY AND AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Human Trafficking and Social Media Safety in the Teen

World is open to parents/guardians and community members. They will be at the Wilton Public School Gym on Monday, April 29th from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Due to the nature of the content, this will be an adult education opportunity and not meant for children. Age-appropriate presentations will be provided to students on Monday, April 29th. Questions, please call 442-3201 or 734-6331.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

TODAY	9:30 AM	Worship w/Holy Communion First Communion
	10:30 AM	Fellowship/Coffee Hour
	10:45 AM	Sunday School Fireside Bible Reading
	4:00 - 6:00 PM	Super Sunday Supper
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting
	TUES.	8:00 AM
	10:00 AM	Mommy's Group
WED.	9:30 AM	Friendship Bible Study
	Noon	Pizza Day
	7:00 PM	Choir FLY
SUN.	9:30 AM	Worship w/Holy Communion
	10:30 AM	Fellowship/Coffee Hour
	10:45 AM	Last Day of Sunday School Last Day of Fireside Bible Reading Taco Bar following Fellowship Hour/SS
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Fifth Sunday of Easter — April 28, 2024

“Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”

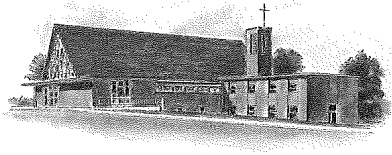
– 1 John 4:11 –

Love is a gift from God; without Him it is impossible for us to love. We love because God first loved us, and God calls us through His love to love others. Sure, nonbelievers love. According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, love is strong affection for another arising out of kinship or personal ties; attraction based on sexual desire; affection based on admiration, benevolence, or common interests. All human beings are capable of love.

There’s another definition of love, a more difficult kind of love. It is the unselfish, loyal, and benevolent concern for the good of another: as the fatherly concern of God for humankind or brotherly concern for others. It is especially difficult to love strangers and enemies. How do we do love those who do not love us back? We look to God. He loved us so much that He gave up His own Son. Now, He calls us to this sacrificial love. This love is impossible without God.

John writes, “In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” Jesus, the Son of God, suffered the humiliation of the cross, quietly died for our sake, paying the price for our sin. This is the Gospel message: that God so loved us that He sent His only begotten Son into the world that we might live through Him.

Love is sacrificing oneself for the sake of another; hate is sacrificing another for our own sake. If we think so highly of ourselves that we can ignore or reject the cries of our brothers and sisters, it is impossible for us to love God. God comes to us in and through the needs of others. We have the opportunity to love God by offering a drink to those who thirst. We love God by sharing our lunch with those who are hungry. The sick, imprisoned, unclothed, and homeless provide more opportunities for us to love God. We love God when we love them with our whole selves, our resources, and our actions. God’s love is not meant to be kept to ourselves, hidden from the world. He loved us with the most sacrificial love there is so that we will love our neighbors with unselfish, loyal, and benevolent concern for their own good.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 218 • 709 5th Ave.
Washburn, ND 58577-0218

4-15-2024

Dear Members of First Lutheran Church,

During the past many months, our Call Committee has been working diligently with God's guidance to find a pastoral candidate who might be called to serve First Lutheran Church. I am pleased to report that the Call Committee has recommended Paul Krueger for consideration by the congregation. The Congregational Council has met and concurs with this recommendation.

A Congregational Call Meeting has been called and is scheduled for Sunday, May 12th, 2024, at 10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary following worship services.

All members are invited to attend. Only voting members (defined as confirmed members who have communed and made a contribution of record during the current or preceding calendar year) will have the privilege of voice and vote at this meeting.

The purpose for this meeting is specific to the call of a pastor for First Lutheran Church, and will include the following two orders of business provided the requirements for a quorum are met:

- A vote by written ballot to approve placing a Letter of Call to candidate Paul Krueger will be held (approval will require a 2/3 majority).
- If the candidate is approved, a second vote by sign to approve the salary and compensation to be included in the Letter of Call will be called (approval will require a simple majority).

A draft Letter of Call will be available for review and placed in the Narthex. The voter registration will be passed around with a clipboard and pen following the service. Members of the Church Council will issue ballots to each pew for each Congregational Member to cast their vote. Upon completion, ballots will be passed to the center isle for collection and will be counted immediately. If the candidate is approved, there will need to be a motion from a Congregational Member to approve the salary and compensation as well as a second. Any discussion will be heard at this time. Following the discussion, a vote by sign will be called.

I would ask that you all please prayerfully consider this important matter and attend the meeting if you are able. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns you might have prior to the meeting. Thank you to everyone for showing faith, patience, and perseverance throughout this time of pastoral vacancy. We have truly been blessed in many ways as we have been able to continue to work to know Christ and make Christ known!

Peace and blessings,

Joseph Sheldon
Congregation President