



FIRST GLANCE

A look at what's happening at
First Lutheran Church

March 12-19, 2023

WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Welcome to First Lutheran Church! We are so glad you are worshiping with us! If you worshiped with us before, welcome back! If this is your first time worshiping at First Lutheran, welcome! Please let us know you were here by filling out the Guest Card in the Sanctuary pew slots. Don't hesitate to ask the ushers or the person sitting near you any questions you might have. We hope you experience God's love, grace and mercy as you worship with us today.

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT AT FIRST

Our Lenten theme, *Better Together*, reminds us of the importance of being in relationship with others and with our loving God. Come to First Lutheran on Wednesdays in March to connect and engage through Holden *Prayer Around the Cross* worship, soup lunch or dinner and *Better Together* small groups. (See the calendar on the reverse side for specific times.) This week, ponder what "safe spaces" means by visiting the prayer station located in the Commons in front of the Welcome Statement. Take a moment to also read our Lenten devotional that offers stories, written by First Lutheran members, of welcoming and being welcomed. Read the updated weekly Lenten devotion as a PDF at <https://bit.ly/flclentdevotion> or as an interactive digital book at <https://bit.ly/flcdigitaldevotion>.

This week's *Prayer Around the Cross* theme will be, *Sighs Too Deep* (intercessory prayer based on Romans 8). Our Wednesday Lenten offerings have been designated for Clinic With a Heart and Friendship Home.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS BEING OFFERED

A First Communion class is being offered on March 19 and 26 from 9:30-10:30 am for any young person interested in taking Communion for the first time. When is it a good time to begin taking Communion? At First, we are not focused on age, but we are focused on faith or when children are beginning to trust Christ's presence for them in the bread and wine and they have a need to receive forgiveness. Contact Pastor Erin if you and your child would like to attend the class.

ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Come to the Chapel in the northwest corner of our building at 9:30 am for Adult Forum today for Part 2 of, *God's Call to Welcome Others: What's Your Welcome Story?*, with Vicar Erick. Next week's Forum will focus on intercultural communication styles with Maria DeGuzman, PhD, of UNL.

PRAYER VIGIL NEXT SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

On Saturday, March 18, and Sunday, March 19, you are invited to our prayer vigil in the Sanctuary. The vigil will be from 4:30-8:30 pm on March 18 and 1:00-5:00 pm on March 19. You may come as your schedule allows, for 10 minutes, one hour or whatever works for you. The prayer vigil can be a time for yourself or a time for you and your family to prayerfully consider ways you are being called to be welcoming of others and ways we can create a culture of welcoming at First Lutheran. Readers will read stories of welcoming every 30 minutes and periods of silence will be interspersed with meditational music. You will also be invited to light a candle and pray for those who have not been welcomed by the church, who have been abused by the church, or cast out, praying they might find a faith community where they are welcomed, where they experience God's love and know grace through Christ.

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to hear the voice of God welcoming you and welcoming others.

www.flclincoln.org / 402-488-0919

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CONCORDIA CHOIR TO PERFORM ON FRIDAY

The world-renowned Concordia Choir of Moorhead, Minnesota, under the direction of Dr. Michael Culloton, will perform in St. Paul United Methodist Church on Friday, March 17, at 7:00 pm. From the music of J. S. Bach to familiar hymn arrangements, the Concordia Choir will amaze you with their technical mastery and incredible sound. Visit ConcordiaTickets.com for tickets.

A GLIMPSE OF HOLY WEEK AT FIRST

Palm Sunday, April 2 - Worship at 8:15 am* and 10:45 am
Maundy Thursday, April 6 - Worship at Noon and 6:30 pm*
Good Friday, April 7 - Worship at Noon and 6:30 pm*
Holy Saturday, April 8 - Guided Prayer Vigil from 4:00-7:00 pm
Easter Sunday, April 9 - Worship at 8:00, 9:30* and 11:00 am with
Easter Breakfast
(*Livestream Worship)

THIS WEEK'S LITURGICAL READINGS

FIRST READING	1 Samuel 16:1-13
PSALM	Psalms 23
SECOND READING	Ephesians 5:8-14
GOSPEL	John 9:1-41

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

M. Joyce Hansen, Rev. Dr. Mary Jensen, Sylvia Kempf, Carol Mason, Donna Nelson, Pastor Bill and Judy Peterson, Rod Price, Cindy Schuster, Joan Farmer, Sheila Exstrom, Betty Miller, Marge Fahrnbruch, Mary Brass, Kate Schmitter, Harold Borchert, Jeanette Metteer, Judy Bailey, Jan Kruse, Rod Johnson, Teresa Brohimer and Zach Schafer on the passing of his grandmother.

CONNECT WITH THE MINISTRY STAFF

Pastor Erin Heidelberger, Lead Pastor (pastorerin@flclincoln.org)
Pastor Marsha Anderson, Visitation Pastor (pstrmarsha@aol.com)
Vicar Erick Hill, Intern (erick@flclincoln.org)
Masako and Boyd Bacon, Directors of Music & Worship
(music@flclincoln.org)
Sharon Hardel, Director of Youth & Family Ministry
(sharon@flclincoln.org)
Laura Gaulty, FaithTrek Coordinator (laura@flclincoln.org)
Kathleen Simley, Director of Communications
(kathleen@flclincoln.org)
Cyndi Crouse, Parish Coordinator (cyndi@flclincoln.org)
Stephen Minister Leader (stephen.ministry@flclincoln.org)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

8:15 AM - Worship with Livestream
9:15 AM - Fellowship Time
9:30 AM - Adult Forum
9:30 AM - First Lutheran 101 for New Members
10:45 AM - Worship
Noon - Nuer Worship
Noon - High School Accompaniment Trip Planning

MONDAY, MARCH 13

1:30 PM - Coffee Talk at Rock-n-Joe Coffee
7:00 - Keeping God's People in Stitches

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

7:00 AM - Adult Forum Planning
12:45 PM - Staff Meeting
5:30 PM - Fellowship Committee
6:30 PM - Exodus Group
7:00 PM - Church Council

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

9:30 AM - Martha Circle
Noon - Holden *Prayer Around the Cross* Worship
12:30 PM - Soup Lunch and *Better Together* Small Groups
5:00 PM - Cherub and Chorister Choir Rehearsal
5:30 PM - Soup Dinner
6:00 PM - *Better Together* Small Groups
6:30 PM - Holden *Prayer Around the Cross* Worship
7:10 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

10:00 am - Esther Circle
6:30 PM - Spirit Ringers Rehearsal
8:00 PM - Gather & Gab

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

10:30 AM NARFE
4:30 PM - Prayer Vigil (Until 8:30 PM)
5:30 PM - Worship

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

8:15 AM - Worship with Livestream
9:15 AM - Fellowship Time
9:30 AM - Adult Forum, FaithTrek, Middle & High School Learning Hour
9:30 AM - First Communion Class
10:45 AM - Worship
Noon - Nuer Worship
1:00 PM - Prayer Vigil (Until 5:00 PM)
6:00 PM - Middle School Youth Group