



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
408 9TH STREET NW
MANDAN, ND 58554**

Building Faith and Transforming Lives in Christ

February 1, 2026

8:30 A.M.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK *Kenton Holle*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ☩ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN *"God of Grace and God of Glory"* *ELW #705 or Page 8*

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray....

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has “wearied” Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God’s service.

¹ Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ² Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³ “O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.” ⁶ “With what shall I come before the LORD and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 15

LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill? (Ps. 15:1)

¹ LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

² **Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴ **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

“Glory to you, O Lord.”

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying: ³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The gospel of the Lord.

“Praise to you, O Christ.”

SERMON *Pastor Phil*

HYMN OF THE DAY *“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service” ELW #712 or Page 9*

APOSTLES’ CREED

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 THE CHURCH

Leader: “Merciful God,”

Congregation: “receive our prayer.”

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

The musical score is written for a piano and voice. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

OFFERING

Thank you for your financial offerings to First Lutheran. Your generosity enables us to carry out the mission of Christ through our life together here in this congregation and through our loving service to our neighbors beyond our walls. We now have resumed the traditional offering practice of "passing the plates." For those who contribute to First Lutheran's ministry in ways other than weekly in-church offerings and would still like to be included in the in-worship gathering of the offering, laminated "Offering Cards" are now included in the pew racks for you to place in the offering plates.

OFFERTORY

"We Are an Offering"

ELW #692 or Page 10

OFFERING PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE 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, forever and ever. Amen.

MEAL

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN *“Day by Day”*

ELW #790 or Page 11

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light
4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,

who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;

we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,

con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985
Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.
Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

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We Are an Offering

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We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
 of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
 lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
 all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
 We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
 we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Lyrics: Dwight Liles, b. 1957
 Music: Dwight Liles
 Arranged and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC

OFFERING
 PM

Day by Day

1 Day by day, your mer-cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort
 2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and
 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens

to my anx-ious soul. Day by day, the bless-ings, Lord, you send me
 wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me
 grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me

draw me near - er to my heav'n-ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all
 o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil
 when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter

mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur-dens of my quest; Sav-ior,
 of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav-ior,
 what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav-ior,

lead me to the home I trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
 help me bear life's pain and sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.
 with your pres - ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936–2005
 Music: BLOTT EN DAG, Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882
 Text © 1992 Augsburg Fortress.

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Attendance last Week: Sunday 8:30 - 76 10:45 - 104
Wednesday 6:30 - 83

ON-GOING PRAYER CONCERNS:

Noel Albrecht, Brad Schmidt, Joan Hanson, Debbie Martineson, Hal Lang, Patrick Lang, Jason Bjorgen, Ken Charvat, Dave Thomas, Joann Meyer, Preston Joyce, Susan Voigt, Toby Kienzle, Tom Frank, Pam Weng, Lois Smith, Barb Carl, Jeff MacIver, Brady Mattson, Darin Hinsz, Jerome Bauer, Wendel Mongeon, Brenda Hersch, Jared & Jenn Barnhart, Ray Stenmoen, Connor Hertz, Teresa Seeman, Linda Stastny, Sally Wolf, Rachael Hankin, Opal Renken, David Jung, Dina Walker, Kay Link, Tammy Krein, Terry Tanaka, Wanda House, Tom Burau, Judy Walters, Monte Olmsted, Pat Kincaid, Victor Saeman, Lualice Stockert, Katy Anseth, Sarah Weishaar, Howard Moldenhauer, Anna Anderson, Brenna Blankenship, Ted (Theodore) Delfs, Allen Janz, Justin Hankin, Judy Anderson, Rori Messer, Jayar Kindsvogel, Kristen Rasmussen, Jerry Iverson, Jason Klipfel, Lois Helmer, Carrie Hille, Pius Johner, Vernon Foster, Cori Musolf, Stan Hepper

First Lutheran Church will be updating the prayer list periodically. If a name is not listed and you would like it re-listed please call the church office at 663-3594. We will re-list names for prayers.

PLEASE KEEP THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED TO SERVICE FOR OUR COUNTRY IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Todd Bauer, Alex Dove, Jacob Selzler

If you know of anyone who has ties to our congregation and is called to active duty, please contact the church office.

Pastor Phil Leer's phone number: 701-341-7784
(If you need to reach him please give him a call)

Ushers:

Reader:

Tony Sayler

Communion Servers:

Lori Meyers

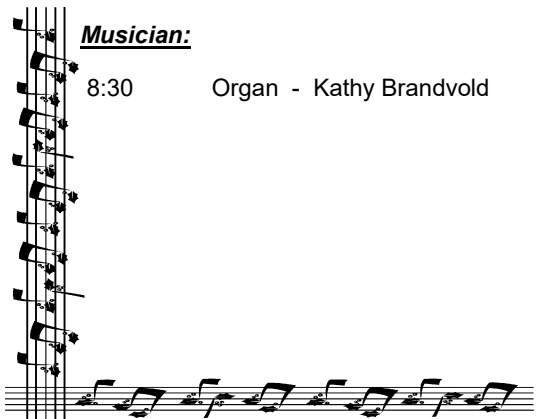
Communion Set-Up:

Corby Rachel

Musician:

8:30

Organ - Kathy Brandvold



Mission of the Month - Weekend Meals For Mandan Kids

Items needed are Chap Stick, Canned Tuna, Canned Chicken, Canned Ham, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Fruit Cups, Canned Fruit, Granola Bars, Cereal, Pudding Cups, Applesauce, Chef Boyardee', Mac & Cheese, Soups, Hamburger Helper, Spaghetti Noodles, Spaghetti Sauce, Pop Tarts, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Rice A Roni, Pasta Roni, Pork and Beans, Baked Beans, Pancake Mix-no eggs required such as Krusteaz Brand, Syrup.

NO GLASS JARS PLEASE!

You may put your items in the boxes in the Narthex. Thank you!



**Please Join Us for a 60th Anniversary
Celebration honoring Howard & Sharon
Moldenhauer**

Sunday February 8th
1:00 PM-4:00 PM

First Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall
NO GIFTS! Your love and Friendship are the only gifts
needed.

Virginia (Larsen) Keidel moved to Rapid City in 2021 to be near her son and is a member here at First Lutheran of Mandan. She will be celebrating her 100th birthday on February 17, 2026. Let us help her celebrate this milestone by sending her a card to: 1015 Mountain View Rd, Room 28, Rapid City, SD 57702.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Joann Stork. Her funeral was held here on Friday, January 30. Please keep her family in your prayers.



Giving Hearts Day

Funding Missouri Slope's Wellness Pathway, Together

Early giving is now open -
you can make an impact today!

Scan the Code to Give

or visit our website

MissouriSlope.com/Donate



Join Us!

Missouri Slope's Taco Bar & Baked Potato Bar Fundraiser

\$10 per plate - in support of
Missouri Slope's Wellness Pathway

Thursday, Feb. 12, 10:30am-6:30pm
Missouri Slope's Washington Campus



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking for ushers, communion servers, readers & communion set up for all worship services. Since we have gone back to passing the offering plate we need at least 2 ushers for every service. If you could help out please sign your name on the sheets provided, by the bulletins, in the narthex.

Women of First Luncheon will be held at A & B on Wednesday, February 11th at 11:30 a.m. If you are planning on attending please call the church office at 663-3594 as soon as possible so we can have an accurate count for them. Please bring a food item for the food boxes outside.

The Endowment Committee is once again making two \$500 scholarships available to area seniors. As the committee works toward ensuring a vibrant financial future for the church, it is also working to ensure a vibrant future for the church by encouraging youth in their life of faith. Scholarship applications are available in the Church office or on our webpage and must be submitted by March 31, 2026.

Souper Bowl of Caring will be Sunday, February 8th. Please give generously on Super Bowl Sunday. **The money we collect from First Lutheran will go to Mandan's Backpack for Kids program, our 2026 Souper Bowl of Caring charity of choice.**

We will have a Soup Kettle in the back to drop your money in.

Education

Church School (Sun & Wed)	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Church School Curriculum	2,500.00	2,500.00
Church School Supplies	1,000.00	1,000.00
Church School Christmas Program	600.00	300.00
Church School Special Events	100.00	100.00
2nd Grade Bibles	600.00	600.00
Background Checks	1,000.00	500.00
 Vacation Bible School		
Vacation Bible School Curr/Supplies	1,700.00	1,700.00
 First Communion		
First Communion Curriculum	600.00	600.00
 Confirmation		
Confirmation Curriculum	500.00	500.00
Confirmation Retreat	500.00	-
Confirmation Supplies	500.00	500.00
Confirmation Banquet	1,000.00	-
 Adult Education		
Adult Education Miscellaneous	500.00	500.00
Christ in Our Home	650.00	750.00
 Leader Recognition		
Church School Leader Recognition	500.00	250.00
Confirmation Leader Recognition	150.00	150.00
 Total Education	12,400.00	9,950.00

These are the Budget Items that got reduced for Education:

Church School Christmas Program	600.00	300.00
Background Checks	1,000.00	500.00
Confirmation Retreat	500.00	-
Confirmation Banquet	1,000.00	-
Church School Leader Recognition	500.00	250.00

DOWNLOAD THE “VANCO MOBILE” APP TODAY!



OR TEXT 8449340609 TO DONATE

If you would like to give electronically, visit our website or contact the church office.

We have to stay financially strong. The ongoing ministry of our church is dependent on the tithes and offerings of our people. Electronic giving is the best way to do this. Many of you are already on our giving platform. If you are not giving electronically, this would be a good time to do that. You can sign up here <https://firstlutheranofmandan.com/>. Simply click on the button on the right hand side that says “Give Online”. If you prefer to make your gifts by check, you can drop it off at the church or mail it to 408 9th St NW Mandan, ND 58554. Staying strong in worship, caring ministries, and finances are important as we work to love and serve hurting people during this tumultuous time.

If you provide your financial offerings to First Lutheran through other ways besides the weekly worship gathering of gifts (e.g.: Vanco, automatic bank withdrawal), you are welcome to place one of the laminated “offering cards” in the pew rack in the offering plate during the Offering.

Notes on Holy Communion:

Practice: *We practice Open Communion, which means if you are here, you are welcome at the table of Christ. If you do not take Communion, or you do not take Communion yet, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing. We can also bring Communion to you in your pew if you are unable to come forward. Please notify one of the ushers.*

Procedure: *You will receive a wafer of bread and a small cup of communion wine (juice and gluten free wafers are also available; please let your server know). Please place the empty cup in the waste basket by the communion assistant as you return to your pew.*

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

408 9TH Street NW, Mandan, ND

Phone: 663-3594

email: jackie@firstlutheranofmandan.org www.firstlutheranofmandan.com

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY 1

7:00 COMMUNITY ACCESS CHANNEL 12 OR 612
8:30 WORSHIP/LIVE STREAM WORSHIP
9:30 COFFEE
9:45 SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:45 WORSHIP
2:00 FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

MONDAY 2

TUESDAY 3

8:30 HOME SCHOOLERS
9:00 STAFF

WEDNESDAY 4

1:30 HEART RIVER & RUTH CIRCLE
5:15 CHOIR PRACTICE
5:45 CHURCH SCHOOL
6:00 MISSION TRIP MEETING
6:30 WORSHIP
7:15 BELL CHOIR
7:30 CONFIRMATION

THURSDAY 5

11:00 LAF ~ PULLED PORK

FRIDAY 6

SATURDAY 7

9:30 SCRAPBOOKING

SUNDAY 8

7:00 COMMUNITY ACCESS CHANNEL 12 OR 612
8:30 WORSHIP/LIVE STREAM WORSHIP
9:30 COFFEE
9:45 SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:45 WORSHIP