



Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

Building Faith and Transforming Lives in Christ

April 26, 2026

8:30 A.M.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN *“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” ELW #807 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....

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Oh Lord You’re Beautiful”

Sr. Choir

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

Today’s reading is a description of life in the community following Peter’s sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God’s people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

¹ The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;**

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²² “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” ²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.



The Holy Gospel according to John.

“Glory to you, O Lord.”

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

[Jesus said:] ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. ¹⁰Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

The gospel of the Lord.

“Praise to you, O Christ.”

SERMON *Pastor Adam*

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Have No Fear, Little Flock”

ELW #764 or Page 9

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Leader: “Merciful God,”

Congregation: “receive our prayer.”

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;' and '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 *Bismarck Mandan Elks Chorus*

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

PLEASE NOTE!



We will be transitioning our Sunday and Wednesday worship times to our summer schedule starting in May. **ONE SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE** at 9:30 a.m., beginning Sunday, May 3rd. Following the Sunday schedule change, we will then move back to 6:00 p.m. for our Wednesday evening worship service, beginning Wednesday, May 6th.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith - er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.

teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

The musical score consists of five systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.
Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Have No Fear, Little Flock



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle
2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle
3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -
4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to
flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in
bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -
God, for he stays close be - side you, in



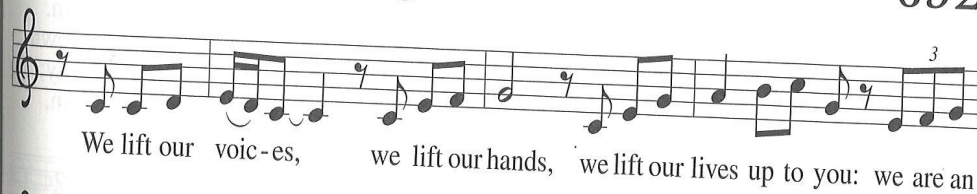
give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!
his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!
all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4
Music: LITTLE FLOCK, Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930
Text and music © 1973 Concordia Publishing House.

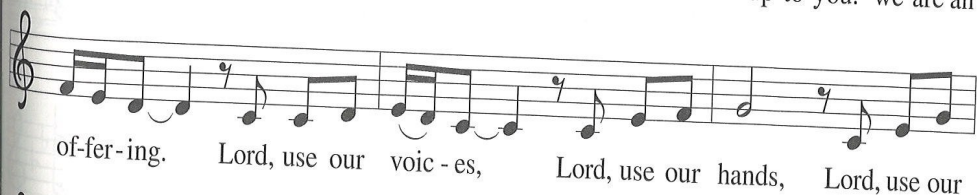
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We Are an Offering

692



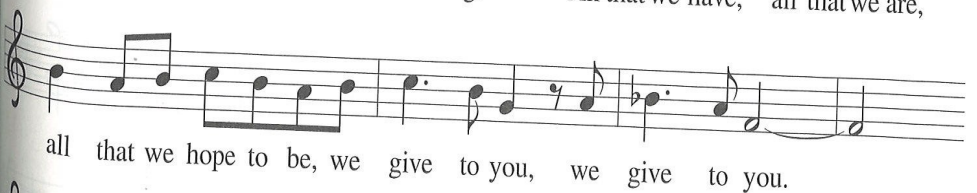
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an



of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our



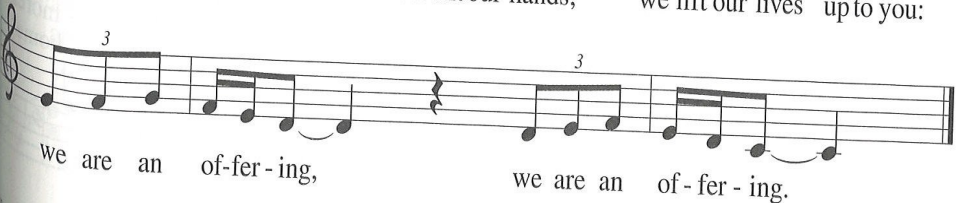
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,



all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.



We lift our voices, 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
Words and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC

OFFERING
PM

Attendance last Week: Sunday 8:30 - 92 10:45 - 91
Wednesday 6:30 - 81

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, 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, 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, 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, Cori Musolf, Stan Hepper, Eunice Wolf, Adam Walker, Mary Hogan, Corey Palmer, Sandy Hertz, Avis Rowe

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:

Lori Meyers
Peg Nyberg

Reader:

Lori Meyers

Communion Servers:

Gail Mayer
Lois Mongeon

Communion Set-Up:

Corby Rachel



Musician:
8:30 Organ - Loretta White

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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!



We will be having a new member orientation tonight at 5:00 P.M.

The old red chairs we had in the fellowship hall are looking for new homes. If you are in need of some stackable chairs please stop by the church and grab some. We are taking a free will donation for the chairs.

The Bismarck-Mandan Elks Men's Chorus originated as the Standard Oil Refinery Chorus in Mandan, ND with Bismarck Elks Lodge 1199 assuming sponsorship in 1958. Community Service is regularly on display as the Chorus visits numerous churches in the Bismarck-Mandan area to share two gospel music each spring, by visiting care centers each holiday season, and participating in various community events throughout the year.

Since its beginnings, the Chorus has represented Elks Lodge 1199 and ND Elks at 12 National Elks Conventions and other noteworthy events on the "big stage" in 12 states and over 40 communities throughout North Dakota.

“May Day” Baskets

We are collecting spring/summer/early fall items and personal care items for our homebound, assisted living, and nursing home residents.

Please consider being a blessing to these precious members by donating items, assembling baskets, and/or delivering them.

There are boxes in the narthex to drop off your donation items.

Questions? - please call Lori at 701-471-9436.

**“May Day” baskets
will be assembled & delivered today.**

If you would like to help with assembly and/or delivery, please come to the First Lutheran Church chapel after the 10:45 AM service today



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.



SAVE THE DATES!
First Lutheran Church
welcomes
Camp of the Cross Ministries



for 3 fun filled days of Vacation Bible School

When: Monday, June 1st - Wednesday, June 3rd

Who: Kindergarten – 6th Graders

(PreK kids should be going into Kindergarten in the 26-27 school year).

Cost: \$20.00 per child / \$40.00 per family

Additional details will be provided closer to June.



Thank you to the Bismarck Mandan Elks Chorus & the Sr. Choir for their special music this morning.

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 26	7:00 COMMUNITY ACCESS CHANNEL 12 OR 612 8:30 WORSHIP/LIVE STREAM WORSHIP 9:30 COFFEE HOUR 10:45 WORSHIP 12:00 MAY DAY BASKET ASSEMBLY IN THE CHAPEL 5:00 NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION
MONDAY 27	8:30 BABYSITTING CLASS 9:00 QUILTING
TUESDAY 28	9:00 STAFF 9:00 QUILTING
WEDNESDAY 29	6:30 WORSHIP
THURSDAY 30	11:00 LAF ~ PULLED PORK
FRIDAY 1	
SATURDAY 2	9:30 SCRAPBOOKING
SUNDAY 3	7:00 COMMUNITY ACCESS CHANNEL 12 OR 612 9:30 WORSHIP/LIVE STREAM WORSHIP 2:00 FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE