



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Connecting people to God and to each other.

**CONNECT** We warmly welcome and invite everyone to participate and engage in ministry, with a special focus on hospitality, small group ministry, and service.

**WORSHIP** We strive for worship to be invitational, contagious, and relational. We want more people to hear the message of Jesus, and we will do anything to erase any barrier that prohibits people from a spirit of worship.

**IMPACT** We will make a difference in this world as Jesus-followers. We will engage in impactful acts of service, encourage generosity, and strive to leave a long-lasting impact on the next generation.

CONNECT | WORSHIP | IMPACT

*Welcome!*  
*We are glad you're here.*

619 Broadway N, Fargo ND | 701.235.7389  
flcfargo.org | info@flcfargo.org  
Wi-Fi: FLCGuest, password: FLC@0619

## WELCOME TO CELEBRATION WORSHIP

SUNDAY - 9 & 10:30 A.M. | MARCH 22, 2026

### WELCOME

#### SONGS:

*Let It Rise*  
*Mighty to Save*

#### CONFESSION

**SONG:** *Jesus Paid It All*

**SCRIPTURE:** Luke 19:11-27

**MESSAGE:** Rollie Johnson

### OFFERING

**SONG:** *Take My Life*

### PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

### BENEDICTION

**SONG:** *Your Grace Is Enough*

### BAPTISM (10:30 a.m.)

**Grant Everett Nygord**  
*son of*  
*Marisa and Aaron Nygord*



# WELCOME TO SANCTUARY WORSHIP

SUNDAY - 9:30 A.M. | MARCH 22, 2026

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Lent is a 40-day season of prayer, fasting, and giving, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Holy Thursday. It helps Christians prepare their hearts and minds for the celebration of Easter. Purple is the color of Lent, a time for reflection and spiritual growth. It reminds us of both the suffering and the kingship of Christ, pointing to His passion, resurrection, and the call for us to renew our lives.

## PRELUDE:

*This is My Father's World* – arr. Tedd Smith  
*Sheep May Safely Graze* – J.S. Bach, arr. Don Hustad  
Bill Tweten, organist; Terri Diers, pianist

## WELCOME

## OPENING PRAYER & INVOCATION

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

L: 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.

**C: Amen.**

L: 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.

*Moment for silent reflection*

L: 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.**

L: 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.**

## OPENING HYMN: (Green Hymnal #410)

*We Give Thee but Thine Own*

## CATHEDRAL CHOIR ANTHEM:

*Spirit of the Living God* – Arr. Spacht  
David Ferreira, director; Bill Tweten, accompanist

## GREETING & KYRIE: (Green Hymnal pg. 78)

## HYMN OF PRAISE: (Green Hymnal pg. 79)

## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: Let us pray,

**C: Dear Lord, You have entrusted me with gifts, time, and resources to use for Your glory. Forgive me for the times I have been fearful and buried my potential instead of multiplying it. Help me not to be like the fearful servant, but to be a faithful servant who works for Your kingdom. In your name we pray, Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE: (Rachael Disrud)

2 Timothy 4:1-8

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Green Hymnal pg. 83)

**GOSPEL:** Luke 19:11-27

**MESSAGE:** Rollie Johnson

## HYMN OF THE DAY: (Green Hymnal #406)

*Take My Life, that I May Be*

## APOSTLES' CREED (Green Hymnal pg. 85)

## OFFERING

## SPECIAL MUSIC:

*Simple Gifts* - arr. Bill Holcombe  
Marlowe Kulish, clarinet; Bill Tweten pianist

**OFFERTORY HYMN: (Green Hymnal pg. 96)***Create in Me a Clean Heart*

**Create in me a clean heart, oh God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

**PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE****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.**

**BENEDICTION****SENDING HYMN: (Green Hymnal #423)***Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service***POSTLUDE**

*On Our Way Rejoicing* – arr. Lani Smith  
Bill Tweten, organist; Terri Diers, pianist



**\*Large print bulletins available (see ushers)**

**WEEKLY CALENDAR****Sunday, March 22 - No Kids@First classes**

- 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Marketplace for Mission, Gathering Space
- 9 a.m. Worship, Celebration Center
- 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Micah's Mission Food Prep, Kitchen
- 10:30 a.m. Worship, Celebration Center
- 4 p.m. Bach Birthday Bash, Sanctuary

**Monday, March 23**

- 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Quilters, Adult Ed. Room

**Tuesday, March 24**

- 8 - 9 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Luther Room
- 9:15 - 11 a.m. Mom Talk, Luther Room
- 1 - 3 p.m. Knit and Crochet Group, Bethany
- 2 - 3:30 p.m. Fit & Strong Exercise Program for Seniors, Gym
- 5:30 p.m. Tae Kwon Do, Gym
- 5:45 - 8 p.m. Church Council Meeting, Luther Room
- 6:30 - 8 p.m. BeFriends Meeting, Heritage Room
- 7 - 8:30 p.m. Women's Group, Adult Ed. Room

**Wednesday, March 25**

- 12 p.m. Lenten Book Study, "The Walk", Fireside Room (lower level)
- 1:30 - 3 p.m. Weds. Fellowship, Chapel & Great Hall
- 4:45 - 5:45 p.m. Wednesday Supper, Great Hall
- 5 - 5:45 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 5:30 - 6 p.m. Crusader Choir, Choir Room
- 5:30 - 5:55 p.m. Joyful Noise Choir, Chapel
- 6 p.m. Worship, Celebration Center
- 6 - 7 p.m. Kids@First (Age 3 - Gr. 4), Lower Level
- 6 - 7 p.m. 56ers (Gr. 5 & 6), Adult Ed. Room
- 7 - 8 p.m. Confirmation (Gr. 7 & 8), Great Hall
- 7:10 - 8:10 p.m. Cathedral Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
- 8 - 9 p.m. Young Life (Gr. 9 - 12), Youth Center

**Thursday, March 26**

- 9 - 11 a.m. Helping Hands, Great Hall
- 12 - 1 p.m. Small Group Bible Study, CrossTalk
- 1 - 3 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, Fireside Room
- 2 - 3:30 p.m. Fit & Strong Exercise Program for Seniors, Gym

**Friday, March 27**

- 9 - 11 a.m. Friday Lunch Pack, Kitchen

**Sunday, March 29 - Palm Sunday**

- 9 a.m. Worship, Celebration Center
- 9 a.m. Pancakes, Great Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary
- 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Harvest Hope Farms Petting Zoo, West Parking Lot
- 10:30 a.m. Worship, Celebration Center (*children palm procession during 10:30 a.m. service*)
- 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Kids@First (Age 3 - Gr. 4), Lower Level
- 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. Adult Education, Adult Ed. Room
- 1 - 3 p.m. 5th Grade First Communion Instruction, Celebration Center

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

# THE WAY TO JESUS

"I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE.  
NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME" JOHN 14:6

## YOUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

### YOUR PASTORAL TEAM

**Pr. Stephanie Tollefson** [stollefson@flcfargo.org](mailto:stollefson@flcfargo.org)  
**Pr. Marty Tollefson** [mtollefson@flcfargo.org](mailto:mtollefson@flcfargo.org)  
**Pr. Jessica McEvers** [jmcevers@flcfargo.org](mailto:jmcevers@flcfargo.org)  
**Rollie Johnson** [rjohnson@flcfargo.org](mailto:rjohnson@flcfargo.org)

### COUNCIL OFFICERS

**Karen Carlson**, President  
**Brad Keller**, Vice President  
**Jon Erickson**, Treasurer  
**Carole Schalow**, Secretary

### CELEBRATE PRAYER

We believe in the power of prayer. As God's people, please pray for these publicly-requested individuals and their families:

*Bill Parker, Bonnie Lyczewski, Brian, Brian Tessman, Bruce Jorgensen, Chet Leverson, Claryce Iverson, Cora Lieb, Curt Tjon, Dallas Boatright, Darrell Moon, David Anderson, Dawn, Deb, Del Herrmann, Diana, Donna, Faith Simonson, Gene, Glenn, Greg, Jan Baldner, Jan Stoffel, Janice Ames, Jeanne, Jim Hulberg, Joanne Herrmann, Kay Maden, Kristie Sundell, LaMae Friskop, Laola Rakotomahenina, Larry, Laurie Bjornson, Linda Johnson, Lea Vacha, Lois Altenburg, Makenna Mattesi, Mary Ann Berg, Maika Knudson, Matt Walters, Mavis Bennett, Mike, Naya, Paul Hulberg, Phyllis and Donald Sutherland, Ruth, Ruth Dunicliff, Sean, Selso, Sharon, Solen, Sonia, Susan, Thomas Berg, Todd McComb, Tracy*

### GENEROSITY



**In-Person Giving:** offering plate during worship  
**Online Giving:** [flcfargo.org/generosity/](https://flcfargo.org/generosity/)  
**Text to Give:** Text "Give" to 833.890.5248  
**Mail a Check:** 619 Broadway N, Fargo, ND 58102  
**Scan to Give:** Scan the QR code



**FLCFARGO.ORG**

# CONNECT - WORSHIP - IMPACT

## GUEST PREACHER:

### PASTOR KRISTINE CARLSON-WEE

*Wednesday, March 25*

Pastor Kristine Carlson-Wee served for almost 40 years as a pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. During that time, she helped lead congregations in Richfield, Northfield, Bloomington, and Minneapolis, MN, and in Fargo, ND, where she was Campus Pastor at Oak Grove Lutheran School and then an Associate Pastor at First Lutheran from 1997-2000. At First Lutheran, she worked particularly with Children's Ministry, Worship, and Global Missions. She is grateful to the congregation for calling her to be the first ordained woman serving First Lutheran, and for receiving her and her ministry so warmly. She's excited to return in Lent 2026. A lot has happened over the years! She's now a grandmother, retired, and living with her husband, Morrie Wee (also a retired ELCA pastor), in southern California, enjoying being near her three sons and their loved ones. She's eager to renew her relationship with First Lutheran and is grateful for the invitation!



## LENT SERMON SERIES: THE WALK

Walk with us this Lent as we follow the Jesus Way, stepping toward the promise of Easter hope. On Wednesday evenings, we'll hear from former FLC pastors.

### Guest Preachers During Lent

(Years indicate their time of service at FLC):

**February 25** - Pastor Bill Rindy (1998 - 2008)

**March 4** - Pastor Corey Fuhrman (2000 - 2007)

**March 11** - Pastor Craig Hanson (1987 - 2006)

**March 18** - Pastor Rick Foss (1977 - 1979)

**March 25** - Pastor Kristine Carlson-Wee (1998 - 2000)

## FREE LENT RESOURCES

Free resources are available to support your Lenten journey: We are out of *The Walk* by Adam Hamilton, but we still have a few copies of *Walking Together*, a 40-day devotional booklet featuring daily scripture and reflections, available at the Welcome Desk.

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Palm Sunday - March 29**

**9 & 10:30 a.m.** - Celebration Center Worship

**9:30 a.m.** - Sanctuary Worship

**Wednesday - April 1**

**7 p.m.** - "The Seven Last Words of Christ" Cantata by Dubois, Sanctuary

*No other activities on Wednesday evening.*

**Maundy Thursday - April 2**

**1:30 p.m.** - Worship, Chapel (Weds. Fellowship)

**6 p.m.** - Worship, Celebration Center

*First Communion celebrated for 5th graders at 6 p.m. service.*

**Good Friday - April 3**

**12 - 3 p.m.** - Seven Last Words of Christ Service, Sanctuary

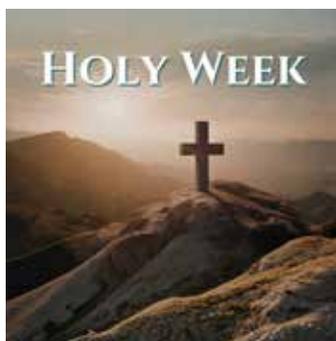
**6 p.m.** - Prayer Around the Cross, Great Hall

**Easter - Sunday, April 5**

**9 & 10:30 a.m.** - Celebration Center

**9:30 & 11 a.m.** - Sanctuary

*No Kids@First classes on Easter.*



## PALMS, PANCAKES, & PETTING ZOO

**Sunday, March 29**

Celebrate the beginning of Holy Week with us as we walk with Jesus into Jerusalem - His triumphal entry where crowds waved palm branches and shouted, "Hosanna!" Join us for worship at 9, 9:30, and 10:30 a.m. (with children's palm procession during 10:30 a.m. service), enjoy pancakes in the Great Hall at 9 a.m., and stop by our petting zoo provided by Harvest Hope Farms from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the West Parking Lot. Bring your family and friends for a joyful morning of celebration, community, and fun!



# News YOU CAN USE!

Connecting people to God and to each other.

## MARKETPLACE FOR MISSION

**Today - Sunday, March 22 | 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

### Gathering Space

Love to support missions? Visit our pop-up store for beautiful, unique treasures from around the world that make fabulous gifts. It's the perfect time to shop for Easter! All proceeds support First Lutheran Church Global Mission, supporting God's work through people and projects around the globe. Thank you!

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: MICAH'S MISSION MEAL PREP

**Today - Sunday, March 22**

**10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Kitchen**

Every fourth Monday, First Lutheran provides a warm goulash meal for the residents of Churches United's Micah's Mission shelter. We're looking for volunteers to help prepare the meal the Sunday before! Thank you for sharing your time and talents to support neighbors in need!



## BACH BIRTHDAY BASH

**Today - Sunday, March 22 | 4 p.m.**

### Sanctuary

Celebrate Johann Sebastian Bach's birthday with a free organ concert presented by the Red River Valley Chapter of American Guild of Organists. Area organists will perform Bach's music in honor of his March 21 birthday (he would be 341!) Birthday cake will be served following the concert.



## 5TH GRADE FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

**Sunday, March 29 | 1 - 3 p.m.**

5th grade students and their parents are invited to attend this session together at First Lutheran to learn about this special faith milestone. To sign up, please email Gina LoVerde at youthadmin@flcfargo.org.



## MEN'S GROUP WITH PASTOR MARTY TOLLEFSON

**Tuesdays, 8 - 9 a.m.**

Join Pastor Marty Tollefson for a weekly gathering designed for men who want to grow stronger in their faith and connect with others. No registration required.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Sundays

**9 a.m.** - Celebration Center

**9:30 a.m.** - Sanctuary\*

\*The FLC radio broadcast is on KFGO AM790 and FM104.7 at 9:30 a.m.

**10:30 a.m.** - Celebration Center

### Wednesdays

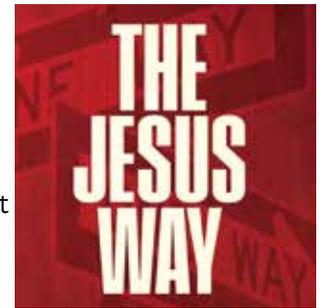
**1:30 p.m.** - Wednesday Fellowship

**6 p.m.** - Celebration Center

## SERMON SERIES: THE JESUS WAY

### Sunday Sermon Series

The early Christians referred to themselves as followers of "The Way," underscoring their belief that faith was centered on Jesus, who said, **"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me"** (John 14:6). This is a central tenet of Christian theology and is deeply rooted in the Hebrew Scriptures, which often speak of walking in the ways of the Lord (Psalm 25:4). For believers, the Jesus Way has profoundly practical implications for how we live a life of discipleship. The Jesus Way is an invitation to be transformed in body, mind, and spirit: to recognize our sin, repent, and live in the freedom and forgiveness of God's amazing grace. It is a way of connection— to God and to one another. In the New Year, we'll journey together through the Gospel of Luke, where Jesus' teachings are expressed through parables.



## ADULT ED. WITH DR. SEAN BURT

**Sundays: March 1, 8, 15, & 29**

**10:45 - 11:45 a.m. | Adult Ed. Room**

Join Dr. Sean Burt, associate professor of religious studies at NDSU, for a study on the history of the interpretation of the Bible.



## SAVE THE DATE: NEXT STEPS, NEW MEMBER CLASS

**Sunday, May 3 | 12 p.m. | Adult Ed Room**

Whether you have been visiting FLC for a long time or are new, we invite you to take the next step and join a community that cares deeply about connecting with God and each other!

**THE NEXT GENERATION** is not only the future of First Lutheran Church (FLC), but the vibrant heart of our ministry today. We are committed to nurturing a strong, faith-filled community where youth can grow spiritually, build meaningful relationships, and develop into leaders who carry God's love into the world. To ensure the continuation and growth of this vital ministry, we are excited to announce the NextGen Endowment Fund—with a goal of raising \$2,000,000 to provide sustainable, long-term support for our youth.



# NextGen **ENDOWMENT FUND**

LENT "ABOVE AND BEYOND" GIVING OPPORTUNITY

## PURPOSE

- Guarantee a strong foundation for NextGen Ministry with **stable, long-term** funding.
- Support retreats, Bible camps, mission trips, special events, and **scholarships**.
- Provide flexibility to **expand and strengthen** youth engagement in the Christian faith.

## \$2,000,000 WILL ALLOW US TO

- **Offset the costs** of camps, retreats, and mission trips.
- Provide scholarships so **every youth** can participate.
- Resource and staff **youth ministry** for long-term strength and stability.

## IMPACT

- Ensure consistent funding for youth ministry **regardless of financial climate**.
- Open doors for **transformative faith experiences**.
- Create a **lasting legacy** that empowers future generations to lead with faith.

## HOW TO GIVE



Give between February 18 & March 29 by scanning the QR or at the Welcome Desk. Please make checks out to Lent Above and Beyond NextGen. **Thank you!**

## Contact:

**Eric Monson**,  
Generosity Consultant  
701.368.8403  
emonson@flcfargo.org

## YOUR GIFT PLANTS SEEDS THAT GROW FOR DECADES. A GIFT OF...

**\$40** creates space over a shared meal for youth and leaders to build relationships and grow in faith.

**\$80** helps a child experience Vacation Bible School and a day of Day Camp, learning they are loved by God and belong.

**\$120** supports leadership training or service-learning, helping youth live out their faith.

## TOTAL RAISED SO FAR:

(As of March 15)

**\$1,996.**



# Easter Garden

## 2026

Celebrate the joy of Easter by honoring or remembering a loved one through purchase of a flowering plant (lilies and seasonal flowers) to beautify First Lutheran's worship spaces for Easter Sunday, April 5. The names of those being honored or remembered, along with the donors, will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

Please complete the form below and return it to First Lutheran's Welcome Desk by **Sunday, March 22**.

### ORDER FORM

I wish to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ plant(s) at \$20 each.

*Quantity*

**Given in memory of / honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please circle "In Memory" (someone who has passed away) or "In Honor" (someone who is living).*

**From:**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Order Total:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Payable by cash, check, or card.*