

Opening Hymn: "Gather Us In" (ELW 532)



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ers,  
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the  
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the  
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the  
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music: Marty Haugen  
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# Welcome to First Lutheran Church

309 Second Street North, PO Box 21, Pine River, MN 56474  
Church Office: 587-2316  
[www.1stluth.org](http://www.1stluth.org)

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

Welcome and Announcements (Guests please sign the attendance book in the pew)

## Sharing the Peace

Opening Song: "Gather Us In" (ELW 532) (hymn is printed on back page)

## \*Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose compassion endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,

**we confess to you all our sins.**

**Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.**

**In your mercy, call us back to you.**

**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.**

**Restore us to dwell in your peace.**

**In Christ's name we pray,**

**Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me,

all you who are weary

and are carrying heavy burdens,

and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

**Amen.**

## \*Prayer of the Day

**Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

**First Reading:** 1 Kings 3:5-12

<sup>5</sup> At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” <sup>6</sup> And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. <sup>7</sup> And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup> And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. <sup>9</sup> Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?”

<sup>10</sup> It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup> God said to him, “Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup> I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.”

**Psalms 119:129-136**

<sup>129</sup> Your decrees are wonderful;  
therefore I obey them with all my heart.  
<sup>130</sup> **When your word is opened it gives light;  
it gives understanding to the simple.**  
<sup>131</sup> I open my mouth and pant  
because I long for your commandments.  
<sup>132</sup> **Turn to me and be gracious to me,  
as you always do to those who love your  
name.**

<sup>133</sup> Order my footsteps in your word;  
let no iniquity have dominion over me.  
<sup>134</sup> **Rescue me from those who oppress me,  
and I will keep your commandments.**  
<sup>135</sup> Let your face shine upon your servant  
and teach me your statutes.  
<sup>136</sup> **My eyes shed streams of tears,  
because people do not keep your teaching.**

**Second Reading:** Romans 8:26-39

<sup>26</sup> The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. - And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

<sup>28</sup> We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. <sup>30</sup> And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup> What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup> Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup> Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

# SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER? YES, WE SHALL!!!



FLCW will host the fifth annual Picnic by the Pine River. All First Lutheran Women and their guests are invited to gather at the Lion’s Club shelter. Please bring your own chair and a sack lunch. There will be a fun game! If it is raining, we will gather at the church.

***Tuesday, August 18, 2026***  
**12 noon**



Prayers of Healing, Care and Joy

Those with medical concerns...

Madeleine Primmer  
Ryan Kelley  
Juliet Perry Stevens, Jodi Perry’s daughter, recovering from surgery  
Harvey Kelley

Those in the service...

Senior Master Sargeant Bradford, son of Bill & Kaye Schroeder  
Major A.J. Depman, nephew of Bill & Kaye Schroeder  
Sgt Christopher Krecklau, son of Mary & Randy KrecklauE-6 Nathaniel & Chief Amanda Mitchell,  
nephew of Mary & Randy Krecklau

\*Gospel Announcement

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.  
Glory to you, O Lord.

\*Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33

[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”  
He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

Children’s Message

Pastor Hans Anderson

Message- “ REST with Kingdom hope”

Pastor Hans Anderson

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

Sunday, July 19, 2026

Attendance: 84

Offering July 19, 2026

\$2,148.00

Weekly Budget: \$3,803.77

Direct Deposit:

\$ 275.00

Total Offerings:

\$2,423.00

Year-to-Date (Fiscal year starts September 1)

2025-2026 Giving: \$153,127.34

Expenses: \$153,559.20

Income less Expenses for June:

\$14,690.46 - \$13,387.19 = \$1,303.27

If you would like a visit from pastor or have a pastoral care need, please contact Pastor Hans Anderson at 218-820-9166 or email him at [pastorhanspineriver@gmail.com](mailto:pastorhanspineriver@gmail.com)



Vanco provides a secure and user-friendly way to give to our church online.



**\*Statement of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed**

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.

**\*Prayers of the People:**

Trusting in God’s steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

God our wisdom and our song, we pray for bishops, candidacy committees, those preparing for seminary, those awaiting call as deacons or pastors, and all who seek to lead your disciples in any way. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our breath and our heartbeat, help us to recognize signs of your presence among us. Protect and support diverse ecosystems, from national parks to family farms, from ranches to wild places. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our peace and our guide, help civic leaders hear all their peoples’ stories with compassion and curiosity, and remind us of your love from which we can never be separated. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our intercessor and our lawgiver, dismantle the barriers to care and recognition of all who live with chronic illness, mobility struggles, pain, and uncertainty. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our redeemer, may we trust your love above and beyond all else that distracts, annoys, frightens, exhausts, or divides us. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**



FLCW hopes to fill 72 backpacks with supplies for Lutheran Relief. FLCW purchased the 288 notebooks. Some supplies have already been donated. These are the items still needed. There is a tote to receive your donations by the display in the narthex.

- Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers — need 230
- Box of 16 or 24 crayons — need 62
- 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other need 70
- Blunt scissors need 56
- Black or blue ballpoint pens ( no gel ink) — need 130
- 2 and 1/2” eraser need 40
- Pencil sharpener Have ALL

Financial donations can also be made to FLCW to purchase school kit supplies. Donations can be given to the church office or Denice Smith.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS WORTHWHILE CAUSE to help a student smile and have the tools to learn.





**\*Dismissal:**  
Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!  
**Thanks be to God.**



**Reader:** Roger Hoplin II  
**Communion Assistants:**  
**Zoom:** Bill Schroeder  
**Sound:** Val Johnson  
**Ushers:** Paul Pearson & Mark Lange  
**Altar Guild:** Annette Newton & Gloria Johnson  
**Counter:** Joan Anderson

**The Week Ahead**

|                                                    |                |          |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| <b>Sunday, July 26, 2026</b>                       |                |          |
| <i>Ninth Sunday After Pentecost/Noisy Offering</i> |                |          |
| Worship Service                                    |                | 9:00 AM  |
| Fellowship & Coffee Time                           |                | 10:00 AM |
| <b>Monday, July 27, 2026</b>                       |                |          |
| Game Day                                           | 1:00 – 3:00 PM |          |
| <b>Tuesday, July 28, 2026</b>                      |                |          |
| Kitchen Committee                                  | 1:30 PM        |          |
| <b>Thursday, July 30, 2026</b>                     |                |          |
| Operation Sandwich                                 | 10:00 AM       |          |
| <b>Sunday, August 2, 2026</b>                      |                |          |
| <i>Tenth Sunday After Pentecost</i>                |                |          |
| Worship Service                                    |                | 9:00 AM  |
| Fellowship & Coffee Time                           |                | 10:00 AM |

**Announcements**

**Sunday Services** at First Lutheran continue to be in-person and via Zoom. To join us via Zoom, go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) and select the blue “Join a Meeting” link at the top center of your screen. (You won’t need to create an account.) Type in the appropriate Meeting ID number and click the blue “Join” button.  
Sunday worship, 9:00 a.m. – Meeting ID is 882 7501 6398 Passcode is 753902.

**Bulletins** can be sponsored for \$25.00 per week. The sign-up sheet is on the *Called to Serve* bulletin board in the Narthex.

**FLCW needs a treasurer.** All financial information is up to date. Needed is someone to make all budgeted donations, deposit funds, and complete a twice yearly Income and Expense Report for the FLCW Board Meetings. If finance is one of the gifts God has given you and you are willing to use this gift for First Lutheran Church Women, please contact Denice Smith at 218-820-4522. Thank you.

**Hymn of the Day:** “Seek Ye First (WOV 783) *(Offering will be taken during the hymn)*

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al -

D F#m G D G

1 Seek ye . . . first the king - dom of God and its  
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and  
3 We do not live by bread . . . a - lone, but by

le - lu - ia, al - le -

D Em A7 D F#m

righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be  
you shall find; knock and the door shall be  
ev - 'ry word that pro - ceeds from the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

G D G D Em A D

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.  
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.  
mouth . . of . . . God. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: st. 1, Matt. 6:33, adapt. Karen Lafferty, b. 1948; st. 2, Matt. 7:7; st. 3, Matt. 4:4  
Music: Karen Lafferty, b. 1948  
Text st. 1 and music © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. The Copyright Co. LAFFERTY irregular

**\*Offertory Prayer**  
Loving God,  
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.  
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,  
so that all creation can taste your abundance.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.  
Amen.

**\*Words of Institution**  
**\*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;  
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.

† Communion †

*All who believe in the death and resurrection as given in this bread and wine are welcome to the table today.  
Please follow usher's guidance to come forward to receive communion and then return to your seat.  
Gluten free wafers, and apple juice are available from the communion server upon request.*

*You are welcome to this Table of our Lord.*

**Holy Communion Distribution**

**\*Post Communion Prayer**  
Compassionate God,  
through the gifts of bread and wine  
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.  
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,  
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.  
Amen.

**\*Blessing:**  
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,  
✠ one God,  
bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.  
Amen.

**Sending Song- "God of Grace and God of Glory" (ELW 705)**

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: John Hughes, 1873-1932