



PRESENTS

Songs of Faith

**WEEK ONE (JULY 8-9):
"THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD"**

**WEEK TWO (JULY 15-16):
"COME THOU FOUNT OF
EVERY BLESSING"**

**WEEK THREE (JULY 22-23):
"IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL"**

MUSIC HAS ALWAYS BEEN AT THE HEART OF WHO WE ARE AS A CHURCH. WRITE DOWN YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS AND TURN THEM INTO THE CHURCH OFFICE!

Welcome

Visitors: Welcome to First Lutheran, we are glad you are here! We would appreciate you taking the time to fill out the blue welcome card located in each pew, and placing it in the offering plate, or turning it in at the Welcome Center. We also invite you to stop by the Welcome Center and pick up a *Welcome Gift Bag*. Thank you for worshiping with us and we look forward to seeing you again!

My Offering Pew Envelopes: *My Offering* pew envelopes are located in each pew. Place your cash or check in the envelope, then place it in the offering plate during worship. If you would like your offering recorded on your member record, please include your name on the pew envelope.

Nursery: Our nursery is open during the 8:30am and 9:45am worship. The nursery is located on the preschool level of the building. Please note, it is not staffed during the summer.

Large Print bulletin and Hearing Assists are available for worship. An usher can help you locate these.

Check out the Children and Youth area in the back of the church.

Busy Bags and Children's Bulletins are available for children to use during worship and are located at the back of the sanctuary. An usher can assist you in finding these if necessary.

FLY Sermon Notes and KICK Worship Notes are available on the shelves for easy access.

Lost and Found: Misplaced something? Please check the box and coat rack near the elevator.

Radio: Every Sunday the 9:45 AM worship service of First Lutheran is broadcast on station KXRA 1490 AM (100.3 FM within 15 mile radius of Alex). OR go to www.KXRA.com for live streaming of the 9:45 AM worship service, in the upper RIGHT hand corner located just above the menu bar click on "Listen Live". For weather-related announcements—"LIKE" us on our Facebook page or sign up for text alerts at www.facebook.com/firstlutheranalexandria

E-news: If you have not yet signed up for our e-news but are interested in receiving it, please email kari.vanwakeren@firstlutheranalexandria.com so that you can be added to our e-news e-mail group. This e-news is different from the Focus in that it offers just a snapshot of the upcoming week's activities.

Summer Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. **Sunday:** 8:30 a.m. & 9:45 a.m.

Lake Carlos State Park Worship: Sunday, 10:30am **City Park Worship:** Sunday, 11:00am

**In the case of inclement weather, please listen to KXRA 1490 AM for any announcements.

All weekend bulletin announcements are due to Ruth Nelson, Administrative Assistant, by 12:00pm on Friday, one week prior to the bulletin, (8 days before the bulletin date). Please send to admin@firstlutheranalexandria.com

If you have any sign-up sheets, information, or posters/flyers you would like added to the Welcome Center Happenings, please email Steve Heseltine, Shared Ministry Coordinator, at steve.heseltine@firstlutheranalexandria.com or visit him in the Church Office.

July 15-16, 2017

5:00pm, 8:30 & 9:45am Worship

***Mission Statement:** First Lutheran is a vibrant Christian community committed to connecting faith and life for people of all ages through worship, learning, and serving in Jesus' name.*

Congregation (☑) responses are shown in **BOLD** print...

When response is needed for specific services it will be indicated as 5=5:00, 8= 8:30, 9=9:45.

We ask that you please silence your cell phone during the worship service. Thank you.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Randy Morken

BELL

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG ELW #779 vss. 1, 3-4

"Amazing Grace"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☐ In the spirit of our worship today we sing our confession.

ELW #801 **"Change My Heart, O God"**

Refrain: **Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.**

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray. (Refrain)

☐ Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, and too deep to undo on our own. It is only by your grace and mercy that we can be forgiven and changed. Thank you for knowing, and understanding us. Forgive us, that we might be freed and changed, in Jesus' name.

☑ **Repeat "Change My Heart, O God"**

☐ The Lord is compassionate and gracious; slow to anger and abounding in loving kindness. As far as the East is from the West, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. In Jesus' name,

☑ **Amen.**

Sung Response: I'm so glad Jesus lifted me. I'm so glad Jesus lifted me. I'm so glad Jesus lifted me, signing glory hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

GREETING

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** God of Grace,
- C** you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with yourself that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

HYMN ELW #638 vss. 1 & 3

“Blessed Assurance”

As children come forward, we sing “Jesus Loves Me”...

CHILDREN’S TIME

Pastor Kari

**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.**

**Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

(8/9) Paige Mackedanz

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.



PSALM: Psalm 100

- L** ¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. ²Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing. ³Know that the LORD is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. ⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. ⁵For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

- L** ³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the

good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

L Word of God. Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.



SERMON

Pastor Kari van Wakeren

SERMON SONG ELW #807

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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 INTERCESSION

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

An option we now provide is to give by text: 320.500.6014



OFFERTORY SONG

“As the Grains of Wheat”

**As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
So may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.**

OFFERING PRAYER

- ☒ **God of grace, it is our delight to give these gifts to you. All that we are and all that we have are yours alone. Accept this offering as a token of our love, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

(8/9) 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;
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.**

The table is prepared. All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. As a follower of Jesus Christ, this meal is for you. Gluten free wafers and white grape juice are available at your request...

(8/9) COMMUNION

(8/9) COMMUNION BLESSING

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C** Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.



BLESSING *The congregation sings the following blessing to the tune of Edelweiss.*

**May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.
Grant you peace, perfect peace, faith in every endeavor.
Lift up your eyes and seek his face, and his grace forever.
May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace. Share the good news.
- C** Thanks be to God.
- P** And all God's Children said,
- C** Amen!

SENDING SONG ELW #773

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

POSTLUDE

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LIVING OUT
LOVE
RIGHT HERE



Connecting church and home through praying, blessing, sharing, talking, and reading



Connecting people of all ages to do service projects for the community



Connecting with God through prayer both personally and collectively

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS: July 15-16, 2017

MINISTRY OF PRAYER AND CELEBRATION...

HOSPITAL VISITS: Hospital policy prevents the pastors and parish nurse from knowing you are a patient unless at the time of admittance you indicate you are a member of First Lutheran and want to be visited. OR call the church office (320.762.2196) to notify us you are/or will be a patient, or have had a child. Your cooperation in this way helps us greatly. Thank you, Greg, Kari, Ben and Val.

Prayers for those with health concerns: Palmer Bergner, Dave Bennett, Arlene Carlson, Corinne Ehlike, Eleanor Hagstrom, Bob Hocum, Don Kanten, Steve Knutson, Chuck Knutson, Irene Larson, Kathy Lind, Ted Lohrman, Lois Lundberg, Keith Lundsetter, Evelyn Myrin, Glenda Nelson, Mary and Stan Norlien, Harry Oberg, Harold Olson, Tom Riley, Kathleen Rittenour, Russ Schultz, Sharon Seward, Rick Swenson, Judy Williams, Lori Zeman

Prayers for the FLC sponsored missionary: Rev. Chandran Paul Martin

Prayers for those who mourn: We express sympathy and God's love to:

- ❖ Betty Hiebel and Linda Brezina and family on the death of Betty's sister-in-law.
- ❖ Roland and Becky Ellis on the death of Becky's aunt.
- ❖ Joyce and Jerry Hansen on the death of their brother-in-law.
- ❖ Lillian Schuneman on the death of her grandson.

Sunday's Radio Broadcast is in memory of Pauline and Herman Schultz, who would have been 105 and 104 on July 8th and 18th, given by their children, Pauline and Warren Olson, Judy and Clark Hoffman, Roger and Ruthie Schultz, Marie Daugherty, and Linda and George Schultz.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS: July 15-16, 2017

Church Events:

- **Thank You From Pastor Megan Preston:** Thank you so much for hosting my ordination on Saturday, July 8. It was wonderful to be launched into my new role as pastor from the place and the people who taught me the faith and have supported me throughout my formation as a leader in the church. Thank you for a beautiful service, cake and fellowship, and all who were able to attend in person and in spirit. I pray God's continued energy for your love and service to the gospel.
- **Houseboat Sendoff:** Join us at City Park worship on Sunday, July 23 at 11:00am for an official sendoff of our youth as they begin their houseboat trip.
- **Church Directory: Three days left to have your photo taken, July 18, 19 and 20.** Sign up anytime on our website, firstlutheranalexandria.com, by clicking the blue portrait sign-up button and following the prompts to make your appointment. You may also sign up by calling the church office (320.762.2196).
 - If you have had your picture taken and did not order any packages, your complimentary portrait is available to pick up at the Welcome Center. Photos will be put out as they arrive.
- **Family Picnic and Service Project:** Join others from FLC on Tuesday, July 18 at 5:30pm at Luther Crest for a summer picnic-style meal and Service Project. This is a great event for all ages. We will be putting together Teacher Resource Kits for Discovery Middle School. We invite you to bring items to donate for the kits. You may find the list of items in the July Focus, or on the informational cards located at the Welcome Center.
- **Men's Evening Cookout:** All men of the congregation are invited to come eat and enjoy time together at Pastor Ben's home (2300 Reeds Villa Rd. SW) on Thursday, July 27 from 6:00-8:00pm. Food and beverages will be provided. Please bring a lawn chair.
- **Book Signing:** To celebrate the publication of Pastor Kari's new children's book, Bubble Wrap Girl, the Children's and Family Ministry boards will be hosting a table in the East Narthex on Sunday, July 23rd from 9-11am where Pastor Kari will be available to sign copies of the book. Books will be available for purchase. The cost of the book is \$17.95. Pastor Kari will also be available at the City Park after the 11:00am Worship.
- **MN Twins Lutheran Night:** A fun evening at a Twins game is planned on Tuesday, August 8. Cost is \$55/person which includes the ticket and bus. Sign up at the Welcome Center if interested! **Deadline to sign-up is Monday, July 17.**
- **Communications Coordinator:** We currently have an open staff position, Communications Coordinator. If you or someone you know has interest in Communications and Graphic Design please contact Greg Tvrdik in the church office. Applications and job descriptions are available at the Welcome Center. **Applications will be accepted through Friday, July 21.**
- **Habitat for Humanity Build Day:** Join us as we put the finishing touches on FLC member Kelsey Foshaug's home. The build day will be on Wednesday, August 9 at 3646 Pawnee Dr., Alexandria.

Area Events

- **Depression and Anxiety in Older Adults:** This educational training session is for family members concerned about the welfare of their loved ones (free) and for professionals who work with older adults (\$35). It is on Tuesday, July 18 from 12:30-4:00pm at Edgewood Vista (1902, 7th Ave. E, Alexandria). The session on Depression will occur from 12:30-2:00pm and the session on Anxiety will occur from 2:15-3:45pm. It is sponsored by Alternative Senior Care and presented by NAMI (Nat'l Alliance on Mental Illness) representative Kay King, who is the Director of the Older Adults Program at NAMI MN as well as a community educator. RSVP is required by calling 320.352.3350. More information may be found on the Parish Health bulletin board or at www.alternativeseniorcare.net.
- **Shalom Lutheran's 32nd Annual Western Barbecue:** Join others at Shalom Lutheran Church on Wednesday, July 19, from 4:30-7:30pm for their annual barbecue. Barbecue chicken and pork chops, hot dogs for kids, special entertainment, and a bake sale will be available. Cost: Adults \$10 in advance, \$11 at the door; Children 5-12 \$4 in advance, \$5 at the door; and children under 5: Free.
- **Alexandria VFW Auxiliary Salad Luncheon:** Join others in St. Mary's Great Hall (410 Irving) on Thursday, July 27 from 11:00-1:00pm for a salad luncheon. The price is \$7.00.

- **Esther Lutheran Church Annual Ice Cream Social:** Join others on Sunday, July 30 from 2:00-7:00pm in rural Parkers Prairie for homemade ice cream, pie, sandwiches, and a hymn sing. Esther Lutheran is located at 11019 625th Ave., Parkers Prairie.
- **Memorial Butterfly Release:** Hospice of Douglas County invites you to attend this annual event on Wednesday, August 2 from 5:30-6:30pm at Alexandria City Park. You may purchase a butterfly in honor of, or in memory of someone, the evening of the release for \$10 each. Ice cream provided by Cub Foods, Music by Terry Kennedy and Al Liefert. Bring a lawn chair. For more information, please contact Lynn at 320.762.3045.
- **Caregiver Support Workshop:** Save the date! This workshop is on Thursday, September 21 from 9:00am to 3:30pm at Ecumen Bethany Chapel. The day will include educational sessions to help and support caregivers and lunch. In addition, care for loved ones will be provided by Adult Day Services free of charge for the day.
- **Central MN Foster Grandparent Program:** This program is looking for volunteers in their intergenerational program. They are looking for men and women aged 55+ to share their time and support kids in local classrooms. The position includes paid training and non-taxable stipend, plus travel reimbursement. To inquire or to apply, contact Pat Scherf at 320.293.0682 or pscherf@ccstcloud.org. You can also find more info at the wall kiosk by the Parish Health Bulletin Board.
- **Ready Ride Program:** Are you or a loved one looking for help with transportation to church? The Ready Ride Program may be able to help. The Program provides rides for people 65+; the only cost to the rider is for mileage (about .54/mile). To schedule a ride or for more information, call 218.685.RIDE (7433). They can also provide rides to other appointments on other days of the week. More information may be found at the Parish Health Bulletin Board.

COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL



REGISTRATION IN PROGRESS FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

LEARN MORE @

WWW.COMMUNITYPRESCHOOLALEXANDRIA.COM

CONTACT MELISA SCHUELER:

CONTACT@COMMUNITYPRESCHOOLALEXANDRIA.COM

320.763.5293



BEER & HYMNS

Tuesday, August 15

5:00 - 8:00pm

Copper Trail Brewing

Feel free to come for all or part of the evening!

Thank You to Those Who Served With Us Today!

Bev Dokken, Linda Unruh, Rachel Mead, Curt Ulvestad, Bud & Nancy Anderson, Carol Radil, Helen Johnsrud, Dick & Sandi Telander, Clarette Johnson, Jill Engebretson, Rich & Kathy Moen, John Strand, Clark Comer, Dave & Loretta Lundy

Interested in serving with us next week? The following volunteer positions are available:

- Saturday 5:00pm – Greeter (1), Coffee Host, Communion Assistant (1), Usher (3)
- Sunday 8:30am – Greeter (2), Scripture Reader, Welcome Center Host, Usher (2), Coffee Host
- Sunday 9:45am – Greeter (2), Scripture Reader, Welcome Center Host, Usher (4), Coffee Host
- Sunday 11:00am City Park – Usher (2), Communion Assistant (1), Coffee Host

Sign up for an available spot in our new Service Opportunities Binder at the Welcome Center; call Steve Heseltine, Shared Ministry Coordinator, at 320-762-2196; or online through the Sign Up Genius.

Attendance Numbers for Worship July 8-9:

(Ordination) 131 (5) **62** (8) **97** (9) **114** (10-Carlos) **0** (11- City Park) **184**
Total Last Week = **588**

Financial Snap Shot



Did You Know?

Simply Giving offers flexibility on when you give AND sustains support to our ministry even when we are not able to attend church. You can sign up by filling out the Simply Giving form found in the pew. Any questions, just contact the office. Come on board and enjoy the freedom to Simply Give!

Budgeted Weekly Need: \$22,995

Income last week: \$24,000

Expense last week: \$30,884

WEEK AHEAD : July 16 - July 23, 2017 CALENDAR

Day/Date	Time	Activity	
Sunday, July 16	8:30 am	Worship w/Communion	Sanctuary
	9:45 am	Worship w/Communion	Sanctuary
	10:30 am	Outdoor Worship	@Lake Carlos State Park
	11:00 am	Worship w/Communion	Sanctuary
		NO City Park Worship at park - Held at church	
Monday, July 17	8:30 am	Offering Team (BDG)	Meeting Place
	9:00am-2:00pm	Children's Ministry Team	Offsite
Tuesday, July 18	8:00 am	Mystery Trip (coffee in Family Room prior to leaving)	Offsite
	8:00 am	Program Staff Meeting	Meeting Place
	9:00 am	Library Committee	Library
	9:00 am-4:00 pm	Brush and Palette Class	Fellowship Hall
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Meeting Place
	12:00 pm	Doo-Wop Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	2:00-9:00 pm	Directory Pictures	Noah's Art
	2:30 pm	Gospel 4+	Sanctuary
	5:30 pm	Family Service Picnic	Luther Crest
	Wednesday, July 19	8:00 am	Vision Team Agenda
9:00 am-4:00 pm		Brush and Palette Class	Fellowship Hall
9:30 am		Parents Share	Family Room
10:00 am		Staff Coffee	Meeting Place
2:00-9:00 pm		Directory Pictures	Noah's Art
Thursday, July 20	7:00 am	Women's Bible Study	Family Room
	8:45 am	Staff Prayer	The Commons
	9:00 am-4:00 pm	Brush and Palette Class	Fellowship Hall
	11:00 am	Communion	@Diamond Willow
	1:30 pm	Care Team Meeting	Meeting Place
	2:00-9:00 pm	Directory Pictures	Noah's Art
	6:00 pm	Vision Team Meeting	Family Room
Friday, July 21	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study	@The Depot
	12:00 pm	Bulletin Announcements Due	Office
Saturday, July 22	5:00 pm	Worship w/Communion/Miller Baptism	Sanctuary
Sunday, July 23	8:30 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	9:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:30 am	Outdoor Worship	@Lake Carlos State Park
	11:00 am	Outdoor Worship w/Communion and House Boat Send off	City Park

***** NOTE: Next week is FLC week at Luther Crest Camp, July 24-28th *****