

LIVING NATIVITY

Sunday, December 8 | 3:00-6:00pm | FLC Parking Lot

You are invited to join us as we bring the nativity story to life. The walk through will take place from 3:00-3:45pm. The drive through will begin at 3:45pm and conclude at 6:00pm. The set up of the scenes and backdrops will begin at 9:00am on Saturday 12/7; detailed set-up will happen at noon on 12/8. There are many ways to help. Character sign up is at the Welcome Center. If you'd like to help defray the cost of the animals, donations can be made. Please write "Living Nativity" in the memo line of your check.

WEEKEND HOSPITALITY POSITION OPENING

This part time, rotating position will be responsible for locking and unlocking the building for weekend worship and events, coffee and treats preparation before and after worship, lighting candles, securing the offering, cleaning up before and after worship, overseeing the scheduled volunteers and to be alert to the needs of the congregation. Please pick up an application at the Welcome Center or reach out to Greg Tvrdik with any questions.

CHRISTMAS FAMILY MUSIC CLASS

Friday, December 6 & 20 | 8:45-9:30 am | Room 1B

Bring your friends and join us for this free class. This is an energetic time for children (ages 18 months-3 years old) and caregivers to enjoy elements of music through movement, rhythm, tonal patterns, and instruments. No registration necessary.

WELCA LUNCHEON

Thursday, December 5 | 12:00pm | Room 1A

Women of all ages are encouraged to attend the monthly WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Church in America) gatherings. Join us for our program, *Advent Devotion Time* with Marilee Bergerson.

SENIOR COFFEE

Tuesday, November 19 | 10:00-11:00am | Gathering Space

Seniors are invited to join us for a time of coffee, cookies and fellowship. This informal time will be hosted by your church staff and take place the third Tuesday of each month.

LECTIO DIVINA IN ADVENT

Friday, December 6, 13 and 20 | 9:00am or 10:30am | Prayer Room

Facilitated by Cher Larson, Lectio Divina is a slow, contemplative form of prayer using a text. It is an ancient practice of "listening with the ear of our heart" to what God might be saying through the chosen reading. Each week, the readings will use the Bible readings included in worship. Each session is limited to six participants. Please sign up at the Welcome Center.

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

Welcome to First Lutheran Church, where faith and life meet!

OUR MISSION

First Lutheran is a vibrant Christian community where faith and life meet through worship, learning and serving in Jesus' name.

MORE INFORMATION

Volunteers and staff are available before and after worship services to assist you. Children's bulletins and children's worship bags are available for use on the tables outside of the Sanctuary. The nursery is available and staffed on Sundays and Wednesdays during worship for children ages 0-5. Hearing assist devices are available at the Welcome Center. Monthly Financials and Vision Team Meeting Minutes are available at the Welcome Center.

LEARN MORE AT

FIRSTLUTHERANALEXANDRIA.COM/EVENTS
or stop by the Welcome Center for our monthly calendar.

PRAYER REQUESTS | HOSPITAL VISITS

If you have a prayer request or if you or a loved one are hospitalized and would like a visit, please call or email the church office at 320-762-2196 or admin@firstlutheranalexandria.com.

GIVING

Offering envelopes are available on the tables outside of the Sanctuary. You can also give by texting 320.500.6014 or by visiting us online at firstlutheranalexandria.com/your-gift.

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Greg Billberg, Lead Pastor
Kari van Wakeren, Associate Pastor
Ben Jacobson, Associate Pastor
Randy Morken, Director of Music and Liturgy



1655 18th Ave E
Alexandria, MN 56308
320.762.2196

Emergency After Hours Phone Number: 320.219.5492

For more information, visit us online at firstlutheranalexandria.com.



SATURDAY | 11.16.19 | 5:00PM
SUNDAY | 11.17.19 | 8:30AM

WELCOME AND GREETING

GATHERING SONG

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty #858

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: *In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*
C: Amen.

We take a moment to be still, confess our sins, and receive God’s forgiveness. Silence is kept for reflection.

P: *Most merciful God,*
C: we confess that we are captive 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.

P: *God, who is rich in mercy...that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.*
C: Amen.

GREETING

P: *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*
C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: *Loving Lord,*
C: There are places in our lives that are messy and overgrown. Redeem those places that we might be made new and made whole. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

(5:00) Roger and Barb Riley
(8:30) Chancel Choir *More Like You, Lord, May I Be...*arr.Stewart/Nix

CHILDREN’S TIME

(8:30) Congregation sings *I’ve Got the Joy, Joy, Joy* as children come forward.

SCRIPTURE READING

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5
Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Mark 12:1-3
The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Pastor Ben Jacobson

SERMON SONG

Lift High the Cross #660

CONFESSION OF FAITH WE CONFESS OUR SHARED FAITH.

Apostles’ Creed

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING WE RETURN TO GOD A PORTION OF OUR BLESSINGS.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: *Blessed are you,*
C: O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness, you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (8:30)

LORD’S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION (8:30)
All are welcome. Gluten free wafers and white grape juice are available upon request.

COMMUNION SONG (8:30) *Lamb of God*

COMMUNION BLESSING (8:30)
P: *The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*
C: Amen.

BENEDICTION GOD’S BLESSING IS SPOKEN OVER US.
P: *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.*
C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL WE DEPART TO SERVE CHRIST IN THE WORLD.

P: *Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*
C: Thanks be to God.
P: *And all God’s children said,*
C: Amen!

SENDING

I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me #860

PRAYERS

WEDDINGS: Congratulations to Kendra Engebretson and Tyler Carver
HOSPITALIZATIONS: Bill Riggs
HEALTH CONCERNS: Bob Brown, National Donor Sabbath...pray for those in need of an organ donation and for those donating organs
SYMPATHY: Molly & Clarke Comer and Maggie & Joey Sisser on the death of their grandma, Mona Peterson; Don Leland on the death of his brother-in-law Eugene

RADIO BROADCAST

This week’s radio broadcast is in loving memory of Tom Reineke, given by Priscilla, Matthew, Mark, and families.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Monday, November 18 | 6:30-7:30pm | Room 1A
Please join us if you are interested in membership at First Lutheran or just interested in learning more about our ministry and congregation. Sign up at the Welcome Center by Sunday, November 17. A light snack will be provided. Childcare will be available.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

Wednesday, November 27 | 6:30-7:30pm | St. Mary's Church
You are invited as we join St. Mary’s and all of the Alexandria ELCA congregations to Thanksgiving Eve worship. There will be a combined choir that will practice one hour prior to worship. If you are interested in participating in the choir, please email Ruth Blom at shalomdeacon84@gmail.com. There will be no Wednesday night programming, meal, or worship at FLC.

GETTING THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

Thursday, November 21 | 2:00pm or 6:00pm | Room 1A
Anyone grieving the death of a loved one is invited to attend this event that will present insights and strategies to help ease the anxiety that the holidays can bring. Area professionals will facilitate this discussion time. Two sessions will be offered: 2:00-3:30pm or 6:00-7:30 pm.

THANKS FOR GIVING

November 10 through November 20
We are raising funds to help with Children and Youth activities and scholarships for the many young people who participate in FLC programming. Take one or more envelopes by the Welcome Center and fill it with that dollar amount noted on the envelope. Pay with cash, check (made out to FLC with “TFG” in the memo line) or on our website in the Thanks for Giving category. Donations can be turned in through the office or offering plate.

ADVENT MEDITATION SERVICE

Monday, December 2, 9, 16, and 23 | 12:10pm | Room 1A
Give yourself a 30 minute break from the rush of Christmas. Join us for meditation and prayer.