

### WE WELCOME JIM LADOUX

The weekend of January 11-12, Jim Ladoux, our coach from Vibrant Faith, will be with us in worship and sharing the message. Jim's message will kick off a sermon series that highlights the work the staff and Vision Team have been doing over the past year related to our mission and values and living into the church God is calling us to be in this time and place. We hope you are able to join us!

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN & BUDGET UPDATE

**Sunday, January 5 and 19 | 9:30am | Room 1A**

Please join us for this opportunity to learn about and discuss our mission, the 2020 budget, the status of the present Capital Campaign, and plans for the next campaign beginning this spring.

### CHRISTMAS GIFT

As you make your plan for year-end giving, would you consider making a special Christmas gift to First Lutheran Church? All gifts received are tax deductible before 4:00pm on Tuesday, December 31, 2019 and will be credited to your 2019 giving record for tax purposes. Special Christmas envelopes were mailed to you, or you can pick one up at the Welcome Center. Thank You.

### GOSPEL OF MARK STUDY

**Mondays, Jan 6, 13, 20, 27 | 10:00-11:00am | Room 1A**

Led by Pastor Greg Billberg. This study offers an overview of the gospel of Mark, which is the assigned gospel for worship in the new year. No experience with Bible study is necessary.

### INTRO TO THE BIBLE

**Thursdays, Jan 9, 16, 23 | 6:30-7:30pm | Gathering Space**

Led by Pastor Marilee Bergerson, this study is for anyone and all ages. It will start as an introduction to the Bible but will then continue into a Bible study (reading/discussion from the Bible) weekly going forward for those who are interested. No homework and no special books to purchase.

### BAPTISM CLASS

**Thursday, January 9 | 6:30-7:00pm | Sanctuary**

This class is for anyone interested in baptism at First Lutheran. Sign up at the Welcome Center.

### WEATHER RELATED TEXT MESSAGING

Sign up for weather related text messaging by texting @flcweather to 81010.

### 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 bags are available at the front entrance. The nursery is available during all worship services and staffed at 2:00 and 4:00pm worship for children ages 0-5. Hearing assist devices, 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](mailto:admin@firstlutheranalexandria.com).

### GIVING OPTIONS

Offering envelopes are available on the tables outside of the Sanctuary. You can also give by texting 320.500.6014, by using the giving kiosk located next to the Welcome Center, or by visiting us online at [firstlutheranalexandria.com/your-gift](http://firstlutheranalexandria.com/your-gift).

### OUR PASTORS

Greg Billberg, Lead Pastor  
Kari van Wakeren, Associate Pastor  
Ben Jacobson, Associate Pastor



1655 18th Avenue East  
Alexandria, MN 56308  
320.762.2196

Emergency After Hours Phone Number: 320.219.5492  
For weather related announcements, check our website, Facebook page, KXRA Radio 100.3 or Voice of Alexandria.com

Welcome to  
WORSHIP



**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**2:00, 4:00, 6:00 & 9:00PM**



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND GREETINGS

CAROLS

O Come, All Ye Faithful (vs. 1 & 4) #283  
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (vs. 1 & 3) #270

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

At this time, we take a few moments to be still, to confess our sin, and to 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. 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: I bring you the good news of great joy for all people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in † Jesus’ name.  
C: Amen.

CAROL #289  
Angels We Have Heard on High

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: God, you make this holy night shine with the brightness of your grace and truth. Teach us to treasure in our hearts the birth of Jesus and lead us by your Spirit to praise his name and share his love with all people. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC  
(2:00) Chancel Choir (4:00) Abigail and Lydia Renney  
(6:00) Carolyn Gianonne (9:00) Roger and Barb Riley

CHILDREN’S TIME #277  
Away in a Manger  
(Verse 1 as children come up and verse 2 as they go back.)

SCRIPTURE READING  
First Reading: Psalm 146:5-10  
Word of God. Word of Life.  
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:1-14  
The Gospel of the Lord.  
C: Thanks be to God.

CAROL #279  
O Little Town of Bethlehem

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

CAROL #267  
Joy to the World

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION  
Response after each petition...  
P: Lord in your mercy,  
C: Hear our prayer.

OFFERING WE RETURN TO GOD A PORTION OF OUR BLESSINGS.

OFFERING PRAYER  
C: God of hope, you came as a baby to a manger, slept on straw, and greeted shepherds. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. Keep us mindful of all we have been given, and through these gifts, help us be a blessing to others. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD’S PRAYER

COMMUNION  
All are welcome. Gluten free wafers and white grape juice are available upon request.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION  
The First Noel #300  
What Child is This? #296

COMMUNION BLESSING  
P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
C: Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES (6:00 & 9:00)  
P: Even as we gather this Christmas Eve in hope and joy, many here and throughout the world carry heavy burdens. In this moment we ask God to free us from the things that weigh us down and to fill our darkness with the light of Christ.

C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it.  
P: The light of Christ fill you this night and remain with you always.  
C: Amen.

CAROL #281  
Silent Night

PRAYER  
C: God of light, shine in our darkness, brighten our days, and send us now with good news for all people. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

BENEDICTION GOD’S BLESSING IS SPOKEN OVER US.  
P: May Christ give you peace and joy this Christmas and always. Almighty God, Father †, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. C: Amen.

DISMISSAL WE DEPART TO SERVE CHRIST IN THE WORLD.  
P: Go in peace. Christ, our light, goes with you.  
C: Thanks be to God!  
P: And all of God’s people said,  
C: Amen!

CAROL #290  
Go, Tell it on the Mountain

POSTLUDE

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RADIO BROADCAST  
Today’s broadcast is given by Jola Amundsen and family in memory of Jerry Amundsen and Tammy Amundsen Reignier.

FAMILY BLESSING  
In worship the week of January 11-15, we will offer a family blessing at all worship services. This is a meaningful time where you are invited to receive a personal prayer and blessing as a household unit. Whether you live alone or with others, you are a part of our First Lutheran family and we want to bless and support you as you live out your faith and life.

ISRAEL/JORDAN TRIP  
October 27, 2020 - November 7, 2020  
Join us as we travel to the Holy Land. For more information, pick up a brochure at the Welcome Center or talk with Pastor Greg.