

**INTRO TO THE BIBLE: LUKE BIBLE STUDY**

**Thurs | 3/19, 3/26 | 6:30-7:30pm | Gathering Space**

All are welcome to join us as Pastor Marilee Bergerson leads this study on the book of Luke.

**CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER**

**Fridays, February 28-April 3 | 9:00-10:00am | Prayer Room**

Sign up at the Welcome Center for one or for all sessions. Come and “experience” listening to Scripture. No experience necessary, just bring an open heart. Facilitated by Cher Larson.

**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION**

**Monday, February 24 | 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, February 23. A light snack will be provided. Childcare will be available.

**TAKE STOCK**

**March 7 - 15 | Worship Services | Gathering Space**

The congregation is invited to buy “shares of stock” for this Youth Ministry fundraiser. Shares are \$20. People can buy as many as they want or give a cash donation in the amount they choose. This summer our youth will be going on a houseboat trip.

**BAPTISM CLASS**

**Thursday, March 12 | 6:30-7:00pm | Sanctuary**

If you’re interested in baptism at First Lutheran, sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office.

**DMS THE SHELF FOOD DRIVE**

**Saturday, February 15 -Sunday, March 1**

Discovery Middle School Food Shelf is in need of the following food donations: mac & cheese, cereal and juice (half-gallon). Yellow bags are available at the Welcome Center for your donation of these items.

**WELCA WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

**Friday, March 6 | 9:30-11:00am | Sanctuary**

Women of all ages welcome to join us as we recognize World Day of Prayer.

**GREEN SPACE DEVELOPMENT TEAM**

If you have interest in helping develop the green space surrounding our new church building, please contact Dave Anderson at 320.846.2013.

**THEFT AWARENESS**

We have been made aware of a few incidents of theft recently here at the church. We encourage you to take the necessary precautions by locking your cars and not leaving valuables in your coats at the coat racks. Please be sure to report any suspicious activity.

**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](mailto:admin@firstlutheranalexandria.com). \*Please note that hospital visitor restrictions are currently in place due to the spike in Influenza cases.

**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 Ave E  
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 or Voice of Alexandria.com

WELCOME  
TO WORSHIP

WE’RE GLAD YOU’RE HERE



**SATURDAY | 2.22.20 | 5:00PM**  
**SUNDAY | 2.23.20 | 8:30AM**



WELCOME AND GREETING

GATHERING SONG

Lift High the Cross #660

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P:** *Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the eternal voice from heaven, the anointed and beloved one, the Spirit moving over the waters.*  
**C:** Amen.

*Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another, trusting in God’s endless mercy and love. Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P:** *Gracious God,*  
**C:** have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.

**P:** *God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, 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

**C:** God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

(5:00) Jan Holverson  
(8:30) Hand Bell & Piano Duet (JoAnne Thompson & Randy Morken)

CHILDREN’S TIME

(8:30) Congregation sings *Give Me Oil* as children come forward.

SCRIPTURE READING

First Reading: Psalm 27:1-4  
*Word of God. Word of Life.*

**C:** Thanks be to God.  
Gospel Reading: Mark 8:27-38  
*The Gospel of the Lord.*  
**C:** Thanks be to God.  
**SERMON** Pastor Greg Billberg  
**SERMON SONG**  
*Will You Come and Follow Me* (vs. 1,2,4,5) #798  
**BAPTISM** (5:00)  
**BAPTISM SONG** (5:00)  
**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**  
**OFFERING WE RETURN TO GOD A PORTION OF OUR BLESSINGS.**  
**OFFERING PRAYER**  
**P:** *Generous God,*  
**C:** you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the meal of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord. Amen.  
**WORDS OF INSTITUTION** (5:00)  
**LORD’S PRAYER**  
**DISTRIBUTION** (5:00)  
*All are welcome. Gluten free wafers and white grape juice are available upon request.*  
**COMMUNION SONG** (5:00) *Lamb of God*  
**COMMUNION BLESSING** (5:00)  
**P:** *May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*  
**C:** Amen.  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**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.  
**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 SONG**  
*Go, My Children, with My Blessing* #543  
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**PRAYERS**  
HEALTH CONCERNS: Marilyn Andrews, Bob Brown, Diane Larson, Norm Anderson, Brynn Moen, Leona Poirier, Renata Grant, Orville Ackerman  
HOSPITALIZATIONS: Calli Olson, George Dyrstad, Dana Frovarp, Augie Gulbranson  
BAPTISM: (5:00) Trigg Scott & Tilly Lacy, son and daughter of Brooke & Scott Sievers  
**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**Wednesday, February 26 | 12:00pm & 6:15pm**  
You are invited to join us as we begin our Lent journey on Ash Wednesday for worship with imposition of ashes and communion.  
**LENT SMALL GROUP BOOK STUDY**  
As we journey to the cross, we will use Adam Hamilton’s book *The Walk: Five Practices of the Christian Life* as our guide. Sign up for a small group by the Gathering Space by March 8. Books can be purchased by the Welcome Center or in the church office.  
**BROWN BAG LUNCH LARGE GROUP STUDY**  
**Wed, March 4 -April 1 | 12:00-1:00pm | Gathering Space**  
Bring your lunch and join us as we discuss our weekly Lenten theme. No sign up necessary.  
**LENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE**  
**Saturday, February 29 - Wednesday, April 1**  
SATURDAYS: 5:00PM Holden Evening Prayer  
SUNDAYS: 8:30AM Traditional Worship  
10:00AM Celebration Worship  
WEDNESDAYS: 6:15PM Contemporary Worship  
**LENT SOUP SUPPERS**  
**Weds, Feb 26-Apr 1 | 4:45-6:00pm | Gathering Sp**  
Throughout Lent, the weekly Wednesday meal will be served by the youth attending the summer houseboat trip as a fundraiser with all meal proceeds going to the youth.  
**MEN’S BREAKFAST**  
**Thursday, March 12 | 6:30-7:30am | Gathering Space**  
Join us on the second Thursday of each month (September through May) for a great breakfast and speaker! All men are welcome.