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.

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.

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.

RELAY FOR LIFE SILENT AUCTION & PASTA BAR

Friday, March 27 | 5:00-9:00pm | Holiday Inn

Tickets are \$10. Contact Terri Bouressa for tickets or more information by calling or texting at 612-749-0770.

SENIOR COFFEE

Tuesday, March 17 | 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.

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. *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.

OUR PASTORS

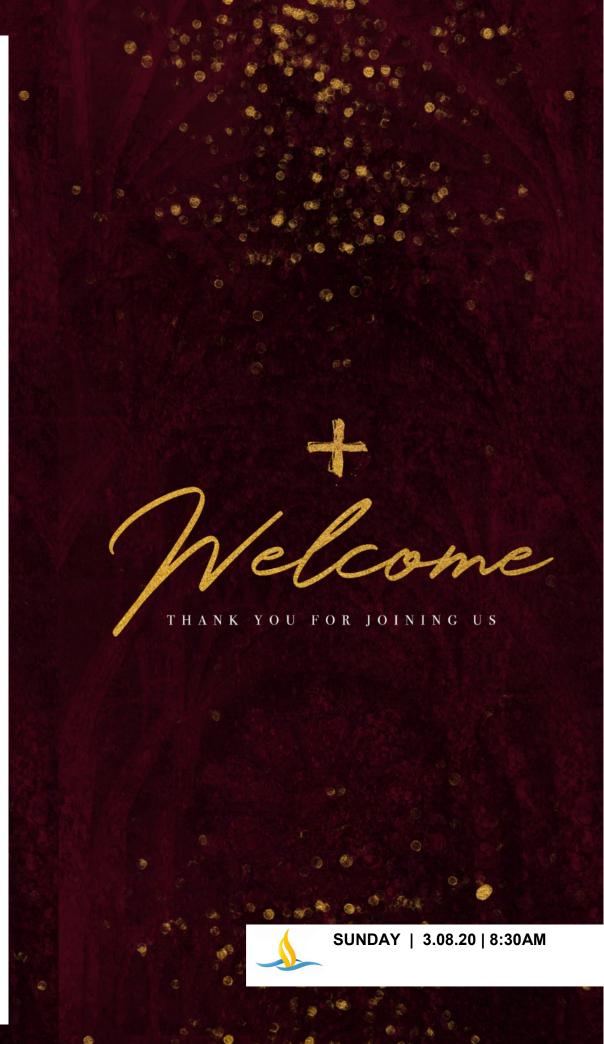
Greg Billberg, Lead Pastor Kari van Wakeren, Associate Pastor Ben Jacobson, Associate Pastor



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 AND GREETING

GATHERING SONG

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

#789

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

C: Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may walk in your path and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

P: Receive this good news: God turns to you in love. "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you.

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: God our wisdom and strength,

C: you have given us your word to guide us and give us life. Move us to study your truth that it may be a lamp to our feet and a light to our paths. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Pat Kalina

CHILDREN'S TIME

(8:30) Congregation sings Seek Ye First as children come forward.

SCRIPTURE READING

First Reading: Psalm 119:105-112

Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Pastor Ben Jacobson

SERMON SONG

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

#335

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING WE RETURN TO GOD A PORTION OF OUR BLESSINGS.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Generous God,

C: you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION GOD'S BLESSING IS SPOKEN OVER US.

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL WE DEPART TO SERVE CHRIST IN THE WORLD.

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: And all God's children said.

C: Amen!

SENDING SONG

Give Me Jesus (vs. 1, 4, 5)

#770

PRAYERS

HEALTH CONCERNS: Brynn Moen, George Dyrstad, Augie

Gulbranson, Calli Olson, Bob Brown, Diane Larson

HOSPITALIZATIONS: Warren Olsen, Dana Frovarp

SYMPATHY: The Family of Leona Poirier

RADIO BROADCAST

The radio broadcast is in honor of Ruth Strand's 104th birthday on March 4, given by John and Darlene Strand and their family.

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 online at www.christianbooks.com.

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 Space

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.

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.