


# First Lutheran Church, NALC

St. Ansgar, Iowa



Lift up  
the light  
of your face  
upon us,  
O Lord!

Psalm 4:6

An asterisk (\*) denotes when worshipers are invited to stand.

If it is better for you to sit for any or all of those occasions, please sit.  
God understands and so will we.

**REMINDER:** Please turn your cell phones off during the worship service.

## “MY HOUSE IS THE HOUSE OF PRAYER”

First Lutheran Church  
Saint Ansgar, Iowa  
Phone 713-4873

Pastor Christopher Staley  
April 14, 2024  
9:00 A.M.

**Third Sunday of Easter**

---

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8

### WE COME BEFORE GOD

**PRELUDE**

**Amy Brandau**

**WELCOME & WORSHIP NOTES**

**INVOCATION**

**OPENING HYMN** *God Himself Is Present*

**LBW #249**

**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.

## **OPENING DIALOG (from Romans 10)**

**P:** The Word is near you,

**C: on your lips and in your heart.**

**P:** If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

**C: and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will saved.**

**P:** Faith comes from what is heard,

**C: and what is heard comes through the Word of Christ.**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** Let us pray... **All: O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

## **GOD SPEAKS TO US**

### **The First Lesson Acts 3:11-21**

<sup>11</sup>While {the lame man who had been healed} clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. <sup>12</sup>And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And his name — by faith in his name — has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. <sup>17</sup>And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, <sup>20</sup>that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, <sup>21</sup>whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago."

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **The Psalm Psalm 4 Spoken responsively by verse**

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup>**"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?"**

<sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.

**<sup>4</sup>Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices and put your trust in the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see better times!” Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

**<sup>8</sup>I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

## **Second Lesson      1 John 3:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

<sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. <sup>4</sup>Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

**L:** The Word of the Lord.      **C:** Thanks be to God.

## **\*The Gospel Acclamations (spoken)**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, reading in the Twenty-fourth Chapter.

**C:** Glory to You, O Lord.

## **\*The Holy Gospel      Luke 24:36-49**

<sup>36</sup>As {the disciples} were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” <sup>37</sup>But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. <sup>38</sup>And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate before them. <sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

**P:** The Gospel of our Lord.

**C:** Praise to You, O Christ.

**SONG OF THE MONTH In Christ Alone (CCLI#3350395)**

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease  
My comforter, my all in all  
Here, in the love of Christ, I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
'Til on that cross, as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin, on Him, was laid  
Here, in the death of Christ, I live

There in the ground, His body lay  
Light of the world, by darkness, slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave, He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Could ever pluck me from His hand  
'Til He returns or calls me home  
Here, in the power of Christ, I stand

**THE SERMON**

**Pastor Mark Braaten**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

**LBW #126**

**L:** In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**C:** We believe in Him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 1:13-14)

**L:** God has made us His people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith

**\*THE CONFESSION OF FAITH (The Nicene Creed)**

**Pastor:** God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**All:** We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father. Through Him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the virgin  
Mary, and was made man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen

**\*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**P:** Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins:

*A time of silence is held for self-reflection*

**P:** Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. **C:**

**Amen**

**P:** O God the Father in heaven, **C: have mercy upon us!**

**P:** O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, **C: have mercy upon us!**

**P:** O God the Holy Spirit, true Comforter, **C: have mercy upon us!**

**P:** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgiven us all our sins. To them that believe on His name, He gives the power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all! **C: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward all!**

**\*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**L:** The peace of the Lord be with you always

**C: And also with you.**

*With the prevalence of various illnesses, please respect those who may wish to refrain from shaking the hands of those outside their own family.*

**THE OFFERING**

**\*THE OFFERTORY:**

**LBW #410 v. 1**

**\*THE OFFERING PRAYER**

**P:** Blessed are you, **All: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to Your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that You have made, for the sake of Him who gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**\*THE PRAYERS**

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**\*BENEDICTION (spoken)**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CLOSING HYMN:** *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

**LBW #143**

**THE DISMISSAL**

**ORGAN CHIMES**

**POSTLUDE**

*Please join us after worship for a time of food and fellowship in the Parish Center*

---

**WE LEAVE TO WORSHIP THE LORD WITH OUR LIVES**

**GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME** to our worship services. **A WARM WELCOME** to our visitors...please sign our guest register in the narthex and come again! **GOOD MORNING** to members and friends at the Good Samaritan Center.

**THE MISSION OF FIRST LUTHERAN**-We are all called by God to continue to spread the Christian faith to all people.

**Thank** you to Lucas Jorgensen for serving as our reader this morning. Also, thank you to Amy Brandau for playing the organ.

**We welcome Pastor Mark Braaten today.** Pastor Braaten has been called to be the NALC Area Assistant to the Bishop for the Southern Region, and lives in Texas.

**TOTE-BAGS FOR KIDS:** There are several bags available in the narthex for families with young children to use during the service. Inside the bag are small toys, books, and etc. to use during the service. Just return them following the service.

**We believe** that children should be part of the worship service. Occasionally, children challenge this belief. Should you desire to use our Nursery, it is located in the basement of the church. It provides a place for the child and allows the parent(s) to continue to hear the service.



**THE PASCHAL CANDLE** -The tall candle burning in the chancel during the Easter season is the Paschal Candle. “Paschal” refers to “Passover”. Jesus is like the Passover Lamb which was sacrificed in Egypt so that those families who had the mark of the Lamb’s blood on their front door were spared by the angel of death. (Ex. 12) Thus, the “Paschal Candle” is the Church’s sign for Jesus, the Lamb of God, who was sacrificed for us and rose again (Rev. 5)

The Paschal Candle is burned throughout the seven weeks of Easter (until Jesus’ Ascension). It is also lighted as the sign of resurrection and new life at a Christian’s baptism, and at the funeral of a Christian

**Anyone interested in joining our First Lutheran Church family** or simply wanting to learn more about our church, is encouraged to contact Pastor Staley or the church office at 713-4873.

**The ‘Prayer Chain’** is based on this promise: *“Again, I tell you that if two of you agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”* Matthew 18:19, 20. If you want to submit a prayer request to the Prayer chain, call Sharon Frank at 641-425-8665. If you would like to be a part of praying for the needs of our friends and families, contact your circle leader." **NOTE:** The FLCWomen are planning to re-organize/update the Prayer Chain. They are inviting all men or women who would like to be a part of this to contact Jean Lunde or Linda McKinley and let them know you are interested and the best phone number to use.

**We have an active/updated website!** Go to [www.firstlutheranstansgar.com](http://www.firstlutheranstansgar.com) to see the current calendar, weekly bulletin, newsletter, links to our Facebook page, webcam, and the NALC website.

### **OUR MEMBERS CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE MILITARY:**

\* Active \*\* Reserves

\*\* Marissa Stoeffler

\*\*Collin McKinley

\*Tanner Evans

\*Lacey Crowley

\*\* Leah Jorgensen

\*Derek Peterson

**The LAST Sunday** of each month is designated as “Food Bank Sunday”. You are encouraged to bring food items, paper products as well as personal hygiene items to be given to our local North Cedar Food Bank. As always, you may bring items any Sunday, but we will have a special emphasis on the LAST Sunday each month. Also bring your loose change for the Coin Jar. Any loose \$1 bills put in the offering plate that day will be given to the Food Bank.

**The Senior Saints Club** Fund Raiser Lunch will be held **Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>** from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at the Senior Saints Center. BBQ Sandwiches, Potato Salad and Baked Beans, Bars/Cookies, Ice Cream will be served. Carry-out meals available. Free Will Offering

**OFFICIAL NOTICE:  
SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Sunday, April 28, 2024 at the Church


10:05 A.M., following the 9:00 A.M. worship service

Proposed Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Consideration of proposal from First Grace Lutheran Church in Osage.
3. Closing
4. Adjournment



Michael Borcharding, President



Mary Kleinwort, Secretary

**There will be a clean up day** held on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Please consider helping out if you can. “Many hands make light work”

**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

<b>TODAY:</b>	9:00 a.m.	Worship Acolytes: Lauren Berg, Trey Johanns
	10:00 a.m.	Fellowship Hour
	10:15 a.m.	Sunday school
	6:00 p.m.	Adult Bible Study
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	9:30 a.m.	Pastor to Text Study
	3:30 p.m.	Adult Bible Study
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	9:00 a.m.	FLCW Circle meet at Good Sam. Hostess & Bible Study: Gail Jensen
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	2:00 p.m.	Chapel at Good Sam.
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	- - -	Pastor’s Day Off
	- - -	Clean-Up Day at First Lutheran
<b>NEXT SUNDAY:</b>	9:00 a.m.	Worship W/ Holy Communion - Representatives from First Grace here to speak of their proposal. Acolytes: Mitchell Frein, Ella Horgen Deacons: Meghan Powers, Kjersti Mayer
	10:00 a.m.	Fellowship Hour Faith & Care sign up (May)
	10:15 a.m.	Sunday school
	6:00 p.m.	Adult Bible Study