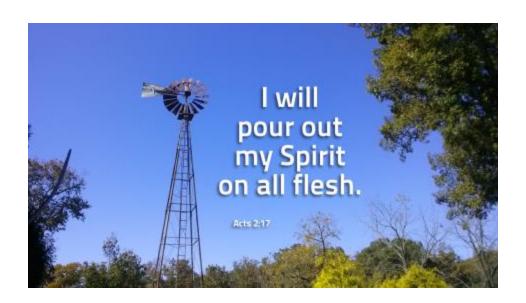
First Lutheran Church, NALC

St. Ansgar, Iowa



Day of Pentecost May 19, 2024



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.

NO Flash photography during worship please!

"MY HOUSE IS THE HOUSE OF PRAYER"

First Lutheran Church Saint Ansgar, Iowa Phone 713-4873

Day of Pentecost Baccalaureate Service Pastor Christopher Staley May 19, 2024

3-4873 **Baccalaureate Service** 9:00 A.M. Jesus Christ is the same vesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8

PRELUDE Gwen Mellmann

P: Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C: and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

P: Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C: and forget not all his benefits! (Psalm 103:1-2)

WELCOME & WORSHIP NOTES

INVOCATION

HYMN O God beyond All Praising

wov #797

*THE 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.

*KYRIE

WOV #602 (in English)

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE

wov #789

*THE SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray...

All: O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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 Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Lord came to Ezekiel and granted him a vision of Israel's resurrection from the dead. Through the breath of life, God's promise was to bring withered, lifeless, dry bones back to vitality. This image served as a promise to Israel that they would be brought home from the place of death and restored to a new life in God's presence.

¹The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And he led me

around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know." 4Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. 5Thus says the LORD God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." 7So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the LORD God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. 11Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' 12Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the LORD God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. 14And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it. declares the LORD."

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

The Psalm Psalm 139:1-18 spoken responsively by verse

The psalmist sang of the omniscient power of the God who created him. There is nothing that can be hidden from God: not thoughts or movements, not emotions or the condition of his body.

1 O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

- 3 You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.
- 5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.
- 7 Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

9 If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,"

12 even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

13 For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

15 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

16 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

17 How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

18 I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end — I am still with you.

The Second Lesson Acts 2:1-21

As Jesus had promised while he was still with his followers, the Holy Spirit arrived on Pentecost while they were gathered together in the same house. The sound of the Spirit was like a rushing wind that filled the entire dwelling and landed on each of them who were present as a divided tongue of fire. All who were gathered spoke different languages, yet all were able to understand one another.

¹When the day of Pentecost arrived, {the apostles} were all together in one place. ²And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? 9Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians — we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." 12And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine." ¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. ¹⁵For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. ¹⁶But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; ¹⁸even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; ²⁰the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. ²¹And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*The Alleluia Verse

WOV # 612 (sing 2X)

*The Gospel responses (spoken)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, reading from the Tenth Chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

*The Holy Gospel John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Jesus promised to send to his followers a helper; this advocate and guide is the Holy Spirit of God. The Spirit would bear witness to Jesus as will the disciples, Jesus explained. Jesus told the disciples that he had to go away so that the Helper could come to them. Whatever belonged to Jesus, he said, will now belong to them.

26{Jesus said,} "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷And you

also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

4b"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. 5But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?'

6But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.

7Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. 8And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:

9concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; 10concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; 11concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. 12I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said

P: The Gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN: Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

First Lutheran Church Women

WOV #684

Presentation to Graduates

That Lumeran Church Women

*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 & FORGIVENESS

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. Amen

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

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

P: O God the Holy Spirit, true Comforter, 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! **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.

THE OFFERING

*THE OFFERTORY: As the Grains of Wheat

wov # 705

*THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray,

C: Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him Who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

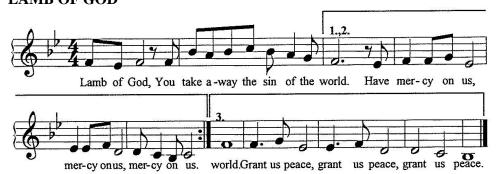
*PRAYERS

WE ARE FORGIVEN, STRENGTHENED & UNITED IN HOLY COMMUNION

We believe that the true body and blood of Christ are really present under the form of bread and wine in this Holy Sacrament. We receive this Sacrament for the forgiveness of sins through which we receive life and salvation. All baptized Christians who so believe and are admitted to Holy Communion in their home congregations are welcome to join us at Our Lord's Table. Non-communing children are also encouraged to come forward for a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*LORD'S PRAYER LAMB OF GOD



Personal Prayer Before Holy Communion – We do not presume to come to Your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under Your table. But You are the same Lord Whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, and so to drink His blood, that we may evermore dwell in Him and He in us. Amen.

Personal Prayer After Holy Communion - Almighty God, You provide the true bread from heaven, Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of His body and blood may abide in Him and He in us, that we may be filled with the power of His endless life, now and forever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION — **Continuous/Kneeling communion** We will start on the north (pulpit) side in the back. The balcony will come next, then the south side (lectern) from the back. Ushers will release communicants, about <u>eight</u> at a time. Please fill the north side of the rail from the north end first, then the south side from the south end. **When your side has placed your cups on the tray, please rise and return to your pew.** If it would be better for you to receive Communion where you are sitting, please let an usher know when one approaches your pew.

Instrumental Music During Distribution.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE BENEDICTION & THREE-FOLD AMEN ANNOUNCEMENTS wov #790

HYMN: Sent Forth by God's Blessing

LBW #221

(Class of 2024's Confirmation Hymn)

P: Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C: and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

P: Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C: and forget not all his benefits! (Psalm 103:1-2)

DISMISSAL

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.



Please join us at the parish center across the road this morning for a reception for our high school graduates after worship today.

Thank you to Ryan Horgen for serving as our reader this morning.

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.



REMINDER: When planning to commune with us, please fill in a registration card when you enter the church. This serves two purposes. One is that it lets the Deacons know approximately how many portions to prepare. The other is that we record who takes communion each time, as part of the official church records. This

data is used when determining who is or is not a 'voting member', or to see who may need to be reached out to. So please, list the names of each family member who will be communing on the card. (Can all be on one card) If you are a guest from another church, you may write the name of your home church on the back of the card and we can let your congregation know you have communed with us.

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.

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.

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

Devotional Booklets for this quarter are in the narthex – help yourself!

Our 2024 High School Graduates



Kinsey Jean Anderson, daughter of Jeff & Dawn Anderson. Born 7/21/05 Baptized 10/2/05 Sponsors: Trevor Kittleson, Kelsey Kittleson *God is within her; she will not fall* Psalm 46:5a

Madeline Sue Berg, daughter of Josh & Ashley Berg. Born 12/31/05 Baptized 4/2/06 Sponsors: Peter & Pam Berg

"Believe in the lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." Acts 16:31

Hannah Fae Clevenger, daughter of Drew & Gretchen Clevenger. Born 5/14/06 Baptized 6/25/06 Sponsors: Thea Porisch, Patrick William (Bill) & Mia Hoeft

Therefore, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus 2 Timothy 2:1

Jacob John Eberling, son of Jason & Marjorie Eberling. Born 9/8/05 Baptized 11/20/05 Sponsors: Nic & Heidi Rysavy, Matt & Jen Kruse For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Jeremiah 29:11

Nehemiah Stone Hollingsworth-Huebsch, son of Johnnie Hollingsworth-Huebsch and Brian Huebsch. Born 6/23/06 Baptized 8/27/06 Sponsors: Wendy Heuton, Gene Huebsch

Izabelle Marie Malmin, daughter of Kyle Malmin and Brandi Meier. Born 11/1/05 Baptized 12/18/05 Sponsor: Taya Walk

Drew Robert Powers, son of Derrick & Amy Powers. Born 1/9/06 Baptized 3/26/06 Sponsors: Jarod Gasteiger, Mindy Crooks *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me"* John 14:6



The LAST Sunday of each month is designated as "Food Bank Sunday". (Next week) 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.

Members of the June Faith & Care Group have the opportunity to sign up this morning for the various jobs that need to be done to keep the church running smoothly for the month of May. Members of this groups are: Olga Beyer, Mike/Janet Borcherding, George/Michelle Caron Family, Roger/Sharon Frank, Christine Hansen Family, Chuck/Judy Hansen, Voun Hansen Family, Dallas/Kara Jo Hendrikson, Mary Huebsch Family, Scott Leraaen Family, Steve Libersky, and Dennis/Bunita Sponheim.

NOTE: If you are not receiving the church's monthly newsletter and would like to, just send a note to the church office with your name and mailing address and we will add you to the mailing list. It may also be viewed using the link from our web page.



The flags in First Lutheran's cemetery for Memorial Day are generally put up the Thursday prior to Memorial Day (Thursday, May 23rd this year). If you are willing to help with this project – just show up around 5:00 P.M.

OUR MEMBERS CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

* Active ** Reserves

** Marissa Stoeffler

**Collin McKinley
** Leah Jorgensen

*Tanner Evans
*Derek Peterson

*Lacey Crowley

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NEW DATE – VBS will be held on **June 3-7**, from 9-11 a.m. for ages nursery through 5th grade (grade leaving). Any help you can provide will be appreciated! Let Amber Stricker know if you are willing to help, even if just for a day or two!

Youth entering grades $2^{nd} - 9^{th}$ from our congregation are also welcome to attend a 3 day, 2 night camp with the youth from First Grace Lutheran, held at Cedar Springs Bible Camp south east of Osage. First Grace also has a youth mission trip planned. More info about these can be found on First Grace's Facebook page.

LOOKING AHEAD: Each year we send our 7th Grade students to the Fall Recharge at Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp. This year it will be on Nov. 8-9 (just one night). We ask the families with youth who will be in 7th grade to keep their calendars clear that weekend if possible.

How Are We Doing? A Year To Year Comparison **INCOME TO BUDGET YTD**

Last year		This year	Needed to be at	
	4/30/2023	4/30/2024	for budget	
GENERAL FUND/OFFERINGS	\$69,256.64	\$55,816.89	\$71,558.32	
BENEVOLENCE/NALC	\$500.00	\$15.00	\$2,166.68	
GO SERV GLOBAL	\$1,276.95	\$8,080.00		
OTHER BENEVOLENCES	\$1,127.86	\$2,069.00		
NON-BUDGET ITEMS COMPARISON YTD				
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>		
WORLD HUNGER	\$2,135.00	\$1,970.00		
HELPING HAND	\$0.00	\$0.00		
LUTHERAN DISASTER	\$0.00	\$0.00		
YOUTH ACTIVITIES	\$640.00	\$490.00		
NEW MISSION SUPPORT	\$0.00	\$0.00		
BUDGET	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>		
GENERAL FUND	\$214,675.00	\$216,464.60		
BENEVOLENCE/NALC	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00		
CAMEROON MISSION	Pass Through	Pass Through		

Pass Through Pass Through

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

OTHER BENEVOLENCES

TODA 1: Day of Pentecost/Baccalaureate Service			
	9:00 a.m.	Worship W/ Holy Communion	
Acolytes: Mitchell Frein, Ella Horgen			
Deacons: Lynn Hemann, Kjersti Mayer			
	10:00 a.m.	Reception & Fellowship	
		Faith & Care sign up (June)	
	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study W/ Pastor	
TUESDAY:	9:30 a.m.	Pastor to Text study	
	3:30 p.m.	Bible Study W/Pastor Staley	
THURSDAY:	5:00 p.m.	Flags up in Cemetery – help needed	
		Deadline for NewsNotes (June)	
SATURDAY:		Pastor's day off	
SUNDAY: Trinity Sunday			
· ·	9:00 a.m.	Worship	

Acolytes: Leighton Rosenberg, Trey Johanns Fellowship Hour 10:00 a.m.

Faith & Care sign up (June) No Bible Study W/ Pastor Staley

Attendance (2nd Sunday in May): Last Year: 120 Last Week: 98

Next Week's Readings: Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Acts 2:14a, 22-36; John 3:1-17