

10th Graders receiving their Milestone Blessing this morning:

Madisen Becker, Ryan Hansen, Brooke Lillemon, Kyra Loomer, Margaret Ness-Ludwig, Caleb Peterson, Nate Ronning, and Jordan Spangler.

FIRST LESSON. Acts 4:5–12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

SECOND LESSON. First John 3:16–24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us — and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

GOSPEL. John 10:11–18

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."



April 26, 2015

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2015
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

First Lutheran Church
Fergus Falls, Minnesota
(218) 739-3348
www.firstlcfmn.com firstlc@live.com

Online
Giving
(QR Code)



In an age of religious pluralism, Peter's claim that "there is no other name [than Jesus] given among mortals by which we must be saved" can be an embarrassment to sensitive Christians. But the cross of Christ can help us be faithful to the claim of His uniqueness as savior while at the same time loving and respecting those of other faiths.

Prelude

Announcements

*Processional Hymn *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!* **ELW 385**

*Apostolic Greeting ELW Page 138

*Kyrie ELW Page 138

*Hymn of Praise *This is the Feast* ELW Page 140
(Women v. 1 & 3, Men v. 2 & 4)

*Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. . . .

C Amen

10th Grade Milestone Blessing

Anthem *Shepherd Me Lord* Gershan Kingsley

First Lesson Acts 4:5–12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he is able to proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

(Congregational response after reading: **Thanks be to God**)

Psalms 23 (sung responsively by verse with Cantor)

¹ The LORD | is my shepherd;*
I shall not | be in want.

² He makes me lie down | in green pastures*
and leads me be- | side still waters.

³ He re- | vives my soul*
and guides me along right pathways | for his name's sake.

⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;*
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.

⁵ You spread a table before me in the presence of those who | trouble me;*
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶ Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,*
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.

This Week at First Lutheran:

Today: 8:30 & 11 a.m. Worship/10th Grade Milestone Blessing
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
No Adult Bible Study
9:45 a.m. Lent/Easter Task Force @ Café 116
4:00-6:00 p.m. New Member Class & Potluck

Monday: 9:00 a.m. WELCA Love Days
5:00 p.m. Al-Anon
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts

Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. Al-Anon
9:30 a.m. Sarah's Circle @ Pioneer Pointe
10:00 a.m. Caregivers Support Group
10:00 a.m. AA
1:00 p.m. Hannah's Circle (Hostess: Joan Anderson)
4:30 p.m. FLY K4
6:30 p.m. 8th Grade Confirmation
7:00 p.m. 9th Grade Confirmation
7:30 p.m. Sr. FLY
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir

Thursday: 8:45 a.m. Morning Watch-Pr. Saul - KBRF-AM (1250)
9:30 a.m. Sr. Bible Study and Coffee – Kairos Room
11:00 a.m. Salad Luncheon in Fellowship Hall

Friday: Church Office Closed

Next Sunday, May 3

8:30 & 11 a.m. Worship/ Holy Communion
9:45 a.m. Sunday School visits PioneerCare
9:45 a.m. Reception Celebration – 100 years of Music Ministry
No Adult Bible Study

Tuck-pointing work has begun on our building. If you would like to contribute to this crucial maintenance project, you can do so using either a pew envelope or a check made out to First Lutheran with “tuck pointing” on the memo line.

Lost & Found – Please check the lost and found for any missing items (located outside the education office and library at the top of the stairs). All items not claimed by May 17th will be given to Goodwill.

Relay for Life will be held June 19, 2014 at the college. It will start at 3:00 p.m. We are having a First Lutheran Team again this year. If you would like to join the team, would like to make a donation, purchase a luminary in honor of or in memory of call Sue Toso at 218-770-5156. Registration is available online.

Y’s Folks Salad Luncheon – Let’s get gardening! Come join us on May 8th from 11-1 p.m. at the YMCA in Fergus Falls. See the kiosk for more details about this event.

You’re Invited!... Lutheran Social Service County Auxiliary SPRING RALLY – TOMORROW April 27, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. (registration begins at 1:15 p.m.) Join us at Lutheran Social Services, 731 Western Avenue, Fergus Falls for a program presented by Deanna Swenson, Supervisor, called *Guardianship – What’s it all about...*

Summer Coffee Servers Needed!!! Do you enjoy your cup of coffee and treat after Sunday morning worship? If so we need the congregation’s help. Please take a minute this morning to sign-up at the info counter for a Sunday that you can serve. We need YOUR help to have coffee on Sunday mornings.

Two Upcoming OWL’s Events: Monday, May 11, 2015 -- 1:00 p.m. – Museum “The Changing Face of Fergus Falls” Sign up at Info Counter before Thursday, May 7 so we know how many to plan for. Questions?? Call Margaret Kratzke. And Wednesday, June 3, 2015 – 7:30 p.m. “Some Enchanted Evening” –MSU Straw Hat Players - Sign up at the Info Counter and pay \$20 by check (payable to First Lutheran Owls) before Wednesday, May 20. Check the kiosk for more information and keep a lookout for details in the May Messenger!

Senior Pastor:	Saul Stensvaag
Associate Pastor:	Jennifer Rose
Part-time Visitation Pastor:	Stan Satre
Sunday School Superintendent:	Cindy Larson
Council President:	Lisa Wolfe
Organist:	Keith Melberg
Adult Choir Director:	Harriet Wicklund
Sacristans:	8:30-Mark & Susan Hermes 11:00-Carolyn Sund
Greeters	8:30- Katie Jensen & Chase Johansen 11- Jack & Sandy Pearson
Bible Bearer:	8:30- Rick West 11-Kaylee Grant
Acolytes:	8:30- Cole Mahler, Logan Wentworth 11- Madeline Trosvig, William Pajari
Lectors:	8:30- Lexi Wentworth 11- Pam Schroden
Cantors:	8:30 – Michael Wicklund 11 – Harriet Wicklund
P.A. Operator:	8:30-Kevyn Heck 11-Margaret Ness-Ludwig

Second Lesson

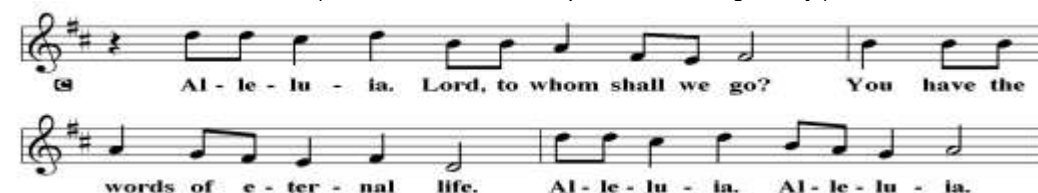
First John 3:16–24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

(Congregational response after reading: **Thanks be to God**)

***Gospel Acclamation and Procession**

(Please turn as the Gospel Procession goes by.)



(Congregational response spoken after Gospel is announced: **Glory to you, O Lord.**)

***Gospel**

John 10:11–18

(Congregational response spoken after Gospel is read: **Praise to you, O Christ**)

Sermon

Humble Story-tellers

Pastor Saul

Hymn of the Day

I Love to Tell the Story

ELW 661

Children’s Event

Pastor Saul

***Nicene Creed**

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

***The PEACE is shared**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

Offering

***Offertory**



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

*** The Prayers**

P ...Lord, in your mercy, OR P ... Let us pray to the Lord,
C hear our prayer. C Lord, have mercy.

The Lord's Prayer

C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

***Benediction**

***Threefold Amen**

***Sending**

P Go in Peace. Share the good news.
C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

***Recessional Hymn**

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

ELW 789

***Postlude**

*indicates when to stand


Join Us for Fellowship and Refreshments in the narthex following worship. Serving today are the families of Jake & Samuel Western and Morgan West.

Altar Flowers are given by Jim & Linda Matter in celebration of their daughter and son-in-law's birthdays in April.

Flowers by the Pulpit are in celebration of Bill & Arlyss Sampson's wedding anniversary last Thursday, April 23rd. Sixty years ago, on that date, they had the same pink carnations on their wedding day.

Visitors! If you didn't get a "Visitors Bag" when you came in this morning please pick one up on your way out after worship. You'll find them in a basket located on the small table on the ramp coming up from the narthex into the sanctuary.

Large Print Edition of the order of worship, the lessons, and the hymns for today are available. If you would like copies for worship, please ask an usher.



Come celebrate with us between services on **NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 3RD** as we recognize over 100 years of Music Ministry by five of our staff members: Keith Melberg, Linda Mellon, Harriet Wicklund, Mary Kay Stensvaag, and Anne Taylor. (All three choirs will perform at both services)

Over the next few weeks we will be spotlighting our high school seniors as Bible bearers, cantors, and readers. If you see them afterwards please take a moment to greet them and wish them luck on the next steps in their lives.

Child Fashion models needed! The WOW (Women of the Word) Committee is planning a Spring Fashion Show event for Saturday morning, May 9th. All children are eligible to participate. If you are interested or have questions, call: Karen Olson @ 218-770-4310, Cindy Larson @ 218-739-0965, Jody Hanson @ 218-739-3446 or Michelle Lembcke @ 218-205-1932.



First Lutheran's TASTE OF SPRING ANNUAL SALAD LUNCHEON & BAKE SALE Thursday, April 30th 11 a.m.—1 p.m. Start checking out your favorite salad and bar recipes that you plan to donate for the Luncheon and/or bake goods for the sale. Sign-up sheets for salad, bars and volunteers to help that day will be available in the Narthex on April 12, 19 & 26. Please sign-up early! Plan to attend and taste all these wonderful salads & bars, and pick up your homemade bakery items. THANK YOU!

Megan Johnson Benefit – Saturday, May 16th from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at First Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall. Megan was recently diagnosed with oral cancer. She had surgery on Tuesday, March 24 at Fairview University in Minneapolis. Her family needs help with traveling and living expenses while Megan undergoes her surgery, hospital stay, and extensive rehabilitation therapy. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers. You may write a check to First Lutheran Church with "Megan Johnson Benefit" on the memo line or write "Megan Johnson Benefit" on your pew envelope. Online giving website: <https://www.giveforward.com/fundraiser/4d68/megan-johnson-oral-cancer-fund>



CHURCH SOFTBALL! If you are between the ages of 14-100 sign up today to play on First Lutheran's softball team on Monday nights this year! Sign-up sheets are at the Info Counter ... The cost is \$40 to play plus \$10 for a t-shirt. If under age 18 you will need a parent's signature.