

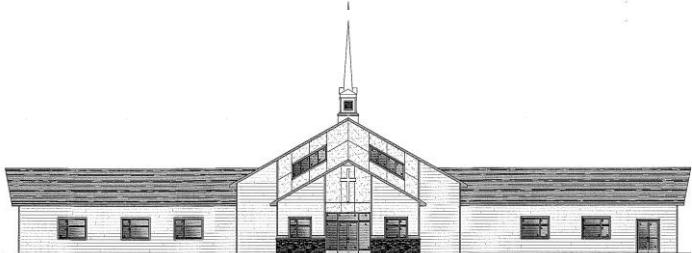
# *Sixth Sunday after Epiphany*

February 15, 2026

**10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion**

*First Lutheran Church*

Pastor Bryan Anderson



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## Welcome

### \*Call to Worship

P This is the day the Lord has made.

C Let us rejoice and be glad. **†**

### \*Opening Hymn #165 (LBW) – Holy, Holy, Holy

### \*Prayer of the Day

### \*Confession of Sin

P Let us examine ourselves before the Lord.

*(Self-examination)*

C **Holy and gracious God, I confess that I have sinned against you. Some of my sin I know – the thought and words and deeds of which I am ashamed but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may have peace.**

### \*Promise of Grace

#### **First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-19**

"Today I am giving you a choice between good and evil, between life and death. **16** If you obey the commands of the Lord your God, which I give you today, if you love him, obey him, and keep all his laws, then you will prosper and become a nation of many people. The Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are about to occupy. **17** But if you disobey and refuse to listen, and are led away to worship other gods, **18** you will be destroyed - I warn you here and now. You will not live long in that land across the Jordan that you are about to occupy. **19** I am now giving you the choice between life and death, between God's blessing and God's curse, and I call heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Choose life.

#### **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27**

Surely you know that many runners take part in a race, but only one of them wins the prize. Run, then, in such a way as to win the prize. **25** Every athlete in training submits to strict discipline, in order to be crowned with a wreath that will not last; but we do it for one that will last forever. **26** That is why I run straight for the finish line; that is why I am like a boxer who does not waste his punches. **27** I harden my body with blows and bring it under complete control, to keep myself from being disqualified after having called others to the contest.

### Children's Message

### **Hymn of Praise #526 (LBW) – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

### \*Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:21-26, 43-47

"You have heard that people were told in the past, "Do not commit murder; anyone who does will be brought to trial." **22** But now I tell you: if you are angry with your brother you will be brought to trial, if you call your brother "You good-for-nothing!" you will be brought before the Council, and if you call your brother a worthless fool you will be in danger of going to the fire of hell. **23** So if you are about to offer your gift to

God at the altar and there you remember that your brother has something against you, **24** leave your gift there in front of the altar, go at once and make peace with your brother, and then come back and offer your gift to God. **25** "If someone brings a lawsuit against you and takes you to court, settle the dispute while there is time, before you get to court. Once you are there, you will be turned over to the judge, who will hand you over to the police, and you will be put in jail. **26** There you will stay, I tell you, until you pay the last penny of your fine. **43** "You have heard that it was said, "Love your friends, hate your enemies.' **44** But now I tell you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **45** so that you may become the children of your Father in heaven. For he makes his sun to shine on bad and good people alike, and gives rain to those who do good and to those who do evil. **46** Why should God reward you if you love only the people who love you? Even the tax collectors do that! **47** And if you speak only to your friends, have you done anything out of the ordinary? Even the pagans do that!

## **Sermon**

### **Hymn of the Day #290 (LBW) – There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**

#### **\*Prayers of the Church**

#### **\*Lord's Prayer**

#### **\*Words of Institution**

#### **Communion**

#### **Announcements**

#### **Choral Benediction**

#### **Dismissal**

P Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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You are invited to use our QR code for online giving.  
Offering is also received in the plates at the entrance to the sanctuary.

Pianist: Sherry Wirth  
Reader: Linnae Seaman  
Greeters: Jodi & Tristan Barney and Chris & Liane Petersen  
Communion Asst: Kevin Kamm  
Altar Guild: Diane Paulson  
Ushers: Brad Ayer & Bert Petersen  
Counter: Kevin Kamm  
Fellowship Servers: Brad & Jane Ayer  
Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> Worship Attendance: 8:30 AM – 33; 10:00 AM – 104; Total: 137

## GIVING

Total offering for January \$13,659.30 (*\$21,874.25 needed monthly*)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome** to all who join in worship today, especially any visitors. Visitors are invited to fill out the visitor slip so we can become better acquainted. All are invited to a time of fellowship in the hall after worship.

**We keep the following in our prayers and acts of love:** Brian Wick, Tiffany Wagner, Carrie Buhr, Levi Ramsey, and Colt Bernstein, grandson of Linda Shafer. *If you want to be included on the public prayer list, please notify the church office.*

**My Devotions** family devotionals are available to pick up in the entry. Use this resource to bring Christ into your home every day with your children.

**There are many ways to help.** Please consider the sign-ups to cover snow shoveling, offering counting with a Council member, shed and canopy planning committees. Sheets are on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you in advance for your assistance!

**Possible Christian Parenting Class** to be held on Wednesdays if there is enough interest. Twelve session video course on what kids need to thrive as followers of Christ. Good for parents, grandparents, and all family members. Sign up today.

**Shopping cards** for Nilssen's, True Value, and Kwik Trip are available every Sunday between services from the Lutheran Men in Mission for Christ. The men receive back a percentage of the sales for mission projects.



**Ash Wednesday**  
**February 18<sup>th</sup>**

4:30-6:45 PM – Spaghetti Dinner Servant Trip Fundraiser  
(Free-Will Donation)

7:00 PM – Ash Wednesday Worship: Jesus is the Way

## THIS WEEK

Today 11:00 AM-Fellowship

Tuesday 9:00 AM-Quilting

Wednesday **ASH WEDNESDAY**

4:30-6:45 PM-Spaghetti Dinner Servant Trip Fundraiser

7:00 PM- Ash Wednesday Worship

*(No Confirmation classes during Lent. Confirmation Youth & Parents are reminded to attend Lenten worship together.)*

Saturday 7:00 AM-Men's Bible Study

Next Sunday 8:30 AM-Contemporary Worship

9:30 AM-Fellowship

10:00 AM-Sunday School

10:00 AM-Traditional Worship Service

11:00 AM-Fellowship

**4-6:00 PM-Youth & Family Ice Skating at Amery Ice Arena**

## Youth & Family Ice Skating

**Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 4-6:00 PM  
At Amery Ice Arena**

**\$5 for each family, \$3/person skate rental (or bring your own)  
Concessions available, friends welcome**

