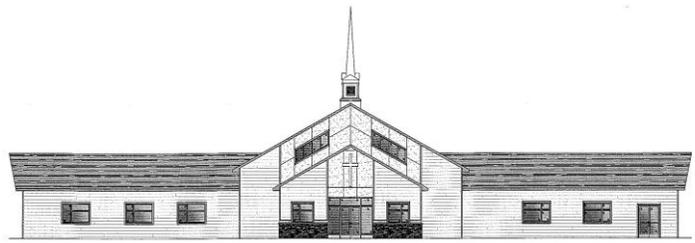


***Fourth Sunday in Lent***  
**March 15, 2026**  
**10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion**  
***First Lutheran Church***  
**Pastor Bryan Anderson**



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**Welcome**

**\*Call to Worship**

**P** I was glad when they said to me,

**C** Let us go to the house of the Lord. †

**\*Opening Hymn #290 (LBW) – There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**

**\*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: Isaiah 42:14-21**

God says, "For a long time I kept silent; I did not answer my people. But now the time to act has come; I cry out like a woman in labor. **15** I will destroy the hills and mountains and dry up the grass and trees. I will turn the river valleys into deserts and dry up the pools of water. **16** "I will lead my blind people by roads they have never traveled. I will turn their darkness into light and make rough country smooth before them. These are my promises, and I will keep them without fail. **17** All who trust in idols, who call images their gods, will be humiliated and disgraced." **18** The Lord says, "Listen, you deaf people! Look closely, you that are blind! **19** Is anyone more blind than my servant, more deaf than the messenger I send? **20** Israel, you have seen so much, but what has it meant to you? You have ears to hear with, but what have you really heard?" **21** The Lord is a God who is eager to save, so he exalted his laws and teachings, and he wanted his people to honor them.

**Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14**

You yourselves used to be in the darkness, but since you have become the Lord's people, you are in the light. So you must live like people who belong to the light, **9** for it is the light that brings a rich harvest of every kind of goodness, righteousness, and truth. **10** Try to learn what pleases the Lord. **11** Have nothing to do with the worthless things that people do, things that belong to the darkness. Instead, bring them out to the light **12** (It is really too shameful even to talk about the things they do in secret.) **13** And when all things are brought out to the light, then their true nature is clearly revealed; **14** for anything that is clearly revealed becomes light. That is why it is said, "Wake up, sleeper, and rise from death, and Christ will shine on you."

**Children's Message**

**Lenten Hymn #92 (LBW) – Were You There**

### **\*Gospel Reading: John 9:6-25**

After he said this, Jesus spat on the ground and made some mud with the spittle; he rubbed the mud on the man's eyes **7** and told him, "Go and wash your face in the Pool of Siloam." So the man went, washed his face, and came back seeing. **8** His neighbors, then, and the people who had seen him begging before this, asked, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?" **9** Some said, "He is the one," but others said, "No he isn't; he just looks like him." So the man himself said, "I am the man." **10** "How is it that you can now see?" they asked him. **11** He answered, "The man called Jesus made some mud, rubbed it on my eyes, and told me to go to Siloam and wash my face. So I went, and as soon as I washed, I could see." **12** "Where is he?" they asked. "I don't know," he answered. **13** Then they took to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. **14** The day that Jesus made the mud and cured him of his blindness was a Sabbath. **15** The Pharisees, then, asked the man again how he had received his sight. He told them, "He put some mud on my eyes; I washed my face, and now I can see." **16** Some of the Pharisees said, "The man who did this cannot be from God, for he does not obey the Sabbath law." Others, however, said, "How could a man who is a sinner perform such miracles as these?" And there was a division among them. **17** So the Pharisees asked the man once more, "You say he cured you of your blindness - well, what do you say about him?" "He is a prophet," the man answered. **18** The Jewish authorities, however, were not willing to believe that he had been blind and could now see, until they called his parents **19** and asked them, "Is this your son? You say that he was born blind; how is it, then, that he can now see?" **20** His parents answered, "We know that he is our son, and we know that he was born blind. **21** But we do not know how it is that he is now able to see, nor do we know who cured him of his blindness. Ask him; he is old enough, and he can answer for himself!" **22** His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, who had already agreed that anyone who said he believed that Jesus was the Messiah would be expelled from the synagogue. **23** That is why his parents said, "He is old enough; ask him!" **24** A second time they called back the man who had been born blind, and said to him, "Promise before God that you will tell the truth! We know that this man who cured you is a sinner." **25** "I do not know if he is a sinner or not," the man replied. "One thing I do know: I was blind, and now I see."

### **Sermon**

### **Hymn of the Day #448 (LBW) – Amazing Grace**

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

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

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

### **Communion**

### **Announcements**

### **Blessing**

### **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: Bill McIntire  
Greeters: Theresa Anderson and Dale & Sherry Wirth  
Communion Asst: Aaron Buhr  
Altar Guild: Jackie Goodmanson & Nancy Luehman  
Ushers: Dan Cain & Todd Lillie  
Counter: Aaron Buhr  
Fellowship Servers: Dan & Janette Cain Family  
Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> Worship Attendance: 8:30 AM – 25; 10:00 AM – 125

## GIVING

Total offering for February \$17,219.25 (\$21,874.25 needed monthly)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome** to all who join in worship today, especially any visitors. Guests are invited to fill out the visitor slip so we can become better acquainted and place in offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. Fellowship will follow worship in the hall.

**We keep the following in our prayers and acts of love:** Mark Gilbertson, Brian Wick, Tiffany Wagner, Carrie Buhr, Levi Ramsey, and Dave & Sue Anderson, brother & sister-in-law of Mary Jo Lien. *If you want to be included on the public prayer list, please notify the church office.*

**Easter Lily** orders are now being taken. If you would like to place an order in honor or memory of someone, order forms can be found on the table at the back of the sanctuary or in the church office. Deadline for ordering is Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please make checks payable to First Lutheran Church.

**Our Daily Bread** home devotionals are available to pick up in the entry. We invite you to share with a friend.

**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.

### **Lenten Midweek Service**

#### **Week 4 – March 18<sup>th</sup>**

6:00 PM – Soup (Men's & Youth Group)

7:00 PM – Lenten Service (New Age: Whatever I Like)

#### **THIS WEEK**

**Today** 11:00 AM-Fellowship  
11:00 AM-First Communion Class in Sanctuary

**Tuesday** 9:00 AM-Quilting

**Wednesday** 6:00 PM-Soup  
7:00 PM-Lenten Service

**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  
11:00 AM-Fellowship  
11:00 AM-First Communion Class in Sanctuary  
**1:30-4:00 PM-Youth & Family Staking at Skate City, Rice Lake**