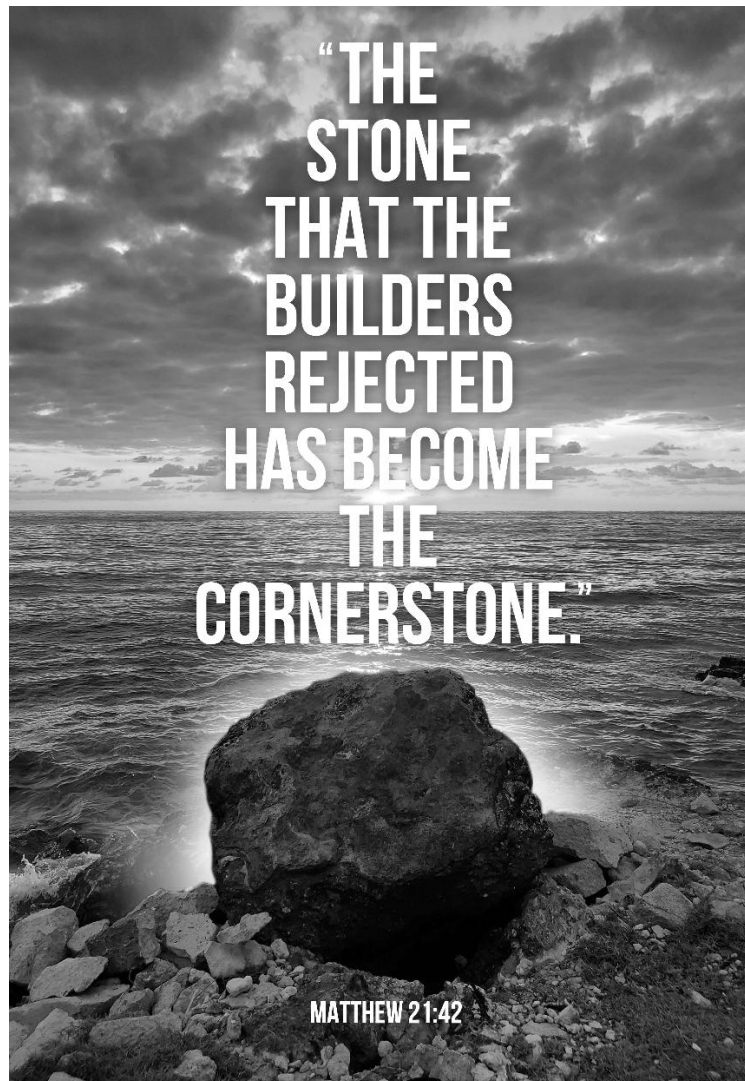


19th Sunday after Pentecost
October 4, 2026



First Lutheran Church
116 Inner Drive
Le Sueur, MN 56058
507-665-2615

Rev. Samuel Mailleue
office@firstlutheranlesueur.org
www.firstlutheranlesueur.org

UNITED by Christ, God calls us to LOVE one another
As we RECEIVE, DISCOVER and PROCLAIM God's Word.

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK – Dave Tully

OPENING REFLECTION

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

**Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OPENING HYMN

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross ELW #803
(Vs. 1, 2 & 4)
Public Domain

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE- *spoken*

ELW page 138

CANTICLE

How Great Thou Art ELW #856
(Refrain Only)
One License #198390

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CHOIR ANTHEM

Thy Word

CCLI #14301

FAITH STATEMENTS

Everett Greisen

Ezra Carlen

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING— Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "rotten grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

- ¹ I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
- ² He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;

he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

⁶ I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

PSALM— Psalm 80:7-15

- ⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
- ⁸ **You have brought a vine out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and planted it.**
- ⁹ You cleared the ground for it;
it took root and filled the land.
- ¹⁰ **The mountains were covered by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**
- ¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils to the sea
and its branches to the river.
- ¹² **Why have you broken down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**
- ¹³ The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
- ¹⁴ **Turn now, O God of hosts,
look down from heaven;**
- ¹⁵ behold and tend this vine;
preserve what your right hand has planted.

SECOND READING— Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the

sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION—*Alleluia*

ELW page 142

The Holy Gospel according to the twenty-first chapter of Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL— Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[Jesus said:] ³³ “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord’s doing,

and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE

Rev. Sam Mailleue

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus Loves Me! ELW #595
(Vs. 1, 2 & 3)
Public Domain

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**
**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

THE PRAYERS

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church. Inspire us to follow their example in our own day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every creature, bless and protect the earth and all those who dwell within it. We give thanks for those who have helped us to see your Spirit in creation especially Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every tribe and nation, restore peace to the world's conflict zones especially Ukraine, Gaza & Iran, and shelter those who live within them. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering especially those on our prayer list and in our hearts. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for teachers of the faith especially those who teach RISE, RISE UP and FLY. Fill their hearts with your Spirit, that they inspire others with your truth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every soul, you are the one who calls us home. We give thanks for all the saints who have been restored to perfect unity with you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

OFFERING

Gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart **ELW #186**

One License #93324 & Public Domain

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of creation,

you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.

All blessings are from you;

make us generous with what we have.

Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

in service to you and in love to our neighbors,

today and always.

Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW page 144

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy, holy, holy **ELW page 144**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!**

***Lamb of God* ELW page 146**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.****

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Thine the Amen ELW #826

(Vs. 1, 3 & 4)

One License #03047

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Welcome to First Lutheran Church

*Whether you are looking for a place of worship
or are just passing through, we hope our service has blessed you
on your journey as your presence has been a blessing to us.*



Acknowledgements:

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Shift Worship—Membership

Expires 12/25/2026

Sharefaith—Membership

Expires 6/2027

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

October Ministry Focus: Prayer Shawls and Indigenous People

Prayer Shawl Ministry Purpose: The Prayer Shawl Ministry wishes to combine the wonderful fellowship found within FLC and its community with our talents of knitting or crocheting, to form a prayerful ministry that reaches out to those in need of comfort, solace and prayer.

Qualifications: Ability to do simple knitting and/or crocheting patterns. The team is willing to give lessons to anyone that may be interested in helping knit or crochet. Finished prayer shawls are given a blessing from Pastor before distribution. You do not have to knit or crochet to be part of this ministry. You can be a part by delivering prayer shawls.

The Prayer Shawl Team is in need of more people to join our ministry and monetary donations for the purchase of yarn to complete the prayer shawls. Contact Brenda Liebhard-Johnson at 507-665-2477 or 612-756-1814 for more information.

Indigenous People

Exploring Religious Questions: Fall 2026

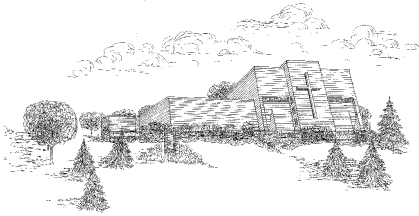
As we enter October, **FLC's Social Ministry Committee is focusing on the ELCA's work of Indigenous recognition, relationship, and reconciliation.** One way we can deepen our understanding is through Gustavus Adolphus College's Fall 2026 **Exploring Religious Questions Series, Beyond Land**

Acknowledgments: Toward Relationship, Healing, and Justice. This four-part series invites participants to learn more about Indigenous history, relationships, and the work of moving beyond land acknowledgments toward healing and justice.

The series is **open to the public** and meets on **Monday evenings** from **7:00–9:00 p.m.** at Gustavus Adolphus College. Sessions include: **October 12 – “Gustavus on Dakota Lands”**; **October 19 – “The Blanket Exercise: Walking through over 500 Years of Broken Treaties and Settler/Indigenous Relations”**; **October 26 – “Building Relationships: Living into the Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery”**; and **November 2 – “Land Acknowledgment and Beyond: Lessons from Anglican and Episcopal Initiatives in North America.”**

Registration is required, and registration for the public is \$35. FLC’s **Social Ministry Committee will sponsor up to six congregation members** to attend this series. If you are interested in attending, please let Becky Pollack or Megan Schwarz know. We hope this opportunity will encourage us to listen, learn, and consider how we can continue growing in understanding and building relationships with Indigenous communities.

Financial Update		
Week of	Amount Received	Amount Needed
9-27-2026	\$615	\$4,523
YTD	\$167,021	\$180,917



Weekly Schedule

Sunday, October 4	9:00a	Worship w/Holy Communion
Wednesday, October 7	9:00a 6:00p 6:30p	Staff Meeting Meal @ First RISE / RISE UP
Friday, October 9	7:00p	Campfire @ Schwarz's
Sunday, October 11	9:00a	Worship

Worship Assistants

October 4, 2026		October 11, 2026	
Organist/Pianist:	Gordon Gregersen	Organist/Pianist:	Virginia Miller
First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick	First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick
Acolytes:	Liam Haaland	Acolytes:	Emmalee Flores
Reader:	Liz Osborne	Reader:	Lynnea Libra
Usher:	Chuck Frauendienst	Usher:	John Miller
Greeters:	Liz Osborne	Greeters:	
Communion Asst:	Bonnie Keech Stefanie Eischens	Council Member:	Callie Greisen
Council Member:	Vic Pengilly	Fellowship:	
Fellowship:		Projection:	Tech Team
Projection:	Tech Team	Audio:	Tech Team
Audio:	Tech Team	Videographer:	Becky Pollack
Videographer:	Becky Pollack	Offering Counters:	Dave Johnson Joanne Graff
Offering Counters:	Joan May Bob Bartle	Altar Guild:	Randy & Connie Baum
Altar Guild:	Randy & Connie Baum		