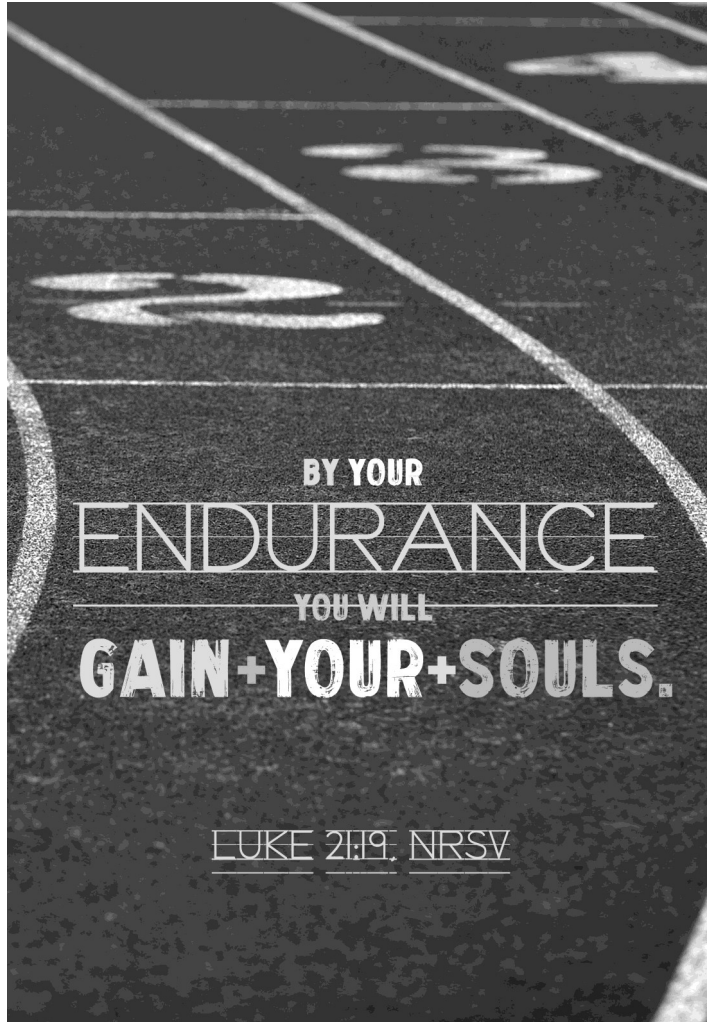


23rd Sunday after Pentecost
November 16, 2025



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 call us to LOVE one another
As we RECEIVE, DISCOVER and PROCLAIM God's Word.

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

**you have shown us the ways of your heart,
yet we stray from your paths.**

**We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom
of your faithful promises.**

We ignore our neighbors.

We exploit the earth.

**We reject your abundance,
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.**

**Repair our relationships,
restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life.**

Amen.

Hear the good news:
God the Faithful One loves you,
✝ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

How Firm a Foundation ELW #796
(Vs. 1 & 2)
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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

ELW page 138

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

You Servants of God ELW #825
(Vs. 4)
Public Domain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray
**O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong,
nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and
guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

FIRST CHOIR

Let Every Thankful Heart, Nelson
One License #270860

WORD

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

FIRST READING—Malachi 4:1-2a

Malachi, whose name means “my messenger,” warns that “the day is coming.” On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the “sun of righteousness” will shine on those who honor God.

¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a} But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

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

PSALM—Psalm 98

¹ Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

² **O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴ **Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵ Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶ **With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸ **Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

⁹ The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING—2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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 Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL—Luke 21:5-19

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶ "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

⁷ They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" ⁸ And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many

will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

⁹ "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE

Rev. Chuck Christensen

HYMN OF THE DAY

Canticle of the Turning ELW #723
(Vs. 1 & 3)

One License #00762

THE 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

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony. Keep all the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, famine, and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it. Restore peoples and places experiencing natural disasters. Strengthen organizations who provide aid to any in crisis.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement agencies, and the military. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that build up the common good.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, and harmed by violence or oppression. Care for all who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind especially those on our prayer list and in our hearts.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us through worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where all are valued.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every generation, we remember the saints with steadfast love and faithfulness. Confident in Christ's victory over death, may we be inspired by the example of the faithful.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY HYMN

Shall We Gather at the River ELW #423

(Vs. 4)

Public Domain

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of healing and hope,
you bless those who are hungry,
promising to fill them with good things.
Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.
Nourish us with the abundance of your feast
and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior,
now and forever.
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

There is a place for you at the table of God.
Come, receive the food that does not perish,
a taste of life eternal.

Lamb of God ELW page 146

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven
that gives life to the world.
Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who
hunger and thirst,
and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.
Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,
God the Son save you,
and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.
The holy Trinity bless you ✝
and grant you a faithful and courageous heart
now and forever.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand ELW #437
(Vs. 1, 2 & 4)
Public Domain

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

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.*



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Songselect Advanced—Expires 6/30/2026

Shift Worship—Membership
Expires 12/25/2025

Sharefaith—Membership
Expires 6/2026

Church ArtPro—Account #74057560
Expires 12/15/2025

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

November Ministry Focus: Adopt-A-Family

Each November, our congregation at First Lutheran Church is invited to live out our ELCA commitment to loving and serving our neighbors through the Adopt-a-Family Christmas program. In partnership with Le Sueur County Human Services, we help provide clothing and essentials for children whose families need extra support during the holiday season. Each year the number of children in need grows, and this year our church will again adopt families. Last year our congregation provided gifts for 20 kids!

Beginning in mid-November, you can choose a gift tag from the Giving Tree in the Gathering space or sign up online through Sign-Up Genius. The link will be shared by email, on our website, and on social media. Each tag includes a gift number and the child's specific wishes.

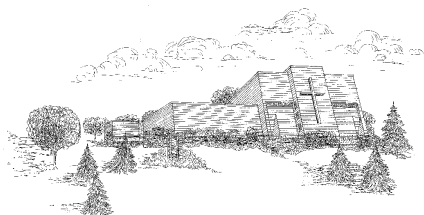
We also gratefully accept cash donations. Clearly mark contributions with "Adopt-a-Family" so that we can purchase any remaining gifts on behalf of the congregation. Many of the children will ask for winter essentials like coats, hats, mittens, boots, and other clothing items.

Thank you to Rev. Chuck Christensen for leading us in worship today!

Adopt-A-Family gift tags are ready! Please take a gift tag from the Giving Tree in the Gathering space or sign up online through Sign-Up Genius. The link will be shared by email, on our website, and on social media. Each tag includes a gift number and the child's specific wishes. Once you've purchased a gift, please leave it unwrapped and include a gift receipt if possible. Gifts can be dropped off at the church under the Giving Tree. Make sure the gift number is clearly marked so we can get it to the right child. The final day to drop off gifts will be Wednesday, December 3rd. If shopping by the deadline is a challenge, just let us know so arrangements can be made.

Financial Update		
Week of	Amount Received	Budget Amount Needed
11-9-25	\$1,310	\$4,542
YTD	\$188,951	\$208,913

Year to Date Financial Results			
Month Ending	Actual Received	Actual Expense	Net Gain/(Loss)
9-30-2025	\$171,572	\$171,121	\$451



Weekly Schedule

Sunday, November 16	9:00a 10:15a	Worship w/Holy Communion First Choir Rehearsal
Monday, November 17	6:00p	Church Council
Tuesday, November 18	10:00a 10:15a	Coffee/Mary Unit Bible Study/Mary Unit
Wednesday, November 19	9:00a 6:00p 6:30-7:30p 6:30-8p 6:30-8p	Staff Meeting Meal @ UMC RISE RISE UP FLY December Newsletter Deadline
Sunday, November 23	9:00a 10:15a	Worship Bible Study with Pr. Sam

Worship Assistants

November 16, 2025

Organist/Pianist:	Virginia Miller
First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick
Acolytes:	Liam Haaland
Reader:	Edrie Barton
Usher:	Bob & Joan Reasoner
Greeters:	St. Pierre Family
Communion Asst:	Jen & Whitney Weick
Council Member:	Mike Johnson
Fellowship:	Stefanie Eischens Melissa Hudson
Projection:	Tech Team
Audio:	Tech Team
Videographer:	Becky Pollack
Offering Counters:	Bob Bartle Joan May
Altar Guild:	Edrie Barton Rachel Wagner

November 23, 2025

Organist/Pianist:	Virginia Miller
First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick
Acolytes:	Garret Handy
Reader:	Alison Montag
Usher:	LeRoy May
Greeters:	John Miller
Council Member:	Vic Pengilly
Fellowship:	
Projection:	Tech Team
Audio:	Tech Team
Videographer:	Becky Pollack
Offering Counters:	Dave Johnson Bob Patrias
Altar Guild:	Edrie Barton Rachel Wagner