

EXPLORING THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Jan 28 - Feb 18 | 10:00am-11:00pm | Family Room

Join us on Monday mornings for four weeks as we dive deeper into the Gospel of Matthew. There is no need to sign up. Come as you are, and we will learn together!

BAGS OF LOVE

Available for pick up beginning February 2 | East Entry Stairs

We are the Church! Join us for this congregational service project that spreads joy to the older adults in our congregation and/or those going through a time of need. Kids and youth fill the bags with tokens and cards they have made and the congregation delivers them. Bags will be available for you to pick up at the bottom of the office stairs by the East Entry.

ULTIMATE DATE NIGHT WITH JAY & LAURA LAFFOON

Sat, Feb 2 | 7:00-9:00pm | AAHS Performing Arts Center

This Thrivent sponsored event is full of laughter, entertainment and ministry as we explore the unique reality marriage brings to everyday life! Tickets are \$15/person and can be purchased online at <https://bit.ly/2RSJ91h> or at the Thrivent office or Common Ground Coffee House.

WINTER/SPRING FAMILY MUSIC CLASSES

Feb 6 - Apr 10 | 8:30-9:00am | Garden Room

This class is for kids ages 18 months to 3 years old and their caregivers to enjoy various elements of music. Register online at [www.firstlutheranalexandria.com/family-music-classes](http://www.firstlutheranalexandria.com/family-music-classes) or in the church office by 1/30. Cost is \$40 plus \$10 for each sibling. Instructor: Leila Preston

MADE WITH LOVE BAKE SALE

February 10 | 8:30am-12:00pm | Fellowship Hall

Join us for baked goods, a coffee bar and fellowship! Proceeds will go toward the garage at the new building. Sign up at the Welcome Center if you'd like to donate baked goods. Baked goods can be dropped off on Saturday, February 9 from 10:00am-12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

COMMUNION EDUCATION CLASS

Sun, February 17 | 9:45-10:45am | The Garden

Families interested in having children commune before the 5th Grade Communion Milestone or families with children older than 5th grade who have not completed the Communion Milestone are invited to this Communion education class. This class is not a replacement for the 5th Grade Communion Milestone.

FAITH AND LIFE FORUM

Thursday, February 21 | 2:00-4:00pm | Sanctuary

Our guest speaker, Paul Johnson, has designed the Concordia College Christmas Concert mural for the past ten years. Along with telling the story of all that goes into creating these beautiful and inspiring murals, Paul will also provide visual examples of his work. Paul has been a professional designer, illustrator and photographer for 30 years.

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

Welcome to First Lutheran Church, where faith and life meet!

OUR MISSION

First Lutheran is a vibrant Christian community committed to connecting faith and life for people of all ages through worship, learning, and serving in Jesus' name.

MORE INFORMATION

Volunteers and staff are available before and after worship services to assist you. Children's bulletins and Worship Bags are available for use at the back of the Sanctuary. Our Lil' Kingdom Kids/Nursery is open and staffed during the 8:30am, 9:45am and 6:15pm worship. It is open for use but unstaffed at the 11:00am worship service. It is located on the preschool level of the building in the Rainbow Room.

LEARN MORE AT

FIRSTLUTHERANALEXANDRIA.COM/EVENTS

or stop by the Welcome Center for our Weekly or Monthly Calendar.

PRAYER REQUESTS | HOSPITAL VISITS

If you have a prayer request or if you or a loved one are hospitalized and would like a visit, please call or email the church office at 320-762-2196 or [admin@firstlutheranalexandria.com](mailto:admin@firstlutheranalexandria.com).

\*Please note that hospital visitor restrictions are currently in place due to the spike in Influenza cases.

GIVING

Offering envelopes are located in each pew. You can also give by texting 320.500.6014 or by visiting us online at [firstlutheranalexandria.com/your-gift](http://firstlutheranalexandria.com/your-gift).

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Greg Billberg, Lead Pastor  
Kari van Wakeren, Associate Pastor  
Ben Jacobson, Associate Pastor  
Randy Morken, Director of Music and Liturgy



822 Douglas Street  
Alexandria, MN 56308  
320.762.2196

Emergency After Hours Phone Number: 320.219.5492

For more information, visit us online at [firstlutheranalexandria.com](http://firstlutheranalexandria.com).



SATURDAY | 1.26.19  
SUNDAY | 1.27.19



WELCOME AND GREETINGS

GATHERING SONG

(5:00/8:30/9:45) Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #631  
(11:00) Here I Am to Worship (lyrics on screen)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.  
**C:** Amen.

At this time we take a moment to be still, confess our sins, and receive God’s forgiveness. Silence for reflection.

**P:** Loving God,  
**C:** we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. Amen.

**P:** Even when we have done wrong ... for the sake of †Jesus Christ our Savior.  
**C:** Amen.

GREETING

**P:** The Lord be with you.  
**C:** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Loving God,  
**C:** your son Jesus taught many things that helped people know how deeply you love humanity. Help us to live in your love, so that we might be beacons of light for others. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

(5:00) Gracie Lewis  
(8:30/9:45) Lumiere...arr. Fred Gramann Alleluia Ringers

CHILDREN’S TIME

(8:30/9:45) Congregation sings Jesus Loves Me as children come forward.

SCRIPTURE READING See insert.

First Reading: Psalm 1:1-3  
Word of God. Word of Life.  
**C:** Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12  
The Gospel of the Lord.  
**C:** Thanks be to God.

SERMON Pastor Ben Jacobson

SERMON SONG

(5:00/8:30/9:45) Lord of All Hopefulness #765  
(11:00) In Christ Alone (lyrics on screen)

BAPTISM (5:00)

Pages 228-231

BAPTISM SONG (5:00) Lyrics on Screen

CONFESSION OF FAITH WE CONFESS OUR SHARED FAITH.

Apostles’ Creed: on back cover of ELW hymnal.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING WE RETURN TO GOD A PORTION OF OUR BLESSINGS.

OFFERING PRAYER

**P:** Merciful God,  
**C:** receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (5:00)

LORD’S PRAYER See back cover of ELW

DISTRIBUTION (5:00)

All are welcome. Gluten free wafers and white grape juice are available upon request.

COMMUNION SONG (5:00) Lamb of God, p. 112

COMMUNION BLESSING (5:00)

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**C:** Amen.

BENEDICTION GOD’S BLESSING IS SPOKEN OVER US.

**P:** The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.  
**C:** Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL WE DEPART TO SERVE CHRIST IN THE WORLD.

**P:** Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.  
**C:** Thanks be to God.  
**P:** And all God’s children said,  
**C:** Amen!

SENDING SONG

(5:00/8:30/9:45) We Are Called #720  
(11:00) All the People Said Amen (lyrics on screen)

PRAYERS

BAPTISM: (5:00) Aria Avis Droppo, daughter of Justin and Alyssa Droppo  
HOSPITALIZATIONS: Louise Nelson  
SYMPATHY TO: Mark and Karyn Anderson on the death of Karyn’s mom over the holidays; Ivan and Lois Wambheim on the death of Ivan’s brother Glen; Elaine Kuhnau and Family on the death of Bill; Vivian Rindelaub and Family on the death of Ike

RADIO BROADCAST

This week’s radio broadcast is given by Sue and Pat Johnson in memory of Larry Johnson.

LINKING OUR PAST WITH OUR FUTURE

**Sunday, February 24 | 2:00pm | Sanctuary**  
Join us for this celebration of our church’s history and future. There will be something for all ages including drama, music, humor, special memories and a drawing for historic items. Coffee and treats will follow.

ANNUAL MEETING

**Sunday, February 10**  
Lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall from 11:00am-12:30pm and the meeting will be held in the Sanctuary from 12:45-1:45pm. Childcare available. First Lutheran was gifted two lots located by Lake Carlos State Park in 2017 with the request of the sale proceeds going to the Building Fund. We have a buyer for both lots and in order to proceed with the sale, we need congregational approval, which will happen at the Annual Meeting.

BUILDING AND TRANSITION UPDATE MEETING

**Sunday, February 10 | 2:00-3:00pm | Sanctuary**  
Please join us for this opportunity to hear updates and see pictures of our new construction in progress. There will also be a chance to discuss and ask questions regarding our transition from our present building to the new location. This meeting will take place immediately following the February 10 Annual Meeting.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

**Tuesday, January 29 | 6:00-7:00pm | Family Room**  
Sign up at the Welcome Center by Sunday, January 27. Light snack will be provided. Childcare will be available.

WELCA FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

**Thursday, Feb 7 | 12:00pm | Fellowship Hall**  
Women of all ages are encouraged to attend the monthly WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) gatherings. February’s program will be provided by Ann Koudela and the Alleluia Ringers.