

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025 | FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from the world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the "holy innocents" of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in the days of old.

GATHERING

* indicates to stand if able

Prelude
Welcome & Announcements
* Confession & Forgiveness (on screen)
* Gathering Hymn: "Holy Child Within the Manger" #638 (blue)
* Greeting | Hymn of Praise pg. 29
* Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9
Psalm 148
Second Reading: Hebrews 2:10-18
* Gospel Acclamation pg. 31
* Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:13-23
Children's Message
Message
Hymn of the Day: "I Wonder as I Wander" #642
* Statement of Faith: Apostles' Creed pg. 33
* Prayers of the Church: *Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.*

MEAL

* Sharing the Peace
Offering
* "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" pg. 35
* Offertory Prayer
* The Great Thanksgiving | "Holy, Holy, Holy" pg. 36
Words of Institution
* The Lord's Prayer
Communion Distribution "Away in a Manger" #644
* Post Communion Blessing | Canticle | Prayer pg. 40-41

SENDING

* Blessing
Sending Hymn: "Once in David's Royal City" #643
Dismissal

Hymns and liturgy are located in the blue hymnal unless noted otherwise.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Al Watson, Jim Thraen, those who serve in the military, families of victims of war, natural disasters, violence, those in our nursing homes and those who are homebound.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Worship Schedule

- Sunday, January 4 at FEDERATED: 8:30am Sunday school, 9:30am worship with fellowship following.
- Sunday, January 11 at FIRST: 8:30am Sunday school, 9:30am Sunday school Christmas Program with fellowship following.

Lunch Bunch meets on Wed., January 7 at 11:30am at _____
Order off the menu, pay your own way. All are welcome to join us for food and fellowship!

Element (grades 6-8) and **Fusion** (grades 9-12)

Element meets on Wed., January 14 from 6:30-8:00pm at FIRST
Fusion meet on _____

Pastoral Visits If you or someone you know is hospitalized, in a nursing home, or home-bound and would like a pastoral visit or Holy Communion, please contact church office at 320.589.3242. Hospital and nursing home staff can not contact the church without permission.

Let's Sing! The joint Federated/First choir meets on Wednesdays at 7:00pm at Federated Church. For more information, please contact Alisande at 320-287-1726.

Church Building Hours the church building is be open from 8:00am to 5:00pm. If you need access to the building outside of these hours, please contact the church office.

Coffee/Fellowship Join us in the fellowship hall each Sunday morning following the worship service for coffee and treats. All are welcome! If you able to help serve a coffee hour, please sign up on the bulletin board across from the church office.

*At the request of congregation leadership, David Clark has been authorized by the synod bishop to preach and preside at the sacrament of Holy Communion December 28, 2025. David is not an ordained pastor. The authorization is granted in accord with the ELCA's guiding statement, *The Use of the Means of Grace*, which says, "In witness this sacrament is a celebration of the Church, serving its unity, an ordained minister presides in the service of Holy Communion and proclaims the Great Thanksgiving. Where it is not possible for an extended period of time to provide ordained pastoral leadership, a synod bishop may authorize a properly trained lay person to preside for a specified period of time and in a given location only."*

WORSHIP SERVANTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28:

Ushers: Steve Just, Brian Erdahl, Doug Ehlers
Lector: Sharon Ehlers Nursery: Jone Anderson
Acolytes: Kenzie Just & Lucy Feuchtenberger
Communion Prep: Liz Harris Communion Server: Emilie Brustuen
Video: Tony Feuchtenberger TV slides: Sawyer Fynboh
Accompanist: Lois Strei

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4: WORSHIP AT FEDERATED CHURCH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11:

Ushers: -----
Nursery: ----- Acolytes: -----
Video: ----- TV slides: -----
Accompanist: -----

welcome

TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

TODAY: Sunday, December 28, 2025 FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

9:30am: Worship at FIRST with fellowship following

Monday, December 29

no events scheduled

Tuesday, December 30

11:00am: Pastors' Text Study

Wednesday, December 31

no events scheduled

Thursday, January 1

no events scheduled - church office closed

Friday, January 2

no events scheduled

Saturday, January 3

8:00am: Men's Bible Study at Faith Lutheran

Sunday, January 4

8:30am: Sunday school at FEDERATED

9:30am: Worship at FEDERATED with fellowship following

First Lutheran Church, ELCA

Chosen by Christ - Empowered to Serve

200 East 5th Street, Morris, MN 56267

Matt Orendorff, Pastor

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Pastor's cell: 715-379-9002

Office phone: 320-589-3242

Office email: office@flcmorris.org

Website: www.flcmorris.org

Facebook: Morris-First Lutheran Church

(all services are live streamed via Facebook and YouTube)