

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1100 EAST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MN

January 25, 2026

8:30 a.m.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY: CELEBRATION OF WINTER SEASON

*You are invited to light a candle in prayer on the Tree of Life during the service.*

*The candle-lighter is hanging on the wall; you may need to take a candle out to light it.*

*Please pass the Friendship Notebook along your row and greet those around you that you may not know.*

*We welcome children in worship. There is a family room across from the right front sanctuary doors  
and a few steps to the left a staffed nursery for any who wish to use them.*

*Hearing assist receivers are available at the ushers' station.*

GATHERING

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

**PRELUDE** *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme (Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying)* - setting by J.S. Bach

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *We Are* - words and music by Ysaÿe Barnwell (b.1943)

Luther College Nordic Choir; Dr. Andrew Last, director

For each child that's born a morning star rises and sings to the universe who we are.

We are our grandmothers' prayers. We are our grandfathers' dreamings.

We are the breath of our ancestors. We are the spirit of God.

We are mothers of courage, fathers of time, daughters of dust, sons of great vision.

We are sisters of mercy, brothers of love, lovers of life and the builders of nations.

We are seekers of truth, keepers of faith, makers of peace and the wisdom of ages.

We are our grandmothers' prayers For each child that's born...WE ARE ONE.

WELCOME

*The assembly stands.*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

Who prunes and nourishes and forgives. **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of wintering,

the leaves fall from the trees giving us a new view

in which to see your world

**and yet, we are still blind. Forgive us.**

We have rejected your invitation to lie dormant for a season or a day

**to prune our cluttered lives.**

So that we might grow more faithfully, strengthened for each season of our lives,

**ready to bloom when the time comes.**

As the north wind blows us indoors, we examine our own lives:

**We ask your Spirit to blow away all that piles up blocking our path to you.**

As the snows fall gently to blanket the earth, by the grace of Jesus Christ ☩ our sins are covered  
and we are freed to walk into a new day. **Amen**

**GATHERING HYMN ELW #436** *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying*

APOSTOLIC 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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of all seasons, for the gift of winter drawing us inward and into darkness like the seeds that lie dormant before bursting forth with life. Raise us up to meet your beckoning Light and share your life with those who cannot see the offered beauty and hope. **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**WORD**

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

**TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Pastor Dianne O. Loufman

**FIRST READING Isaiah 9:1-4**

*Light shines for those in darkness*

Word of God.

**Word of Life.**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**GOSPEL Matthew 4:12-23**

*Revelation of Christ as a prophet*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Dianne O. Loufman

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #452 *Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death***

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Hear us, O God. or Bless we the Lord,  
**Your mercy is great. Thanks be to God.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. All are then seated for the offering.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

### OFFERING

*You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Text “**fcduluth**” to **73256**. You’ll be sent a text with a link to give. Click on the link and enter your giving information. Thank you for supporting God’s mission through FLC.*

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Let Me Listen* - words: C.A.Silvestri, music: Dan Forrest

Luther College Nordic Choir and Soli Deo Gloria Choir

We come from different places, you and I, on different paths we journey;  
let me walk beside you for a while – let me listen.  
So briefly do our lonely paths converge, yours and mine, along this human journey;  
what hollow loss to never hear your song – let me listen.  
Let me listen, let me listen as you tell your story:  
your triumphs and your tears, your trials and your fears.  
Your story never has been mine to tell - so let me listen.  
And if a silence is your choice to keep, then I will keep it with you;  
As long as we walk together, you and I, I will listen.  
Too long you’ve waited, too long, to share your journey, your song –  
So let me listen.

*The assembly stands.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: O Gracious Provider for all,

**You bless us with darkness and light,**

**with the warmth of the sun, and the needed cold of the night.**

**As the sap rises in the trees pouring forth its sweetness,**

**we offer our gifts pouring forth for the sake of your world. Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. With gentle hands you prune and shape your people, cutting away that which weakens us and that which would keep the warmth of your light from reaching us. You graft us onto the strong vine of Christ that we may be rooted in him and he in us. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with all creation, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

1 Long, long a - go in Je - ru - sa - lem, as the  
2 High on a throne sat the might - y Lord, robes and  
3 Oh, what a sight it was to see and

scrip - tures do re - cord, I - sa - iah to the  
flow - ing through the hall, while six - wing - ed an - gels  
oh, what a sound to hear! The tem - ple door - posts

tem - ple came to see the ho - ly Lord.  
flew a - bove. I - sa - iah heard them call.  
shook and quaked, and smoke was in the air.

*Refrain: Assembly*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, God's  
glo - ry fills all heav'n and earth, God of pow - er and might.

Resting in Jesus' words, we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

*We practice Eucharistic hospitality; all are welcome. Receive the bread and dip it into the wine (red)  
or grape juice (white). Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and be warmed by the love of Christ poured out for all.

## LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, to earth you came to  
2 O Lamb of God, the on - ly Son, to



save us all from grief and shame. Shorn of your life, up -  
us show mer - cy, Ho - ly One. You save the world from



on the tree you hung in deep hu - mil - i - ty.  
all its sin. Lord, give to us your peace. A - men.

## COMMUNION HYMNS:

**ELW #294 *In the Bleak Midwinter***



**BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing. Amen.*

**SENDING HYMN ELW #593 *Drawn to the Light***

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The living word dwells richly within you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE *Light Dawns on a Weary World* - setting by David Cherwien**

<b>Ministers</b>	All People of First Lutheran Church
<b>Pastor</b>	The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman
<b>Associate Pastor</b>	The Rev. Andrea Bonneville DeNaples
<b>Program Staff</b>	Karen Sande, Director of Music Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	
<b>Reader</b>	Barb LaMaster
<b>Musicians</b>	Luther College Nordic Choir, Soli Deo Gloria Choir
<b>Audio/Video Team</b>	Eric Gatten, Shania Krause, Sam Weston

**Acknowledgements** *Evangelical Lutheran Worship, With One Voice, All Creation Sings* texts and hymns ©2025 Augsburg Fortress. The liturgical music is from Setting 6 in the *ELW* and from *Of the Land and Seasons*. Some texts written or adapted by Pr. Dianne O. Loufman. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS009917, One License #A-729428, CCLI License #1816436, CCS WorshipCast Streaming License #13132.

First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes you into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities, or where they might be on their faith journey. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land. We are committed to the work of racial justice. We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

**faithlovecommunity**  
First Lutheran Church

(218) 728-3668 | [flcdulth.org](http://flcdulth.org) | [office@flcdulth.org](mailto:office@flcdulth.org)