

READINGS

For Sunday, Dec. 2
Luke 21:25-36, The Coming of the Son of Man
Pew Bible: 856 Spark Bible: 1162

For Wednesday, Dec. 5
Mark 8:27-33, Jesus the Messiah
Pew Bible: 820 Spark Bible: 1110

PRAYERS & CARE

Please contact the office if you have any prayers to be lifted up: office@firstlu.org or 608.783.2236

NURSERY AVAILABLE

Members and visitors: our nursery is available for children newborn through age 4. The nursery is staffed Sunday mornings during and between services, and on Wednesday evenings during service and programming. ***Please bring your diaper bag.*** It will also be staffed during some church events and will be advertised as such when available. We hope you take advantage of our services while here at First.

Sunday attendant: Deb Koenig

HOSPITAL REMINDERS

For Gundersen: be sure to alert the hospital of your church affiliation when they ask and they will then release your name to us when we call.
For Mayo/Franciscan Healthcare: it is important that you or a family member contact us directly at the church office: 608.783.2236. Mayo no longer gives out information regarding who is hospitalized.

Please make every effort to keep food and beverages in the narthex. Thanks!

SERVING:
Pastor Jason Stanton; Assisting minister: Jillian Reitzel; Organist: Gabe Hicks; Bread Baker: Bev Larson

SUNDAY, DEC. 2, 8:00AM
Communion Servers: Gary Metzgi, Marilyn & Larry Schreiner; Reader: Michael Peeso; Projection Leader: Randy Nedrelo

SUNDAY, DEC. 2, 10:30AM
Acolytes: Leah Thies; Communion Servers: Mary Nicolai, Jessica Rohde, Katy Wood; Reader: Audrey Vinz; Projection Leader: Ronn Thies

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5, 6:15PM
Members of a confirmation small group will serve as worship assistants

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
410 Main St, Onalaska WI 54650
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608.783.2236 • Fax: 608.783.3741
Office hours: Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

Senior Pastor: Jason Stanton
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Associate Pastor: Karyn Bodenschatz
karyn@firstlu.org • 608.433.6002

Director of Hospitality:
Kathryn Pedretti, kathryn@firstlu.org

Nursery Coordinator:
Cassie Carrell, nursery@firstlu.org

Young Youth Coordinator & Sunday School Superintendent:
Beth Miller, beth@firstlu.org

Director of Small Group Ministry:
Bridget Crave, bridget@firstlu.org

Director of Communications & Marketing:
Andrew Stutesman, andy@firstlu.org

Head Custodian: Mike Peper, mike@firstlu.org



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUN., DEC. 2 & WED., DEC. 5

WELCOME GUESTS!
The 1,800 baptized members of First Lutheran hold hospitality to visitors among our greatest priorities. We understand that visiting a church can feel overwhelming. **Please know that ALL are welcome to worship, commune and participate in all church activities, programs and events.**

We hope you can make time to stop at the Welcome Center in the front entry where we have a gift for you. It's also a great place to ask questions, gather information and share ways that we may keep in touch with you. **We're glad you're here!**

WELCOME CENTER HOSTS
Curt Hickok, Peg Hickok, Rob Nelson, Gracie Froney

CONNECTION CARDS
Connection Cards help the staff keep in touch with the needs of members and visitors alike. **Please fill out a Connection Card each week**, complete with prayer concerns and anything else you'd like the Pastors to know. Hand it to an usher on your way forward for communion, or place it in the offering plate. Thanks!

HOSPITALITY ACTION TEAMS
Coffee Servers: Meredith Hougen, Rachel Knight, Terry Lee; Treat Providers: Jill Inge, Karen Meier, Joel Miller

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY
So that we may be good stewards of our finances and to better prepare our budget, we ask all members to notify the church of their intent to give for the coming year. Members may give their pledge cards to the church in many ways: place it in the offering plate; hand it to the pastor; bring it to the office; even online at 1stlu.org/pledge. Questions? Contact the church office at office@firstlu.org / 608.783.2236.

CHRISTMAS BOOK FAIR
THIS Sunday, Dec. 2, is your last opportunity to place an order! Take a look at the display in the narthex and order books and gifts for the special someones in your life!

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE
Tags are available to pick from the Christmas tree in the narthex. **Return gifts by Dec. 9.** If you purchase gift cards, please wrap them in a box. *Questions? Contact the church office: office@firstlu.org / 608.783.2236.*

GOOD GIFTS ORNAMENTS
Choose a Good Gifts ornament from the giving tree in the narthex, take it home, and go online to ELCA.org/GoodGifts to make your donation. Write on the back of the ornament and give as gift.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
Please take time before worship and go to the narthex to write down any prayers you want to lift up, so we can be certain to include them in worship today!

Sunday School

Sunday, Dec. 2

- 9:15am Sunday School
- Preschool & 4K, opening in 4K Rm
- Gr K–5, opening in sanctuary

Sunday, Dec. 9

- 9:15am Frolic! - Rm 102
- 9:15am Sunday School

New registrations welcome any time of the year. Contact Sunday School superintendent Beth Miller at sundayschool@firstlu.org or stop in the Sunday School office in room 206.

CONFIRMATION

Sunday, December 2

- 9:15am Gr 6 & 7 Confirmation Classes

Wednesday, December 5

- 7:00pm Gr 8 & 9 Small Groups

DRAWING FROM THE WELL

Next retreat: Saturday, Dec. 8, 9:30-11:30am, at the house.

Women of all ages are welcome to come together for food, fellowship and study. We will discuss part 2 of a 3-part study on prayer, using *Let Us Pray*, by Anna Madsen. Whether or not you attended the first session, you will be able to participate in part 2. You may find it helpful if you print the first four pages of the study and read through it before we meet: 1stlu.org/dftwstudy. It's not mandatory, though. RSVP to bridget@firstlu.org to help with an accurate head count for food.

FAITH ALIVE! U BEING CHRISTIAN AMIDST "OTHERS"

A Faith Alive! U course presented by Pastor Libby Howe on **Sunday, Dec. 9, 6pm**. How could understanding 'others' — from Christians of other denominations to believers of other religions to non-believers — help us clarify our own Christian identity and purpose? Assistant to the Bishop for the La Crosse Area Synod — and one of our own members! — Pastor Libby Howe will talk about whether we can learn about ourselves by learning about 'others' without trying to force them into becoming more like us.

YOUNG YOUTH COOKIE DECORATING

Meet at the church on **Saturday, Dec. 15, at 4pm** in the fellowship hall to decorate Christmas cookies. The cookies will be handed out as gifts to the residents that we visit when the church goes caroling on Dec. 16 at 5pm. Parents are more than welcome, even encouraged, to attend the cookie decorating event! Young Youth is a group for children in grades K-2 and grades 3-5. For information, contact Beth Miller: beth@firstlu.org.

BLESSING GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

We invite anyone who works for government, at any level, to join us on **Sunday, Dec. 16**, for worship and a special blessing for all the work you do on behalf of our government.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

It is a wonderful time of year and a great way for our kids to spread their Christmas

joy! New date and time this year: **Sunday, Dec. 16, between services from 9:30-10am.**

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Sunday, December 16, 4–8pm. Hop on a bus and take a ride around Onalaska to visit and carol to those who need extra Christmas cheer! RSVP at 1stlu.org/caroling.

Blue Christmas

Friday, Dec. 21, 6:15pm. Please join us at First Lutheran for an hour of worship, including music, prayers, candlelight and reflection, on what God is up to amidst our blue feelings around Christmas. Before worship, starting at 5:30pm, there will be a time for a light meal and conversation.

Christmas at First

Christmas Eve worship times: 2pm, 4pm, 6pm and 11pm. All will be candlelight and all will be with Holy Communion. **Christmas Day worship time:** 10am, with Holy Communion.

KETTLE RINGERS

The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign is looking for bell ringers! They still have sites with many shifts that have not been filled. Please consider donating two hours of time for this worthy cause. Every dollar helps those in need in our community. Register online at SAlacrosse.org or call 608.782.6126.

THIS WEEK: DEC. 2-9

SUN 2	ADVENT IN NARNIA SMALL GROUPS BEGIN 8:00am Worship 9:15am Gr 6 & 7 Confirm Clses - Rm 207 & FS 9:15am Parent Share - UR 9:15am Sun Morning w/ Coffee - MR 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5:30pm Middle & High School Youth Grps - FH
MON 3	6:30pm Hospitality Leadership Team - NX 7:00pm AA - FS
TUES 4	8:30am Parent Share - UR 9:00am Quilters - FS 1:15pm Staff Mtg 5:30pm Bells Practice - Sacristy
WED 5	6:00am Courageous Men's Bible Study - FS 6:30am Coffee w/ Pastor Karyn - Panera 5:30pm Prayer Shawl Knitters - NX 6:15pm Worship 7:00pm Peer Ministry - House 7:00pm Gr 8 & 9 Small Grps 7:00pm Choir Practice - SN 8:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal - SN
THUR 6	10:30am Small Grp w/ Laurie Berg - House 7:00pm Women of the House Small Grp
FRI 7	7:00pm AA - FH
SAT 8	9:30am Drawing from the Well Grp - FS 4:30pm OWLs Fly to UWL Swingin' Yuletide
SUN 9	CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE GIFTS DUE 8:00am Worship 9:15am Gr 6 & 7 Confirm Clses - Rm 207 & FS 9:15am Parent Share - UR 9:15am Sun Morning w/ Coffee - MR 9:15am Frolic! - Rm 102 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5:30pm Middle & High School Youth Grps - FH 6:00pm Faith Alive! U: Being Christian Amidst "Others" - Sanctuary

CALENDAR KEY:

CR = Choir Room FBB = Faith Building Block FH = Fellowship Hall
FS = Fireside Room MR = Mary Room NX = Narthex
SN = Sanctuary TR = Thomas Room UR = Upper Room

For more info, visit our website at www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org