

## OUR MISSION

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

## OUR PURPOSE CONNECT. GROW. SERVE.

We **CONNECT** with God through worship.

We **GROW** with friends spiritually in grow groups.

We **SERVE** God by making a difference in our community and world.

## CONTACT

### PHONE

605.886.4427

### OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs: 8am-12pm & 1pm-4:30pm

An accessible restroom with a changing table is located at the back of the sanctuary.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the **WELCOME CENTER**.

Activities are available for children 3 years old and younger in our nursery during worship.

Activity bags are available for children at the **FIRSTKIDS** check-in table.

### Rev. Jen Tyler

[seniorpastor@watertownfirst.church](mailto:seniorpastor@watertownfirst.church)

### Rev. Bryce Blank

[assocpastor@watertownfirst.church](mailto:assocpastor@watertownfirst.church)

### Lucas Severson

[worship@watertownfirst.church](mailto:worship@watertownfirst.church)

### Pearl Geffre

[office@watertownfirst.church](mailto:office@watertownfirst.church)

### Children's Ministry Coordinators

#### Sandy Middleton

[sandy@watertownfirst.church](mailto:sandy@watertownfirst.church)

#### Lori Jurgens

[lori@watertownfirst.church](mailto:lori@watertownfirst.church)

# LIVING IN A POST-RESURRECTION WORLD

Saturday • May 4, 2024 • 5:00 pm

**PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP**

**WELCOME**

**\*OPENING SONGS**

*Grace On Top of Grace  
Good Grace*

**PRAYER TIME**

**TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

**MESSAGE**

*True Friendship • John 15:12-17 • Rev. Melissa Gall*

**OFFERING**

**REFLECTION SONG**

*Homecoming*

**HOLY COMMUNION**

*All are welcome to participate in Holy Communion.  
Offering plates will be available at the front of the church for your gifts.  
If you cannot come up for communion, please let an usher know and we will  
share it with you in the pew.*

**\*CLOSING SONG**

*You Are My Stronghold*

**\*BLESSING**

**Thank You For Worshiping With Us Today!**

*\*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able.*

Sunday • May 5, 2024 • 8:30 am & 10:00 am

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: We come with joy to this celebration of God's love!

**All: Open our hearts, Lord, to receive your love.**

Leader: We come with hope to this witness to God's power!

**All: Challenge and encourage our spirits to serve you, Lord.**

Leader: We come with a willingness to proclaim God's presence to all.

**All: We thank God for this invitation to worship, witness and serve. AMEN.**

**\*Opening Song**

**8:30**

*Come, Christians Join to Sing*

No. 158

**10:00**

*Good Grace*

On Screens

**Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer**

**Chancel Choir**

*How Beautiful*

by Twila Paris, arr. Craig Courtney

**Confirmation Celebration—10:00**

**Time for Young Disciples**

**Message**

*True Friendship  
John 15:12-17*

Rev. Melissa Gall

**Reflection Song**

**8:30**

*Just As I Am (vs 1,3,4,5)*

No. 357

**10:00**

*Goodness of God*

On Screens

**Holy Communion**

*All are welcome to participate in Holy Communion. Offering plates will be available  
at the front of the church for your gifts. If you cannot come up for communion,  
please let an usher know and we will share it with you in the pew.*

**\*Sending Song**

**8:30 & 10:00**

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

No. 526

**\*Blessing**

**Thank You For Worshiping With Us Today!**

*\*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able.*

**Family Worship Weekend**  
**No First Kids Church. Children are invited to worship with their parents.**

**Worship Attendance April 27-28, 2024 = 478**  
**Wed. 67 5pm 183, 8:30am 60, 10am 75**  
*This includes in person & online worshippers*

## **This Week at First Church**

### **Monday, May 6**

5:30 pm Women of Grace—Church Lounge

### **Wednesday, May 8**

9:15 am Embracing God—Church Lounge

5:15 pm Community Meal—All are Welcome

5:15—6:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

NO Chancel Choir Rehearsal

6:00-7:15 pm First Kids (K-4th Grade)

6:00-7:15 pm First Squad (5th-6th Grade)

6:00-7:15 pm First Youth (7th-12th Grade)

7:15—7:30 pm Family Worship—Sanctuary

Parents pick up children in Sanctuary

### **Thursday, May 9**

10:00 am Women's Bible Study

6:00 pm Blended Band Rehearsal

### **Friday, May 10—Office Closed**

### **Saturday, May 11—*Graduation Recognition***

7:00 am Back Room Boys—Church Library

**8:30—11:30 am Benefit for Sandy Middleton**

9:00 am Late Risers—Stones Cafe

3:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

**5:00 pm Contemporary Worship**

### **Sunday, May 12—*Graduation Recognition***

**8:30 am Traditional Worship**

9:30 am Adult Sunday School Today

**10:00 am Blended Worship**

### **Wednesday, May 15**

**Fun Night at the Zoo**

**New Here?** We'd love to connect with you and pray for you. Please fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate.

### **CHURCH FINANCES:**

Thank you for your financial gifts to First Church. Your support is appreciated and helps in so many ways. As always you can give online:

[www.watertownfirst.church/giving](http://www.watertownfirst.church/giving) Or use the QR code



***We Welcome the Following as a New Member of the First United Methodist Church through Confirmation:***

Lydia Claire Gall

### **Graduate Recognition - May 11-12**

During worship services on May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> we would like to recognize any students graduating from either high school or an institute of higher education. During the service, we will offer anyone who would like to be recognized, to receive a blessing upon achieving this milestone! Feel free to reach out to Pastor Bryce with any questions.

[assocpastor@watertownfirst.church](mailto:assocpastor@watertownfirst.church)

### **Saturday, May 11, 8:30 am—11:30 am Benefit for Sandy Middleton – First Church Fellowship Hall**

***Sponsored by Lincoln & Jefferson Elementary Schools***

- Breakfast (Pancakes, Sausage, Muffins)
- Bake Sale & Silent Auction

All proceeds will go to Sandy to help defray costs incurred from her battle with cancer. *If you'd like to donate items for the Bake Sale or the Silent Auction, please bring those items to First Church on Thurs. May 9th or Friday, May 10th between 8 am and 4 pm.*

Sandy is an employee of Lincoln Elementary and her husband, Randy is an employee of Jefferson Elementary. Sandra is also one of our Children's Ministry Coordinators here at First Church. Please keep Sandy and her family in your prayers and help spread the word about this benefit. Thank You

### **Fun Night-Bramble Park Zoo!**

On May 15th, our Wednesday night programming and meal will be at Bramble Park Zoo.

*We will NOT have activities at the church on Wed. May 15th.*

- Our community meal will be from 5:15pm-6:00pm, open to all ages.
- Children's and youth programming will be from 6:00pm-7:15pm.
- We will end the night with worship from 7:15pm-7:30pm at the zoo.

**Families are welcome to attend with their children. If you have a zoo pass we encourage you to bring that for admittance to the zoo. Meet at the picnic shelter near the petting barn.**

## **Worship Notes**

**For more information visit our web page at [www.watertownfirst.church](http://www.watertownfirst.church) or call the church office at 605-886-4427**



## May Mission of the Month is the Bishops Miracle Offering

**2024 Miracle Offering**

**Jesus. Redeemer.**  
Do not fear. Redeemed. You are mine. Called by name. Do not fear.

**31:8 Project**  
The Mission of 31:8 Project is to equip and challenge society to pro-actively address issues regarding human trafficking in North Dakota.

**Bridges Therapeutic Foster Care**  
The average number of South Dakota children in foster care each month\*  
Abbott House

**Bravery Backpacks**

**Clergy Sustentation Fund**

**Recovery Ministry**

This year's Miracle Offering will be divided equally among the listed recipients. Click [HERE](#) to be directed to the Dakotas Conference Website where you can learn more about each of these recipients.

Here at First Church we will be collecting Monetary donations as well as supplies for the Bravery Backpacks in the month of May. Bravery Backpack items will be taken to Annual Conference in June.

A collection box is located at the back of the sanctuary for Bravery Backpack Items.

Click [HERE](#) to make a monetary donation. Select Mission of the month and indicate "Miracle Offering". Or indicate "Miracle Offering" on your check donation.

*Thank you for your support of Missions at First Church!*

**Abbott House's Bridges Therapeutic Foster Care:** In 2013-2014 supporters of Abbot House came together to build Bridges Therapeutic Foster Homes in Mitchell, SD, so young girls could grow up with a family and a home. Today, there are 10 therapeutic foster homes serving, boys and girls, in Mitchell, Rapid City and Sioux Falls. Donations will support continuing efforts for Bridges Therapeutic Foster Care.

**Recovery Ministry:** Through recovery ministries, people are building their relationship with Christ, and shaping a path to healthy living with those around them. Funds will be granted to United Methodist churches in the Dakotas Conference engaged in recovery ministry.

## May Mission of the Month is the Bishops Miracle Offering

**Clergy Sustentation Fund:** A special fund has been set up to assist clergy with direct financial support when a desperate need does arise. The Clergy Sustentation Fund is a means to tangibly care for our clergy and families in a time of need. Your gifts become signs of hope and grace in difficult times.

In addition to giving financially to the Miracle Offering, congregations are invited to collect supplies and backpacks for the **Bravery Backpacks** program through the 31:8 Project. There will be an opportunity to put the backpacks together at Annual Conference in Bismarck.

**31:8 Project:** 31:8 Project's mission is to equip and challenge society to proactively address issues regarding human trafficking. Based in Bismarck, North Dakota, 31:8 offers informative seminars, conducts research, and creates curriculum applicable to all levels of education and forms of human trafficking. Donations support activities like the Bakken Human Trafficking Summit, mentorships for survivors of human trafficking, and the Demand Reduction Program—an education partnership designed to reduce recidivism.

**31:8 BRAVERY BACKPACKS PROJECT**

31:8 Project is assisting law enforcement officers and emergency service providers to collect donations to help children in vulnerable situations who are in need of additional resources.

**31:8 BRAVERY BACKPACKS PROJECT**

**13-17 YEARS OLD**

31:8 Project is assisting law enforcement officers and emergency service providers to collect donations to help children in vulnerable situations who are in need of additional resources.

### ITEMS NEEDED PER BACKPACK

- Backpack
- "When You Are Brave" book by Pat Zietlow Miller
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Pajamas (boys & girls) Ages 2-12
- Underwear (boys & girls) Ages 2-12
- Children's book
- Coloring book
- Crayons / Markers
- Blanket
- Stuffed Animal
- Slippers (boys & girls) Ages 2-12
- Socks (boys & girls) Ages 2-12
- Comb / Brush
- Stickers



### ITEMS NEEDED PER BACKPACK

- Backpack
- Toothbrush / Toothpaste
- Underwear / Boxers (boys & girls) Ages 13-17
- Socks (boys & girls) Ages 13-17
- Blanket
- Comb / Brush
- Hair Ties
- Reusable water bottle
- Deodorant (no aerosol)
- Tampons / Menstrual Kits (girls)
- Body Wipes
- Washcloth / Hand Towel
- Snacks
- Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Lotion (travel size)
- Journal / Sketchbook w/ Pens / Colored Pencils / Markers
- Gift Card(s) for fast food places

**13-17 YEARS OLD**

**A collection box is located at the back of the sanctuary for Bravery Backpack Items. The items will be taken to Annual Conference in Bismarck, ND in June. Thank you for your donations!**