April 3, 2026 ☩

Good Friday

We welcome you to First Lutheran Church!

"God's Work. Our Hands. To serve ALL people."

An asterisk * invites you to stand in body or in spirit, and you are invited to read aloud responses found in **bold.**

P: Indicates the Presider. AM: Indicates the Assisting Minister.

We Gather

All gather in silence. The assembly stands when the pastor stands.

***Prayer of the Day**

P: Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 52:13- 53:12 page 758, OT pew Bible

Psalm 22 - *the psalm will be spoken responsively by whole verse.*

1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?
2 **My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer;**
by night, but I find no rest.
3 Yet you are the Holy One,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
4 **Our ancestors put their trust in you,**
they trusted, and you rescued them.
5 They cried out to you and were delivered;
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
6 **But as for me, I am a worm and not human,**
scorned by all and despised by the people.
7 All who see me laugh me to scorn;
they curl their lips; they shake their heads.
8 **"Trust in the LORD; let the LORD deliver;**
let God rescue him if God so delights in him."

9 Yet you are the one who drew me forth from the womb,
and kept me safe on my mother's breast.
10 **I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;**
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near,
and there is no one to help.
12 **Many young bulls encircle me;**
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
13 They open wide their jaws at me,
like a slashing and roaring lion.
14 **I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;**
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;
and you have laid me in the dust of death.
16 **Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers circles round me;**
they pierce my hands and my feet.
17 I can count all my bones
while they stare at me and gloat.
18 **They divide my garments among them;**
for my clothing, they cast lots.
19 But you, O LORD, be not far away;
O my help, hasten to my aid.
20 **Deliver me from the sword,**
my life from the power of the dog.
21 Save me from the lion's mouth!
From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.
22 **I will declare your name to my people;**
in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.
23 You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.
24 **For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is**
the LORD's face hidden from them;
but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.
25 From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.
26 **The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!
27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.
28 **For dominion belongs to the LORD,**
who rules over the nations.
29 Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.
30 **Their descendants shall serve the LORD,**

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.
31 They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:16-25 page 241, NT pew Bible

Gospel: John 18:1-19:42 page 116, NT pew Bible
A Reading from the Gospel of John, the 18 & 19 Chapters. **Glory to you, O Lord.**
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*__Hymn__ – no. 349 "Ah, Holy Jesus"

Prayers of Intercession

Bidding Prayer
The assembly kneels or sits. The assisting minister leads the invitations to prayer (the bids). Silence for prayer follows each bid. The presiding minister leads the prayers that conclude the silence.

Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church throughout the world.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. By your Holy Spirit guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for Yehiel Curry and Dee Pederson our bishops, for Christopher Culuris our pastor, for Brenda Handel-Johnson our deacon, for all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors, other ministers, and lay leaders. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church, and help each of us in our various vocations to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses. Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace in you. Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for God's creation.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those in need.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

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.

Special Music – Cello Trio

***Procession of the Cross**
The assembly faces the cross as it is brought forward

P: Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

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Silent Prayer

P: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

All depart in silence.

In Worship Today

Pastor: Chris Culuris
Organist: Deacon Brenda Handel-Johnson
Assisting Minister: Mary Spear
Director of Choirs: Sarah Chambers

Ushers: Josh Drinkall

Tech: Brett Petersen

Prayers: We pray for those on our long-term list: Joan Williams, Betty Gustafson, Paul Aasen, Shirley Storkson, Lenore Schnobrich, Gloria Kane, Harvey Kane, Lisa Handel-Dalvand, Karen Handel, Erika Schuldt, Ruth Edberg, Bob Lamb, Dorothy and Paul Lutz, Steve Erickson, Barbra Grabowski (Ted Kunze's sister), Garrett Paul, Mary Ann Scharf, David Ribar, and Nate Tuener (family friend of Bob and Rhoda Stenson).

Acknowledgments

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Holy Week Schedule:
Easter Vigil: Sat., April 4 – 7:00pm
Easter Sunday: Sun., April 5 – continental breakfast 9:00am; Worship 10:00am