

Holy Week 2026

Faith Lutheran Church ✚ Columbus, Indiana

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Welcome

We are glad you have joined us. Your children are welcome in church. When needed, a nursery is available during the service. This bulletin encompasses all worship services during Holy Week.

Hymns are found in the *Lutheran Service Book* in the pew rack.

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The Most Holy Week

Holy Week encompasses the last week of the Lenten Season and begins with **Palm Sunday** which recalls our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem on a donkey, crowds hailing him as the long-awaited "Son of David", the Messiah. This day has a dual focus with a joyful procession as well as a reflection on Christ's suffering.

Holy Thursday, sometimes called *Maundy Thursday*, remembers the events in the upper room the night Jesus was betrayed, namely the institution of the Lord's Supper, as recorded in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke where it is instituted. At the end of the service, the altar is stripped in preparation for Good Friday. Such stripping reminds us of Christ's own humiliation as he was stripped of his garments by the Roman soldiers as well as the abandonment in the Garden of Gethsemane and again the next day. We also contemplate our own sorrow of what will come. Making bare the space in which we worship reminds us that God meets us not only in the glory of joyful praise but especially in the bareness of our souls into which he brings the newness of life made whole.

Good Friday or Holy Friday, is the day we commemorate the death of our Savior. Our senses are painfully reminded of the cruel crucifixion our Lord suffered for our sake. This is the most solemn service of the church year – rightfully observed by entering in complete silence. The "Tenebrae" (*meaning darkness in Latin*) is a solemn service where candles are gradually extinguished, symbolizing the darkness of Christ's death and burial.

We observe an **Easter Vigil** early on Sunday morning. In it the darkness of a world without a future and hope apart from God is reflected upon. In the early church this was the time for new Christians to be baptized.

In order to show the continuation and connectedness of these events, the gatherings of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday are one event and therefore no blessing is extended on Holy Thursday nor Good Friday at the conclusion of the services but we wait until **Easter Sunday** when worship begins with the shouts of the Redeemed: "Christ is Risen. He is Risen indeed!" The achingly painful story comes to the amazing ending which truly never ends.

—*Emmanuel Grafton (revised)*

The Holy Communion

Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. The Lord's Supper is a meal for disciples of Jesus who have been baptized and taught (*as our Lord says in Matthew 28*). Those who have confessed their sins, acknowledge Jesus as their Savior from sin, believe that with the bread and the wine Christ truly gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, desire to commit themselves to Him in loving obedience, and share the faith confessed at this altar, are welcome to participate. If you have any doubts or questions about the gift of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you consult with the pastor or an elder before communing.

Children and those not communing are invited to come receive a blessing. Please bow your head and fold your arms to receive the blessing.

An usher will direct you to the communion rail and the pastor will invite the communicants to kneel. The body of the Jesus is served first, placed onto your hand or tongue. The blood of Jesus is then served. The elder will offer individual cups. The pastor will follow with the chalice. If you desire to commune from the chalice, please extend both hands in an open position. Each table will be dismissed with a blessing. If needed, the pastor will bring the gifts to you in your seat, please inform an usher or the pastor as needed.

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion



Prelude

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome & Announcements

Procession of Palms

Hymn

All Glory, Laud and Honor | 442

Choir—*Hosanna, Praise the Lord!*

Please be seated. Turn to page 268 in your hymnal, for the rite of Holy Baptism.

The Service of Holy Baptism for

Nolan Alexander Maus

Born July 7, 2020

Parents Jordan Keith & Emily Elisabeth Maus

Sponsors Tim & Yvonne Hotz

Please stand.

Confession & Absolution

☩ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. ☩ **Amen.**

[Matt 28:19b; 18-20]

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. [Hebrews 10:22]

Our help is in the name of the Lord. **who made heaven and earth.** [Psalm 124:8]

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord, **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** [Psalm 32:5]

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

○ almighty God, merciful Father.

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

Remembering the Curse of Jesus' Cross

Sometimes I wonder if we always remember just what happened to Jesus on the cross. I have collected crosses for many years. Dozens of them hang on a couple walls in our house. When I get a new one, I simply put it up with the rest, not thinking much more about it or all the others nearby. You may wear jewelry with a cross on it. Look around the church; you'll see crosses in many places. We make the sign of the cross. I could go on, but you get the picture. So many crosses, but, too often, too little reflecting on what actually happened on that instrument of death.

So remember. That Friday is one of pain and degradation. And more. It is truly the very hell of Jesus being abandoned by his Father. Jesus cried out the words of Psalm 22, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Do you hear it? Do you hear what Jesus being obedient unto death on a cross is all about? Jesus pours himself out completely. He made himself nothing. Never was there or will there be a death more horrific than when Jesus hung there cursed by the sin, the guilt, the punishment of all creation, of every man, woman, and child, including ours. Yes, remember the depth of Jesus' humble obedience when he was on that cursed tree.

—Rev. Dr. Glenn A. Nielsen, St. Louis, MO





Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Psalm

[Psalm 118:19-29]

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

**This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

**The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.**

This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

**This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success!

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us.
Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

**You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** [1Timothy 4:22]

Let us pray... *[silence for individual prayer]* Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Readings from God's Word

The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah chapter fifty:

The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.
Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.
The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.
I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.
But the Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.
He who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.

Who is my adversary?

Let him come near to me.

Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;

who will declare me guilty? [Isaiah 50:4-9a]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading is from Philippians chapter two.

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but making himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. [Philippians 2:5-11]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand to greet the Gospel reading.

Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

*"Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"*

His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continues to bear witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him." Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

"Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."

When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. [John 12:12-36]

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please sit.

Children's Message

Please sit. The children are invited forward for a message led by Pastor Fitch.

Please stand.

Hymn

No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet | 444

Sermon

Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

...let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Those for whom we pray are listed on the Life at Faith insert.
Please sit.

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]



Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay

Please be seated and place completed attendance cards in the offering plate, then stand as the gifts are brought to the altar and sing:

Hymn

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

*On my heart imprint Your image,
Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares and pleasures
Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation.* [LSB 422]

Sacrament of the Altar

[2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]

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 Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in the true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat: this is my + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this is my + blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." [Matt 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25]

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.** [John 20:19]

Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Distribution of Holy Communion/Hymns

Hymns

Choir Chimes

The Advent of Our King | **331**

We Praise You and Acknowledge You | **941**

When all have communed, please stand.

Post Communion Song

[Luke 2:29-32]

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray...We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Benediction

[Psalm 103:1; Numbers 6:24-26]

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you + peace. **Amen.**

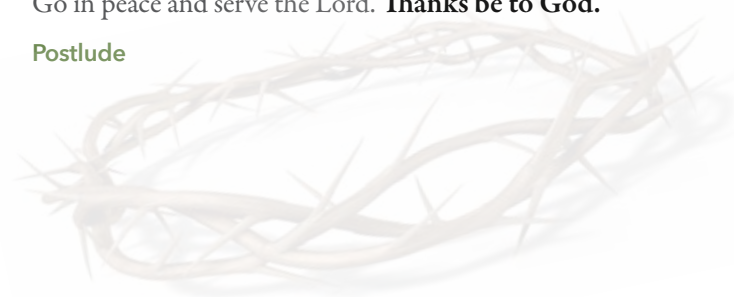
Please be seated.

Hymn of Departure Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow | **428**

Sending

Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude



Holy Thursday



“Knowing How the Day Would End”

In what rare circumstances does someone know he or she will die the next day? Think about it. Aren't they nearly all the most tragic circumstances? Desperate old King Saul informed by the witch at En-dor. Condemned prisoners scheduled for execution. Assisted suicides.

“When you woke that Thursday morning, Savior, teacher, faithful friend,” you knew how the day would end (LSB 445:1). Tragically, and, yes, by execution. But the tragedy wasn't the next day. The tragedy had taken place thousands of years ago in a beautiful garden. This day would be triumph.

– Rev. Dr. Carl C. Fickenscher II,
Fort Wayne, IN

Prelude

Ring of the Bells

☞ Peace be with you. ☞ **And also with you.**

Hymn Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain | 435

Please stand.

Confession and Absolution

During this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that prevents us from trusting in God and loving each other. Since it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ on this night when He instituted this blessed meal for our salvation, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by diligently examining ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do. This holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: “Take, eat, this is My body, which is given for you.” It is as if He said, “I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat.”

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” Again, it is as if He said, “I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink.”

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. As our Lord on this night exemplified this love by washing His disciples' feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

O almighty God, merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. **Amen.**

Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's? **Yes.**

Let it be done for you as you believe.

Please be seated.

Choir—Remember Me

As the choir sings, the pastor absolves the penitents individually at the rail, laying his hands on the head of each and pronouncing the following absolution:

In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

When all have returned to their seats, please stand.

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

Go in † peace. **Amen.** [1 Thes 5:23-24]

We share the peace of our Lord with one another.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray...*[silence for individual prayer]*

O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

Readings from God's Word

The Old Testament Reading is from Exodus:

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the

sheep or from the goats, and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

"Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt."

"This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast."

[Exodus 12:1-14]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle is from Hebrews:

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you." And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

[Hebrews 9:11-22]

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it." They said to him, "Where will you have us prepare it?" He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters and tell the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there." And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood." [Luke 22:7-20]

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please stand.

Our Confession of Faith

We confess the *Nicene Creed* printed on the inside back cover of the hymnal.

Hymn Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness | 563

Please sit.

Sermon

Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

...let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Those for whom we pray are listed on the Life at Faith insert.

Hymn On My Heart Imprint Your Image

*On my heart imprint Your image,
Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be;
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation!* [LSB 422]

Sacrament of the Altar

[2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]

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 Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Holy, Holy, Holy

[Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9]

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, O Lord Our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He taught us:

**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.** [Matt 6:9-13]

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: 'Take, eat: this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.'

In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: 'Drink of it, all of you; this is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.' [Matt 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25]

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And with thy spirit.**

Please sit.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Hymns

O Lord, We Praise Thee | **617**
My Hope is Built on Nothing Less | **575**

Please stand.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray...one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please sit.

The Stripping of the Altar

The Communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar; the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn service of Good Friday. As Psalm 22 is sung by the soloists, please meditate on the Lord's Word from Psalm 22 found in Psalms listed in the beginning of the hymnal.

We leave in silence without a benediction.

The service continues tomorrow at 6¹⁵p. The offering will be gathered at the door.

Good Friday

Marching Music

More than we ever realize, the mood is set by background music. The da dum, da dum rising in intensity just before the shark returns. John Williams and the London Symphony playing the "Main Title Theme" from Star Wars. Just about every scary movie as our hero leaves the safety of light and friends behind. We hardly notice the music when we're watching, but it's highly instrumental—if you will—in conveying the director's message.

This day needs no one and no thing to set the mood. The Son of God is suffering the punishments of hell for every human being of every thousand years. Still, Carl Schalk helps communicate the message of Good Friday with his tune for "Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle" (LSB 454; tune: fortunatus new). Hear the sound of armies marching into combat. Jesus allows himself to be helpless, trudging, stumbling to the cross, needing help to carry its weight. But make no mistake: he is marching into battle. Good Friday is a war!

—Rev. Dr. Carl C. Fickenscher II, Fort Wayne, IN

The congregation gathers in silence and offers its prayers. The offering is received at the door.

All stand for prayer.

Prayer of the Day

☞ Let us pray...Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 🕯️ **Amen.**

Please sit.

Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 52:13-53:12

The Old Testament Reading for Good Friday is from Isaiah,...

O Lord, have mercy on us. **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for meditation.

Prayer

Let us pray...Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Gospel Reading—St. John 19:17-30

And he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them.

Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,

*"They divided my garments among them
and for my clothing they cast lots."*

So the soldiers did these things, but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.



After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His

Son. (Hebrews 1:1-2a)

Silence for meditation.

Hymn Go To Dark Gethsemane | 436

Sermon

Please stand.

Bidding Prayer

We pray silently after each bid made by the lector and pastor and then respond "Amen" at the close of each prayer.

...through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Please sit.

✠ **The Tenebrae** ✠

(with the Passion according to St. John)

Hymn Were You There | 456 (1-2)

Reading John 18:1-18

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world!

O come, let us worship Him!

O Lord Jesus Christ, You willingly gave Yourself up into the hands of Your enemies in order to atone for our disobedience. Help us to give ourselves to You with our whole hearts and to live, suffer, and die according to Your will; in Your name. **Amen.**

Extinguishing of the First Candle

Hymn Were You There | 456
Choir will sing verse 3

Reading John 18:19-27

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world!

O come, let us worship Him!

O Lord Jesus Christ, You were bound on account of our sins. Free us from the bonds of sin and eternal death. You were disgracefully slapped in the face, protect us from eternal disgrace and from the blows of the devil. Give us a patient heart to suffer all wrongs with patience; in Your name. **Amen.**

Extinguishing of the Second Candle



Hymn Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted | 451
Choir verse 1, All verse 2

Reading John 18:28-38a

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world!

O come, let us worship Him!

O Lord Jesus Christ, You in an innocent manner were accused as an evil-doer for the sake of our sins! Let Your holy suffering resound to the good of us poor evil-doers. You, King of Truth, make us partakers of Your Kingdom, guide us into all Truth, and transfer us from the gracious Kingdom of Truth into eternal Kingdom of Glory; in Your name. **Amen.**

Extinguishing of the Third Candle

Hymn Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted | 451 (3-4)

Reading John 18:38-19:3

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world!

O come, let us worship Him!

O Lord Jesus Christ, may Your scourging and stripes be a healing medicine for our souls; may Your holy blood wash us from all our sins; may Your crown of thorns cut our hearts so that with penitent hearts we may fruitfully contemplate Your holy sufferings; in Your name. **Amen.**

Extinguishing of the Fourth Candle

**Hymn**

O Dearest Jesus | 439

All verses 3-4, Choir verse 5

Reading

John 19:31-42

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world!

O come, let us worship Him!

O Lord Jesus Christ, grant us grace to acknowledge You from our hearts to be God's Son, and through such faith overcome the world. May Your holy blood which flowed from Your side on the cross, wash us from all our sins. Stretch out Your arms and embrace us in them, hide us in Your wounds; in Your name. **Amen.**

Extinguishing of the Seventh Candle

Strepitus

The strepitus means "loud noise" and is signified by the slamming of a book or door at the conclusion of the Good Friday Service. The "loud noise" recalls the earth shaking and rocks splitting (Matt. 27:51) at Jesus' death, and foreshadows the "violent earthquake" (Matt. 28:2) at the opening of Jesus' tomb on Easter morning. These loud noises are recounted for us only in Matthew's Gospel. Please stand.

The Lord's Prayer (whispered)

**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.** [Matt 6:9-13]

Please feel free to stay as long as you would like to meditate on the love Christ showed us by His suffering and death on our behalf. All depart in silence, without benediction.

Hymn O Sacred Head Now Wounded | 449 (1-2)**Reading**

John 19:4-11

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world!

O come, let us worship Him!

O Lord Jesus Christ, for our sins You were so pitifully disfigured that a heathen heart was also moved to compassion. Grant that we may view You with the eyes of a repentant and believing heart. You, who were innocently accused by the Law of God, pronounce us free from the legitimate accusation which the Law had against us, so that from now on nothing may be found in us which could condemn us. For we are in You and You live and rule in us; in Your name. **Amen.**

Extinguishing of the Fifth Candle

Hymn

O Dearest Jesus | 439 (1-2)

Reading

John 19:12-30

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world!

O come, let us worship Him!

O Lord Jesus Christ, may Your thirst which You endured on the cross quench the thirst of our souls and protect us from eternal thirst; may Your perfect atoning sacrifice, which You accomplished on the cross, be a comfort to our souls. Give us grace to thirst for You, the Fountain of Life, and grant that we may commend our souls into Your hands at the hour of death; in Your name. **Amen.**

Extinguishing of the Sixth Candle

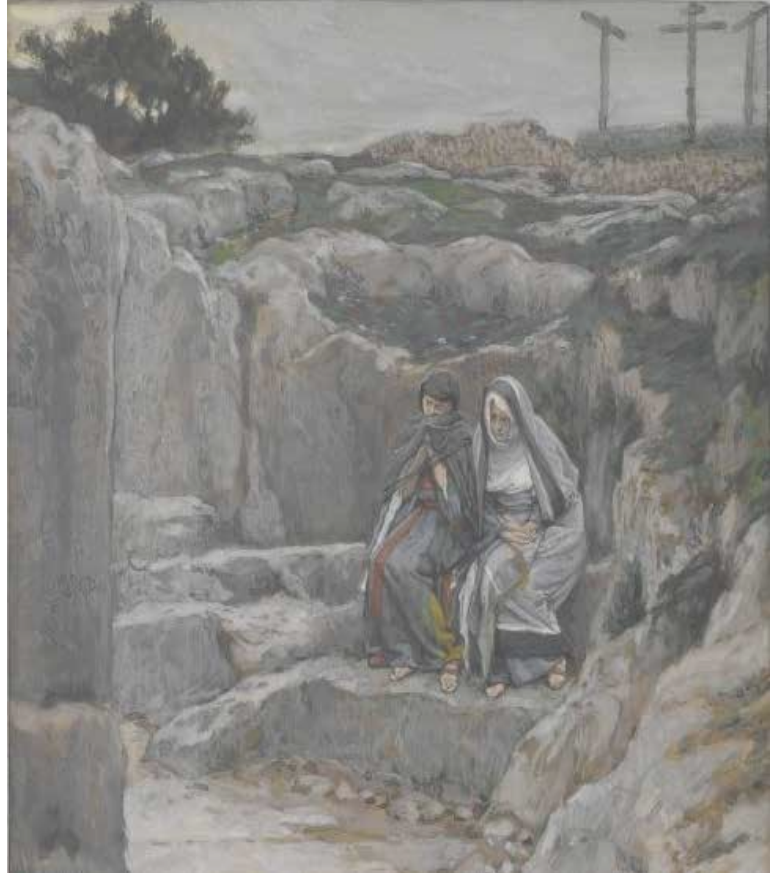
The offering will be gathered at the door as you leave. The service continues Sunday with the Easter Sunrise at 7³⁰ a, Easter breakfast at 9a and Festival of Easter 10³⁰ a.

Easter Vigil Sunrise Service

We Live and Love in the Peace and Promise of the Resurrection of Christ Jesus

The disciples of Christ Jesus, like St. Joseph of Arimathea, deal in love with the body of Christ, in the sure and certain promise of the resurrection (Matt. 27:57-60). For they also remember what He said, that after three days He would rise, though His enemies conspire against Him and seek to thwart Him (Matt. 27:63). Indeed, we find a type and promise of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ already in the prophet Daniel. For he was blameless and faithful, and "an excellent spirit was in him" (Dan. 6:3-4, 22). Although he was accused and delivered over to death, the Lord preserved his life and raised him up in righteousness, "because he had trusted in his God" (Dan. 6:23). So let us also pray and give thanks to God (Dan. 6:10), finding peace and Sabbath rest in Jesus Christ. And knowing that "the end of all things is at hand," let us be "self-controlled and sober-minded," and "keep loving one another earnestly" (1 Peter 4:7-8).

– Published by LCMS Worship.



We are gathered in silence around the new fire, under the portico.

☩ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. 🕯 Amen.

Let us pray. O God, You are like a refiner's fire, and Your Spirit enkindles the hearts of Your faithful people with the fire of Your love. Bless, we implore You, this new flame and those who keep this joyful Easter festival that, burning with desire for life with You, we may be found rightly prepared to share in the Feast of Light which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Pastor will Light the Paschal Candle and those gathered follow the candle bearer in procession into the darkened church.

At the entrance of the nave, the bearer of the Paschal Candle stops and says:

Lux Christi

The light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

As the Soloist Sings verse 4 of "Were You There", the congregation will gather in the pews as the Pastor moves into the Chancel.

Please stand.

Easter Proclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Rejoice now, all you heav'nly choirs of angels: rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King. Rejoice too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished. Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing; with the praises of all God's faithful people.

May the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. **Amen.**

Hymn Jesus Christ Is Risen Today | 457

Opening Sentences and Prayer

Christ Jesus, the same yesterday, today and forever, the beginning and the ending, **the Alpha and the Omega.** His are time and eternity; His are the glory and dominion, now and forever. **By His wounds we have healing both now and forever. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

O Lord, You have made us witnesses of your resurrection, alongside the blessed Disciples. Like the women returning to the Apostle's after reaching the open tomb to announce the resurrection, we return to confess our sins to You, trusting in the fulfillment of Your promise of a fountain opened for the house of David, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.

Brothers and sisters, Let us come before God in true repentance, seeking His mercy and forgiveness.

O God our Father, we admit and confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in thought, and in word and in deed.

Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

We confess that we have not lived as Your followers but have sought to go our own ways in directions that have not brought glory to You or blessing to others.

Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

We confess that Your love has not reached others through us in every situation, that there have been times when we have been loveless, thoughtless, and judgmental toward others, unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.

Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

We confess that Your will had not been our priority at all times and that we have not always been defenders of the weak and helpless in our circle of family, neighbors, friends and beyond.

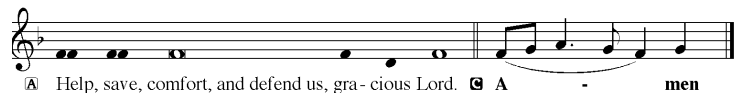
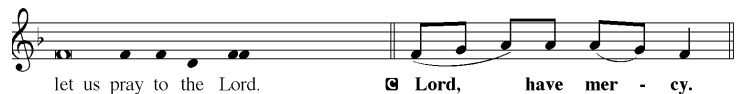
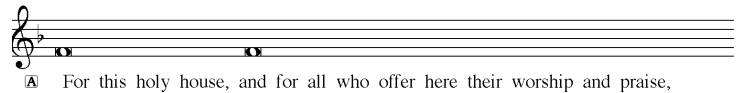
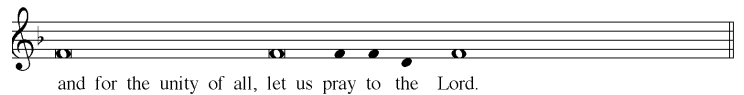
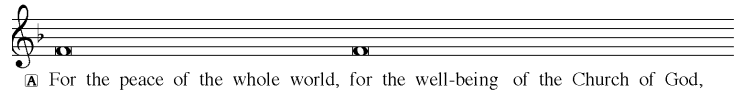
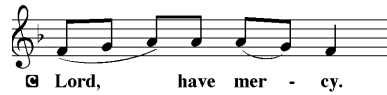
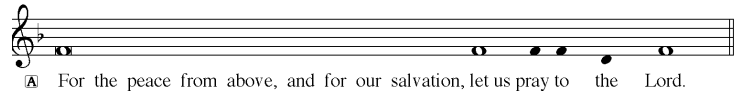
Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

We confess the sins that we know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which we are ashamed—as well as those that are known only to You.

Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the †Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Kyrie (chanted)



Prayer of the Day



Let us pray, O Lord, on this occasion, we remember how the lifeless body of Your Son rested in the tomb, showing forth Your mercies to us. You spared the only son of Abraham, but gave Your only Son into death to bear our sin, and be our Savior. In Jesus blessed grave, you have blessed the graves of all your saints who die in faith, and in His rising from the grave, you have given us not only the promise of resurrection, even of life eternal with You. Thank you for giving us Christ's body and blood, strong medicine to cling to in faith as we journey through this race called life. Please continue to fill us with gratitude for Jesus' death and resurrection on our behalf, and make us one in the Spirit, even as you cause us to shout for joy on such a day as this, we join together in heart and voice to sing:

Hymn of Praise—This Is The Feast

Sung to music on page 155

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain whose blood set us free to be people of God. **Refrain**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. **Refrain**

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the Hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen **Refrain**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Refrain

Please sit.

Readings from God's Word

An Old Testament Reading from Daniel 6:1-24.

Time for Reflection

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading is from 1 Peter 4:1-8.

Time for Reflection

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

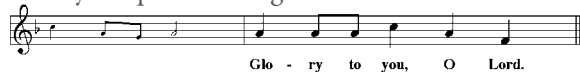
Beloved in the Lord, on this most holy morning, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, we are gathered here in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord in which, by hearing His Word and celebrating His Sacraments, we share in His victory over death.

Please stand.

Alleluia Verse



The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.



When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." Pilate said to

them, "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

[Matthew 27:57-66]

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please sit.

Hymn

He's Risen, He's Risen | **480**

Sermon

Our Confession of Faith

Please stand to confess the Nicene Creed printed on the inside back cover of the hymnal.

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

...let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Those for whom we pray are listed on the Life at Faith insert.

Please sit.

Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay



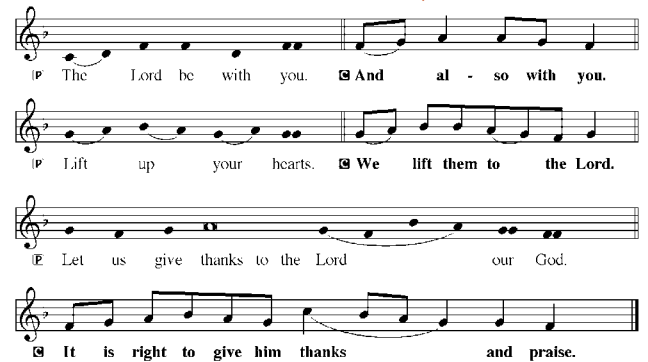
Please stand.

Offertory Hymn

He is Arisen! Glorious Word | **488**

Sacrament of the Altar

[2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]



It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, And most especially are we bound to praise you on this day for the glorious resurrection of your son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By his dying he destroyed death, and by his rising again he has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter, James, and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

The Holy, Holy, Holy

[Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9]

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
 Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as he bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To you alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to 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.**

[Matt 6:9-13]

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat: this is my + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always. (*chanted*)

A - men

Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion/Hymns

What Is This Bread | 629

I Know My Redeemer Lives | 461

When all have communed, please stand.

Post Communion Song

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
 Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.
 He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with
 shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray... For the body and blood of Your Son, O Lord, we give You thanks. May this Holy Communion prepare our hearts for the joyful celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Fill us with Your Spirit, that the Church may overflow to a parched world with the love of Jesus, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please sit.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you
 and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor

and give you + peace. **Amen.** [Psalm 103:1; Numbers 6:24-26]

Hymn Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds | 465

Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Announcements

Postlude

Easter breakfast served until 10a.

Easter Festival Service

The Victory of Christ Crucified Is Given to You in the Preaching of His Resurrection

Every Sunday is the Lord's day, the day of His resurrection, "after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week" (Matt. 28:1). In the Divine Service, the Church enters upon the eternal "eighth day." The Lord Jesus, "who was crucified," who "has risen, as he said" (Matt. 28:5-6), is the firstborn from the dead and the firstfruits of the new creation. Because "you have died" with Him in Holy Baptism, "you have been raised with Christ" and "your life is hidden with Christ in God" (Col. 3:1, 3). The Lord Jesus has become our God, as surely as He is "the God of all the clans of Israel," and we now belong to His people (Jer. 31:1). In this, He "shows no partiality" (Acts 10:34), but "everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name" (Acts 10:43). As "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power" and "raised him on the third day," He also raises us up and pours out His Spirit upon us through the Gospel (Acts 10:38, 40).

—Published by LCMS Worship.



Prelude

Call to Worship

Choir – *Easter Song*

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Processional Hymn

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today | 457

Easter Proclamation

☩ Alleluia. Christ is risen!

🔊 The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Rejoice now, all you heav'nly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King. Rejoice too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished. Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people. May the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. **Amen.**

Confession & Absolution

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

O Lord, You have made us witnesses of your resurrection, alongside the blessed Disciples. Like the women returning to the Apostles after reaching the open tomb to announce the resurrection, we return to confess our sins to You, trusting in the fulfillment of Your promise

of a fountain opened for the house of David, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.

Brothers and sisters, Let us come before God in true repentance, seeking His mercy and forgiveness.

O God our Father, we admit and confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in thought, and in word and in deed.

Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

We confess that we have not lived as Your followers but have sought to go our own ways in directions that have not brought glory to You or blessing to others.

Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

We confess that Your love has not reached others through us in every situation, that there have been times when we have been loveless, thoughtless, and judgmental toward others, unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.

Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

We confess that Your will had not been our priority at all times and that we have not always been defenders of the weak and helpless in our circle of family, neighbors, friends and beyond.

Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

We confess the sins that we know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which we are ashamed—as well as those that are known only to You.

Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Entrance Psalm

[Ex. 15:2a, 6, 13, 17-18; antiphon: Ex. 15:1]

Pastor will chant the Psalm.

I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation;

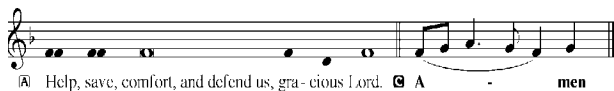
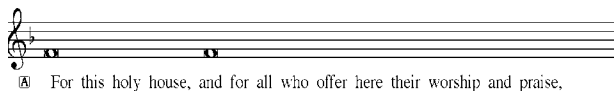
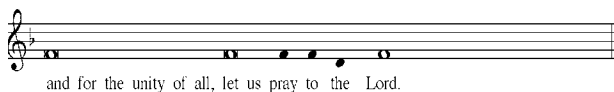
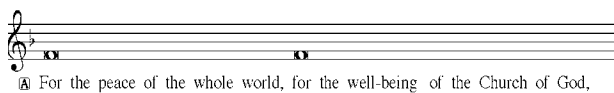
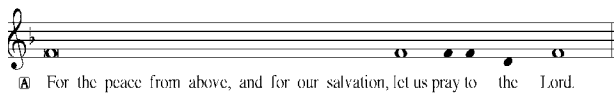
Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power,
your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.

You have led in your steadfast love the people whom
you have redeemed; you have guided them by your
strength to your holy abode.

You will bring them in and plant them on your own
mountain, the place, O LORD, which you have made
for your abode, the sanctuary, O Lord, which your
hands have established. The LORD will reign forever
and ever.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously,
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

Kyrie (chanted)**Hymn of Praise—This Is The Feast***Sung to music on page 155*

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain whose
blood set us free to be people of God. **Refrain**
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor,
blessing, and glory are his. **Refrain**

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the
Hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and
might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen
Refrain

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia. **Refrain**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God the Father, through Your
only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome
death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us.
Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our
Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of
sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ,
our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.***Readings from God's Word**

The Old Testament Reading is from Jeremiah 31:1-6.

Time for Reflection

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

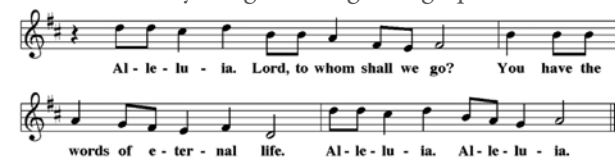
The Epistle Reading is from Colossians 3:1-4.

Time for Reflection

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.***Alleluia and Verse**

Alleluia. [Christ Jesus] abolished death and brought life
and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia.



The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:



Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the
first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the
other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold,
there was a great earthquake, for an angel of
the Lord descended from heaven and came and
rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appear-
ance was like lightning, and his clothing white as
snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled
and became like dead men. But the angel said to
the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that
you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here,
for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place
where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disci-
ples that he has risen from the dead, and behold,

he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.” [Matthew 28:1-10]

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please sit.

Children’s Message

The children are invited forward for a message led by Pastor Fitch.

Please stand.

Hymn

He’s Risen, He’s Risen | 480

Sermon

Our Confession of Faith

Please stand to confess the *Nicene Creed* printed on the inside back cover of the hymnal.

Litany of the Resurrection

Following the Litany, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. [Matt 5:22-24; Eph 4:1-3]

O Lord, **have mercy.**

O Christ, **have mercy.**

O Lord, **have mercy.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, **hear us.**

Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world, **have mercy on us.**

Who was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification, **have mercy on us.**

Who foretold Your passion saying, “The Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise again,” **have mercy on us.**

Who destroyed death by dying, and by rising to life again brought life and immortality to light, **have mercy on us.**

Whose resurrection was first announced by an angel to the women, **have mercy on us.**

Who appeared to Mary Magdalene and was worshiped by her, **have mercy on us.**

Who revealed Yourself to the two disciples on the Emmaus road and made Yourself known to them in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread, **have mercy on us.**

Who appeared to the disciples, bestowing on them Your peace and Your Spirit, **have mercy on us.**

Who showed Your wounded hands and side to the apostle Thomas that he too might believe, **have mercy on us.**

Who appeared to seven disciples on the Sea of Tiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish, **have mercy on us.**

Who appeared to Peter and to the Twelve, to over 500 disciples, to James and to all the apostles, and to Paul on the Damascus road, **have mercy on us.**

Who commissioned Your Church to make disciples of all nations by baptizing and teaching them, **have mercy on us.**

By Your glorious resurrection from the dead, **good Lord, deliver us.**

By Your victory over sin and death, **good Lord, deliver us.**

By the majesty of Your risen body, **good Lord, deliver us.**

We poor sinners implore You **to hear us, Lord Jesus.**

That we may daily die and rise with You in our Baptism and walk in the freedom of Your forgiveness.

grant us, good Lord.

That we may set our minds on things above and not on earthly things, serving others as we have been served by You, **grant us, good Lord.**

That we may dwell with You forever in the new creation as citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem, together with all the saints, **grant us, good Lord.**

Those for whom we pray are listed in the Life @ Faith insert.



Offering

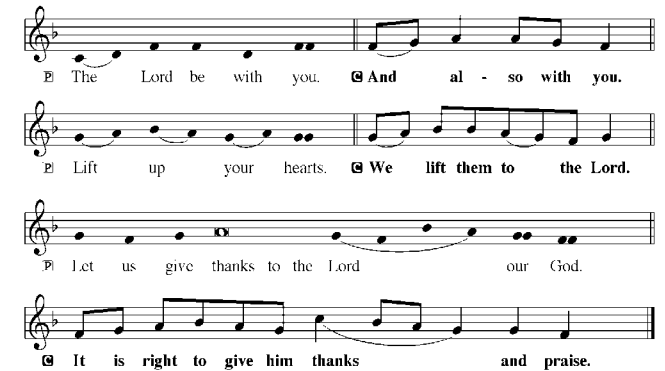
In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay

Please be seated and place completed attendance cards in the offering plate, then stand as the gifts are brought to the altar and sing:

Offertory Hymn Alleluia! Jesus is Risen | 474 (1, 4, 5)

Sacrament of the Altar

[2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]



It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. And most especially we are bound to praise you on this day for the glorious resurrection of your son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By his dying he destroyed death, and by his rising again he has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter, James, and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name evermore praising you and singing:

The Holy, Holy, Holy

[Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9]

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
 Heav-en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as he bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To you alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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.** [Matt 6:9-13]

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat: this is my + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always. (*chanted*)

A - men

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Distribution of Holy Communion/Hymns

What Is This Bread | 629

I Know My Redeemer Lives | 461

When all have communed, please stand to sing.

Post Communion Song

[Luke 2:29-32]

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-ry-one what he has done.
 Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.
 He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with
 shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Let us pray. Gracious God, from Your Son's loving, nail-pierced, and now glorious hands, You have fed us with His own risen body and precious blood, giving us the forgiveness He won for us on the cross as well as a foretaste of the feast to come in the day of the resurrection of all flesh and of our final redemption. We thank You now with hearts and hands and voices, and we pray that You would take us by the hand to lead us faithfully until that day when we celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Benediction

[Hebrew 13:20-21]

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon you
 and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor
 and give you + peace. **Amen.** [Psalm 103:1; Numbers 6:24-26]

Hymn

Now All the Vault of Heaven | 465

The Sending

Christ is Risen! **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Postlude

Servants of the Liturgy

Choir

Susan Waltz *soprano*
 Pamela Drebus *soprano*
 Cindy Gommel *alto*
 Yvonne Hotz *alto*
 Debbi White *tenor*
 John Drebus *tenor*
 Bob Jeffrey *bass*
 Bill Schnackel *bass*

Accompaniment

Doreen Stache *organ*
 Susan Waltz *organ*

Choir Chimes

John Drebus
 Pamela Drebus
 Darcy Hill
 Alayna Jacobus
 Barbara Jacobus
 Lora McCain
 Christina Runge
 Bill Schnackel

Musicians

Alayna Jacobus *french horn*
 Bill Schnackel *trumpet*
 John Drebus *trumpet*

Elders

Bob Jeffrey *Palm Sunday*
 Bob Jeffrey *Holy Thursday*
 C. O. Weddle *Good Friday*
 Mike Waltz *Easter Vigil*
 Mike Waltz *Easter Festival*

Readers

Larry Clipp
 Pamela Drebus
 Alayna Jacobus
 Barbara Jacobus
 Luke Jacobus
 Tom Rafferty
 Christina Runge

Acolyte

Kessidy Fitch

Stripping of the Altar

Debbie Phillips
 Eileen VonFange
 Judy Clipp
 Laurel Weddle
 Regina Allman
 Mike Waltz
 Bob Phillips

Faith Arts

Debbie Phillips
 Laurel Weddle
 Susan Waltz

Bulletin Design

Missy Collins

Pastor

Josiah Fitch

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Easter Banners

Banner 1—Triumphal Entry by J. Kirk Richards, Banner 3—By This We Know Love by Mike Torevell, Banner 4—Easter Morning by Jen Norton

Palm Sunday

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Holy Thursday

Artwork: The Last Supper by Jorge Cocco Santangelo. Remember Me, Stephen Andrews, Aaron Andrews, Text and music: © 2000, Triune Music, a division of The Lorenz Corp., All rights reserved. Psalm 22 My God, My God Marty Haugen Text: © 1983, GIA Publications, Inc Tune: © 1983, GIA Publications, Inc.

Good Friday

Artwork used by permission: By This We Know Love by Michael Torevell, <https://miketorevelldesigns.blogspot.com/> Three Crosses Crucifixion.

Easter

Artwork used by permission: Two Women at the Tomb by James Tissot, On the Third Day He Will Rise by Michael Torevell, <https://miketorevelldesigns.blogspot.com/> Easter Song, Words and music, Annie Herring, Choral Setting, John F. Wilson © 1974 and 2005, Latter Rain Music, Choral Arrangement, Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL. All rights reserved.



Faith Lutheran Church, Preschool & Extended Childcare

A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.

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Pastor Emeritus

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 Tom Rafferty, *Chair*
**If you would like a Board Chair's email, contact the church office*

Church Elders
 Michael Waltz, *Chair*
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Mercy Ministry
 Regina Allman, *Chair*
Stewardship Ministry
 Chair

Christian Education
 Susan Waltz, *Chair*
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