

A stained glass artwork depicting Jesus on the cross. The central figure is Jesus, with a pale, textured face and long, dark hair. He is shown from the chest up, with his arms outstretched on the cross. The background is a mix of dark blue, red, and black, with some lighter, textured areas. The text 'It is finished' is written across the center in a white, stylized font. Above it, 'JOHN 19:30' is written in a smaller, red font. The entire piece is framed by a yellow border.

JOHN 19:30

It is finished



+ Good Friday +
April 15, 2022

AS WE GATHER

As we have journeyed with Joseph throughout this Lenten season and witnessed the Lord's presence and work through him, we're continually pointed to a greater foreshadowing of God's promise fulfilled through a Savior. Though much evil took place in Joseph's life, he was compelled in faith to say, "You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today" (Genesis 50:20). In the same way on this Good Friday, we are exposed to much evil. Jesus is delivered into the hands of sinful men, is beaten, is crucified, is deserted, and died. But like with Joseph, God meant it for good, that we be alive today with the forgiveness and payment for our sins, which He endured for us. Jesus was right when He proclaimed from the cross, "It is finished." And by that finished work, our new life in Him begins and continues.

"The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord, We celebrate with one accord" (*LSB* 634:1). Those words of a Swedish hymn written in the 1600s may seem difficult for us to comprehend. What is there to celebrate? Why is today good? In Old English, the word *good* meant "sacred" or "holy"—so it would be proper to refer to this day as "Holy Friday." And yet the great goodness of God in Jesus Christ is most fully on display at the cross. Without the suffering and death of Jesus Christ, our Lord, on this day, there would be no basis for His glorious resurrection in three days. Today is the good day that leads us to the great day of Easter yet to come!

Liturgical Color:
Black is the absence of light.

This evening's service begins where Holy Thursday's ended.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Welcome

Stand

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Gathering Words for Good Friday

- P** In this Lenten season, we have journeyed with Joseph in Genesis
C and now come close to the cross of Christ on Calvary.

Confession and Absolution

- P** Jesus, our Savior and Lord, lead us to behold the evil of a fallen creation, the agony of Your rejection, the pain of Your condemnation, and the horror of Your crucifixion.
- C** As we approach the cross on Calvary, let us become mindful of our sins and of our willful rebellion against Your will and ways.
- P** Eternal God, we confess that we have turned away from you in our thinking, speaking, and doing.
- C** We have lived for ourselves and have refused to bear the burdens of others.
- P** We have not loved You with our whole heart,
- C** and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
- P** We often fail to see the good You work at Your time and in Your way, even amid the evil around us.
- C** Our faith suffers in doubt, and we lose our trust in You.
- P** We can only say:
- C** Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

Prayer

- P** Let us pray.
- C** Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

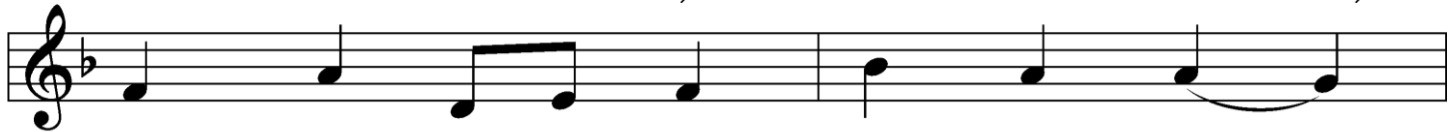
Lord's Prayer

Sit

Hymn..... "Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow" #428



1 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,
2 Here the King of all the a - ges,
3 O mys - te - rious con - de - scend - ing!
4 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,



Where the blood of Christ was shed,
Throned in light ere worlds could be,
O a - ban - don - ment sub - lime!
Where the blood of Christ was shed,



Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,
Robed in mor - tal flesh is dy - ing,
Ver - y God Him - self is bear - ing,
Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,



Per - fect God on thee has bled!
Cru - ci - fied by sin for me.
All the suf - fer - ings of time!
Per - fect God on thee has bled!

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✠ WORD ✠

Old TestamentIsaiah 52:13-53:12

Behold, my servant shall act wisely;
he shall be high and lifted up,
and shall be exalted.

As many were astonished at you—
his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—
so shall he sprinkle many nations;
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;
for that which has not been told them they see,
and that which they have not heard they understand.

Who has believed what they heard from us?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
and no beauty that we should desire him.
He was despised and rejected by men;
a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
But he was wounded for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his stripes we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned every one to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.
He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he opened not his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he opened not his mouth.
By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
and as for his generation, who considered
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people?
And they made his grave with the wicked
and with a rich man in his death,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.
Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;
he has put him to grief;
when his soul makes an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;

the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.
Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,
 make many to be accounted righteous,
 and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,
 and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because he poured out his soul to death
 and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
 and makes intercession for the transgressors.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(Silence for reflection)

Epistle Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. . . .

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(Silence for reflection)

Hymn..... *"We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died" #429*



1 We sing the praise of Him who died, Of Him who
 2 In - scribed up - on the cross we see In shin - ing
 3 The cross! It takes our guilt a - way; It holds the
 4 It makes the cow - ard spir - it brave And nerves the



died up - on the cross. The sin - ner's hope let
 let - ters, "God is love." He bears our sins up -
 faint - ing spir - it up; It cheers with hope the
 fee - ble arm for fight; It takes the ter - ror



all de - ride; For this we count the world but loss.
 on the tree; He brings us mer - cy from a - bove.
 gloom - y day And sweet - ens ev - 'ry bit - ter cup.
 from the grave And gilds the bed of death with light;

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>5 The balm of life, the cure of woe,
 The measure and the pledge of love,
 The sinner's refuge here below,
 The angels' theme in heav'n above.</p> | <p>6 To Christ, who won for sinners grace
 By bitter grief and anguish sore,
 Be praise from all the ransomed race
 Forever and forevermore.</p> |
|---|--|

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Meditation *"Forgiveness Finished" (Genesis 50:15-21)*

Hymn *"Were You There" #456 (1-2)*



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
 2 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? Were you



there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh ...
 there when they nailed Him to the tree? Oh ...



Some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 Some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

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(The slips of paper will be taken off the cross at this time and placed on the altar during the singing of the hymn.)

Stand

Apostles' Creed..... *(back cover of hymnal)*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth.
 And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died and was buried.
 He descended into hell.
 The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy Christian Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

P Heavenly Father, we are torn by so many conflicting thoughts and feelings on this holy night. We grieve our Savior's suffering and death and feel shame in the knowledge that our sin made His death necessary. We repent, Father, of

our sin. Ease our grief and remove our shame. What was meant for evil, You made good. We are forgiven.

C It is finished.

P Amid sadness, Father, You bring us infinite joy and gladness. Though He could have called down a legion of angels to rescue, it is because of Jesus' complete and all-surpassing sacrifice that we can be forgiven. It was because of His love that we can be restored to Your good plans. It was because of His suffering and death that we have Your mercy. Lord, what we can understand of Jesus' sacrifice overwhelms us with amazement. Yet we cannot begin to grasp the extent of the ordeal He endured when the world's sin separated Him from You. Instill in us awe and wonder at His incredible love for us. What was meant for evil, You made good. We are forgiven.

C It is finished.

P Father, teach us to hear well the clear message of Your love for us that we may live as Your people every day. Through Jesus' separation from You on the cross, we have been restored. Through His shame, our shame is removed. Through His condemnation as the wages of sin, we have been freed. What was meant for evil, You made good. We are forgiven.

C It is finished.

P Father, while we delight in the wonder and mystery of this holy night and rejoice in the grace won for us on the cross, the world continues in its futile and empty course, ignorant of what You have done. Give us courage and boldness to speak the truth of Your story to those around us. Keep us in Your care during these lonely hours and return us soon to this place to celebrate the completion of the story of Your great love manifest in our Savior, Jesus. What was meant for evil, You made good. We are forgiven.

C It is finished.

P We pray all these things in His holy name.

C Amen.

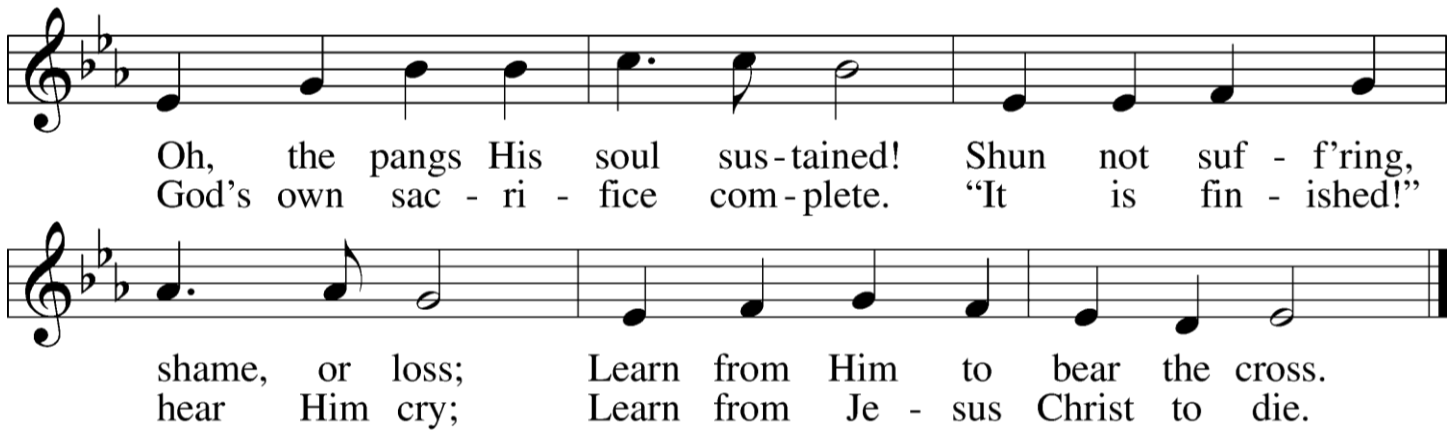
Hymn..... *"Go to Dark Gethsemane" #436 (vs. 2-3)*



2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing



life ar-raigned; Oh, the worm-wood and the gall!
at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,



Oh, the pangs His soul sus-tained! Shun not suf-f'ring,
 God's own sac-ri-fice com-plete. "It is fin-ished!"
 shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
 hear Him cry; Learn from Je-sus Christ to die.

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Sit

✠ TENEBRAE SEQUENCE ✠

First Word..... John 19:14-16a; Luke 23:32-34a

L Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." So he delivered Him over to them to be crucified.

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with Him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on His right and one on His left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

P We praise You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C **By Your cross and precious death, You have redeemed the world.**


P God forbid that I should glory

C **except in the cross of our Lord, Jesus.**

P Almighty God, Your dear Son, our Lord, did not go up to joy before first He suffered pain; He did not enter into glory before He was crucified. Mercifully grant that we in faith may walk the way of His cross and find in it the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Hymn..... *“Our Savior Spoke with Seven Words”, (v. 1)*



1 Our Sav - ior spoke with sev - en words
As on the cross He died; Through pain and sor - row
ech - oed hope When He was cru - ci - fied.
The first word His for - give - ness gave
To those who did Him ill; And bless - ing like a
riv - er flowed From Cal - v'ry's ho - ly hill.

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The first candle is extinguished.

Second Word Luke 23:35-43

L And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at Him, saying, “He saved others; let Him save Himself, if He is the Christ of God, His Chosen One!” The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up and offering Him sour wine and saying, “If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!” There was also an inscription over Him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at Him, saying, “Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And

we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” And he said, “Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.” And He said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”

P We praise You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C **By Your cross and precious death, You have redeemed the world.**

P Surely He has borne out griefs

C **and carried our sorrows.**

P Lord Jesus, while You hung on the cross, You showed mercy to the dying thief. With that mercy, look on us also, we pray, and at our last hour, comfort us with Your promise that we will dwell forever in paradise with You.

C **Amen.**

The second candle is extinguished.

Third Word.....John 19:25-27

L 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.

P We praise You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C **By Your cross and precious death, You have redeemed the world.**

P Bind us to one another with bonds of charity and love

C **that we ever reflect the great and sacrificial love that You have showed to us through Your suffering, pain, and death on the cross.**

Hymn..... “Our Savior Spoke with Seven Words”, (v. 2)

**The second word gave heaven’s hope; The dying thief found peace—
For Jesus promised on this day His joy would never cease.
To meet His grieving mother’s needs His third word did He share
And brought a new relationship For John and Mary there.**

P O God, You know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature, we cannot always stand upright. Grant

to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

The third candle is extinguished.

Fourth Word.....Matthew 27:45-47

L Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This man is calling Elijah.”

P We praise You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C **By Your cross and precious death, You have redeemed the world**

P Keep us mindful of Your abiding presence with us

C **that our witness to the love You have shown us may never falter or fail.**

P Grant, we pray, merciful Lord, to Your faithful people pardon and peace. Cleanse us from all our sins, that we may serve You with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

The fourth candle is extinguished.

Fifth Word..... Matthew 10:38–42, John 19:28–29

L [Jesus said to His disciples,] “Whoever does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

“Whoever receives you receives Me, and whoever receives Me receives Him who sent Me. The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.”

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.

- P** We praise You, O Christ, and we bless You.
- C** **By Your cross and precious death, You have redeemed the world.**
- P** Grant us peace and patience under all trials.
- C** **Keep us mindful of the great sacrifice You willingly made for us to pay the price of our sins.**

Hymn..... *"Our Savior Spoke with Seven Words", (v. 3)*

**The fourth word from Christ's loneliness And desolation came
As sinking in abandonment He called His Father's name.
As for the sins of all He died, The Shepherd for the sheep,
His fifth word of His thirst He spoke To slake the sorrow deep.**

- P** O God, for our redemption, You gave Your only Son to die the death of the cross, and by His resurrection, You have delivered us from the power of our enemy. Grant us so to die daily to sin that we may evermore live with Him in the joy of His resurrection; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

The fifth candle is extinguished.

Sixth Word **Hebrews 9:11-12, 15, 27-28; John 19:30a**

- L** 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.

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.

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him.

When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished."

- P** We praise You, O Christ, and we bless You.
- C** **By Your cross and precious death, You have redeemed the world.**
- P** Help us begin all our works of charity and love in Your name
- C** **and find Your blessing in their completion to Your glory.**
- P** Lord Jesus Christ, You set the boundaries of our lives and grant us tasks to do in Your name. In Your great love, You did not stop short of finishing the task given to You by Your Father. With the aid of the Holy Spirit, lead us to complete all You intend for us to do in this world until that time when we share in Your eternal presence in the world to come.
- C** **Amen.**

The sixth candle is extinguished.

Seventh Word Luke 23:44-46; Matthew 27:54

- L** It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit!" And having said this He breathed his last.

Pause for meditation.

- L** When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"
- P** We praise You, O Christ, and we bless You.
- C** **By Your cross and precious death, You have redeemed the world.**
- P** Preserve and defend us, gracious Lord,
- C** **so that when our last hour comes, we may know Your abiding care.**

Hymn..... *“Our Savior Spoke with Seven Words”, (v. 4)*

**The sixth word spoke of victory—His hours of passion done;
His finished work to God He gave As ever-faithful Son.
And with His labor at its end His last word came as prayer
Committing all He did and was To God’s unending care.**

P Almighty God, we ask You to look with mercy on Your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and given over to the hands of sinful men to suffer death on the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

C Amen.

Stand

Closing Sentences Genesis 50:20; Isaiah 53:5; John 19:30

P In this Lenten season, we have journeyed with Joseph in Genesis

C and now come to the cross of Christ on Calvary and His crucifixion.

P What was meant for evil,

C God meant for good.

P He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities;

C upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed.

P It is finished.

C In Christ, we are forgiven.

P The God of all grace, who gave His Son for us, facing the death we deserved and laid in the tomb, has done this for us. Even and especially on Good Friday with sadness and sorrow, be thankful—this is Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn..... *“Our Savior Spoke with Seven Words”, (v. 5)*

**Our Savior spoke with seven words As on the cross He died;
Through pain and sorrow echoed hope When He was crucified.
In garden tomb His body lay Awaiting Easter day;
With resurrection hope may we Yet follow in His way.**

Jesus' BurialJohn 19:38-42

After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

(A loud noise is made, signifying the large stone being rolled in front of Jesus' tomb. All leave in silence.)

Green palm branches were handed out and waved on Palm Sunday, but the dried palm cross of Good Friday reminds us how quickly things changed for Jesus that Passover Week and calls us to look in faith to His sacrifice amid all the sudden turns and sufferings of this life.

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Serving us today:

Elder Ricky Bertels
Musicians Jerrode Marsh
Altar Committee..... Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Erika Freeman, Peggy Hoyer
Lynn Lowe, Rebecca Stewart, Cindy Smith
Flower Committee Lana Vanderburgh (Chair), Karen Haase

This Week's Schedule

Saturday	11:00 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt
	7:00 p.m.	Easter Vigil Service (<i>Begins out front</i>)
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	The Lutheran Hour broadcast on 96.9
	9:00 a.m.	Radio Broadcast 98.5 (can also be heard at www.blchurch.com , under the Sermons tab)
	6:30 a.m.	Greet the Rising "Sun/Son" Prayer Service (<i>Out front</i>)
	7:00 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Communion Service
	10:30 a.m.	Easter Celebration Communion Service (<i>Service will be livestreamed</i>)

Prayers

For Those Preparing for Baptism—The forty days of Lent are preparation for the annual remembrance of Jesus' crucifixion and Easter resurrection, as well as a call to greater awareness of our baptismal life together “dying and rising” daily in Christ's newness of life. Keep in your prayers Kersten, Trevor, and Connor Thomas (who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil service. May the Holy Spirit lead us all to fuller life together as the Body of Christ!

For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, are undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization and rehabilitation: Leora Baack (Charlene McCarter's mother), Melvin Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Felisa Brown, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Barbara Compton, Marion & Leona Droege, Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Marty Lehn, Judy Pierce, Maryanna Savery, Rose Steitz, and Joe Zeman.

For Pregnant Mothers (& Waiting Fathers), especially Samantha & Nathan Schultz (Mark and Felisa Brown's daughter & son-in-law). May the Lord grant good health and joyful expectation!

For Military Members—We remember all service and support personnel who are deployed and stationed away from us and their families: Andy Burden, Ty Carter, Gabe Crespo, Luke Lockard (the Limback's grandson) and Chance Hillsman.

Prayer Requests & Spiritual Care—If you would like to make a prayer request, contact Pr. Joel or email the church office. Also, if you're feeling the strain and needing to talk and be encouraged in the living of life from day to day, don't hesitate to call or text Pr. Joel or contact your elder or the church office. We rely upon the Holy Spirit and his gifts in Christ during every time of uncertainty, and can never be thankful enough for the gift of each other!

Upcoming Events

Easter Egg Hunt—The Fellowship Board will be having an Easter Egg Hunt for children on **Saturday, April 16, starting at 11:00 a.m.** Bring your Easter baskets ready to hunt 500 eggs. There will also be 3 special **GOLDEN EGGS** and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Spring Garden Work! Keep your eyes open for opportunities to help with the ongoing transformation of our Bethlehem Community Garden to raised beds and all sorts of other necessary and enjoyable tasks involved in planting and growing this year. **Plan on being here Saturday, April 23, from 9:30-noon to help get a lot accomplished before our SHINE! Event on the 30th** (UCM students will hopefully be

here helping that day too)!

Bethlehem's 2022 SHINE! Event—Mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 30**, from **10-noon** (plus early and after for set-up and take-down) as we host an outdoor community outreach event called *Grow Green—Glow & Glean*. The morning will focus on stewardship living which is rooted in the Lord's Good Earth and known by growth, harvest, and generous sharing. Hopefully there'll be workshops, hands-on planting, free seeds and free raffles, information to glean, plus an appearance by the Green Lantern. This is our unique congregational effort, as part of the district-wide outreach initiative, so the more members who help—including in the planning and preparation—the better! Let the church office know if you'd like to help and in what way, *plus keep your eyes open for upcoming planning & preparation*.

Benefit Concert—Save the date for **Sunday, May 8 (Mother's Day)**, at **4:00 p.m.** Bethlehem will be holding a benefit concert for the women and children refugees in Central Europe. The concert will focus on prayer and peace. Participants will include members of the St. Paul Singing Saints and members of the Sedalia Symphony. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Pastor Joel or Jerrode Marsh.

This & That

The Men's Club will be handing out *hot cross buns* on Easter morning in lieu of their traditional Easter breakfast—like they did for the first time last year. The *hot cross buns* will be made by Warrensburg's own Green Truck Bakery the day before. Keep your eyes open to learn more about these special rolls and their meaning for Easter Sunday.



Contact Information

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 607 N. Maguire, Warrensburg, MO 64093

Our Mission

· Grow in Christ · Live in Love · Share the Faith

Our Vision

To be a community of believers, disciples, and servants while we deepen our personal faith and reach others for Christ.



Rev. Joel R. Kurz

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am–5pm, Wednesday & Friday: 10am-5pm

Otherwise by appointment

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Congregational Life Facilitator:

Rebecca Stewart

Tuesday: 8am-5pm

Thursday 8am-5pm

clf@blchurch.com

Bookkeeper:

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 9am-11am

Thursday: 9am-11am

financial@blchurch.com

Please note that Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a closed-circuit video system. This allows for live streaming on the web, viewing of the service on screens in the building and helps to enhance our security. Please see a trustee or an elder if you have any questions.