



March 21, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Joint Worship to be the church together.

Voices from Augustana & First Lutheran

In Person Worship (up to 75 attendees)

With worship broadcast via radio and YouTube. YouTube links found on:

www.augustanalutheran.org www.firstlutheranchurchff.org

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

My Song Is Love Unknown

LBW HYMN #94, v. 1,2,4



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me,
2 He came from his blest throne, sal - va - tion to be - stow;
3 Some - times they strew his way and his sweet prais - es sing;
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?



love to the love - less shown, that they might love - ly be.
but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know.
re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to their King.
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.



Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail
But, oh, my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his
Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they
Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and



flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?
life did spend; who at my need his life did spend!
thirst and cry, and for his death they thirst and cry.
'gainst him rise; them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst him rise.

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624-1683

Music: RHOSYMEDRE, John D. Edwards, 1806-1885

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

KYRIE

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In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

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Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

VICKI HANNEMAN

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: John 12:20-33

The holy gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. ²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what

should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

FAITHFUL

VICAR LYNN MELCHIOR

HYMN OF THE DAY

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

HYMN #326



1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
 2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
 3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
 your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
 We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,



The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
 We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
 but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
 to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
 Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.
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APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Create in Me a Clean Heart

HYMN #186

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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COMMUNION

This is the Lord's Table, all are welcome here. In your home is an ordinary table now set apart and holy, Christ is present there. All are welcome to partake in the Lord's Supper, wherever you may be.

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God our thanks and praise.** Holy God, throughout the generations you have come to be present with us at our tables, turning ordinary meals into holy moments for us to experience your grace in tangible ways. In

an upper room of a guest house in the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The body of Christ given for you. *(all share in eating the bread)*

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The blood of Christ shed for you. *(all sharing in drinking of the cup)*

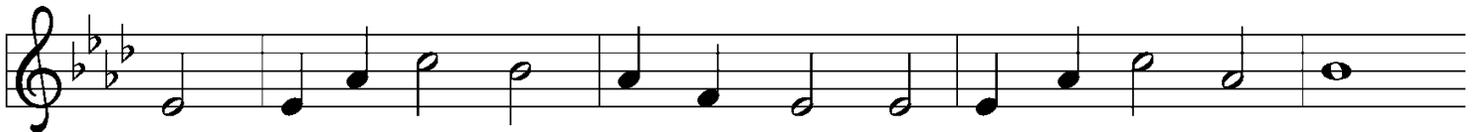
Together as the body of Christ, trusting that the distance that separates us is bridged by the Holy Spirit who makes us one, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

COMMUNION HYMN

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

HYMN #772



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, but keep my con-science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan-d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN*Lift High the Cross***HYMN #660**

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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DISMISSAL**Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.**



FIRST LUTHERAN ANNOUNCEMENTS SUNDAY MARCH 21, 2021

Church phone number 739-3348 and email office@flcff.org

The flowers on the altar are given by Dale & Jody Hanson in celebration of their 28th wedding anniversary on March 27.

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Barret & Harriet Wicklund in celebration of family birthdays.

Please keep the family and friends of Sheila Elliott in your prayers. Sheila passed away on March 11.

In-Person Worship continues, maximum number allowed at this time is 75. Worship will continue to be combined with Augustana, and will be broadcast on the radio and YouTube. **Thank you** to all of our worship participants – the ushers, sound and video operators, and musicians!

Coming up this week:

- Tuesday, March 23 Messenger articles for April are due in the office.
- Wednesday, March 24-FLY K-6 watch for info.
- Wednesday, March 24 at 5:00 pm Small Group Hosanna Handbells rehearsal.
- Wednesday, March 24 at 6:00 pm in-person Lenten Service (up to 75), and also on-line. NO Zoom gathering for 7th & 8th grade Confirmands, rather Confirmands are reminded of the requirement to attend Lenten services either in-person or online.
- Thursday, March 25 at 4:00 pm Youth Committee meets in Narthex

Lenten services, with Holden Evening Prayer, continue on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm through March 24. Our Lenten theme is “Affirming our Baptism”. In-person and live stream to the church website. Confirmands are required to attend in person or on the live stream, and to write about the service in their Lenten Musings.

Mark your calendar!!! Palm Sunday Celebration Walk Thru at 10:30 am on March 28! This event will be in the lower-level parking lot, with FUN for all ages!! Youth Breakfast Fundraiser, Activities, Trowbridge Creek Zoo!

Spring Flowering Plants will be used to decorate the church at Easter. If you would like to purchase a plant, please send a check for \$20 to the office. Those purchasing a plant may take it home after the second service on Easter Sunday.

FLY 7-12 “March Into Spring” Snowman Building Contest due date has been extended through March 31!!!! All FLY 7-12 students are asked to build a snowman, either outside with real snow, or inside with craft supplies, and submit a picture to Calie before March 31. Prizes for each category: Best Dressed, Most Spring Like, Funniest. Questions? Contact Calie.

Sound/Video Operators Needed! Please contact the church office if you are interested in receiving training to run the sound board or camera during worship! Thank you.

OLV Walleye Fish Fry will be a Drive-Thru this year, Fridays through March 26 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Order at the main door – to go orders only. \$12.00 Adults, extra fish \$3.00.

Aspire Women’s Event – an evening full of laughter, learning, stories & music on Saturday, May 1 at 6:00 pm at Harvest Outreach Church in Wahpeton. Please contact Pastor Gretchen if you are interested in attending.

Cardinal Homes is a non-profit organization that provides quality, affordable housing for elderly, disabled and families in Fergus Falls. Board members are from various churches. They are looking for someone from First Lutheran to serve on their board. They meet 3 times a year for about 1 ½ hours to review policies, procedures and the financials of the business. Please contact Kari for more information at 218 731-1784 and let the church office know if you are interested in serving on the Cardinal Homes board.

Christ in Our Home Devotional booklets for April - June are in the Narthex.

Save the Date:

- **June 11 – Relay for Life.** Contact Sue at 218 770-5156 for more information or to join the First Lutheran team.
- **September 10-12 - All Church Campout** at Fossen Woods. Watch for more info!
- **150th Anniversary of First Lutheran** coming up in 2022! Contact Pastor Gretchen if you would like to join a planning task force.

Financial Update: As of March 15, 2021, year-to-date revenue: \$111,659, year-to-date budget \$104,880, last year: \$85,419.



Palm Sunday Celebration Walk Thru

Trowbridge
Creek Zoo

March 28

Activities for
All Ages

Youth Breakfast
Fundraiser

10:30-11:00 a.m.

Lower Parking Lot



Worship Services In-Person & on YouTube

Palm Sunday- March 28th at 9:30 a.m.
Palm Sunday Celebration Walk Thru after service

Maundy Thursday- April 1st at 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday- April 2nd at 6:00 p.m.

Easter- April 4th at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.



First Lutheran Church
FERGUS FALLS, MN
Since 1877