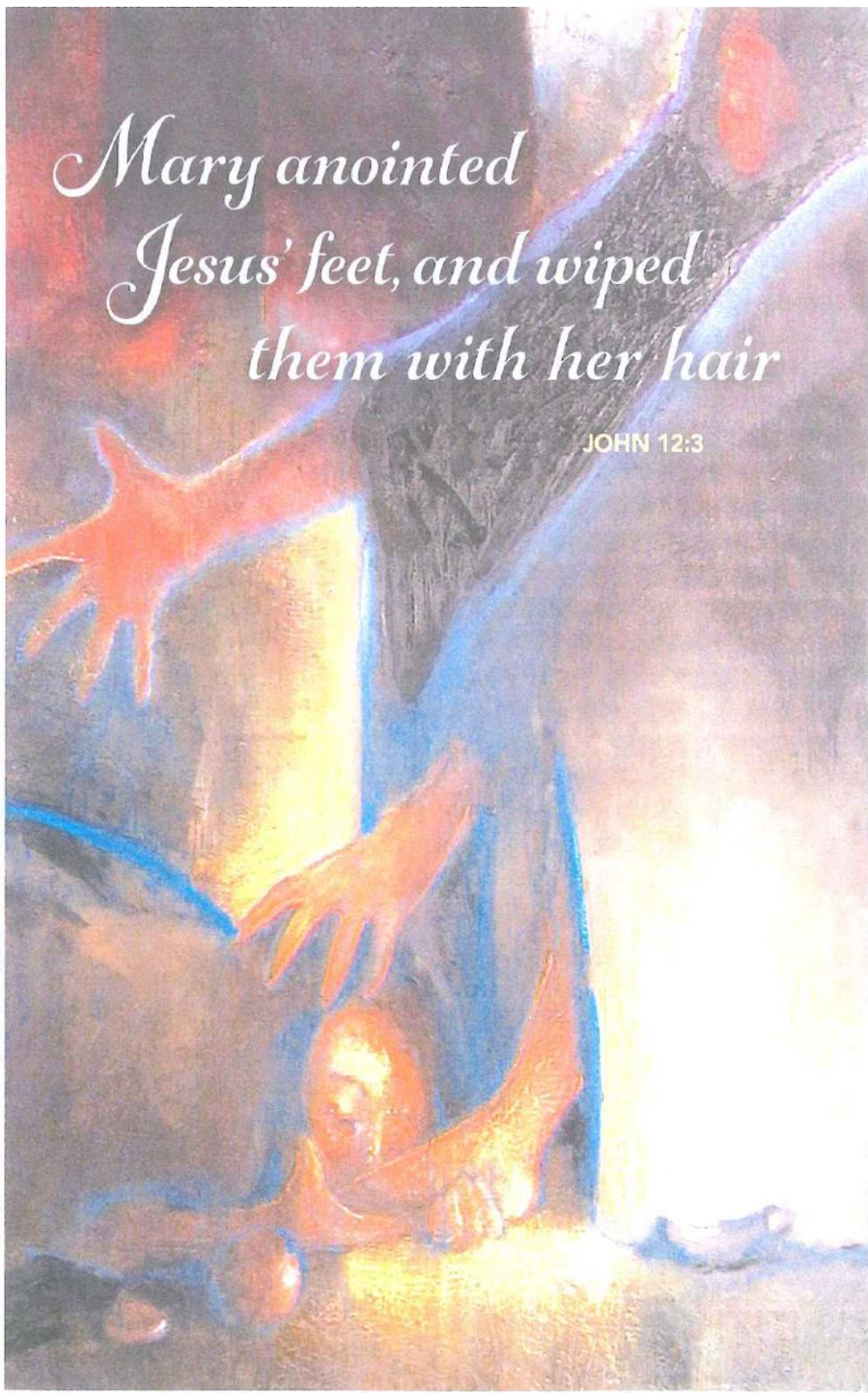


*Mary anointed  
Jesus' feet, and wiped  
them with her hair*

JOHN 12:3



**Called by the Spirit, we serve Christ, sharing God's love with all.**

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**WEBSITE: 1stlutherantopeka.org**

*1234 Fairlawn Road, Topeka, KS 66604 Church office: (785) 272-5302 CDO office: (785) 272-5999*

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>All Members of First</i>
<i>Senior Pastor</i>	<i>Reverend Jennifer Jackson</i>
<i>Coordinator of Stewardship and Outreach</i>	<i>Pastor Bob Dealey</i>
<i>Children's Day Out (CDO) Director</i>	<i>Kathy Dale</i>
<i>Caring for Kids 1<sup>st</sup> Director</i>	<i>Julie Bradley</i>
<i>Organist</i>	<i>Jerry Anderson</i>
<i>Director of Music</i>	<i>Mark Fuller</i>
<i>Director of Handbell Choirs</i>	<i>Linda Anderson</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>LaDonna J. Little</i>
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	<i>Jill Loomans</i>
<i>Bookkeeper</i>	<i>Cindy Crawford</i>
<i>Nursery Attendant</i>	<i>Tahira Schmidt</i>
<i>Missionaries in Russia</i>	<i>Rev. Bradn &amp; Natasha Buerkle</i>
<i>Missionaries in Guinea</i>	<i>Jim &amp; Dawn Anderson</i>

**WE WELCOME** all who worship with us today! We extend a special greeting to our visitors and invite you to worship with us again soon. Please make yourselves known to our pastor and people.

**COME TO THE FELLOWSHIP TIME BEFORE AND AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE**  
Gather in the Nave Lounge to enjoy refreshments, talk with fellow worshippers, greet people you don't know, make new friends, enjoy your time at First and share the love of Christ.

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION** Lutheran Christians believe that in the sacrament of Holy Communion, by the power of God's Word and Holy Spirit, we receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ, along with the bread and wine, for our forgiveness and salvation. If you share in this belief, you are welcome to participate with us. Non-communicating children and adults may come forward to receive a blessing. White grape juice is available, as well as gluten free wafers. *If you desire to receive communion at your pew, please alert an usher during the prelude.*

**A NOTE TO PARENTS:** First Lutheran Church welcomes children of all ages to be a part of our worship services. Children's Bibles are located in the pews and a number of items are available on a cart in the Nave Lounge to help them (and you) have a pleasant worship experience. We hope you enjoy these activities in church and at home!!

**CHILDCARE:** If you prefer, you may leave your preschool children in our well-equipped, staffed nursery during the service. Or, if you need to take a walk with your child, our speaker system provides audio of the service in the Nave Lounge and Library.

**WHEELCHAIR** available in the north entranceway or in the church office.

**EARPHONES** for the hearing impaired and **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS.**

**PLEASE, NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE MAIN WORSHIP CENTER.**

# THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

## A LENTEN EUCHARIST

5:00 P.M. & 10:00 A.M.

APRIL 6 & 7, 2019

*Before worship, talk to God. During worship, let God talk to you. After worship, talk to your fellow worshipper.*

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**PRELUDE** “O Man, Lament Your Great Sin” (“Orgelbüchlein”) (BWV 622) (J. S. Bach)

*O man, lament your great sin, for the sake of which Christ left his Father’s bosom and came to earth.*

*Of a pure, gentle virgin Jesus was born for us; He wanted to become the Mediator.*

*He gave life to the dead and put aside all sickness, until the time arrived that He should be sacrificed for us.*

*He bore the heavy burden of our sins stretched out on the cross. (Sebald Heyd)*

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

## CHIMES

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P:** During the season of Lent we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart. Let us confess our sin and seek reconciliation with God and neighbor.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**P:** Merciful God,

**C:** **you sent Jesus Christ to save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We fail in love, neglect justice, and ignore your truth. Have mercy on us and wash away our sin. Create in us clean hearts for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**P:** Behold, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation. Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**C:** **Amen.**

*Turn and face the back of the church. As the procession passes, turn and face the front of the church.*

## 339 GATHERING SONG “Christ, the Life of All the Living”

## GREETING

**P:** The grace of Jesus Christ, the mercy of the Holy One, and the Spirit of the living God be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

*Congregation shall sit.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING OF THE SOUND SYSTEM

**TEMPLE TALK** - New Wednesday Worship Service: John Hanna

**EXTINGUISHING OF THE FIFTH LENTEN CANDLE  
IN THE GARDEN**

A: The Garden of Gethsemane. “Come with me to pray,” Christ said, and they did: Peter, James, John, Thomas, Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, and James, son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas, son of James. Only one of the twelve is missing, the other Judas - Judas Iscariot.

**C: There, in the growing darkness, beneath gnarled olive trees, Christ knelt and poured out his heart to his father.**

A: “If it is your will Father, please take this cup from me.”

**C: And they slept.**

A: “Not my will, but your will, O God.”

**C: And they slept.**

A: For the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak, “My soul aches with sorrow...”

**C: Lord, we are here for you.**

A: Stay with me awhile,”

**C: Lord, you know we will.**

A: “Can you not even stay awake long enough to keep watch with me?”

**C: But Lord...**

A: “Behold, the hour is at hand. Here is my betrayer now.” (Pause) Lord, we acknowledge the times we have failed you, just as the disciples did so long ago in the garden. As the flames are taken away from these candles, so remove our sins from us. We remember your pain as we snuff out yet more of your light.

(The Fifth Purple Candle is Extinguished.)

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**WORD**

*God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung, and preached.*

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21**

*The prophet declares that long ago the Lord performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, the Lord is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new exodus.*

<sup>16</sup>Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, <sup>17</sup>who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

<sup>18</sup>Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. <sup>19</sup>I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. <sup>20</sup>The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, <sup>21</sup>the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 126** (Spoken Responsively with Lector)

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

<sup>2</sup>**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup>**Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

<sup>5</sup>Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup>**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

**SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14**

*Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.*

<sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL: John 12:1-8**

*Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.*

<sup>1</sup>Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup>Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor? <sup>6</sup>(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup>Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

**P:** This is the Gospel of Our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Congregation shall sit.*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON**

## **343 HYMN OF THE DAY** "My Song Is Love Unknown" (Sung to tune: "Rhosymedre")

Stanza 1. **ALL** 2. Women 3. & 4. **ALL** 5. Men *Please Stand* 6. **ALL**

*Congregation shall remain standing or sitting, as able.*

### **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**

**A:** Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and for all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

**A:** God of resurrection and new life, inspire your church to reconsider what makes us holy. When we focus on our own piety or others' sin, show us Christ's faithfulness. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Wherever destruction by flood, famine, or fire has devastated land and lives, cause green shoots to spring up, giving hope and vision for your promised future. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Where nations are embroiled in chaos and unrest, cut a clear path for your people to follow. Lead us in ways of reconciliation, and foretell the new things you prepare. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Wipe away the tears of those who weep under the burdens of hard labor and despair (*especially - see bulletin page 10*). Restore them, and bring them into the joy of your presence. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

*The Assisting Minister offers additional prayers.*

A: Permeate this world with the sweet perfume of Christ's anointing. Fill your people with such gratitude that it spills over into service of those who are poor or in any need. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Accompany those for whom death draws near. Bring us with all your saints to receive the abundance of heavenly glory through the covenant Christ sealed in his death and resurrection. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**PEACE** P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

*The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

Peace be with you. R: Peace be with you.

*Congregation shall sit.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING** *Please place attendance form in the offering plate.*

*"Thy Will Be Done"*

Senior Choir

*(J. E. Eilers)*

*Congregation shall stand or sit as able.*

**808 OFFERING SONG** *"Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"* **Stanza 1**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Merciful God,

**C: receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**PREFACE**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: It is right, it is good, and it is a joy, to give thanks to you, God of mystery and miracle.

When there was only darkness, you made light. When we cried out to you from captivity, you claimed us as your own. When we forgot our love for you, you did not forget us, sending your prophets to turn us around and renewing your promises with a bow in the sky, the parting of the sea, and your own Son.

And so we praise you, tuning our voices to the angels' songs, joining all those who sing on earth and in heaven.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,\_\_\_



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,\_\_\_



hea-ven and earth are full,\_\_\_ full\_\_\_ of your glo - ry, Ho-



san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THE CONSECRATION

P: Thank you for Jesus, for his teaching and healing, his challenging and feeding, his living and dying and rising, that we might be raised with him, and all the world made new.

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.

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.



With thanksgiving we take this bread and wine, gifts of the good earth, offering ourselves as a living sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

**C: Dying you destroyed death; rising you restored life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

P: Pour out your Holy Spirit on your people gathered here and on these gifts of bread and wine. Through the power of your Spirit unite us with Christ and with one another as we work and wait in hope, confident in that day when Christ will come to make all things new and we will feast together at his heavenly table.

All glory and honor are yours, Holy God, through Christ and in the unity of the Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Traditional)*

**C: 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.**

P: Christ has prepared the feast. Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

*Congregation shall sit.*

#### LAMB OF GOD

*(Tune: "Ah Holy Jesus")*

**Jesus, the Lamb of God, have mercy on us!**

**Jesus who bore our sins, have mercy on us!**

**Jesus, Redeemer of the world, have mercy!**

**Give us Your Peace, Lord!**

#### COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY *"My Song is Love Unknown"*

*(arr. R. Vaughn Williams)*

COMMUNION SONG *"Christ, We Do All Adore Thee"*

Senior Choir

*(T. Dubois)*

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

#### POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

**C: Amen.**

#### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

# SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## BLESSING

P: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you † peace.

**C: Amen.**

## 805 SENDING SONG *"Lead On, O King Eternal!"*

## DISMISSAL

A: Marked with the cross of Christ, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE *"Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"*

*(arr. P. Manz)*

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**ETERNAL CANDLE FOR APRIL** *is given by Marvin Wingert in memory of Norma Wingert.*

**PARENTS'** take this bulletin home for a fun game with your kids! Have them search through the bulletin and circle or highlight **this week's word: ANOINT.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:**

Breck Edds (Stormont-Vail Hospital), Pat Wild (home), Bonnie Phillips (home), Laura Haefke (home), Anne Jackson (home), Ann Johnson (home), Jeani Anderson (home), Mike Wilson (home), Vera Pearce (home), Ken Sherbert (home), Charlotte Weddle (CDO Teacher), Julie Bradley (Caring for Kids 1<sup>st</sup> Director), Ken Buch (Verla's son), Mary Roesch (Tracy's mother-in-law), Micah Ewing (friend of the Luber's), Stephanie Ramos (Shirley Perry's niece), Betty Fleming (LaDonna Little's aunt), Erick Larson (friend of the Dealey's), Joan Stahlman (Joyce Koenig's sister-in-law), Lynette Kottas (Eileen Caspers' mother), Pete Godlove (Michelle Black's father), Carolyn Hale (friend of Margaret Stewart), Don Kaphingst (Margaret Stewart's brother), Lewis Crawford (Cindy's husband), Dan Lykins (cousin of Nancy Sherbert), Nancy Isley Wolfe (friend of the Wolgast's), Marjorie Perry (Bill's mother), Linda Deines (Karen Papp's sister), Ben Beery (friend of Haden Roark), Jerome Gutierrez (Dolores Ussery's nephew), Heather Roesch (Tracy's sister-in-law), Norm Stahl (friend of Carolyn Olson), Katelynn Herring (Jeanie Schuler's great niece), Bob Avery (friend of Carolyn Olson), Robin Michael (daughter of friend of Nancy Vaughn), Mary Lou Brunkhorst (Ann Sanders' mother), Linda Myers (Trudi's daughter-in-law), David Metzenthin (Bud & Lois' son), Annika Lundgren (friend of the Engelhardt's).

**LAY MINISTERS TODAY****10:00 am**

<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Eileen Caspers
<b>Lector</b>	Dick Schaeffer
<b>Candlelighter / Crucifer</b>	Adam Crawford / Blake Arndt
<b>Lenten Candle Extinguisher</b>	Byron & Sara Welch
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Alan Hageman, John Hanna
<b>Presenting the Gifts</b>	Pat Booth, Nancy Vaughn
<b>Council Member Team</b>	Shirley Waugh / Eileen Caspers
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Besta, Mary Fobes, Nancy Vaughn
<b>Ushers</b>	David & Patricia Drake
<b>North Door Greeters</b>	Kenneth Bangert, LaVerne Engelhardt
<b>South Door Greeters</b>	Barb Collins, Joan Fries
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Cheryl Hjetland
<b>Bus Driver &amp; Host/Hostess</b>	Marvin & Penny Boleski
<b>Saturday Lector / Altar Guild / CA</b>	Dick Nelson / Dawn Graham / Tina Lewis
<b>Stephen Minister 4/8-14/2019</b>	Diane Dukat

**LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK****April 14<sup>th</sup> – PALM SUNDAY****10:00 am**

<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Ann McConkey
<b>Lector</b>	Robert Hanna
<b>Candlelighter / Crucifer</b>	Madison Liby / Makenzie Liby
<b>Lenten Candle Extinguisher</b>	Pat Booth
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Scott Bangert, Barb Collins
<b>Presenting the Gifts</b>	Ted & Elna Ensley
<b>Council Member Team</b>	Bill Barker /
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Patricia Drake, Nancy Vaughn
<b>Ushers</b>	Erv & Ann Sanders
<b>North Door Greeters</b>	John & Judy Hedeon
<b>South Door Greeters</b>	Ruth Denno, Carolyn Olson
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Alan Hageman
<b>Bus Driver &amp; Host/Hostess</b>	Joe Montague, Leslie Malone
<b>Saturday Lector / Altar Guild / CA</b>	Martha Donohoe / Kim Magee / Dave Krug
<b>Stephen Minister 4/15-21/2019</b>	Lowell Chellberg

MINISTRY



ASSISTANTS

## ✠ IN THE FIRST PLACE THIS WEEK ✠

**CDO (Children's Day Out) Preschool 9 a-3 p - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9-11:30 a - Thursday**

### **TODAY FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

8:40 a.m. – Adult Education  
9:00 a.m. – Youth Bell Choir Rehearsal  
9:30 a.m. – Children's Choir Rehearsal  
9:40 a.m. – Senior Choir Warm-up  
10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion  
11:15 a.m. – Alpha Worship in Parish Hall  
11:15 a.m. – Sunday School PreK-HS, Adult  
11:30 a.-1:30 p. –Sound System Training  
12:00 p.m. – First Communion Class  
12:15 p.m. – Youth & Family Ministry  
2:00-4:00 p.m. – Sound System Training  
4:00 p.m. – Cub Scout Committee (115)  
4:00-8:30 p.m. – Parish Hall in Use  
**Monday, April 8**  
12:30 p.m. – Staff Meeting  
6:30 p.m. – Church Council Meeting (202)  
7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)  
**Tuesday, April 9**  
8:00 a.m. – Men's Tuesday Morning Bible Study  
9:30-11:00 a.m. – On a Mission from God Class –  
Last Session  
2:00 p.m. – Stephen Ministry Leaders  
6:00 p.m. – Cub Scout Den Meetings (115 & 116)  
6:30 p.m. – Safety & Security Team Meeting

### **Wednesday, April 10**

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
**CDO PICTURES**  
9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever  
1:00-3:00 p.m. – Room 202 in Use  
6:30-7:30 p.m. – Nominating Committee (Library)

### **Thursday, April 11**

**CDO PICTURES**  
10:00 a.m. – Adult Bible Study at Thornton Place  
5:30 p.m. – Lenten Supper  
6:20 p.m. – Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal  
**7:00 p.m. – Lenten Worship Service**  
7:40 p.m. – Senior Choir Rehearsal

### **Friday, April 12**

Pastor Jenny's Day Off

### **CDO PICTURES**

### **Saturday, April 13**

5:00 p.m. – Holy Communion (Chapel)

### **Sunday, April 14 PALM SUNDAY**

8:40 a.m. – Adult Education  
9:00 a.m. – Youth Bell Choir Rehearsal  
9:30 a.m. – Children's Choir Rehearsal  
9:40 a.m. – Senior Choir Warm-up  
10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion  
11:15 a.m. – Sunday School PreK-HS, Adult  
12:00 p.m. – First Communion Class

### **LESSONS APRIL 13 & 14**

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Luke 22:14—23:56

## **PARISH NOTICES**

**As of April 1, 2019 the final pound TALLY for DOORSTEP'S MARCH MADNESS is KSU at 342.8 versus KU at 422.1 for a TOTAL of 764.9. MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED!**

### **FREE MESSIAH TICKETS**

Are you looking for a way to top off your Easter celebration? **Two FREE tickets are available** to attend the **BETHANY ORATORIO SOCIETY'S PRESENTATION OF HANDEL'S MESSIAH** to two people that have never experienced it at Presser Hall in Lindsborg, Kansas. **Sign up by April 12<sup>th</sup>** at the Welcome Center to be in a drawing. You will be notified on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Free Community GRIEF WORKSHOPS** by **Dr. Alan Wolfelt**, hosted by Penwell Gabel, taking place **April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>** at Capitol Plaza Hotel, 1717 SW Topeka Blvd.

**Exploring the Need to Grieve & Mourn: Helping Yourself, Your Family, and Your Friends Heal**  
**Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> 7 to 9 p.m.**

**Exploring the Paradoxes of Mourning: Enhancing Your Understanding of Three Forgotten Truths**  
**Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> 9 a.m. to noon**

Dr. Wolfelt is the Director of the Center for Loss and Life Transition in Colorado, a recipient of the Association for Death Education and Counseling's Death Educator Award, and has authored numerous books and articles in the areas of death and grief.

If you can help **LET'S HELP** on the **third Wednesday** of any month we'll see you at **200 North Kansas Avenue**. The next date for helping is **April 17<sup>th</sup>**. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Gary Anderson at 246-3229.



### **GERANIUMS**



Spring is just around the corner and it is time to order GERANIUMS! The flower colors are red, white, pink, salmon and white splash. They are available in 4.5" pots (\$5), hanging baskets (\$22), and in 12" pots with spikes (\$26). **Please place your order with Cindy Lear at 271-0140 or [cwlear@prodigy.net](mailto:cwlear@prodigy.net) by April 20<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you for your continuing support of the **BETHANY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**. If you know of any high school seniors that are interested in Bethany College and a \$5,000 scholarship, contact me.

*First Lutheran Church along with The Lutheran Fine Arts Council of Topeka, THS Class of 1971 and Supersonic Music* will be hosting a concert by **RICHETTA MANAGER**, "**Lift Every Voice and Sing**", on **Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.**, 1234 SW Fairlawn. Ms. Manager is a Topeka High graduate and studied vocals at Washburn University and Kansas University. She has been living in Germany and performs there and throughout Europe. A reception will follow the concert. **Free will offering with a portion of the offering going to the Topeka Rescue Mission-Children's Palace.**

### **BUS MINISTRY**

**Do you need a ride to/from Sunday Service?**

The Church Bus currently has openings for two additional riders for the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service. If interested please contact the church office or leave a comment on the presence at worship sheet.

**Drivers and Hosts/Hostesses**

Also, the Bus Ministry can always use more drivers and hosts/hostesses. Contact the church office or leave a comment on the presence at worship sheet if you would like to join the Bus Ministry.





A **LENTEN SOUP SUPPER** will be served each Thursday beginning at 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. (Please see the host schedule on a separate page.) A free will offering will be taken. Suggested cost of the meals equal \$3 per person, \$1.50 for children under 12, and \$10 per family. Any proceeds given above the cost of food will be donated to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Make your own PBJ sandwich will be available and anyone with special dietary needs is welcome to bring a “brown bag” meal. Come, bring a friend and fellowship with your friends at First, and then stay to continue our Lenten journey to the cross and empty tomb.

**LENT 2019 THEME:  
THE “I AM” STATEMENTS**

Week 5: April 11<sup>th</sup> – I AM the Resurrection and the Life

**MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES** on **Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.**  
Come early for a **soup meal** before worship beginning at **5:30 until 6:30 p.m.**

**2019 LENTEN SOUP SUPPER HOST SCHEDULE**

**April 4**

**Parish Life**  
Stewardship  
Endowment

**April 11**

**Library**  
Choirs  
Adult Learning

**April 18**

**Finance**  
W-ELCA  
Property

During Advent, as we approach Christmas, we light a candle each Sunday in expectation of the birth of Jesus, “the light of the world.” In our **LENTEN WREATH**, we will put out a candle each week as we draw near Good Friday, the day of Jesus’ death upon the cross, when the light of the world was temporarily extinguished and darkness covered our world. Join in the responses that are spoken each week as we prepare ourselves for the most important events in all history.

**WOODEN CANDLE SLEEVES** for the altar which illustrate Jesus’ dark journey to the cross were created by *Michael Schmidt*. The images, which are burnt into the wood, start with the last supper (body and blood) followed by Jesus praying in the garden of Gethsemane, his arrest by the Roman guard, the cock crowing three times at Peter’s denial of knowing Jesus, the path to Golgotha, the crown of thorns and the nails of doom, Christ on the cross (. . . “it is finished”) and ends with the removal of Christ from the cross for burial. Hopefully these images will burn themselves into our hearts and minds and remind us of the true reason for the Easter season; John 3:16.

This season of Lent we invite you to participate in our church’s annual **ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL**. We ask individuals and families to collect monetary donations over the course of the next weeks of the Lenten season. **Barn Coin Banks are provided at the back of the Sanctuary or at the Welcome Center.** We pray that you will be generous in your special offering this year. **INGATHERING** will be **April 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>.**



**MAUNDY THURSDAY**, April 18  
Worship Service at 7:00 p.m.

**GOOD FRIDAY**, April 19  
Church Office Closes at Noon  
Worship Services at 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

**EASTER SATURDAY**, April 20  
8:00 p.m. – Easter Vigil Service

**EASTER**, April 21  
8:30-9:45 a.m. – Easter Brunch & Easter Egg Hunt  
10:00 a.m. – Easter Communion Service

## **APRIL 21<sup>st</sup> IS EASTER SUNDAY!**

Just a reminder we do not hold regular Sunday School classes that day.  
Instead, please join us for **Brunch** at 8:30 in Parish Hall followed by an **Easter Egg Hunt** at 9:15.

### **WEEKLY WEDNESDAY WORSHIP**

A new weekly worship service will be held Mid-Week, **beginning** the Wednesday after Easter, **April 24<sup>th</sup>**. **ALL ARE INVITED** to come for **sandwiches at 5:30 p.m.** and then gather in the **chapel at 6:00 p.m. for worship**. This will be a service unique from our weekend worship and will provide a different atmosphere. This worship will be a wonderful service for folks busy on the weekends, for folks wanting to bring friends to church for the first time, for families with wiggly kids, and for all who need to stop mid-week to pray, worship, and be renewed by God's promises and community. Invite your friends and we look forward to this new opportunity to reach more in our community.

**See you Wednesday April 24<sup>th</sup>. Sandwiches at 5:30, Worship at 6, and home by 7.**

## Wholehearted Love

The one magnificent thing Mary could wholeheartedly do for Jesus was to love him. Most stunning in the memory of that dinner in Bethany, the line lingering after all the details fade, is this gorgeous passage: “The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume” (John 12:3). Such beauty! What Mary gave in those astonishing moments was what she had discovered at Jesus’ feet.

For Mary had been at his feet before; she sat there at another time in that house, indifferent to aromas of cooking and cleaning, but rather listening, attending to his word. We can easily imagine what she heard from Jesus, words other disciples and the merely curious alike heard: stories of mercy and hope, parables of thieves, tales of servants and masters, the directions of love. And at still another time she knelt at Jesus’ feet, weeping beside a stone gateway to death, stench rising from her dead brother’s body. Daring to have faith in the one who called, Mary ran to Jesus and, out of the wrinkles of scolding despair, heard him: “Lazarus, come out!”

The sweet, extravagant odor of love was in every room as Mary anointed Jesus’ feet, the scent ascending the way psalmists’ prayers rose as incense before God.

Such love has no choice: it spends itself without caution, is not reduced to affordable charity, deliberately disregards prudence. It strains limits of convention and introduces itself with utter humility. It kneels.

Such love is not easily accepted: At home Martha was indignant at Mary. At the tomb, onlookers’ irritation ripened into execution schemes. At a Bethany dinner, Judas had little tolerance for wasteful devotion to a failed and foolhardy cause or its disappointing savior.

Following Mary’s example, we are called to kneel at the feet of Jesus, at the feet of one another. Jesus, too, assumes the posture of Mary at the feet of the disciples, welcoming them—and us—into the way of wholehearted love. May the house be filled with its fragrance.

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