



Blessed is the king who comes  
in the name of the Lord!

LUKE 19:38

**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

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## HOLY COMMUNION    Setting 3

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

APRIL 13 & 14, 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**    *Carillon*

### PROCESSION WITH PALMS

*The congregation gathers on the front lawn. If preferred, individuals may be seated. Branches are distributed before the service begins.*

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: **Hosanna to the Son of David.**

### PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL READING

Saint Luke 19:28-40

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### THANKSGIVING

*Raise the branches.*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**



Procession of the Palms

## PROCESSION

P: Let us go forth in peace,

C: **in the name of the Lord.**

*The procession into the church begins, the congregation following the Crucifer, as this hymn is sung.*


## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

### All Glory, Laud, and Honor

*Refrain*



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



- 1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
- 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing you on high;
- 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went.
- 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
- 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,



*Refrain*

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.  
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.  
Our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.  
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

*When those in the congregation are in their places:*

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: **Hosanna in the highest.**

*Congregation shall sit.*

## EXTINGUISHING OF THE SIXTH LENTEN CANDLE

### *A Royal Reception*

A: Today is Palm Sunday. The crowds cheered and shouted: Hosanna in the highest, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

C: **They waved palm branches and spread their garments out on the road as Jesus entered Jerusalem. The whole city joined in to give Jesus a hero's welcome, a ticker-tape parade, a royal reception, a city-wide party.**

A: But the cheers were shallow and the celebration was short-lived, for in the background the chief priests, the scribes and Pharisees, the Saducees and Herodians were green with envy, and red with anger.

C: **They set their traps with tricky words, and bought their spy with thirty coins, and prepared to kill the Son of God.**

A: Today is Palm Sunday, a day of paradox. Today the King rode into the capital on a lowly colt. Today he cried at this royal reception. Today the cheers briefly held back the drumbeats of doom. Today only the Christ candle burns throughout the service.

*(The Last Purple Candle is Extinguished.)*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C: **Amen.**

*"Hosanna, Hosanna, This is a Special Day!"*

Children's Choir

*(arr. Tunseth)*

## WORD

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

### FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 50:4-9a

*The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in Isaiah 40-55. Today's reading is a self-description of the mission of the servant. This motif became even more important in the early church for understanding the suffering and death of Jesus.*

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens--wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;

I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; <sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

<sup>9</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*"Lift Up Your Heads"* (from "Messiah")

Senior Choir

*(G.F. Handel)*

## SECOND LESSON: **Philippians 2:5-11**

*Paul quotes from an early Christian hymn that describes Jesus' death on the cross as the primary model for Christians of obedience and unselfishness.*

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death--even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **351** HYMN OF THE DAY *“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”*

*(PASSION NARRATIVE READERS GO TO THEIR PLACES)*

*Please follow along with “The Passion of Our Lord According to Luke” handout and read together the “people” part printed in bold.*

### THE PASSION NARRATIVE

**Luke 22:1—23:56**

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who for our sake shared human life and human death, even death on a cross.**

**We believe in the love of God, who is the source of all life and whose power raised Jesus from the dead.**

**We believe in the community of the Holy Spirit, who works without ceasing to unite believers of every time and place in their one Lord, Jesus Christ.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Trusting in Christ's passover from death to new life, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*

A: God, most holy and humble, plant in your church Christ's spirit of humility. Remove any barriers preventing us from seeing his saving work on the cross. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: You reveal your will for all creation through stones, seas, mountains, and meadows. In the splendor of what you have made, show us your care for everything, both great and small. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Rescue those who suffer torture, and free those held captive by others. Bring to light the hidden systems that perpetuate injustice among your people. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Pour courage and hope into people who feel like they are wasting away in distress and grief (*especially – see bulletin page 11*). Restore their trust in you, even as you meet their every need. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

*The Assisting Minister offers additional prayers.*

A: Open our hearts and minds to receive the words that you speak. Give us words to encourage the weary and to sustain one another in word and deed. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Gather your saints into the new covenant that Christ has established for all creation. When we fall into sin, continually renew us until Christ dwells with us again in fullness. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Attend to the needs of the whole world with your saving grace, and lead us all into new life; through 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.*

*“Komm, Süsster Tod, Komm, Selge Ruh!” (“Come, Sweetest Death, Come Blessed Rest”)* (Bach)

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

**349 OFFERING SONG** *“Ah, Holy Jesus”*

**Stanzas 1 & 5**

**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.**

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**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.



## CONSECRATION

P: 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.

## LORD'S PRAYER

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.*

## COMMUNION SONG "Lamb of God"

page 146

The musical score is written on four staves in a single system, using a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "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." The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final cadence on the last staff.

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*Sung three times at the beginning and three times at the ending of distribution.*

## 616 COMMUNION SONG “Jesus, Remember Me”



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

*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.**

*Silence for reflection.*

## 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.**

### RECESSIONAL HYMN “The Old Rugged Cross”

**See Bulletin Page 12**

### DISMISSAL

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

**C: Thanks be to God!**

### POSTLUDE “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

*(arr. Bach)*

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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: HOSANNA.**

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

Breck Edds (home), 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), Mary Morgan (Hope Krug's mother), C.A. Brunkhorst (Ann Sanders' father), 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 Ussey'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).

**2019 READERS FOR THE PASSION NARRATIVE FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE**

<b>ROLE</b>	<b>SATURDAY, 5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>SUNDAY, 10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>NARRATOR</b>	Joyce Mark	Jeff Montague
<b>JESUS</b>	Dave Krug	Ted Ensley
<b>PETER</b>	Ron Bessler	Thomas Einck
<b>MAID</b>	Martha Donohoe	Evelyn Wilson
<b>PILATE</b>	Orv Grondahl	Karen Wollin
<b>CENTURION</b>	Hope Krug	Alan Hageman
<b>1<sup>st</sup> CRIMINAL</b>	Jean Abbe	Brendon Roark
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> CRIMINAL</b>	Rick Bender	Haden Roark



# THE OLD RUGGED CROSS



1. On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame; and I love that old cross, where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners was slain.

## *Refrain*

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.**

2. O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world, has a wondrous attraction for me; for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above to bear it to dark Calvary.

## *Refrain*

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.**

3. In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, a wondrous beauty I see; for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died to pardon and sanctify me.

## *Refrain*

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.**

4. To the old rugged cross I will ever be true, its shame and reproach gladly bear; then he'll call me some day to my home far away, where his glory forever I'll share.

## *Refrain*

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.**

**April 14<sup>th</sup> – PALM SUNDAY****10:00 am**

<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Ann McConkey
<b>Lector</b>	Robert Hanna
<b>Candlelighter and Crucifer</b>	Emma Schultz
<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 Hedeem
<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

**LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK****April 21<sup>st</sup> - EASTER****10:00 am**

<b>Assisting Minister</b>	John Hanna
<b>Lector</b>	Jeff Montague
<b>Torch Bearers</b>	Loren Finney, AJ Hamby
<b>Crucifer</b>	Allison Montague
<b>Bible Bearer</b>	Adam Crawford
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	David & Patricia Drake
<b>Presenting the Gifts</b>	Einck Family
<b>Council Member Team</b>	Ted Ensley /
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Karen & Bob Wollin
<b>Ushers</b>	Denny & Darlene Payne, +2
<b>North Door Greeters</b>	Lynn Edds, LaVerne Engelhardt
<b>South Door Greeters</b>	Allison Hitch, William & Bloom
<b>Easter Brunch Coordinators</b>	Roark and Arndt Families
<b>Bus Driver &amp; Host/Hostess</b>	Bryce & Judy Cripps
<b>Saturday Lector / Altar Guild / CA</b>	Sherrie Petersen / Nancy Sherbert / Lyle Baker
<b>Stephen Minister 4/22-28/2019</b>	Carolyn Olson



✠ IN THE FIRST PLACE THIS WEEK ✠

*Children's Day Out Preschool (CDO) schedule: M, T, W & F 9am-3pm Thursday 9-11:30 am*

**TODAY – 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  
12:15 p.m. – Youth & Family Ministry

**Monday, April 15**

10:15 a.m. – CDO Chapel  
12:30 p.m. – Staff Meeting  
1:45 p.m. – CDO Chapel  
7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

**Tuesday, April 16**

10:15 a.m. – CDO Chapel  
6:30 p.m. – Cub Scout Den Meetings (115 & 116)  
7-9 p.m. – Wolfelt Workshop - Capital Plaza Hotel

**Wednesday, April 17**

First Volunteers at Let's Help  
9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever  
9a-12p – Wolfelt Workshop - Capital Plaza Hotel  
1:15 p.m. – WELCA Lois Group (202)  
6:30 p.m. – WELCA Martha Group (PH)

**Thursday, April 18 MAUNDY THURSDAY**

5:30 p.m. – Lenten Supper  
6:20 p.m. – Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal  
**7:00 p.m. – Lenten Worship Service**  
8:00 p.m. – Senior Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, April 19 GOOD FRIDAY**

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON**  
**12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. – Worship Services**  
4-7 p.m. - Easter Brunch food drop off & set up

**Saturday, April 20**

8:00 p.m. – Easter Vigil Worship Service  
**Sunday, April 21 EASTER**  
8:30-9:45 a.m. – Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt  
10:00 a.m. – Easter Festival Celebration

**Monday, April 22 EASTER MONDAY**

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**  
**NO CDO**  
7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

**LESSONS APRIL 20 & 21**

Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 Luke 24:1-12



**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 Festival Communion Service

## **APRIL 20<sup>th</sup> - EASTER VIGIL WORSHIP at 8:00 p.m.**

**Sign up** to participate in the **12 HOUR PRAYER VIGIL** before Easter Morning.  
Sign up in the Nave Lounge. You are asked to pray from your home.  
Suggestions and guidelines for this prayer vigil are at the sign up board.

## **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.

## An Opportune Time

The forty-day confrontation between Jesus and Satan among barren rocks in the wilderness echoes menacingly through the raucous Palm Sunday praise songs and victory chants that gush like rampaging waters down the silvery-green slopes of the Mount of Olives. The déjà vu crisis brewing around and within the insurgent, panicked crowd is inescapable. The confrontation has returned. In the wilderness, “when the devil had finished every test, he departed from [Jesus] until an opportune time” (Luke 4:13). That time has arrived.

Then, in the barren desert, Jesus would not turn stone to bread for himself. Now, on the Mount of Olives, he descends to break bread with and for others. Then, in the desolate wild, Jesus denied the world’s counterfeit authority. Now, on the Mount of Olives, he claims sovereignty over the cosmos astride a colt. Then, in the parched wadis, he neither tested nor demanded his Father’s protection. Now, on the Mount of Olives, he withdraws to pray, “Father, . . . not my will but yours be done” (Luke 22:42).

Remember the scene in hometown Nazareth where “all spoke well of [Jesus,] . . . amazed at his gracious words,” but then quickly turned on him, “filled with rage” (Luke 4:22, 28)? Now in golden Jerusalem, the shout “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!” changes to “Crucify, crucify him!” (Luke 19:38; 23:21).

For guilt-burdened, shame-heavy sinners; for forgotten prisoners; for the everyday hungry; for exploited workers; for those sick without health care, lost without direction, condemned without forgiveness, weak without support, unwanted without home, Jesus was—is—the hope of God’s kingdom come. For brokers of religious law, the uneasy rich, crafters of injustice, hard-fisted custodians of power, the overfed, hoarders of privilege, sellers of violence, and deniers of mercy, Jesus was—is—the threat of God’s kingdom come. On the Mount of Olives, God’s kingdom will not be denied. The time has arrived.

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# PARISH NOTICES



During the season of Lent we invited you to participate in our church's annual **ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL**. We asked individuals and families to collect monetary donations over the course of the next weeks of the Lenten season. **BARN COIN BANKS (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>**.

**THE LAST LENTEN SOUP SUPPER** will be served **MAUNDY THURSDAY** beginning at 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. A free will offering will be taken. Suggested cost of the meal equals \$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. On **April 18<sup>th</sup>**, Meal Hosts are Finance, W-ELCA, and Property Committees. 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.



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.

**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.



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.

## 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.** (*PB&J are provided or you can bring your own food*) 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.**

*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.**

### 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.



## Vacation Bible School

### SAVE THE DATE

### Evenings of June 17-21

Dinner will be provided before the program begins each night.

### FIRST LUTHERAN ENDOWMENT FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

The Endowment Fund is pleased to announce that up to two \$500 scholarships will be available for the 2019 academic year, and will be awarded to qualified applicants.

These scholarships will come from income generated by the First Lutheran Church Endowment Fund, for members of First Lutheran for the purpose of attending college, seminary, nursing, or medical school, or such other training which enables members of this congregation to grow in Christian faith and service to God's people.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE is May 5, 2019**, and application information is available from the Church Office or from any member of the Endowment Committee: Bill Barker, Ted Ensley, Char Taggart, or Ralph Krumins.