



First Lutheran Church

Welcome. We are happy you are here!

Lead Pastor: Joe Skogmo | Associate Pastor: Matthew Engum | Music Director: Karen Bimberg

Sunday, April 6, 2025 · Fifth Sunday of Lent



Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

GATHERING SONG

Great Things

Come let us worship our King. Come let us bow at His feet.
He has done great things.
See what our Savior has done. See how His love overcomes.
He has done great things. He has done great things.

**Chorus: O Hero of Heaven, You conquered the grave.
You free ev'ry captive and break ev'ry chain.
O God, You have done great things.
We dance in Your freedom, awake and alive.
O Jesus, our Savior, Your name lifted high.
O God, You have done great things.**

You've been faithful through ev'ry storm. You'll be faithful forevermore.
You have done great things.
And I know You will do it again, for Your promise is yes and amen.
You will do great things. God You do great things. **Chorus**

Bridge (2 times) Hallelujah God above it all. Hallelujah God, unshakable.
Hallelujah You have done great things. (Repeat)

You've done great things. **Chorus**

You have done great things. O God you do great things.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Merciful God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out our offenses. Release us from the guilt and shame we carry, and renew a right spirit within us. Teach us your ways, and uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Creator God **C: 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. Amen.**

MUSICAL MESSAGE

*Above the Voices of the World
arr. Larry Shackley*

Jubilate Choir

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶ Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ 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, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 126

R: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

C: Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.'

R: The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

C: Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

R: May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

C: Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

R: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 205

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL

John 12:1-8

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 12th Chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ 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. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' ⁶ (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.) ⁷ Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

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

SERMON

Pr. Roy Hammerling

HYMN OF THE DAY

Take My Life, That I May Be

v. 1,2,4 ELW #685

1. Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.
2. Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.
4. Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Apostle's Creed

C: 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 THE PEOPLE

P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer**

SHARING OF PEACE

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

NOISY OFFERING

April: Solar Sister

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW #473

1 Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy God. **(Sing 2x)**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Loving God, **C: receive this offering for the building up of your kingdom: the proclamation of your word and the loving of our neighbor. Amen.**

COMMUNION

Words of Institution

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.

Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

C: Gracious God, at this table you have nourished our body and soul with food and drink. As you have been food and drink for us, transform us to be food and drink for one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

God So Loved

Come all you weary, come all you thirsty.
Come to the well that never runs dry.
Drink of the water, come and thirst no more.

Come all you sinners, come find His mercy.
Come to the table; He will satisfy.
Taste of His goodness, find what you're looking for.

**Chorus: For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us.
Whoever believes in Him will live forever.**

Bring all your failures, bring your addictions. Come lay them down at the foot of the cross.
Jesus is waiting there with open arms. **Chorus**

**Chorus 2: The power of hell forever defeated. Now it is well, I'm walking in freedom,
For God so loved, God so loved the world.**

Praise God, praise God, from Whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, praise Him, for the wonders of His love.
Praise God, praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, praise Him, for the wonders of His love. His amazing love.

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save. **Chorus**

Chorus 2

Bring all your failures, bring your addictions. Come lay them down at the foot of the cross.
Jesus is waiting, God so loved the world.

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER FLOWERS

Today is the last day to order Easter flowers. These beautiful flowers will enhance our worship celebration on Easter Sunday. Order forms can be found on the volunteer table or scan the QR code.



LENTEN WEDNESDAY SERVICES

You are invited to join us for the last of our Wednesday Lenten services on April 9 at **12:05pm**. A soup & sandwich lunch to follow the service at 12:30pm.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICES

You are invited to join us as we observe the Last Supper and the institution of Holy Communion. This special service will be held in the Dining Room, as our worship will be intertwined with a meal and conclude in the sanctuary for the stripping of the altar in preparation for Good Friday. *Maundy Thursday Services are on Thursday, April 17 at 12:05pm & 6pm.*

SENIOR SUNDAY BLANKETS

YFM is looking to carry on the tradition of gifting our graduating seniors with a homemade tie blanket. If you are interested in making a blanket for a senior, please sign up at the volunteer table. Senior Recognition **Sunday is April 27th**. Questions, reach out to Olivia, YFM Dir.

FLC WOMEN

Save the date for a presentation for Country Fields Greenhouse on Patio & Container Gardening sponsored by First Lutheran Women. This event will take place on **May 3 at 9:30am** in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for food fellowship & prizes!

PIE AUCTION

TODAY IS THE DAY! Our annual YFM Pie and Baked Goods Auction is after our worship service. So after worship, head on down to the Fellowship Hall for some healthy competition and delicious homemade pies and baked goods. All proceeds to benefit our FLC youth!



FLC CHURCH DIRECTORY

We are working on creating an updated church directory. If you would like to have an updated photo for the directory, we will have someone taking photos after our worship service **today & also April 13 & 9**. If you have a recent family photo that you would like to use, you may email it to the church office.

*Please note: if you do NOT want your contact information printed in the new directory, you must let the church office know by **June 1**, otherwise your information will be printed. To inform the office, you can stop by the photo "kiosk" after the worship service, during the dates listed above or contact the office directly.*

WELCA SPRING GATHERING

The Conference Spring Gathering will be on **Tuesday, April 29 at 9am** at Calvary Lutheran Church in Perham. Cost is \$15 and preregistration is requested. To register, please sign up at the volunteer table by April 21.

RUTH CIRCLE MEETING

The next Ruth Circle Meeting is on 4/10 at 1:30pm in the Dining Room.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Please submit your ministry reports to Paul by April 21 so they may be included in the Annual Report.

JOIN US FOR EASTER

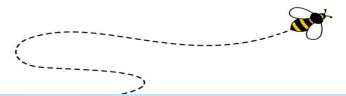
Maundy Thursday | April 17
Services at 12:05 & 6:00pm

Good Friday | April 18
Services at 12:05 & 6:00pm

Easter Sunday | April 20
Service at 8:30, 9:30 & 10:30am

CREATION CARE NOTE

Did you know that over 500 species of bees are native to Minnesota and Wisconsin?



Prayers for God's People

Brent Blake, Bill Wegschie, Cole Woltjer, Joyce Gilbertson, Doreen Tollefson, Judie Wood, Tim Goff, Marge Prechel, Don Getz, Gretta Frisch, Tom Tovson, and Vern.

Prayers of comfort for the families whose loved ones have recently died and for the family of Arlene Rishovd.

Large Print Bulletins are available each Sunday! Just ask an usher for your copy.

GIVE ONLINE

Prefer electronic giving?

Set up an automated method and frequency that works best for you by using the **QR code**.

Then, if you like, drop the **green laminated slip** in the offering plate as it passes.



VISITORS

Thanks for joining us!
Want to know more about FLC ?



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP RADIO

Sundays at 10AM on KDLM 1340-AM and 93.1-FM

ON-LINE

Live streamed on Facebook and on the FLC YouTube channel.

TELEVISION

Saturday at 9AM on Arvig Cable ch14.

