

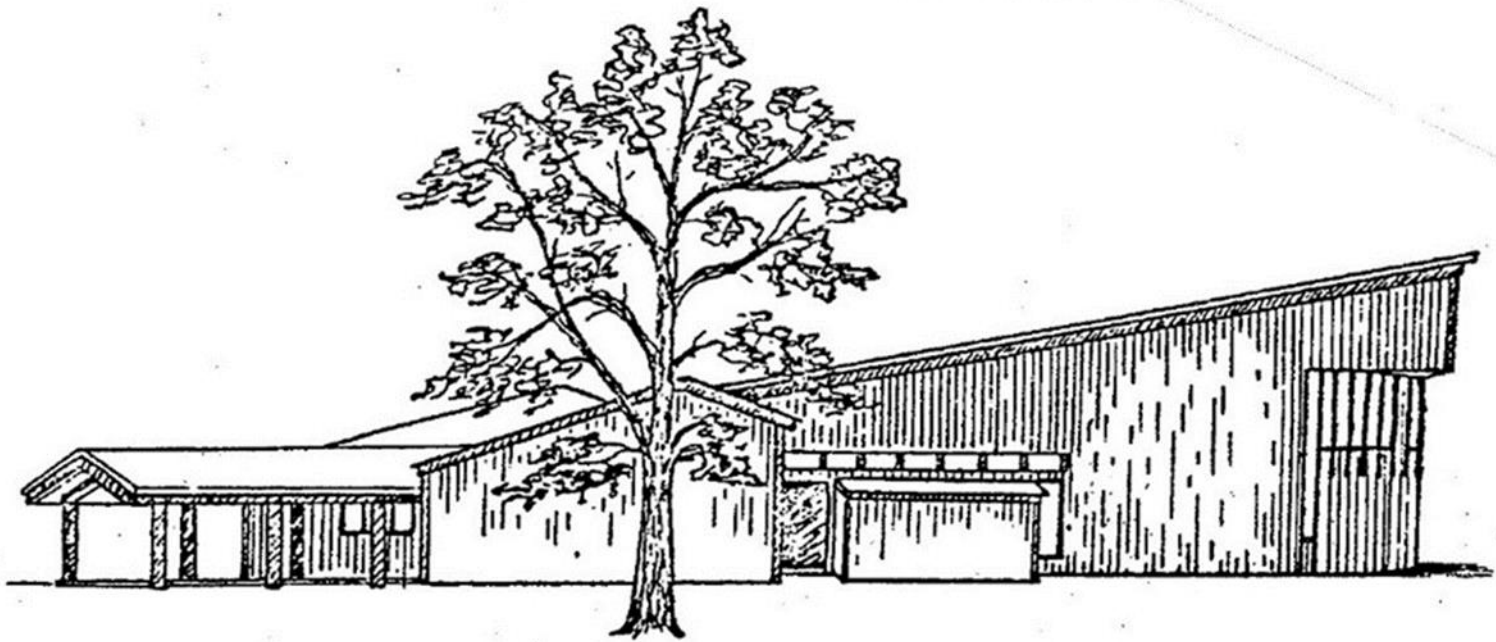
FAITH

LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

4009 Irving Street Marinette, WI 54143
Church 715-735-6506 | Preschool 715-732-9903

Growing in Faith Towards God -- and Love for One Another



“Good Friday”

March 29, 2024 – 6:30PM

VISIT OUR WEBSITE – www.faithmarinette.org

VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE – www.facebook.com/FaithLutheranMarinette/

LISTEN TO OUR PODCAST <https://faithmarinette.org/publications/podcasts/>

EMAIL US – marinettefaithlutheran@gmail.com

OFFICIANT..... Pastor Jim Krueger

WELCOME!!! We extend a warm welcome to ALL joining us today. May we experience the love and mercy of God through His gifts of Word and Sacrament. **Please take the time to fill out the blue folder in each pew.** If you are ‘visiting’ us today, please introduce yourself to Pastor Krueger.

RESTROOMS, NURSERY, ETC Restrooms are located in the hallway past the sanctuary entrance. The nursery room is available through the Fellowship Hall. Hearing assistance devices are also available. If you need anything, our “Elder on Duty” and ushers are willing to help you.

THE LORD’S SUPPER – We rejoice in this blessed meal as the Lord Jesus Himself comes to us in a very intimate manner, giving us His true Body and Blood “in, with, and under” the bread and wine. St. Paul writes, “Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.” (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) Out of love and care for all who come to the Lord's Supper, we ask those not instructed in the Scriptures, the Lutheran Confessions, and / or doubts the ‘REAL presence’ of the Body and Blood of Jesus in this Sacrament to speak with the Pastor before the service.

PRESERVICE MUSIC *(Please use this time to prepare yourself for worship.)*

OUR “GOOD FRIDAY” SETTING

*We gather on this “Good Friday” to ponder the final words of Jesus from the cross:
“Father, into Your hands I commend My spirit.”*

Our service also includes the “Service of Tenebrae” which commemorates the final hours of our Lord’s life on the cross. As we hear once more the final words of Jesus from the cross, each of seven candles on the altar are extinguished – reminding us of the life that slowly ebbed from the body of Jesus for us.

Following the “Lord’s Prayer,” the “Christ Candle” is removed, and after its departure from us, the sound of the closing of the grave is heard (strepitus).

We, then, leave in silence until we return with resurrection hope and joy at our Easter morning service.

INVOCATION & CALL TO WORSHIP

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

“He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him,

and by His wounds we are healed.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;

grant us peace.

"O, SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED" (Lutheran Service Book 450)

**O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, Thine only crown.
O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss, till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call Thee mine.**

**What Thou, my Lord, has suffered was all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain.**

**Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve Thy place;
look on me with Thy favor, and grant to me Thy grace.**

**My Savior, be Thou near me when death is at my door;
then let Thy presence cheer me, forsake me nevermore!**

**When soul and body languish, O leave me not alone,
but take away mine anguish by virtue of Thine own!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Lord Jesus, You carried our sins on Your own body to the cross so that we might have new life here on earth and eternal life forever with You in heaven, where You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Adult Choir sings "Even the Heavens Are Weeping"

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

THE "GOOD FRIDAY" READING – Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Behold, my servant shall act wisely; He shall be high and lifted up and shall be exalted. As many were astonished at you - His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and His form beyond that of the children of mankind - so shall He sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths because of Him, for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand. Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For He grew up before Him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him, and no beauty that we should desire Him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. Surely, He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned - every one - to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so He opened

not His mouth. By oppression and judgment He was taken away; and as for His generation, who considered that He was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? And they made His grave with the wicked and with a rich man in His death, although He had done no violence, and there was no deceit in His mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush Him; He has put Him to grief; when His soul makes an offering for guilt, He shall see His offspring; He shall prolong His days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in His hand. Out of the anguish of His soul He shall seek and be satisfied; by His knowledge shall the Righteous One, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore, I will divide Him a portion with the many, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

“LAMB OF GOD, PURE AND HOLY” (Lutheran Service Book 434)

**Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,
ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.**

**All sins Thou borest for us, else had despair reigned o’er us;
have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!**

SERMON THEME -- “Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit”

Luke 23:46

WE RETURN OUR TITHES AND FIRSTFRUIT OFFERINGS TO GOD OUR FATHER

*If you have not done so, please register your attendance in the booklets in each pew.
Pass them along to others sitting with you. They will be collected following the service.*

RESPONSIVE “GOOD FRIDAY” PRAYER

Lord God, heavenly Father, on this day we remember Your gift of love sacrificed for a world of sinners.

**Your love for all sinners that drove Your Son to suffering and death on
a cross is beyond our understanding.**

We humbly lift up to You hearts filled with thanksgiving for offering Your one and only Son as the atoning sacrifice for sinners.

**Through faith in His death as full payment for our sins, we stand before
You unconditionally loved and clothed in robes of His own righteousness.**

Lord Jesus, because You asked Your Father to forgive those who nailed You to the cross, we know that You were asking Your Father to forgive us our sins also.

**Because You told the criminal who believed in You that He would receive
everlasting life in Your heavenly kingdom we, too, receive the same words
of assurance so that, in spite of our own sins, we, too, will inherit the
crown of eternal life in the mansions of heaven when our last hour comes.**

Jesus, because You were utterly forsaken – abandoned – by Your own Father,
we know that we will never be forsaken by our Father in heaven.

Jesus, You ‘thirsted’ for even the smallest amount of water for us on the cross.
Through faith in You, we receive the water of eternal life that wells up inside of us like a cup of blessings that constantly overflows.

Jesus, because You declared from the cross that the work of our redemption and our salvation was “finished,”

we need not doubt our forgiveness, redemption, or salvation – ever!

Jesus, through Your giving up Your own ‘spirit’ unto death,

We each have ‘new life’ here on earth through the Holy Spirit, and life forever in heaven.

O Holy Spirit, dwell in our hearts. Help us to receive and believe that Jesus suffered and died in our place for our sins. Plant and nurture a living faith that is eager to witness to all we meet that forgiveness of sins and eternal life are offered to all sinners from the cross of Jesus.

Holy Spirit, fill us with an increasing measure of Your saving power, so that our lives are lived each day as a witness to the ‘rebirth’ that comes to us through faith in our crucified Lord and Savior Jesus. Amen

✠ TENEBRAE OBSERVANCE ✠

The Seven Last Words of Jesus

(The seven candles on the altar are extinguished one by one as the lights are also dimmed during this portion of the service. Please use your hymnal to sing the verses as indicated below.)

“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

We wear our feelings on our sleeve. The slightest perceived insult and our pride lashes out with hateful words or passive aggression. The rooster crows again and again at our thin skin. But the Lord Jesus, beaten beyond recognition, thorns pressed into His brow, nails driven into His wrists and feet, hanging naked above the mob, innocent of all charges, bears no ill will for those He came to save. For priest and Pharisee, for teacher of the law and soldier, for you and me He prays ...

“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do!”

**“JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES” LSB 447 vs 1-3
(The FIRST candle is extinguished.)**

“Today, you will be with Me in Paradise.”

We debate the destiny of the criminal who confesses faith in the last moments of his life. How can he expect a place in heaven? He’s had no time to demonstrate repentance – a change of heart. It is not fair to simply give him heaven, we think, and thus we conclude that there can be no hope for the wicked, no matter how sincere their repentance. With the rooster crowing loudly at our sinful, flawed, and

failed reasoning, the Lord Jesus cuts through our arguments, vanquishing our selfish sense of justice. The criminal who moments before acknowledges his own guilt for his sins now pleads, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom" to which Jesus replies,

"Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in paradise."

**"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES" vs 4-6
(The SECOND candle is extinguished.)**

"Behold ... Family"

The rooster crows for the children and grandchildren who have abandoned the elderly who gave them life. Old people languish day after day alone in nursing homes, some clean and bright, others dark and stinking. Son or daughter, niece or nephew may live close by, but there's no time to visit, no time to hold the bony aching hand, no time to sing a comforting song, no time to comb the soft white hair. There's work and school to think about, deadlines to meet, games to attend, our own life to live. Jesus, with His own life's blood flowing from His veins, still has time and energy for His mother. Seeing her there beside faithful John, the disciple He loves, He arranges for her care. To His mother, Jesus says,

"Woman, behold your son!"

Then to the disciple who followed Him to the cross, Jesus says,

"Behold your mother!"

**"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES" vs 7-9
(The THIRD candle is extinguished.)**

"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

Pharisees all, that's who we are when we cut ourselves off from family, friends, and neighbors who don't meet our standards, standards we seldom meet ourselves. The rooster crows as we feign purity that only belongs to Jesus. We seldom realize that it is our ugly self-righteousness that is added to the burden Jesus carries on the cross? It is not just the guilt of the murderer and molester that is laid upon Him, but our sins, too. Oh, the unfairness of it all!! Is it any wonder that Jesus cries,

"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

**"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES" stz. 10-12
(The FOURTH candle is extinguished.)**

"I Thirst"

The rooster crows when the thirsty ask us for water but we ignore them by turning a deaf ear. It is ironic that the One who offered "living water" to the adulterous woman at the well, water that would never leave her thirsty, now needs water Himself. His tongue is thick and dry, and His lips are swollen and bloodied. He has taught others that whoever gives the thirsty a cup of cold water in His name will never lose their reward, and that to give a drink to one of the least of His brothers is to give it to Him. Yet, there is no cup of cold water for Jesus in His time of need.

Thousands have heard His loving instruction, but it is only a hardened soldier who offers Him sour wine on a sponge as Jesus says,

"I thirst!"

**"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES" vs 13-15
(The FIFTH candle is extinguished.)**

"It is finished"

By now we've heard the rooster crow at every turn, every door we open, every word and action, every thought that passes through our heads. We agree with the Lord's word spoken in the time of Noah, "Every inclination of the thoughts of (man's) heart was only evil all the time." The crowing of roosters has become a deafening din. And we are sick of it. Will there ever be an end to the accusations, the charges, the guilt? Yes! That's why today is called Good Friday, because on this day all our sins were paid for when Jesus cried out from the cross,

"It is finished!"

**"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES" vs 16-18
(The SIXTH candle is extinguished.)**

"Father, into Your Hands, I commit My spirit."

Listen! All is quiet! The rooster has stopped crowing! How can this be? All our sins have been laid on Jesus and the price is paid 'in full.' At last, the enmity that began in the Garden of Eden after the 'fall into sin' is coming to an end. The promised Deliverer and the fulfillment of all the Messianic prophecies have come to pass. Now, finally, there is peace between sinners and Almighty God. Christ's fulfillment of the Law and His sacrifice on our behalf is acceptable to His Father, so He says,

"Father, into your hands I commit My spirit!"

**"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES" vs 19-21
(The SEVENTH candle is extinguished.)**

THE "PASCHAL CANDLE" is removed as the congregation whispers the words of The Lord's Prayer.

THE 'STREPITUS' is heard signifying the burial of Jesus and the closing of the tomb.

PLEASE LEAVE IN SILENCE, contemplating the suffering and death of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins, but filled with hope as we return on Easter Sunday to celebrate the fulfillment of these words of Jesus, "I will rise."

