from
Psalms
to Passion
March 20, 2016

619 Broadway                  Fargo • 701-235-7389 • www.flcfargo.org

WELCOME! If you are feeling like a sinner or a saint today...we are glad you are here.

Please make yourself at home and let us know if there is anything you need. This bulletin will help you navigate worship at First Lutheran and opportunities to serve and connect with our faith community.

WHAT ARE WE ABOUT?  
We want to make Jesus famous. It is as simple as that. Our purpose in gathering here today is make Jesus known and to know him better. Because if this isn’t about Jesus, it isn’t worth doing.

WORSHIP
We believe that all instruments, all voices and all people should praise the Lord. We do not worship a “style,” we worship Jesus.

Traditional Worship follows a liturgy and the music centers around the organ and piano. The order of worship is inserted into the bulletin. [9 and 11 a.m. Sundays in the Sanctuary on the north end of the church; 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the chapel]

Celebration Worship uses a praise band and the order of worship and song lyrics are projected on the wall. [9 and 11 a.m. Sundays and 6 p.m. Wednesdays in the Celebration Hall on the south end of the church]

Please join us in the Gathering Place after each Sunday service for coffee, cookies and conversation.

COMMUNION
The sacrament of Communion is celebrated the first Sunday and the following Wednesday of each month and welcome all to participate in this act of worship and remembrance. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Communion is also offered every Sunday in the chapel after worship, except for the first Sunday of the month.

CONNECTING
We would love to get to know you better. Peruse our website for ways to connect through service, study, or community-building events. Fill out the “connect” card in this bulletin so we can keep in touch.

OFFERING
We give tithes and offerings as an act of worship, obedience, and thanksgiving. If you are a guest, you are not expected or obligated to give.

BELONGING
If you would like to call FLC your church home, come to our “Belong” gathering the third Sunday of the month at 9 a.m. Contact Shirley Tietz for more information or with questions; stietz@flcfargo or 701-235-7389.

The mission of First Lutheran Church is to bring people into a relationship with Jesus Christ and to help them grow in the Christian faith.
Order of Worship - Sanctuary

Prelude - All Glory, Laud, and Honor - J.S. Bach; Michael Olson, organist

Readers:
Narrator: Lauryl Ivers; Jesus: Marlowe Kulish; Reader: Pr. Laurie Neill;
Crowd: Congregation

Announcements and Prayer

Song - My Song is Love Unknown - LBW 94 - stanzas 1 – 4

1 My song is love unknown, my Savior’s love to me,
2 He came from his blest throne, salvation to bestow;
3 Sometimes they strew his way and his sweet praises sing;
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?

love to the loveless shown, that they might lovingly be,
but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know.
resounding all the day hosannas to their King.
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.

Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail
But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his
Then “Cru-ci-fy!” is all their breath, and for his death they
Sweet injuried! Yet they at these themselves displease, and

flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?
life did spend; who at my need his life did spend!
thirst and cry, and for his death they thirst and cry.
gainst him rise; themselves displease, and against him rise.

5 They rise, and needs will have
6 In life, no house, no home
my dear Lord made away;
my Lord on earth might have;
a murderer they save,
in death, no friendly tomb,
the prince of life they slay.
but what a stranger gave.
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes,
What may I say? Heav’n was his home;
that he his foes from thence might free.
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing—
no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!
We began our worship service with the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. But not long after his arrival, the shouts turn from “Hosanna!” to “Crucify!”

Through the reading of the Passion (suffering) of Christ as recorded in the Book of Mark, we witness the betrayal, denial and agony of Holy Week, and hold out for the hope, glory and victory of Easter Sunday.

We are not innocent bystanders of this event. Along with the readers of this story, the congregation is the voice of the crowd, signified by bold italic print.
The Passion Gospel

Mark 14:16-72; Mark 15 from The Message

Narrator: Hear the passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to the Gospel of Mark.

After sunset, when the preparation for the Passover meal had been completed, Jesus came with the Twelve. As they were at the supper table eating, Jesus said,

Jesus: “I have something hard but important to say to you: One of you is going to hand me over to the conspirators, one who at this moment is eating with me.”

Narrator: Stunned, they started asking, one after another,

Reader: “It isn’t me, is it?”

Jesus: “It’s one of the Twelve, one who eats with me out of the same bowl. This treachery was talked of often in the Scriptures. This is no surprise. The man who turns me in is a traitor to the Son of Man, and it is better to have never been born than do this!”

Narrator: In the course of their meal, having taken and blessed the bread, Jesus broke it and gave it to them.

Jesus: “Take, this is my body.”

Narrator: Taking the chalice, he gave it to them, thanking God, and they all drank from it.

Jesus: “This is my blood, God’s new covenant, poured out for many people. I’ll not be drinking wine again until the new day when I drink it in the kingdom of God.”

Narrator: They sang a hymn and then went directly to Mount Olives. Jesus told them,

Jesus: “You’re all going to feel that your world is falling apart and that it’s my fault. There’s a Scripture that says, ‘I will strike the shepherd; the sheep will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you, leading the way to Galilee.”

Narrator: Peter blurted out,
Reader: “Even if everyone else is ashamed of you and deserts you, I won’t.”

Jesus: “Don’t be so sure. Today, this very night in fact, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.”

Reader: “Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you.”

SONG:

*Go to Dark Gethsemane* - LBW 109

*Go to dark Gethsemane,* all who feel the tempt-er’s pow’r;  
1

*Follow to the judgment hall,* view the Lord of life ar-raigned;  
2

*Cal-v’ry’s mourn-ful moun-tain climb,* there, a-dor-ing at his feet,  
3

*your Re-deem-er’s con-flict see,* Watch with him one bit-ter hour;  
4

*Oh, the worm-wood and the gall!* Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!  
5

*Mark that mir-a-cle of time,* God’s own sac-rifice com-plete.  
6

*Turn not from his griefs a-way;* learn from Je-sus Christ to pray.  
7

*Shun not suf-fering, shame, or loss;* learn from him to hear the cross.  
8

*“It is fin-ished!” hear him cry;* learn from Je-sus Christ to die.  
9

Narrator: They came to an area called Gethsemane. Jesus told his disciples,

Jesus: “Sit here while I pray.”

Narrator: He took Peter, James, and John with him. He plunged into dreadful agony.
Jesus: “My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep vigil with me.”

Narrator: Going a little ahead, he fell to the ground and prayed for a way out:

Jesus: “Papa, Father, you can—can't you?—get me out of this. Take this cup away from me. But please, not what I want—what do you want?”

Narrator: He came back from praying and found the three disciples sound asleep.

Jesus: “Simon, you went to sleep on me? Can’t you even stay awake for a single hour? Stay alert, be in prayer. Don’t be naive. Part of you is eager, ready for anything in God; but another part is as lazy and headed for danger without even realizing it.”

Narrator: He then went back and prayed the same prayer. Returning, he again found them sound asleep. They simply couldn't keep their eyes open, and they didn't have a plausible excuse.

Jesus: “Are you going to sleep all night? No—you've slept long enough. Time’s up. The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up. Let’s get going. My betrayer has arrived.”

Narrator: No sooner were the words out of his mouth when Judas, the one out of the Twelve, showed up, and with him a gang, sent by the high priests, religion scholars, and leaders, brandishing swords and clubs. The betrayer had worked out a signal with them:

Reader: “The one I kiss, that’s the one—seize him. Make sure he doesn’t get away.”

Narrator: He went straight to Jesus and said,

Reader: “Rabbi!”

Narrator: And kissed him. The others then grabbed him and roughed him up. One of the men standing there
unsheathed his sword, swung, and came down on the Chief Priest’s servant, lopping off the man’s ear.

**Narrator:** Jesus said to them,

**Jesus:** “What is this, coming after me with swords and clubs as if I were a dangerous criminal? Day after day I’ve been sitting in the Temple teaching, and you never so much as lifted a hand against me. What you in fact have done is confirm the prophetic writings.”

**Narrator:** All the disciples cut and ran. They led Jesus to the Chief Priest, where the high priests, religious leaders, and scholars had gathered together. Peter followed at a safe distance until they got to the Chief Priest’s courtyard, where he mingled with the servants and warmed himself at the fire.

**SONG:**

*Oh, Love, How Deep - LBW 88*
Narrator: The high priests conspiring with the Jewish Council looked high and low for evidence against Jesus by which they could sentence him to death. They found nothing. Plenty of people were willing to bring in false charges, but nothing added up, and they ended up canceling each other out. Then a few of them stood up and lied:

Reader: “We heard him say, ‘I am going to tear down this Temple, built by hard labor, and in three days build another without lifting a hand.’”

Narrator: But even they couldn’t agree exactly. In the middle of this, the Chief Priest stood up and asked Jesus,

Reader: “What do you have to say to the accusation?”

Narrator: Jesus was silent. He said nothing. The Chief Priest tried again, this time asking,

Reader: “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed?”

Narrator: Jesus said,

Jesus: “Yes, I am, and you’ll see it yourself:

The Son of Man seated
At the right hand of the Mighty One,
Arriving on the clouds of heaven.”

Narrator: The Chief Priest lost his temper. Ripping his clothes, he yelled,

Reader: “Did you hear that? After that do we need witnesses? You heard the blasphemy. Are you going to stand for it?”

Narrator: They condemned him, one and all and sentenced him to death. Some of the guards started spitting at him. They blindfolded his eyes, then hit him, saying,

Reader: “Who hit you? Prophesy!”

Narrator: The guards, punching and slapping, took him away.

While all this was going on, Peter was down in the courtyard. One of the Chief Priest’s servant girls came in and, seeing Peter warming himself there, looked hard at him and said,

Reader: “You were with the Nazarene, Jesus.”
Narrator: He denied it:

Reader: “I don’t know what you’re talking about.”

Narrator: He went out on the porch. A rooster crowed. The girl spotted him and began telling the people standing around,

Reader: “He’s one of them.”

Narrator: He denied it again. After a little while, the bystanders brought it up again.

Reader: “You’ve got to be one of them. You’ve got ‘Galilean’ written all over you.”

Narrator: Now Peter got really nervous and swore,

Reader: “I never laid eyes on this man you’re talking about.”

Narrator: Just then the rooster crowed a second time. Peter remembered how Jesus had said,

Jesus: “Before a rooster crows twice, you’ll deny me three times.”

Narrator: He collapsed in tears.

SONG:

What a Friend We Have in Jesus - LBW 439

1 What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
3 Are we weak and heavy-laden, burdened with a load of care?

What a privilege to carry every thing to God in prayer!
We should never be discouraged—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Precious Savior, still our refuge—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Narrator: At dawn’s first light, the high priests, with the religious leaders and scholars, arranged a conference with the entire Jewish Council. After tying Jesus securely, they took him out and presented him to Pilate. Pilate asked him,

Reader: “Are you the ‘King of the Jews’?”

Jesus: “If you say so.”

Narrator: The high priests let loose a barrage of accusations. Pilate asked again,

Reader: “Aren’t you going to answer anything? That’s quite a list of accusations.”

Narrator: Still, he said nothing. Pilate was impressed.

It was a custom at the Feast to release a prisoner, anyone the people asked for. There was one prisoner called Barabbas, locked up with the insurrectionists who had committed murder during the uprising against Rome. As the crowd came up and began to present its petition for him to release a prisoner, Pilate anticipated them:

Reader: “Do you want me to release the King of the Jews to you?”

Narrator: Pilate knew by this time that it was through sheer spite that the high priests had turned Jesus over to him. But the high priests by then had worked up the crowd to ask for the release of Barabbas. Pilate came back,

Reader: “So what do I do with this man you call King of the Jews?”
Narrator: They yelled,

**Congregation:** “Crucify him!”

Narrator: Pilate objected,

**Reader:** “But for what crime?”

Narrator: But they yelled all the louder,

**Congregation:** “Crucify him!”

Narrator: Pilate gave the crowd what it wanted, set Barabbas free and turned Jesus over for whipping and crucifixion.

[pause]

The soldiers took Jesus into the palace and called together the entire brigade. They dressed him up in purple and put a crown made from a thorn bush on his head. Then they began their mockery:

**Congregation:** “Hail, King of the Jews!”

Narrator: They banged on his head with a club, spit on him, and knelt down in mock worship. After they had had their fun, they took off the purple cape and put his own clothes back on him. Then they marched out to nail him to the cross. There was a man walking by, Simon from Cyrene. They made him carry Jesus’ cross. The soldiers brought Jesus to Golgotha, meaning “Skull Hill.” They offered him a mild painkiller, but he wouldn’t take it. And they nailed him to the cross. They divided up his clothes and threw dice to see who would get them.

**SONG:**

*Ah, Holy Jesus* - *LBW 123*
Narrator: They nailed him up at nine o’clock in the morning. The charge against him—THE KING OF THE JEWS—was printed on a sign. Along with him, they crucified two criminals, one to his right, the other to his left. People passing along the road jeered, shaking their heads in mock lament:

**Congregation:** “You bragged that you could tear down the Temple and then rebuild it in three days—so show us now! Save yourself! If you’re really God’s Son, come down from that cross!”

Narrator: The high priests, along with the religion scholars, were in the mix, poking fun at him:

Reader: “He saved others—but he can’t save himself! Messiah, is he? King of Israel? Then let him climb down from that cross. We’ll all become believers then!”

Narrator: Even the men crucified alongside him joined in the mockery. At noon the sky became extremely dark. The darkness lasted three hours. At three o’clock, Jesus groaned out of the depths, crying loudly,

**Jesus:** “My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?”

Narrator: Some of the bystanders who heard him said,

Reader: “Listen, he’s calling for Elijah.”
Narrator: Someone ran off, soaked a sponge in sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

Reader: “Let’s see if Elijah comes to take him down.”

Narrator: But Jesus, with a loud cry, gave his last breath. At that moment the Temple curtain ripped right down the middle. When the Roman captain standing guard in front of him saw that he had quit breathing, he said,

Reader: “This has to be the Son of God!”

Narrator: There were women watching from a distance, among them Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of the younger James and Joses, and Salome. When Jesus was in Galilee, these women followed and served him, and had come up with him to Jerusalem. Late in the afternoon, since it was the eve of the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a highly respected member of the Jewish Council, came. Working up his courage, he went to Pilate and asked for Jesus’ body. Pilate questioned whether he could be dead that soon and called for the captain to verify that he was really dead. Assured by the captain, he gave Joseph the corpse.

Having already purchased a linen shroud, Joseph took him down, wrapped him in the shroud, placed him in a tomb that had been cut into the rock, and rolled a large stone across the opening. Mary Magdalene and Mary, mother of Jesus, watched the burial.

SONG:

Were You There - LBW 92

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble..
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Please depart in silence.

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**NEWS&EVENTS**

*Visit our website for more detailed information. Most events require online registration, www.flcfargo.org.*

**Holy Cow Survey**

You are invited to complete an online assessment that will help First Lutheran gauge the strength, vitality, and trends in our church. This information will be valuable in helping us make decisions about the future of First. Pick up a paper copy at the front desk, or find the link to the assessment on our website.

All answers are strictly anonymous so please be candid. Please do not discuss the survey or your answers with others as this may influence their answers. Our future together is dependent on your participation and honest answers. Thank you for taking the time to invest in First’s future!

**Blood Drive**

**Thursday, March 24**

2:45 p.m. - 6 p.m.

A Christian view of blood donation can be described this way: “We give our blood; Christ gave His. We give a pint; He gave His all. Ours at best will prolong a life for a while; His without a doubt can save all forever.”

We still need more donors! Sign up at by calling Parish Nurse, Katie Kringstad, at 701-235-7389.

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**Holy Week Schedule**

**Wednesday, March 23**

1:30 p.m.  Worship with Communion, Chapel

7 p.m.  Seven Last Words of Christ Dubois Cantata, Sanctuary

**Maundy Thursday, March 24**

1:30 p.m.  Worship with Communion, Chapel

7 p.m.  Worship, Sanctuary

**Good Friday, March 25**

12-3 p.m.  The Seven Last Words of Christ Worship, Sanctuary

7 p.m.  Prayer-Around-The-Cross Worship, Celebration Hall

**Sunday, March 27 - Easter Morning**

7:30, 9 & 11 a.m.  Worship, Sanctuary

9 and 11 a.m.  Worship, Celebration Hall

* Holy Communion offered at all Easter Services

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**FLOWERS**

The flowers on the altar are in memory of Pr. Howard Cole, from Lillian, David, Beth, Laurie & Steve. The flowers on the organ are in memory of Alice McFarland’s birthday on March 25, from her children.

**EASTER LILLIES**

Would you like to sponsor an Easter Lily or flower in honor or memory of a loved one on Easter Sunday? Please go to the front desk and fill out a form. Cost is $12 each. The deadline for ordering is Tuesday, March 22.

**BAPTIZED TODAY**

Today we celebrate the baptism of:

Alice Lord Lillestol – 9 a.m., Celebration Hall

**CELEBRATE PRAYER**

Our prayer partners meet every Tuesday morning at 9 a.m. and the staff gathers daily for prayer at 10 a.m. in the chapel. Everyone welcome. The following have asked to be prayed for publicly:


**DONATE BY TEXT**

You can now make a contribution to First Lutheran Church with a quick text message! Simply send a text to 701-354-1495 with the amount you would like to contribute. Make sure to include the dollar sign before the amount. You will receive a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder name and credit or debit card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and email receipt. It’s that easy!

**YOUR MINISTRY TEAM**

- Pr. Corey Bjertness cbjertness@flcfargo.org
- Pr. Laurie Neill lneill@flcfargo.org
- Pr. Matt Cordes mcorides@flcfargo.org
- Pr. Bill Ahlfeldt bahlfeldt@flcfargo.org
- Pr. Jim Hulberg jhulberg@flcfargo.org
- Rollie Johnson rjohnson@flcfargo.org
- Kaitlyn Lundeby klundeby@flcfargo.org
- Katie Kringstad kkringstad@flcfargo.org
- Meggie DeJong mdejong@flcfargo.org

*View the entire staff online at www.flcfargo.org*

**CHURCH OFFICE:** 701-235-7389

**OFFICE HOURS:** 8 am-5 pm, M-F
THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 20 - Sunday of the Passion
9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Celebration Hall Worship
8:15 a.m. Intern Meeting, Youth Lounge
9 a.m. Belong!, Luther Room
10 a.m. FaithTalk Sunday, classrooms
10 a.m. Mission Soup Sunday, Fellowship Hall
10:10 a.m. Large Group Study, Adult Ed Room
11 a.m. First Communion Lesson, How Great Thou Art Studio
1:30 p.m. Open Door For All Nations Church, Chapel
2 p.m. HS Girls Bible Study, Youth Lounge
2:40 p.m. REEL Faith Movie - “The Young Messiah” at West Acres Cinema
3 p.m. Fibromyalgia Support Group Meeting, Library

Monday, March 21
8 a.m. Healthy Feet, Library
9 a.m. Quilters, Fellowship Hall
Noon Homeless & Hungry Steering Meeting, Luther Room
6:30 p.m. Zumba, Gym
6:30 p.m. Legacy Academic Awards Dinner, Celebration Hall
7:15 p.m. Dubois Orchestra Rehearsal, Sanctuary
8:30 p.m. Dubois Dress Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Tuesday, March 22
6:45 a.m. NO Men’s Breakfast Believe Bible Study
9 a.m. Prayer Partners, Heritage Room
Noon NO Large Group Believe Bible Study
1 p.m. Staff Meeting, Adult Ed Room
1:30 p.m. Learn to Knit & Crochet, The Gathering Place
5:30 p.m. Yoga, CrossTalk Café
6 p.m. Tae Kwon Do, Gym
7 p.m. Financial Peace, CrossTalk Café

Wednesday, March 23
8 a.m. Meal Prep for Churches United, Celebration Kitchen

STAY CONNECTED

I WOULD LIKE TO:
__ request a prayer
___________________________
__ learn more about First Lutheran
___________________________
__ receive a pastoral call
___________________________
__ receive daily devotions in my email
___________________________
__ update my information
___________________________
Name ___________________________________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________________
Email ___________________________________________________________________
Phone ___________________________________________________________________

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Watch sermons online:
www.flcfargo.org

Watch traditional services on TV
Fargo channel 68
6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m. Sundays
Moorhead channel 69
7 p.m. Tuesdays; 5 p.m. Sundays

Listen to traditional services on the radio
WDAY; 9 a.m. Sundays

Monday, March 28 - CHURCH CLOSED