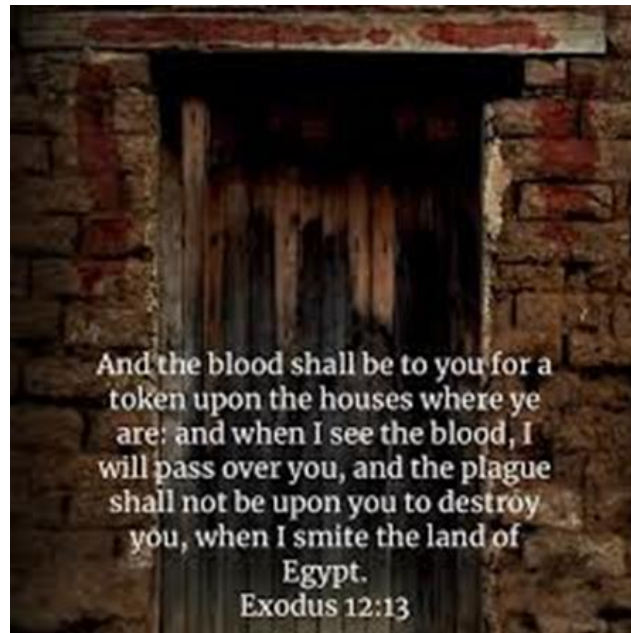


Midweek Lenten Worship
The Suffering Savior In Scripture
The Road to Easter Begins in Eden
“The Blood That Saves”
Exodus 12:1-13
March 11, 2026
Heritage Lutheran Church
Apple Valley, MN
6:30 p.m.



1. Welcome

2. The Confession Of Sin and Absolution:

Pastor Dearly Beloved, we have come together in the presence of God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at His hand, to set forth His most worthy praise, to hear His holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and salvation. O come, let us worship Him! Let us kneel and bow down before Him. Let us confess our sins with penitent hearts and obtain forgiveness by His infinite grace and mercy.

Congregation Almighty and most merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy law. We have done those things which we should not have done, and we have not done those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O Lord! Spare us and restore us, according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. For His sake grant that we may live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name.

Pastor The almighty and merciful Lord has granted us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, grace for true repentance and amendment of life, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

3. Hymn #300 "Sweet The Moments Rich In Blessing"

1 Sweet the moments, rich in blessing,
Which before the cross we spend.
Life and health and peace possessing
From the sinner's dying Friend.

2 Here we rest in wonder, viewing
All our sins on Jesus laid;
Here we see redemption flowing
From the sacrifice He made.

3 Here we find the dawn of heaven
While upon the cross we gaze,
See our trespasses forgiven,
And our songs of triumph raise.

4 Oh, that, near the cross abiding,
We may to the Savior cleave,
Naught with Him our hearts dividing,
All for Him content to leave!

5 Lord, in loving contemplation
Fix our hearts and eyes on Thee
Till we taste Thy full salvation
And Thine unveiled glory see.

4. The Versicles and Gloria Patri

Pastor O Lord, Open my lips.

♪ **Congregation** And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

Pastor Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

♪ **Congregation** Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: forevermore, Amen.

5. Psalm 78:1,4,12-29 (read responsively by whole verse)

¹ Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth!

⁴ We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

¹² In the sight of their fathers he performed wonders in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.

¹³ He divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap.

¹⁴ In the daytime he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a fiery light.

¹⁵ He split rocks in the wilderness and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.

¹⁶ He made streams come out of the rock and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

¹⁷ Yet they sinned still more against him, rebelling against the Most High in the desert.

¹⁸ They tested God in their heart by demanding the food they craved.

¹⁹ They spoke against God, saying, "Can God spread a table in the wilderness?"

²⁰ He struck the rock so that water gushed out and streams overflowed. Can he also give bread or provide meat for his people?"

²¹ Therefore, when the LORD heard, he was full of wrath; a fire was kindled against Jacob; his anger rose against Israel,

²² because they did not believe in God and did not trust his saving power.

²³ Yet he commanded the skies above and opened the doors of heaven,

²⁴ and he rained down on them manna to eat and gave them the grain of heaven.

²⁵ Man ate of the bread of the angels; he sent them food in abundance.

²⁶ He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens, and by his power he led out the south wind;

²⁷ he rained meat on them like dust, winged birds like the sand of the seas;

²⁸ he let them fall in the midst of their camp, all around their dwellings.

²⁹ And they ate and were well filled, for he gave them what they craved.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

6. Scripture Lesson: *Passion Reading*

The Sufferings and Death of Our Lord Jesus Christ According To The Four Evangelists

By John C. Lawrenz

[Following the New International Version translation and patterned after the *Passion History* as printed in the *Lutheran Lectionary* of the former Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America.]

3. Jesus Before the Sanhedrin

While He was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns, and weapons. With Him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the Law, and elders of the people. Judas was leading them.

Jesus knowing all that was going to happen to Him, went out and asked them, "Who is it you want?"

"Jesus of Nazareth," they replied.

"I am He," Jesus said. Judas the traitor was standing there with them. When Jesus said, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground.

Again He asked them, "Who is it you want?"

And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth."

"I told you that I am He," Jesus answered. "If you are looking for Me, then let these men go." This happened so that the words He had spoken would be fulfilled: "I have not lost one of those You gave me.

Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them. "The one I kiss is the man; arrest Him and lead Him away under guard."

Going at once to Jesus, Judas approached Jesus to kiss Him and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed Him.

Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss? Friend, do what you came for."

Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested Him. When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, should we strike with our swords?" One of Jesus' companions, Simon Peter, reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the High Priest, cutting off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

"No more of this! Put your sword back into its sheath," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given Me? Do you think I cannot call on My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels? But how, then, would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?" And He touched the man's ear and healed him.

At that time Jesus said to the crowd, the chief Priests, the officers of the Temple guard, and the elders, who had come for Him, "Am I leading a rebellion; that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture Me? Every day I sat in the Temple courts teaching, and you did not lay a hand on Me. But this is your hour - when darkness reigns! This has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." All the disciples deserted Him and fled.

Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound Him and took Him away.

A young man, wearing nothing but a linen garment, was following Jesus. When they seized him, he fled naked, leaving his garment behind.

They brought Jesus first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the High Priest that year. Then they took him to Caiaphas, the High Priest, where the chief priests, elders, and teachers of the people had assembled. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it would be good if one man died for the people.

Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the High Priest, he went with Jesus into the High Priest's courtyard, but Peter had to wait outside at

the door. The other disciple, who was known to the High Priest, came back, spoke to the girl on duty there, and brought Peter in. It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome.

One of the servant girls of the High Priest on duty at the door came by. When she saw Peter seated there in the firelight warming himself she looked closely at him and said, "You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus. Are you not another of that man's disciples?"

He replied, "Girl, I am not. I don't know Him. I don't know or understand what you're talking about." Simon Peter went out into the entryway and the rooster crowed.

A little later, when the servant girl again saw him there, she said to those standing around, "This fellow is one of them." Someone else saw him and said, "You are one of them."

Again he denied it, with an oath, "I am not! I don't know the man!"

About an hour later, another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with Him, for he is a Galilean." Those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them, for your accent gives you away." One of the High Priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, "Didn't I see you with Him in the olive grove?"

Then Peter began to call down curses on himself, and he swore to them, "I don't know this man you're talking about." Just as he was speaking the rooster crowed. And the Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." And he went outside, broke down, and wept bitterly.

Now Annas had sent Him, still bound, to Caiaphas the High Priest.

The High Priest questioned Jesus about His disciples and His teaching.

"I have spoken openly to the world," Jesus replied. "I always taught in synagogues or at the Temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret. Why question Me? Ask those who heard Me. Surely they know what I said."

When Jesus had said this, one of the officials nearby struck Him in the face. "Is that any way to answer the High Priest?" he demanded.

"If I said something wrong," Jesus replied, "speak up about it. But if I spoke the truth, why did you hit Me?"

The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put Him to death, but they did not find any. Many testified falsely against Him, but their statements did not agree.

Finally two came forward and declared, "We heard Him say, I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days. I will destroy this manmade temple and in three days will build another, not made by man." Yet even then their testimony did not agree.

Then the High Priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Are You not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against You?" But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer.

Again the High Priest asked Him, 'Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One? I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God.'

"I am," said Jesus, "it is as you say. But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Then the High Priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?"

"He is worthy of death," they answered.

Some began to spit at Him. They blindfolded Him, and struck Him with their fists. Others slapped Him and said, "Prophecy to us, Christ. Who hit you?" The men who were guarding Jesus began to mock and to beat Him and to say many other insulting things to Him.

7. **A Responsory** *page 122*

Pastor O Lord, have mercy upon us.

♪ **Congregation** Thanks be to You, O Lord!

8. **Hymn #305 "Not All The Blood Of Beasts"** (Tune: Franconia, ELH #185 "Within The Father's House")

1 Not all the blood of beasts

On Jewish altars slain

Could give the guilty conscience peace

Or wash away the stain.

2 But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb,
Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name
And richer blood than they.

3 My faith would lay her hand
On that dear head of Thine
While like a penitent I stand
And there confess my sin.

4 My soul looks back to see
The burden Thou didst bear
When hanging on the cursed tree
And knows her guilt was there.

5 Believing, we rejoice
To see the curse remove;
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice
And sing His bleeding love.

9. Sermon "The Blood That Saves" *Exodus 12:1-13*

¹ The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ² "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴ And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶ and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.^[a] ⁷ "Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸ They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰ And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹ In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. ¹² For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

10. The Offering

11. The Versicle & Canticle

Pastor Let my prayers rise before you as incense:

♪ **Congregation** And the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

12. The Nunc Dimittis

♪ **Congregation** Lord, now You let your servant depart in peace according to Your Word
For my eyes have seen Your Salvation which you have prepared before the face of all people.
A Light to lighten the Gentiles; and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end, Amen.

13. The Prayers, beginning with The Kyrie

♪ **Congregation** Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

14. The Lord's Prayer

♪ **Congregation** 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.

15. Luther's Evening Prayer

Congregation In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray You to forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

16. The Benedicamus & Benediction

Pastor Let us bless the Lord.

♪ **Congregation** Thanks be to God.

Pastor The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

17. Closing Hymn #262 "Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah"

1 Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy pow'ful hand.
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven
Feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee,
I will ever give to Thee.

Announcements

Midweek Lenten Services- We have a midweek Lenten service each week at 6:30 p.m. We also have supper each week before the service at 5:15 pm.

Lenten Theme – The Suffering Savior In Scripture - *The road to Easter begins in Eden*

Wednesdays 6:30pm with Supper starting at 5:15 pm.

Ash Wednesday, Feb 18 “From the Heart”

Wednesday Feb 25 - “The First Promise of a Wounded Savior” –Genesis 3:4-15

Wednesday Mar 4 – “A Substitute on the Mountain” – Genesis 22:1-14

Wednesday Mar 11 - “The Blood That Saves” Exodus 12:1-13

Wednesday March 18 – “Psalms of the Suffering Righteous One” – Psalm 22

Wed March 25 - “The Servant Who Suffers For Us” - Isaiah 52:13–53:12

Time & Talent Survey – If you haven’t taken the Time & Talent Survey yet, we will have an electronic version (tablet) circulating during fellowship time for the next few Sundays. Please plan to take a few minutes to fill it out. Thanks!

Women’s Bible Study – The Monday night Women's Bible Class meets at church at 6:30 p.m. Contact Ruth for more information.

Men’s Bible Study – Men’s Bible study meets on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship - Volunteers are always needed to provide fellowship food every Sunday. Please sign up on the volunteer board.

Choir – The choir meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30, but this will switch to 7:30 during Lent. New members are always welcome!

Cleaning Schedule – Help is needed to clean the sanctuary, narthex and gym. There is a sign-up sheet on the volunteer board if you are able to help out. Thank you!

Budget Update – We will have an updated member-giving scorecard in March. If you have any questions, please speak with church treasurer Phil Holz or church president Dave Paulsen.

Fiesta Night – Fiesta Night is coming up on Sunday, March 22nd starting at 5 pm. Plan to come and enjoy food, fellowship and fun while supporting the youth group. This fundraiser helps support the youth that plan to attend the LYA convention in July.



12401 Johnny Cave Ridge Road, Apple Valley, MN 55124

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Fiesta Night!

AT HERITAGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 22 • 5-7 PM

GAMES • FOOD • PRIZES!

All proceeds benefit
Heritage Youth for
the upcoming LYA Trip!

