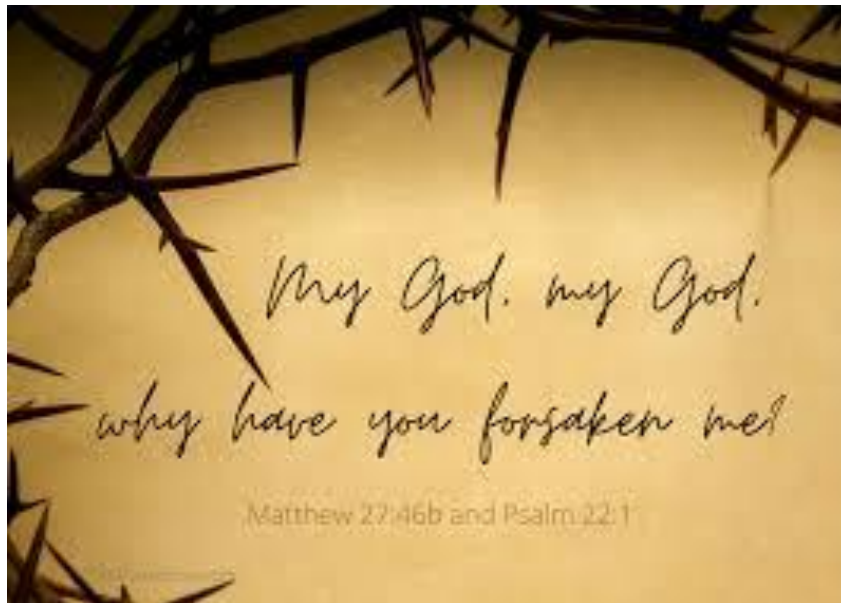


Midweek Lenten Worship
The Suffering Savior In Scripture
The Road to Easter Begins in Eden
“Psalms Of The Suffering Righteous One”
Psalm 22
March 18, 2026
Heritage Lutheran Church
Apple Valley, MN
6:30 p.m.



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 #297 “Stricken, Smitten, And Afflicted”

1 Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,
See Him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ by man rejected;
Yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet,
David's Son, yet David's Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it:
'Tis the true and faithful Word.

2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,
Was there ever grief like His?
Friends through fear His cause disowning,
Foes insulting His distress;
Many hands were raised to wound Him,
None would interpose to save;
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him
Was the stroke that Justice gave.

3 Ye who think of sin but lightly
Nor suppose the evil great
Here may view its nature rightly,
Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the Sacrifice appointed,
See who bears the awful load;
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed,
Son of Man and Son of God.

4 Here we have a firm foundation;
Here the refuge of the lost;
Christ's the Rock of our salvation,
His the name of which we boast.
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded
Who on Him their hope have built.

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. 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.]

4. Jesus Before Pilate

Very early in the morning, at daybreak, the chief priests with the elders, the teachers of the Law, and the whole Sanhedrin met together, and Jesus was led before them. “If You are the Christ,” they said, “tell us.”

Jesus answered, "If I tell you, you will not believe Me, and if I asked you, you would not answer. But from now on, the Son of man will be seated at the right hand of the mighty God."

They all asked, "Are You then the Son of God?"

He replied, "You are right in saying I am."

Then they said, "Why do we need any more testimony? We have heard it from His own lips."

The whole assembly rose. They bound Jesus and led Him from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor and handed Him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor.

When Judas, who betrayed Him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty silver coins to the chief priests and the elders. "I have sinned," he said, "for I have betrayed innocent blood." "What is that to us?" they replied. "That's your responsibility." So Judas threw the money into the Temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself.

The chief priests picked up the coins and said, "It is against the Law to put this into the treasury, since it is blood money." So they decided to use the money to buy the potter's field as a burial place for foreigners. That is why it has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled. "They took the thirty silver coins, the price set on Him by the people of Israel, and they used them to buy the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."

By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness the Jews did not enter the palace. They wanted to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate came out to them and asked, "What charges are you bringing against this man?"

"If He were not a criminal," they replied, "we would not have handed Him over to you."

Pilate said, "Take Him yourselves and judge Him by your own law."

"But we have no right to execute anyone," the Jews objected. This happened so that the words Jesus had spoken indicating the kind of death He was going to die would be fulfilled.

Then the chief priests and elders began to accuse Him, saying, "We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Christ, a king."

Pilate then went back inside the palace and summoned Jesus. Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked Him, "Are You the king of the Jews?"

"Is that your idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about Me?"

"Do You think I am a Jew?" Pilate replied. "It was Your people and Your chief priests who handed You over to me. What is it You have done?"

Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, My servants would fight to prevent My arrest by the Jews. But now My kingdom is from another place."

"You are a king, then!" said Pilate.

Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to Me."

"What is truth?" Pilate asked. With this he went out to the Jews, and announced to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no basis for a charge against this man."

The chief priests and elders accused Jesus of many things. Pilate asked Him, "Don't You hear how many things they are accusing You of?" Jesus gave no answer. So again Pilate asked Him, "Aren't You going to answer?" But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge - to the great amazement of the governor.

The chief priests and elders insisted, "He stirs up the people all over Judea by His teaching. He started in Galilee and has come all the way here."

On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean. When he learned that Jesus was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

When Herod saw Jesus, he was greatly pleased, because for a long time he had been wanting to see Him perform some miracle. He plied Him with many questions, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the teachers of the Law were standing there, vehemently accusing Him. Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked Him. Dressing Him in an elegant robe, they sent Him back to Pilate. That day Herod and Pilate became friends - before this they had been enemies.

6. A Responsory page 122

Pastor O Lord, have mercy upon us.

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

7. Hymn #334/335 "O Sacred Head Now Wounded" (verses 1,2,3,4,6)

1 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.

2 Men mock and taunt and jeer Thee,
Thou noble face of Christ;
Though mighty worlds shall fear Thee
How art Thou now despised?
How art thou pale with anguish,
With sore abuse and scorn!
How doth Thy face now languish
That once was bright as morn!

3 Now from Thy cheeks has vanished
Their color, once so fair;
From Thy red lips is banished
The splendor that was there.
Grim death, with cruel rigor,
Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;
Thus Thou has lost Thy vigor,
Thy strength, in this sad strife.

4 What Thou, my Lord, hast 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,
Vouchsafe to me Thy grace.

6 What language shall I borrow
To thank Thee, dearest Friend,
For this, Thy dying sorrow,
Thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever!
And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never,
Outlive my love for Thee.

8. Sermon "Abandoned On The Cross: Jesus' Greatest Suffering" Psalm 22

¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

² O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

³ Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴ In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵ To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶ But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

⁷ All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

⁸ "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"

⁹ Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.
¹⁰ On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God.
¹¹ Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.
¹² Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
¹³ they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.
¹⁴ I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;
¹⁵ my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.
¹⁶ For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet—
¹⁷ I can count all my bones—they stare and gloat over me;
¹⁸ they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.
¹⁹ But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid!
²⁰ Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog!
²¹ Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!
²² I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
²⁴ For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.
²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him.
²⁶ The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever!
²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.
²⁸ For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.
²⁹ All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.
³⁰ Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
³¹ they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.
 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.

9. The Offering

10. Heritage Choir - Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord, from "Elijah" Mendelssohn

Cast thy burden upon the Lord; and He shall sustain thee:
 He never will suffer the righteous to fall; He is at thy right hand.
 Thy mercy, Lord, is great, and far above the heav'ns.
 Let none be made ashamed that wait upon Thee!

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 #308 "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross"

1 When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that harm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

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 has switched to 7:30 during Lent. If you are interested in singing with the choir but don’t have time for the weekly rehearsals, please ask Klaudia or Julie about some of the easy-to-learn things in the works.

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 have updated the member-giving scorecard through the end of February. If you have any questions, please speak with church treasurer Phil Holz or church president Dave Paulsen.

<u>Member Giving Scorecard</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Target</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>Annual Target</u>
Member General Fund Giving	\$215,006	\$222,069	(\$7,063)	\$360,000
Estate Gift	\$42,200	\$0	\$42,200	\$0
School Deficit Reduction Giving Target	\$18,546	21,411	(\$2,865)	\$32,117
Hike for Heritage	\$17,517	\$0	\$17,517	\$0
Accrued Matching Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Member Giving	\$293,269	\$243,480	\$49,789	\$392,117

Fiesta Night – Fiesta Night is coming up this 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.



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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!

