

Good Friday

April 7th, 2023



MEMORIAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Welcome. We're grateful you are here today for worship. As you enter the Sanctuary, please use the time for prayer and meditation before we continue together in the service.

Meditation in Music

Stacie Link, harp

Gathering

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Opening Prayer

Let us pray,

Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

The congregation may remain seated.

Gospel

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.
(Congregation reads the bold text)

After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. ²Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. ³**So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons.** ⁴Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" ⁵**They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth."** Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. ⁶When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. ⁷Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" **And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth."** ⁸Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go." ⁹This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." ¹⁰Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. ¹¹Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

The first candle is extinguished.

Hymn: “Jesus, I will Ponder Now” ELW #345, verse 1

**Jesus, I will ponder now
on your holy passion;
let your Spirit now endow
me for meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith
may the image cherish
of your suff’ring, pain, and death,
that I may not perish.**

¹²So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. ¹³First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year.

¹⁴Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

¹⁵Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, ¹⁶but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷The woman said to Peter, “You are not also one of this man’s disciples, are you?” **He said, “I am not.”** ¹⁸Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

¹⁹Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. ²⁰Jesus answered, “I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. ²¹Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.” ²²**When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?”** ²³Jesus answered, “If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?” ²⁴Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

²⁵Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, “You are not also one of his disciples, are you?” **He denied it and said, “I am not.”** ²⁶One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, “Did I not see you in the garden with him?” ²⁷**Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.**

The second candle is extinguished

Hymn: “Stay With Me” ELW #348

**Stay with me,
remain here with me,
watch and pray.
Watch and pray.**

²⁸Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. ²⁹So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" ³⁰**They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."** ³¹Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." **The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death."** ³²(This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

³³Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. ³⁹But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ⁴⁰**They shouted in reply, "Not this man, but Barabbas!"** Now Barabbas was a bandit.

The third candle is extinguished.

Hymn: "Ah, Holy Jesus" ELW #349, verse 1

**Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.**

¹Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ²And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. ³**They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face.** ⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" ⁶**When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"** Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." ⁷**The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."**

The fourth candle is extinguished.

Hymn: “Ah, Holy Jesus” ELW #349, verse 2

**Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.**

Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. ⁹He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰Pilate therefore said to him, “Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?” ¹¹Jesus answered him, “You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.” ¹²From then on Pilate tried to release him, **but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.”**

¹³When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge’s bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, “Here is your King!” ¹⁵**They cried out, “Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!”** Pilate asked them, “Shall I crucify your King?” **The chief priests answered, “We have no king but the emperor.”** ¹⁶Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

The fifth candle is extinguished.

Hymn: “Stay With Me” ELW #348

**Stay with me,
remain here with me,
watch and pray.
Watch and pray.**

So they took Jesus; ¹⁷and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” ²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹**Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’”** ²²Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.”

The sixth candle is extinguished.

Hymn: “Were You There” ELW #353, verse 1

**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?**

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴**So they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.”** This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

“They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.”

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” ²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

The final candle is extinguished.

³¹Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. ³²Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. ³⁵(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) ³⁶These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, “None of his bones shall be broken.” ³⁷And again another passage of scripture says, “They will look on the one whom they have pierced.”

³⁸After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. ³⁹Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Hymn: *“Were You There When They Crucified My Lord”* ELW #353, verse 5

**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?**

Bidding Prayer

Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church throughout the world.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ.
By your Holy Spirit guide the church
and gather it throughout the world.
Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name,
and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for Elizabeth Eaton and Amy Current, our bishops, for Kathleen our pastor,
for all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy.
Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors,
other ministers, and lay leaders.
Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church,
and help each of us in our various vocations
to do faithfully the work to which you have called us.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church.
Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism.
Give them new birth as your children,
and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity.
Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son.
Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith,
and keep us united in the fellowship of love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses.
Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own
may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace
all those who call out to you under different names.
Bring an end to inter-religious strife,
and make us more faithful witnesses
of the love made known to us in your Son.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity
so that all may long to know you and find peace in you.
Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace
in the world and in the lives of Christians,
and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us pray for God's creation.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
you are the creator of a magnificent universe.
Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care
and bring all things to fulfillment in you.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
you are the champion of the poor and oppressed.
In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority,
so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom,
and a share in the goodness of your creation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those in need.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
you give strength to the weary
and new courage to those who have lost heart.
Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers,
free those unjustly deprived of liberty,
and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease.
Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble,
that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Procession of the Cross

With the cross at the back, all turn to face it.

Behold, the life-giving Cross on which hung the salvation of the world.
Come, let us adore. Come, let us adore.

As the cross reaches the center of the sanctuary

Behold, the life-giving Cross on which hung the salvation of the world.
Come, let us adore. Come, let us adore.

As the cross reaches the front of the sanctuary

Behold, the life-giving Cross on which hung the salvation of the world.
Come, let us adore. Come, let us adore.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you. By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

All are invited to come forward and reverence the cross. You may kneel before the cross or touch it. Then depart in silence as you feel ready. Our worship together continues on Easter morning at either 7 AM or 9 AM.

Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or emily@mlcnevada.org, or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

*Prayers for Sandy Golden and Bev Sorem and their families
following the death of their mother, Evelyn Winterboer*

Prayers for Donna See and family following the death of her husband, Bill See.

Prayers for Betty Runge and family following the death of her husband, Leo Runge

Prayers for Judy and Kip Farthing following the death of their son, Wade Farthing

Prayers for Susan Radke and family following the death of her husband, Jerry Radke

Deb Parker	Jean Smith	Norma Dannan
Richard Moats	Maddie Dunham	<i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
<i>friend of Jerry & Diane Eilers</i>	Annette Dalthorp	Michael Neal
Jan Seibel	Ellie Lynch	Jami Tharp
Nan Jungst	Ernie Ruhde	Fred Samuelson
Lily Miller	Sierra Parr	Larry Christian
Jeanie & Jerry Gibson	<i>cousin of Kim Stieler</i>	Jaylee Bartleson
Marsha Kane	Janet Jacques	Sheila Collingwood
Pr. Marcia Kisner	Easton Farrington	<i>mother of Lyndsey De Vos</i>
Marlene Waddell	Janice Hartz	Judy Coverdale
<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano- Goettsch</i>	Jim Dalthorp	Family and friends of +James Stephens
Sandy Muesburger	Connie Krupp	George Forsyth
<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano- Goettsch</i>	Randy Matthews	Janeen Driscoll
John Bass	<i>friend of Mike Coverdale</i>	Lynn Harris
<i>son-in-law of Ron & Gloria Jacobson</i>	Jackie Byers	Julie Sutherland
Denise Rehor	<i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>	Jan Cook
Carol Vincent	Donna See	
Cassie Harrell	Katie Brockmeier	
	<i>granddaughter-in-law of Ruth Brockmeier</i>	

Announcements

Spring-themed Faith Time April 12th

Our last Wednesday-night Faith Time of the school year will welcome in Spring! Join us for pizza and a movie plus Spring-themed activities this Wednesday, April 12th beginning at 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall.

THANK YOU, Snow Plowers!

We've had quite a few snowy weekends this winter, and a team of faithful volunteers have worked hard (and at all hours) to keep our parking lot clear of snow. *Thank you* to all who quietly take on this stewardship task so that we may safely worship together.

Camping with Memorial September 23rd - 24th

Planning for our annual camping outing at Hickory Grove is in the works! It's not too early to reserve your spot for the weekend of September 23/24: **please note that if you intend to stay the night, you must secure your own campsite by contacting the campground.** Stay tuned for more details for this fun weekend!

Attention! Memorial Members Wanted for Synod Assembly!

Our Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly is coming up May 15-16. This year's business proceedings will be conducted entirely virtually on a Monday and Tuesday evening from 5:30 -8:30 PM. Memorial needs two lay members to attend virtually on our behalf. Please e-mail Pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or call the office to ask any questions or to let us know if you are interested in serving as a voting member. This is an exciting opportunity to be involved in some unique work of the church and it's made a bit more accessible by nature of being online this year.

Unused Tennis Balls Needed

Do you have unused tennis balls that need a home? Please bring a few to the church office—our custodian, Mike Coverdale, will use them as a cleaning tool. Thank you!

Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/give> or by scanning the QR code.



Save the Date

Spring-themed Faith Time

When: Wednesday, April 12th, 6:00pm

Beer & Theology at Old Chicago

When: Thursday, April 13th, 6:30pm

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

When: Sunday, April 30th during 9:00am worship service

Synod Assembly (online)

When: Evenings of May 15th and 16th

Camping with Memorial

Please note that if you intend to spend the night, you must reserve your own campsite by contacting the campground.

When: September 23rd - 24th

Holy Week Services

April
2 **Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday | 9:00am***
Stations of the Cross Egg Hunt to follow service

April
6 **Maundy Thursday | 7:00pm***
Holy Communion Celebration

April
7 **Good Friday | 7:00pm***
Meditative harp music will be provided 30 minutes
before worship begins

April
9 **Easter Dawn | 7:00am****
Simple breakfast provided between services | 7:30 - 8:45am
Easter - He is Risen! | 9:00am*

** This service will be held in-person as well as livestreamed through YouTube and Facebook*

*** This service will be held in-person only*

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Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry
Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement
Mike Coverdale, Custodian

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