

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
*fill me with life anew,*  
that I may love  
what thou dost love,  
and do what thou wouldst do.





First Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
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APRIL 2, 2026

MAUNDY THURSDAY

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## **WE PREPARE OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP**

*As our Lenten observance comes to an end, we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. These final three days of Holy Week have become known as the Tridium and their services (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil) are considered continuous rather than stand alone. Which is why there is no Sending or Dismissal at the end of these services and the congregation is asked to leave in silence until we rejoin for the following service.*

*Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment to love one another, and his request that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy poured out on us by Christ; we carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.*

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **WE LIFT OUR PRAYERS AND PRAISE TO GOD**

INVOCATION

We gather together in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Written by Nolan Williams, Jr.)*

You knew your hour had come. You knew your betrayer. You knew your enemies. You knew that the straw vote would not be in your favor. But you loved unto the end.

**Thank you for loving us, even unto death. Teach us to love like you love. Teach us to love each other, to love even our enemies, like you loved us.**

You took on the form of a servant, washing the feet of those whom you disciplined. You defined humility and servanthood. You are he who was surely sent from God.

**Thank you for serving for us. Teach us to be servants without fail, to make humility our constant companion and to seek no glory for ourselves. Remind us when we forget.**

On that solemn evening, you surrounded yourself with friends and enemies, persons of faith and persons of ill will.

**Help us to be able to always emulate you when we are surrounded by our friends and especially when we are surrounded by our enemies.**

You have established a “new commandment;” help us to live it out in every moment, in every aspect of our lives, in our families, in our churches, in our communities, and throughout the world.

**On this Holy Day, we gather to remember again the miracle that you performed in our lives. You have brought us into your marvelous light. At great cost to you, you have given us new life and life eternal. Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

#341

*“Now Behold the Lamb”*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD**

FIRST LESSON (*Pew Bible p. 51*)

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

Our first reading is from the Old Testament book of Exodus, the twelfth chapter, beginning with verse one.

12 <sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup> This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup> Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. <sup>4</sup> If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion

to the number of people who eat of it. <sup>11</sup> This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. <sup>12</sup> For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. <sup>13</sup> The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. <sup>14</sup> This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

This is God's Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON (*Pew Bible p. 933*)

1 Corinthians 11:23-36

Our Epistle Reading is from the New Testament, the Apostle Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth, the eleventh chapter, beginning with verse twenty-three.

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, <sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>25</sup> In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." <sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

This is God's Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able for the reading of the gospel.*

GOSPEL (*Pew Bible p. 876*)

John 13:1-35

Our Gospel is from the Gospel according to Saint John, the thirteenth chapter, beginning with verse **one**.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup> The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup> got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup> Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that

was tied around him. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

<sup>12</sup>After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? <sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup>Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup>If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”

<sup>18</sup>I do not speak of all of you. I know the ones I have chosen; but *it is* that the Scripture may be fulfilled, ‘*He who eats My bread has lifted up his heel against Me.*’ <sup>19</sup>From now on I am telling you before *it* comes to pass, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am *He*. <sup>20</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.”

<sup>21</sup>When Jesus had said this, He became troubled in spirit, and testified and said, “Truly, truly, I say to you, that one of you will betray Me.” <sup>22</sup>The disciples *began* looking at one another, at a loss *to know* of which one He was speaking. <sup>23</sup>There was reclining on Jesus’ bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved. <sup>24</sup>So Simon Peter gestured to him, and said to him, “Tell *us* who it is of whom He is speaking.” <sup>25</sup>He, leaning back thus on Jesus’ bosom, \*said to Him, “Lord, who is it?” <sup>26</sup>Jesus then answered, “That is the one for whom I shall dip the morsel and give it to him.” So when He had dipped the morsel, He took and gave it to Judas, *the son* of Simon Iscariot. <sup>27</sup>After the morsel, Satan then entered into him. Therefore Jesus said to him, “What you do, do quickly.” <sup>28</sup>Now no one of those reclining *at the table* knew for what purpose He had said this to him. <sup>29</sup>For some were supposing, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus was saying to him, “Buy the things we have need of for the feast”; or else, that he should give something to the poor. <sup>30</sup>So after receiving the morsel he went out immediately; and it was night.

<sup>31</sup> Therefore when he had gone out, Jesus \*said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SONG OF THE DAY

#708

*“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”*

MESSAGE

PASTOR MIKE KNAUFF

*“Beyond the Golden Rule”*

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: Response *“Have mercy and hear us”*

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

GRACE NOTE CHOIR

*“Thy Will Be Done”*

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OFFERTORY

**On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,  
the emblem of suff’ring and shame;  
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best  
for a world of lost sinners was slain.  
So I’ll cherish the old rugged cross,  
till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross,  
and exchange it some day for a crown.**

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## **WE CELEBRATE OUR LORD’S SUPPER**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread

and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup and gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray...

**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.**

#### DISTRIBUTION

*We believe by sharing the consecrated elements of bread and wine we receive the real presence of Christ's body and blood and by Christ's sacrifice the forgiveness of our sins. We invite those who are baptized and share this belief to join us. Children not receiving communion may come forward for a blessing. Holy Communion will be served at the altar rail this evening. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. You may choose white grape juice or red wine. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please return to your seats by a side aisle.*

#### SONGS DURING DISTRIBUTION

#472 "Eat This Bread"  
#471 "Let Us Break Bread Together"  
#468 "Around You, O Lord Jesus"

#### POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

And now may this body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

#### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray...

**Heavenly Father, as you did not spare your own Son, but gave him up to die on the cross for us all: Grant that we who have received his body and blood in the sacrament may live in him and he in us, so that, as your children, we may walk in your ways and serve you all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy**

**Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR**

*During the reading of Psalm 22 (Bible p. 434) the altar is stripped of all items. This is to symbolize Christ, stripped of His power and glory, is now in the hands of His captors. There is no benediction, no postlude as our story and service continue with tomorrow's Good Friday gathering. We leave the sanctuary in silence.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GET WELL SOON!** Jane Winston has moved. If you would like to send her a get well soon card, please contact the office for her new address.

**PENNY POWER:** The Penny Power focus for March was Camp Magical Moments. In April, Penny Power will be helping the Christian Motorcycle Association (CMA) to spread the love of Jesus. CMA is a non-profit, interdenominational ministry dedicated to reaching people for Christ in the highways and byways through the passion of motorcycling.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Bible study will conclude at the end of April. The Ladies' Book Club is tackling the book of Acts. Join us as we study how the Holy Spirit worked through the Apostles to spread the Gospel through the known world. There are lots of great stories to enjoy as we follow Peter and then Paul in their leadership roles. We will meet Rhoda and Lydia, and be shipwrecked with Paul. You won't want to miss it! We meet Wednesdays from 2 to 3 pm. As always, there is no outside reading or study, and no extra book to buy. Just bring your Bible – and maybe a friend. If you forget your Bible or don't have one, the church owns many for your use. (So – no excuses!)

**NEW COUNTERS NEEDED:** The Finance Ministry Team is looking for two people to form another counting team. The team will only need to count the offering after church once a month. Please contact Paul Bayless or May Hustad if you are interested.

**CALLING ALL TECH-MINDED INDIVIDUALS!** We need more help with our worship service livestream. Our online community has expanded. We currently stream to almost 100 online viewers each week. This is an amazing platform to reach out to those beyond our church walls. This opportunity is open to our high school and college

students, as well as anyone who is interested in learning a new skill. Please contact Paul Bayless for more information.

## **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

- ◆ FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD – GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER VIGIL FROM 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- ◆ FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD – GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP @ 7:15 PM
  - ◇ This “Tenebrae” Service will include the tradition of darkening the sanctuary candle by candle as meditations are given on each of Jesus’ last words from the cross. It will also include special music by our Grace Note Choir and Pastor’s “Were You There?” solo. This powerful worship service recalls Jesus’ great love for us in sacrificing himself on a cross for our sins. Often referred to as “the funeral for God,” we remember Jesus’ sacrificial death as a way to prepare ourselves for the joyous news of his resurrection on Easter morn.
- ◆ SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH – EASTER WORSHIP @ 10:15AM
  - ◇ We invite you to our celebration of Jesus Christ’s victory over death. **Easter Sunday** is undoubtably the key Holy Day of the entire Christian year. It is the joyful conclusion of the Lenten season devoted to prayer, fasting, and penitence. Lent happily gives way to the exuberance of the Easter proclamation of “Christ is Risen!” Our worship will include not only our King’s Men but also the sounds of the Round About Brass ensemble. Following the morning worship services families are invited to gather at the back of the fellowship hall as the meeting place for our annual Easter Egg Hunt.

### **FELC ANNUAL YARD SALE**

Saturday, June 6 | 8 am - 2 pm |

Save the date! AND start saving your clean, usable stuff!  
Your help is so important and is greatly appreciated! You can plan on helping by: donating, volunteering, healthy snacks, shopping, and praying for a beautiful day!

More details to come



## HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a purple prayer request card and drop it in the offering plate or you can email [office@firstlc.com](mailto:office@firstlc.com). All requests remain confidential - only with permission are individual names placed on the written prayer list below.

### **PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL, RECOVERING, OR GOING THROUGH A DIFFICULT TIME:**

Donna Amundson; Betty Benjamin (*Lisa Mullinix's mother*); Charlotte Benson; Dean Benson; Kevin Call; Tracy Coburn; Devyn, Cor-den & Elias Cox (*Cal Miller's family*); Wendy Cudmore; Dayna Dabauras; Laura Dean; Joan Douglas (*Bev Novak's sister*); Bobbie Eddie (*Barbara Carlson's father*); Josephine Fife (*Julie Reinwald's mother*); Steve Galbraith; Sharon Gilbert; Jo & Al Glissendorf; Jeanne Griffes-Koepplin; Diane Hackman; Steve Hammond; Bill Hayes; Jack Heier; Tami Henvit; Sue Hindman; Jose Holtz; Cathy Homberg (*Heather Catanese's sister*); Ann Hurley; Lexi Jensen (*Rebecca Jackson's cousin*); Vickie John; Lynn Parshall Kinghorn (*Alecia Coburn's former mother-in-law*); Mary Krippner; Daniel Lance (*Cal Miller's brother-in-law*); Austin Leger (*Heather Catanese's son*); Allan Magnuson; Mike Martin; Adara McClure (*Jeannie Campbell's daughter*); Bob McGee (*Richard Magnuson's friend*); Tim Metcalf; Vicky Mickelson (*Becky Jackson's aunt*); Cal Miller; Dick Mitchell; Wendy Morgan (*Larry Hudman's sister*); Bob Neff; Josh Neis; Don Newman (*Richard Magnuson's cousin*); Mary Pilkington; Mark Pischer (*Cal Miller's son-in-law*); Priscilla Rainey; Patricia Richardson (*Dustin Jackson's aunt*); Cindy Robello; Laura Schoonmaker; Julie Sundberg; Scot Swenson (*Vernal & Jackie Swenson's son*); Kathy Tauscher; Deborah Vavra; Chris Weaver; Jane Winston; Daniel & Sarah Young; Cameron (*DiAnn Brown's niece's husband*); Oakley (*Nonda Meyer's great granddaughter*)

### **PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY SERVING IN THE MILITARY:**

TJ Litter; Brianna Townsend; Jody Townsend

### **MUSTERING OUT THIS MONTH; THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!**

Andrew Mitchell; Mike Monroe; Mike Stultz

### **PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING FOR RESTORED HEALTH:**

Peggy Buhr; Barrett (*Cara Dahlberg's nephew*); Scottie Grace; Pat Matthews; Amelia McDaniel

**THIS WEEK AT FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH****| TODAY | MAUNDY THURSDAY 4/2/2026**

9:00 am	Preschool
9:00 am	Men's Bible Study - Library
10:00 am	Kaffeeklatsch - Library
1:00 pm	Preschool
7:15 pm	Maundy Thursday Service - Sanctuary

**GOOD FRIDAY 4/3/2026**

8:00 - 5:00	Good Friday Prayer Vigil - Sanctuary
10:00 am	Friends in Stitches - Fellowship Hall
7:15 pm	Good Friday Service - Sanctuary

**SATURDAY 4/4/2026**

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**EASTER SUNDAY 4/5/2026**

9:00 am	Adult Forum - Library
9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
9:00 am	Sunday School - Youth Room
10:15 am	Easter Sunday Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 am	Easter Egg Hunt
11:30 am	King's Men Rehearsal - Sanctuary
3:00 pm	Round About Brass Practice - Narthex

**Report of First Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Year to date Income thru February \$67,466; Year to date Expenses thru February \$66,001

Year to date net Cash Flow thru February \$1,465

Last Week's in Worship Attendance: 161, Live Stream: 67

## **WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS**

Communion Assistants: **Diane Sheldon, Cathi Bean  
Debra Holst**  
Usher Coordinator: **Dave Sheldon**  
Usher: **Lisa Swenson**  
Altar Guild: **All members**  
Collection Specialist: **Andrew Swenson**  
Streaming Technician: **Paul Bayless**

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Scan the QR code for giving.

## **FELC LEADERSHIP**

**MINISTERS:** ..... **All the Members of FELC**  
**Senior Pastor:** Pastor Mike Knauff ..... e-mail: [pastormike@firstlc.com](mailto:pastormike@firstlc.com)  
**Church Administrator:** Julie Sagnimeni ..... e-mail: [office@firstlc.com](mailto:office@firstlc.com)  
**Youth & Family Minister:** Heather Catanese ..... e-mail: [youth@firstlc.com](mailto:youth@firstlc.com)  
**Bookkeeper:** Greg Stultz ..... e-mail: [bookkeeper@firstlc.com](mailto:bookkeeper@firstlc.com)  
**Music Director:** Michelle Hanson ..... e-mail: [musicdirector@firstlc.com](mailto:musicdirector@firstlc.com)  
**Choir Accompanist:** Heidi Bessette.....  
**Praise Band Director:** Steve Galbraith .....  
**Pastor Emeritus/Minister of Welcome:** Pastor Larry Cudmore .....  
**Preschool Director:** Barbara Carlson ..... [flpreschoolif@gmail.com](mailto:flpreschoolif@gmail.com)

Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Friday Closed  
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