

Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church

APRIL BANNER 2022

(763) 537 4523 | Faithlilacway.org
5530 42nd Ave N
Robbinsdale, MN 55422

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY
PASSION SUNDAY
April 10 at 9:30 AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY
April 14
3:00 PM Worship at RobbinsWay
7:00 PM Worship in Faith-Lilac
Way Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY
April 15
Faith-Lilac Way Sanctuary
1:00 - 3:00 PM Stations
of the Cross
3:00 PM Joint Tenebrae Worship
with First Lutheran
4:00 - 6:00 PM Stations
of the Cross
7:00 PM Tenebrae Worship with
FLW Choir

EASTER WORSHIP
April 17 at 9:30 AM



Pastoral Article

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!

Easter is coming. As the days lengthen and warm, I am looking forward to the time in which we gather together to proclaim Christ's resurrection on Easter morning. But...as I write this, we are not there yet! And so, before we celebrate, I want to encourage you to take this holy time during Lent and Holy Week to dwell in God's word, let it speak to your life so you can respond to God's grace.

Psalm 23, the focus of our midweek service, is a perfect psalm for this time. Even if you are not able to attend the service, I encourage you to read or recite Psalm 23 every day for the rest of Lent. Psalm 23 reminds us, that - read this part out loud - "The Lord God is my Shepherd." The Lord God, the creator of heaven and earth, cares for you, provides for you so that you shall not be in want and walks with you - even in the darkest time..Beloved child of God, remember these words even as war continues in the Ukraine, even as yet another variant of the coronavirus emerges and even as other challenges come.

For despite the challenges that come, God's love and grace is bigger. And God's care is personal - it is for you - and your neighbor. So friends, let us respond to the love and grace, mercy, care, attention and affection that God showers upon us every single day with gratitude.

Professor and researcher Brené Brown said that after twelve years of research interviews, she was surprised to discover that she did not interview a single person who would describe themselves as joyful... who did not have a practice of gratitude. And then she clarified, "When I say practice gratitude, I don't mean... an 'attitude of gratitude' I mean practicing gratitude." She found that those who practiced gratitude - whether they wrote in a gratitude journal every day or simply picked a time of day every day to be grateful, these people were more joy-filled. She decided to try it with her family. So after saying grace at dinner, they shared one thing for which they are grateful. She says it has made a huge difference in their family life.

Brothers and sisters, friends in Christ, I am grateful for you! I look forward to singing Alleluias with you once again. But until then, let us dwell in God's word and respond with gratitude. Thanks be to God!

- Pastor Pam



Vicar Article

I want to thank everyone for their support of the Connections project. Many of you have already made calls and things are going well. If you have made calls please reach out to me with a report of how your conversations went. If you have committed to making calls and have not yet done so please do so soon because it would be great if we could reach everyone before Holy Week.

This project has three main goals. First, we want to connect with all members of the FLW community to check in on everyone, to make sure that people can share any prayer concerns with another FLW member, and to just let people know that the FLW family is thinking about them. Second, we want to let everyone know about our resources for staying connected with FLW, especially our new livestream of Sunday morning worship. Finally, we also want to provide people with a chance to offer any recommendations for programming.

On all three accounts the project has been a success to this point. People have reported that they have very much enjoyed receiving these calls and have indicated that it is nice to know that the FLW community has been thinking about them because some people have had a difficult time coming to church due to poor health, the Omicron COVID wave, and the harsh winter weather. The calls have also been a chance to spread the word about the new livestream option which is a great way to stay connected to FLW for those who are not able to worship in person on a particular Sunday. We have also received feedback from members which has helped us to improve the sound quality of the livestream and to add closed captioning to the video feed. Also some members have expressed an interest in more daytime events which led to the Tuesday afternoon Bonhoeffer book study and plans for afternoon services for both Maundy Thursday (at Robbins Way) and Good Friday (at FLW).

It is great that the FLW family has demonstrated a commitment to building new connections and to strengthening already existing connections. The strong support of this project shows that FLW is a vibrant community that values coming together to assist and lift up one another.

- Vicar Kyle Anderson



HOLY WEEK

Palm/Passion Sunday, April 10

On this Sunday at 9:30 AM, we joyfully proclaim, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" We wave palm branches in the air and join in the yearly celebration of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. But this is not the end of the story. This year, we will also read the story of Jesus' passion. The word "passion" comes from the Latin word "patior" and refers to Jesus' suffering as a result of being betrayed, denied and crucified. On this Sunday, we anticipate the rest of the story.



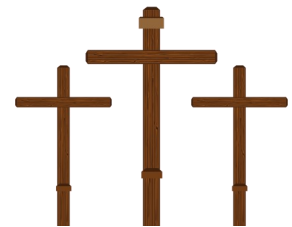
Maundy Thursday, April 14

3 PM at RobbinsWay
(next door to the church)
7 PM at Faith-Lilac Way Sanctuary

We hear three parts of the Passion Story on Maundy Thursday and it engages our senses. Jesus gives the gift of his body and blood at the Last Supper and you are invited to taste and see. Jesus takes the role of servant, washing his disciples' feet. You are invited to hold out your hands to be anointed and to smell the aroma of lavender scented oil. Finally, Jesus gives his disciples and us a commandment, "love one another as I have loved you." (The Latin word Mandatum or "Maundy" is translated as "commandment.") A psalm is read. The altar is stripped. We leave in silence.

Good Friday, April 15

Seven Last Words Tenebrae Service
3 PM Joint service with First Lutheran in
Faith-Lilac way Sanctuary
7 PM in Faith -Lilac Way Sanctuary



Good Friday is a day in which Jesus reveals the power and glory of God even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Tenebrae services have been a part of Good Friday worship services since at least the 9th century. "Tenebrae" is the Latin word for "darkness." In our Tenebrae Good Friday worship services, we will hear the Seven Last Words (passages) of Jesus on the Cross and reflect on them using a modern day picture, prayer, silence and song. After each Word is spoken and reflected upon, a light will be extinguished. We will end in darkness and return on Easter Sunday to the joy of the Resurrection!⁴

Stations of the Cross

1-3 PM & 4-6 PM

On Good Friday you will have the opportunity to join Christians around the world in making a spiritual pilgrimage through contemplation of the Passion of Christ through the Stations of the Cross. The Stations of the Cross is a series of fourteen images depicting Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion and the stations grew out of imitations of the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem which is a traditional processional route which symbolizes the actual path that Jesus walked to the Cross on Calvary. The images that we will be using were created by artist Mary Button and were inspired by the COVID-19 pandemic and each picture is accompanied by a prayer. There are different ways to do this devotion as one may choose to move from image to image or one may choose to remain in one location meditating on the stations or one could alternate between moving and stationary contemplation. Also, the Stations of the Cross is self-paced so you can spend as much or as little time as you would like with each station. Not all of the traditional stations are scripturally based so on Good Friday there will also be devotional materials available for those wanting to walk the Scriptural Way of the Cross which is an update on the traditional stations which features fourteen events from the last day of Jesus' life according to the Gospels. Everyone is invited to participate in the Stations of the Cross devotion on Good Friday any time between 1:00 and 3:00 PM and also from 4:00 to 6:00 PM.

Prayers

Holy God, God of creation, we give thanks for the abundance of gifts that you have given us. Help us be good stewards of your world, taking care of the land, the water, the air and all that dwells on this little planet.

Mighty Lord, Ruler of the nations, we ask you to bring peace to our world, especially to the war-torn country of Ukraine and in all places where there is violence. Give wisdom to our leaders and hope for freedom to all people.

Healer of our bodies, hearts and minds, care for all who need healing. From our congregation, we lift up to you: Lois Anderson, Donna Benson, Carol Brown, Jacqueline Butkowski, Larry Geer, Carolyn Lageson, Joyce Merkel, Margaret Pendzimus, Lucas Wiste, and Vic Woolgar and all those who need your care.

Give us courage to call upon your name for help and healing and the wisdom to follow you wherever you may lead us. In Jesus' name.

Weekly Bookclub

Tuesdays at 2 PM

Join this weekly daytime bookclub each Tuesday at 2PM in the FLW Library. Currently we are reading *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. This classic work, written by Bonhoeffer as he was leading a secret and illegal seminary in Nazi Germany, is incredibly relevant for our time.

Evening Book Club

The evening book club will be reading *The Long Petal of the Sea* by Isabel Allende Monday, May 9 at church at 7 PM. Spanning decades and crossing continents, this epic novel follows two young people as they flee the aftermath of the Spanish Civil War in search of a place to call home.

Mission of the Month:

Youth Mission Trip to Arecibo, Puerto Rico

Seven FLW youth and Vicar Kyle are now officially registered for the youth mission trip to Arecibo, Puerto Rico. FLW is partnering with First Lutheran Church of Crystal on this trip. Nobody in the FLW contingent has ever been to Puerto Rico which makes this voyage a once in a lifetime opportunity to serve the community while learning about a different culture. In recent years Puerto Rico has been severely impacted by natural disasters and a debt restructuring that has exacerbated poverty on the island.

The FLW youth will be traveling farther away from home than any previous group from FLW has ever traveled. This trip will allow our youth to encounter an environment unlike anything that they have ever previously experienced and this will give our youth a very unique chance to grow their faith and create cherished memories. It also means that expenses will be higher than previous trips.

Transportation costs especially airfare and the expenses associated with renting a van for the week have recently increased due to inflation as well as the war in Ukraine.

FLW is paying for the rental van for the week and the church is also providing scholarships to help students with the cost of the trip. In order to make this event a success the youth are asking for your support. All Mission of the Month funds for the month of April will support scholarships and pay for youth mission trip expenses. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will enable our youth to grow and develop while making a difference in the Arecibo, Puerto Rico community.

All Are Welcome!

Join us online every Sunday at faithlilacway.org where we have all our video services, printable bulletins, and sermons to read along with! For those who are comfortable visiting the church, the sanctuary is open to all! Every Sunday at 9:30 AM we have worship in the sanctuary as well as in the parking lot! See page 6 for more information and options to join us in worship!

Save the Date!

Earth Day Event-Faith Neighboring Practices Saturday, April 23, 2022

As a community outreach and support event, along with our dedication to the earth, FLW is launching an Earth Day clean up event. Knowing that Friday, April 22nd is a work day, we are planning this event for Saturday, April 23, 2022. We want to gather for a continental breakfast at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall at FLW, and clean up around the grounds around the church, Robbins Way and depending on number of participants perhaps Welcome Park starting around 9am.

We need your help! Please contact Sue Ferkingstad to sign up for cleaning up God's green earth and to participate in this community event! sueferk@msn.com or 763-226-5833

Wednesday, June 22nd, Wildfire Midsummer Night Party to raise money for Every Meal!

The Every Meal Teams are planning a pig-roast with each Wildfire congregation providing another course for a progressive meal to be held at House of Hope. Complete with bonfire, music, and Wildfire friends! Watch for ticket sales and more details!

Acknowledgments

The Rotary Club of Crystal, New Hope and Robbinsdale, at the request of Robbinsdale Mayor Bill Blonigan, presented a \$500.00 donation to Every Meal on February 25, 2022. This donation will benefit Lakeview Elementary School students in Robbinsdale. Every Meal provides food to feed a family of four to families opting into the program who may be experiencing food insecurity. Each Friday during the school year volunteers from eight area Wildfire Lutheran churches deliver a 5-pound bag of food to student's backpacks with good quality food that is culturally specific. The Wildfire Every Meal Team extends our gratitude to the Rotary Club for this generous donation.

March Birthdays!

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|------|----------------|------|--------------|------|
| Janet Osmundson | 10th | Anna Lynum | 24th | | |
| Laura Rosenberg | 4th | Carla Morton | 15th | Brenda Tiber | 26th |
| Nicole Whiteman | 4th | Connie Wagener | 15th | Amara Lawso | 28th |
| Alfonso Villagomez | 6th | Laney Hanneman | 18th | Debra Reutim | 28th |



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DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST: WE ARE OPEN!!!

Currently, Hennepin County is in the Green zone (Low transmission rate). This means that masks are at your own discretion. Please feel free to wear a mask if you or someone that you interact with is vulnerable or at risk from immunodeficiency.

COVID-19

SEARCH MENU >

COVID-19 Community Levels can help communities and individuals make decisions based on their local context and their unique needs. Community vaccination coverage and other local information, like early alerts from surveillance, such as through wastewater or the number of emergency department visits for COVID-19, when available, can also inform decision making for health officials and individuals.

 For Healthcare Facilities: COVID-19 Community Levels do not apply in healthcare settings, such as hospitals and nursing homes. Instead, healthcare settings should continue to use [community transmission rates](#) and follow CDC's [infection prevention and control recommendations](#) for healthcare workers.



COVID-19 County Check

Find community levels and prevention steps by county.

Select a Location (all fields required)

Minnesota Hennepin County Go

< Start Over

● Low

In Hennepin County, Minnesota, community level is Low.