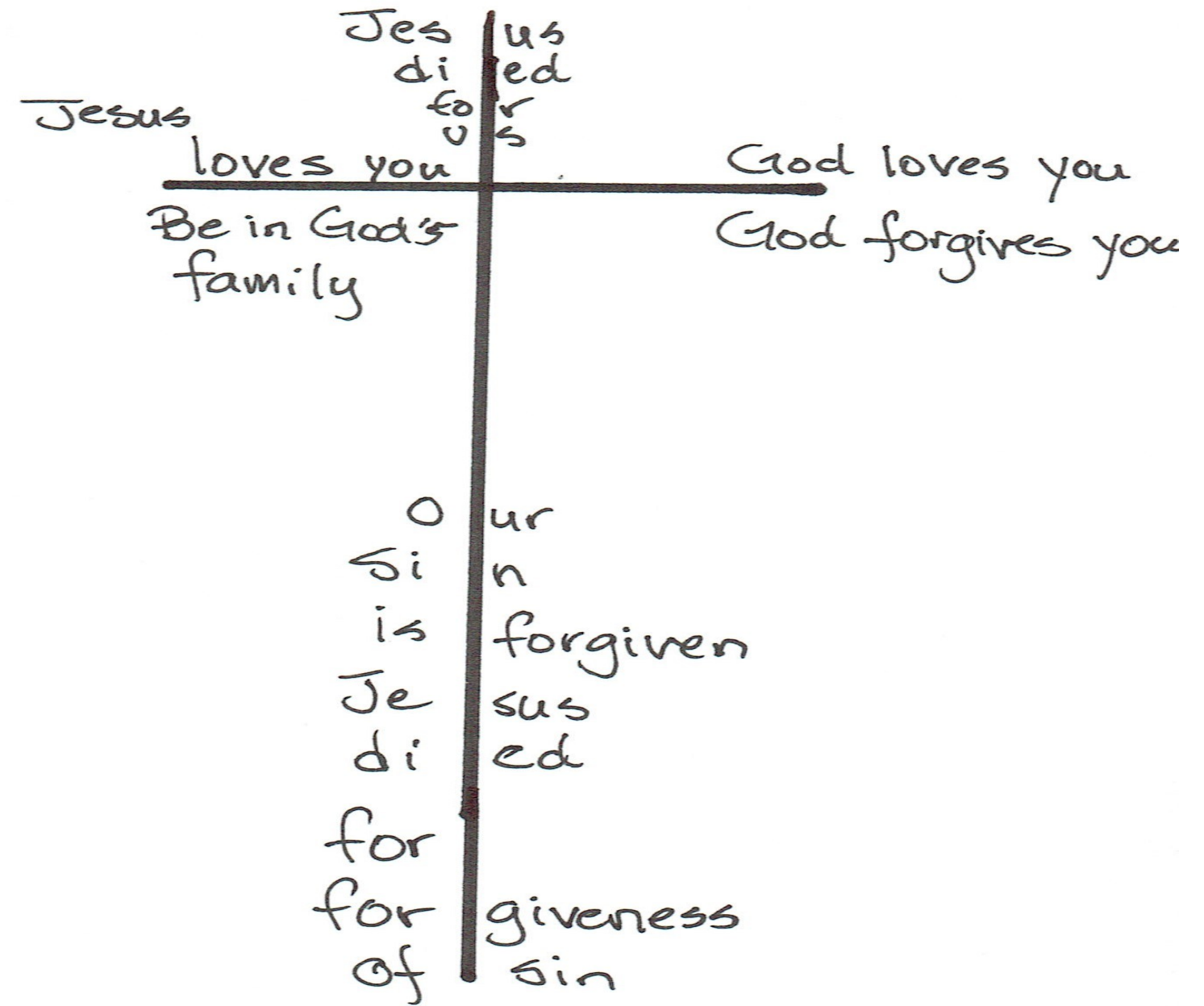


Believe in Jesus, God and
the Holy Spirit



WB

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

PALM SUNDAY—PASSION SUNDAY

Holy Communion 11:00 AM

March 29, 2026

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Palm/Passion Sunday - March 29, 2026

“And being found in human form, [Christ] humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

- Philippians 2:8-11 -

Hosannah! Hosannah! The crowd cried out as Jesus entered Jerusalem, riding on a donkey. The word *hosannah* combines the Hebrew word for “to save” with the Hebrew word for “please” or “now,” creating a powerful and urgent request. The Jews gathering for the Passover in Jerusalem cry out to Jesus, “Please save us! Save us now!” They shouted *hosannah* as a political acclamation, seeking deliverance from Roman rule. They didn’t understand what kind of Savior Jesus is.

Jesus was nothing like the savior they were expecting. They expected Jesus to have some sort of large army. They expected Jesus to demand the attention, respect, and honor of his loyal subjects. And every knee would bow at the name of Jesus, but not in this way. No. Jesus arrived in this world through humble means, and he would continue his ministry and death through the same humble means. This king would take on the form of a servant, not the image the Jews were anticipating of a fighting rebel against the Romans.

Jesus came as a human being, experiencing thirst and hunger, exhaustion and pain. He came to serve others, not himself. He bent down and washed his disciples’ feet. And he remained obedient, obedient unto his death. Death is rarely glamorous, but death for many is at the very least respectful. That was not the case for the King of Kings. Jesus would be humiliated as he was flogged, whipped, and stripped naked for all to see. He would be dishonored, despised, and rejected as he was nailed to and lifted up on a cross, executed as a criminal for everyone to witness, including his own mother, who once cradled him in her arms that first night in Bethlehem.

Why did Jesus go through all of this? He could have fled the scene at any time. No one would have blamed him for going off to the wilderness to pray, only to never return to the hatred that would be there to welcome him back to Jerusalem. Jesus went through the unthinkable because he knew it was the only way to defeat the devil, overcome death, and win the final victory for you. He did all of this because he loves you. We cry out *hosannah*—save us, Lord, from sin, death, and the power of the devil. And he does. He has the final victory!

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*Gathering

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna to the Son of David.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

.....through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

*The Processional Gospel:

John 12:12-19

C: Glory to you, O Lord. (response after announcement of the Gospel)

C: Praise to you, O Christ. (response after conclusion of the Gospel)

*Blessing of the Palms

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: We praise and thank You, O God.....now and forever.

C: Amen.

*The Procession

P: Let us go forth in peace.

C: in the name of Christ. Amen

*The Processional Hymn

All Glory Laud and Honor

(ELW) No. 344

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

*The Confession and Forgiveness

(ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2026. Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2026. Please sign up.

Adult Catechism class is on Tuesday at 11 and 7 pm. All are welcome. We look forward to you joining us in our discussion.

Adult Sunday School is held before our Church Service starting at 9:45 am in the church library. Come join us.

Chess Club meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm. All are welcome from beginners to experienced. We hope that you will join us for fellowship and fun. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*The Apostolic Greeting *Glory to God in the Highest* (ELW) page 139

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

C: And also with you.

*The Kyrie *(sung response)* (ELW) page 138

P:, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Almighty and everlasting God, You have sent Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross, that all of humanity should follow the example of His great humility. Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of His patience and also be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

First Lesson

Isaiah 50:4-9a

L: The Word of the Lord
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Musical Offering

My Song is Love Unknown

Bell Choir

The Psalmody For The Day (read responsively)

Psalm 118:19-29

¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰**This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.**

²¹I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation.

²²**The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.**

²³This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴**This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

²⁵Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success!

²⁶**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

²⁷The LORD is God, and He has made His light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

²⁸**You are my God, and I will give thanks to You; You are my God; I will extol You.**

²⁹Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

Second Lesson

Philippians 2:5-11

L: The Word of the Lord
C: **Thanks be to God**

Musical Offering

Taste His Goodness

Adult Choir

April 2nd at 7:00 PM will be Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion.

April 3rd at 3 PM will be Good Friday Service (one service only).

April 5th at 10 AM Easter Sunday Service with Holy Communion.

Welcome to our Visitors! The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs of infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

The Flower Chart for 2026 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date. Thank you.

During the Season of Lent we enter into a time of solemnness. To reflect this in our Services, the Hymn of Praise is removed and the "Alleluia" is buried. Flowers are not used and this year they will be replaced by candles on the Chancel. Church decorations are also covered to add to the impact of the somber atmosphere within the church.
Rev. Robert B. Grewe

First Lutheran Church

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Online services posted weekly on website: <https://firstlutheranwashington.church/>

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Mark Black, Matthew Mazzotti, Lutheran Lay Worship Leaders

Retired: J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Matthew Cimino, Organist and Music Director

The Candles on the Chancel are lit to the glory of God.

Lay Reader is Dennis Schmidt.

Acolytes are Heidi and Denico Walsh.

Counters are C. Group and V. Group.

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Isaac Christian, Lindsay Mankey, Amy Verderber, Lou Mayne, Greg Mason, Ed Dupas, Pat Dupas, Carol Cancelmi, Amanda Laib, Sandy Hebrank, Richard Hager, Judd Lacko, Sandy Mannsman, Ian, Isaiah, Aleashia, Sharon, Tammy, Edelgard, Wolfgang, Klaus & Mel, Bernadette, Bob and Anneleise Christian, Carl Group, Shari Kienzel, Susan Westott, Amber Falosk, Appolos Yocca, Brenda Tennant, Darlene Kosak, Gary Conti, June Gosnell, Sally Hazlett, Erin Reel, Stacy Carroll, R. J. Ramone, Debbie Beighley, Kenny and Josh, David, Eric, Sue Palfrey, George Salvucci, Gary Freeland, Tom Weiers, Danielle S., Tim F. (Jr.), Wyatt K., Aimee Schaffer, Grant Braun, Nikki Thon, Shelly, Don, Sandi Kern, and Jacin Flowers.

Gospel

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to St Matthew

Matthew 26:1-27:66

***Please rise or remain seated if necessary at Matthew 27:33**

*The Hymn of the Day

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

(ELW) No. 775

*The Prayers of the Church

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our Prayer.

*Sharing the Peace

*The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

(SBH) No. 27

*The Great Thanksgiving

(ELW) page 144

The Distribution

Communion Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

(ELW) No. 502

*The Benediction (sung response)

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn

Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross

(ELW) No. 335

*The Dismissal (response)

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
 cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
 To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;

till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so, through all the length of days,
 thy goodness faileth never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All
 Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,
 we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

775

1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, source of pur - est plea - sure,
2 In thine arm I rest me; foes who would mo - lest me
3 Hence, all fears and sad - ness, for the Lord of glad - ness,

tru - est friend to me: ah, how long I've pant - ed, and my heart has
can-not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing, ev - 'ry heart be
Je - sus, en - ters in. God, who dear-ly loves us, from all tri - al

faint - ed, thirst - ing, Lord, for thee! Thine I am, O spot - less Lamb;
quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear. Light-nings flash and thun - ders crash;
saves us, gives sweet peace with-in. I have borne this world - ly scorn;

no - thing in this world can hide thee, naught I ask be-side thee.
yet, though sin and hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
still in thee lies pur - est plea - sure: Je - sus, price-less trea - sure!

The Communion

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly

Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of

thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it.