
BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

April 2nd, 2026

12:00 p.m.



We are a community that is passionate about sharing the love of Jesus Christ, and we provide as many opportunities as we can to help everyone grow spiritually and in loving service to the community and the world.

*We're glad you're here. We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and celebrate the work we're able to do together.
(to learn more about the ELCA visit www.elca.org).*

Those joining worship online, whether live or later in the week, are invited to prepare their worship space by creating a home altar. You might include meaningful linens, candles, a cross, enough bread or crackers and wine or juice for everyone at your table, and anything that helps you engage more fully in worship.

This altar becomes a gathering place for prayers, songs, communion, and a shared sense of God's presence in your home.

Maundy Thursday draws us into the quiet intimacy of Jesus' final meal with his friends. On this night, we remember the towel and basin, the bread and cup, the simple, sacred gestures of love shared around a table. As we journey through this liturgy, we remember that Jesus knelt to wash every disciple's feet, even Judas's. The good news is that grace does not draw boundaries; even betrayal cannot stop love from bending low. In that spirit, this service calls us to receive and to give, to serve and to be served, and to honor the sacredness woven through all creation.

~ The gathering responds together with texts in bold print ~

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

*As we prepare our hearts for worship,
let the songs of the birds draw us gently into stillness.*

WORDS OF WELCOME

The presiding minister leads the words of welcome.

OPENING SONG

ELW 359

Where Charity and Love Prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842
Text © 1960 World Library Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

POETRY READING

"Even Now"

Poem by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

We ask the question a million different times
over the course of lives.
Do you love me even now?
As children we ask this question
with eyes the size of saucers
and a quivering bottom lip.
In our teenage years,
we ask the question by pushing people away
and paying attention to who comes back.
As adults we ask the question by
extending the first invitation
and seeing who returns the kindness.
Over and over again we ask the world,
Do you love me even now?
The thing I've learned about God
is that, no matter what comes before "even now,"
the answer will always be yes.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The presiding minister leads the call to confession.

The gathering responds:

God of love, we come to you feeling a thousand feelings.

There is too much going on, and we don't know how to handle it all.

We don't even know how to put words to all that we are going through.

Hear our prayers.

God of love, we come to you wanting total control over our lives, the stories we live, the people around us, and our own desires.

Hear our prayers.

God of love, we also come to you feeling numb.

Hear our prayers.

God of love, we come to you in silence.

Hear our prayers.

God of love, we come to you because you are the source of life.

Hear our prayers.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON / TIME OF SILENCE

The presiding minister leads the assurance of pardon.

A time of silence is held. A bell rings to end the time of silence.

MOVEMENT ONE | THE BETRAYAL & ARREST OF JESUS

The presiding minister leads the introduction.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 22:47-53

The holy gospel according to Luke

This is the story of grace flowing down. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, ⁴⁸ but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?" ⁴⁹ When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, "Lord, should we strike with the sword?" ⁵⁰ Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹ But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. ⁵² Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as though I were a rebel? ⁵³ When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour and the power of darkness!"

"This is the story of grace that covers us. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

REFLECTION

Rev. Christina Kadelbach

SPECIAL MUSIC / TIME OF SILENCE

"Spiegel im Spiegel" for Violin and Piano (1978) by composer Arvo Pärt

A time of silence is held following the special music. A bell rings to end the time of silence.

POETRY READING

"If You Hear Nothing Else, Then Hear This"

Poem by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

You can make a fool of yourself.
You can bet on the wrong thing,
lose it all, unravel people's trust.
You can laugh at a funeral,
curse in a church, say the wrong thing
at the wrong time, every time.
You can lose yourself in a bottle,
a relationship, a false sense of security.
You can uncover prejudice
and wrestle with the shame of it all.
You can withhold an apology,
blame it on someone else,
tell yourself it's not your fault.
You can trade in love
for a bag of coins.
And even then,
even still,
even now,
Jesus will love you enough to
wash your feet.
If you hear nothing else in the gospel,
hear this.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 13:1-35

The holy gospel according to John

This is the story of grace flowing down. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ 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. ² The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵ 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. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ 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." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹² After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" ¹³ You call me Teacher and

Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. ¹⁸ I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But it is to fulfill the scripture, 'The one who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' ¹⁹ I tell you this now, before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe that I am he. ²⁰ Very truly, I tell you, whoever receives one whom I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me."

²¹ After saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit and declared, "Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me." ²² The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. ²³ One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining close to his heart; ²⁴ Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. ²⁵ So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?" ²⁶ Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. ²⁷ After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "Do quickly what you are going to do." ²⁸ Now no one knew why he said this to him. ²⁹ Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the festival," or that he should give something to the poor. ³⁰ So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ 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.' ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

This is the story of grace that covers us. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

REFLECTION

Rev. Christina Kadelbach

MOVEMENT TWO | JESUS WASHES THE DISCIPLES' FEET

Tonight we wash one another's hands in a deep spirit of love, preparing one another to enter into the service of God who came among us as a servant, and to love and serve one another as Christ loves and serves us. Those joining us online are invited to wash.

If you are joining us from home, we invite you to prepare a bowl of warm water and a towel. Wash your own hands, or offer this gift to someone near you, a child, a partner, a neighbor. You are not outside this moment. You are gathered here too, beloved and included in this ancient act of grace.

HAND WASHING

The presiding minister leads the introduction into hand washing.

PRAYER

Today we have received a difficult commandment from Jesus Christ: to go out and wash another's feet, to care for the vulnerable, and to offer our presence to our community.

This is not easy, and alone we fail. But together, we will continue to serve each other and find strength. Together! Yes, together! May the love of God, the service of Jesus Christ, and the healing power of the Holy Spirit be upon us all now and forever. Amen.

OFFERING

Giving is an act of worship our response to God's goodness and grace.

Your gifts support the ministry of Bethesda Lutheran Church and extend God's love into the world. During this time the table is set.

For the healing of this world, let us give our tithes and offerings.



Ways to Give:

- Give electronically through Vanco Services.
- Use the giving app by scanning the QR code.
- Recurring or one-time online options <https://app.autobooks.co/pay/bethesda-lutheran-church-of-malmo>

Thank you for your faithful and generous support.

OFFERING PRAYER

O God, maker of heaven and earth,

your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

MOVEMENT THREE | HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister leads the prayer of thanksgiving.

The presiding minister raises the bread. We keep silence together.

The presiding minister raises the cup. We keep silence together.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

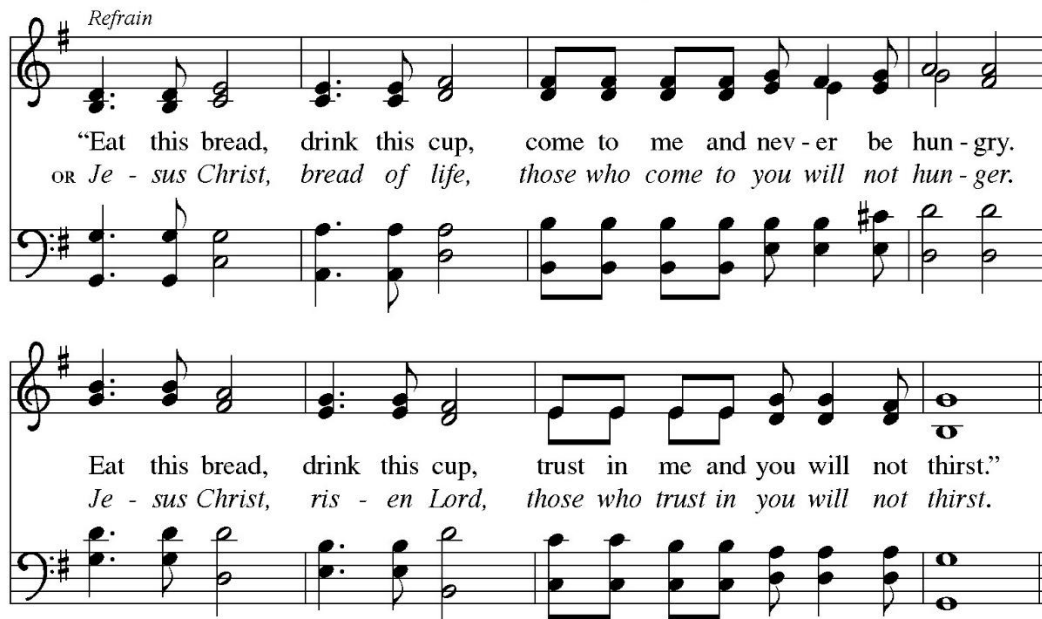
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Eat This Bread

Jesus Christ, Bread of Life

Refrain



“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Text: Taizé Community
 Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
 Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com.
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INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Holy Communion is a gift of grace, where we receive the presence of Jesus in bread and wine and are reminded that we are deeply loved. All who hunger for mercy and hope are welcome at this feast. Jesus is the host, and the invitation is wide. Even across time and space, God is present in these gifts, and we, the community, are present to one another.

Come to the table. Come and receive the good news made tangible
 Feast on God’s goodness and mercy.
 Bread for the journey, grace for your life, love that sustains the world.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Little Things With Great Love”

*feat. Madison Cunningham]The Porter’s Gate feat. Madison Cunningham
 Work Songs: The Porter’s Gate Worship Project Vol 1*

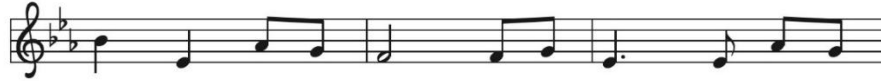
POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord Jesus,
in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
 2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
 3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
 4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



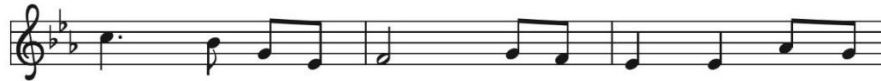
Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
 qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
 faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
 in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
 gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
 a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"
 hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007
 Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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PRAYER

God of gatherings, life is much less frightening when we are together, when we care for each other, when we are able to listen to each other. Then we can find joy even in the most difficult days of our lives.

We are grateful, for it is your love that brings us here, and we honor you and one another for this unending love.

Take us back home, now prepared for the days ahead.

For in you we can go through the darkest night of the soul and rise again in your love! Amen.

A time of silence is held. A bell rings to end the time of silence.

The service continues with the Good Friday Liturgy tomorrow at noon.

Acknowledgements: Texts and hymns from sundaysandseasons.com copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SAS028183. New Revised Standard Version updated edition Bible Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Graphic Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | Liturgy by Dr. Cláudio Carvalhaes | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org Additional Liturgical texts adapted for Bethesda Lutheran by Reverend Christina Kadelbach.



Bethesda Lutheran Church blcmalmo.org

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A member congregation of the NE MN Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Ministers: All People of Bethesda Lutheran Church

Pastoral Ministries: Reverend Christina Kadelbach

blc.reverend@gmail.com 218-213-6731

Church Secretary: Mary Braun

Music & Sound Technician: Jim Christensen

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN, Kathy Berland RN ANP

Prayer Chain Contacts: Char Berg 320-684-2102 or

Darlene Christensen 320-279-0097

Ushers: Dick and Sue Stebbins **Lector:** Ron Gordon, LuAnn Gordon

Hospitality: Potluck following worship

April Altar Care: Linda Southworth and Carol Pantsari

Serving on April 3rd Good Friday

Ushers: David and Libby Brown **Lector:** Mary Vukelich

Serving on April 5th Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day with Holy Communion

Ushers: Mark & Mary Vukelich

Greeters: Dianne and Del Jones

Lector: London Feland

Hospitality: Rocky and Cindy VanVickle

April Altar Care: Linda Southworth and Carol Pantsari