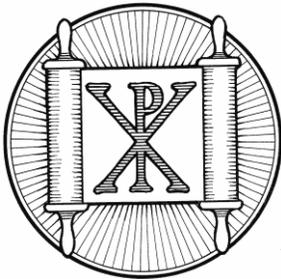


Good Shepherd
Evangelical
Lutheran Church

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



We have gathered to meditate at Vespers. Vespers is an evening service, coming from one of the daily offices at which the Church meets to meditate upon God's Word. Our particular order is called Evening Prayer. In this service, our Triune God is pleased to serve us with his promises and mercy. Lenten Vespers focus on the coming of the Messiah to forgive sins and to bring us into his eternal kingdom.

If you are visiting with us this evening, we ask you to sign our guest book by the church entrance. If you would like to learn more about the Evangelical Lutheran Church – its confession or its practice, please speak to the pastor. We hope you will join us again soon.

**The
Hands
of the
Passion**

Lenten Vespers



AD 2021, March 24

EVENING PRAYER

VESPERS

Opening Hymn -- 125 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/125>

M: O Lord, open my lips.

C: **And my mouth shall declare your praise.**

M: Hasten to save me, O God.

C: **O Lord, come quickly to help me.**

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU

Psalm 141

C: **Let my prayer rise before you as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly; hear my voice when I cry to you.

Let my prayer rise before you as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

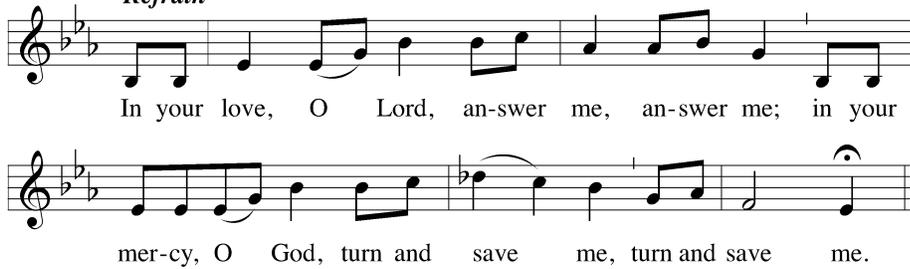
M: Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Psalm of the Day -- Psalm 69 *Sung In Unison*

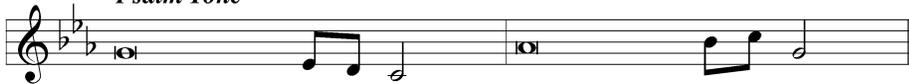
Psalm 69

Refrain



In your love, O Lord, an-swer me, an-swer me; in your
mer-cy, O God, turn and save me, turn and save me.

Psalm Tone



Save me, O God,
for the waters have come up to my neck.

Those who hate me without reason outnumber the hairs of my head;
many are my enemies without cause, those who seek to destroy me.

May those who hope in you not be disgraced because of me, O LORD Almighty;
may those who seek you not be put to shame because of me, O God of Israel.

For zeal for your house consumes me,
and the insults of those who insult you fall on me.

Answer me, O LORD, out of the goodness of your love;
in your great mercy turn to me.

Refrain

They put gall in my food
and gave me vinegar for my thirst.

The LORD hears the needy
and does not despise his captive people.

Let heaven and earth praise him,
the seas and all that move in them,

for God will save Zion
and rebuild the cities of Judah.

I will praise God's name in song
and glorify him with thanksgiving.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Psalm Prayer Dear Lord Jesus Christ, you were despised, rejected, and even betrayed because you were zealous for what is good and godly. Teach us, likewise, to despise the scorn of sinful men, to steadfastly endure their betrayal, and to zealously pursue, like you, all that is good and godly. Here us for your mercy's sake; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one one, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

Mark 15:16-47

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. And it was the third hour when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

And when the sixth hour^[e] had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised to hear that he should have already died.^[f] And summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the corpse to Joseph. And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.

Seasonal Response

**All: All we, like sheep, have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
By his wounds we are healed.**

Chief Hymn -- 113 Upon the Cross Extended

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/113>

The Sermon

Matthew 27:27-31
THE HANDS OF THE PASSION
Hands of Brutality (Roman Soldiers)

Hymn 268 Lamb of God, Pure and Holy (*replacing Song of Mary*)

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/268>

The OFFERING

The following prayer or other prayers may be used concluding with the LORD'S PRAYER and the PRAYER FOR PEACE.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:

C: **Christ, have mercy.**

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:

M: **Thanks be to God.**

C: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.

C: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

M: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis

C: In peace, Lord, you let your servant now depart according to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for ev'ry people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.

BLESSING

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn -- 103 Glory Be to Jesus

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/103>

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“Let My Prayer Rise Before You” © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

Intercessions

Intercessions that are requested prior to the bulletin's printing will be included in the bulletin. Requests may be made prior to the service as well.

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Preacher— | Rev. James Frey, St. Paul's, Belleville |
| Organist | Jeanette Schneider |

REGULAR SCHEDULE

Divine Service is Sundays at 10:00 AM, in person and on Facebook Live.

Sunday School & Adult Bible Class is on Sunday at 8:45 AM.

HOLY WEEK 2021

Join us in person or watch us online.

All services will be live-streamed on Facebook Live.

They will be posted on YouTube the following day.



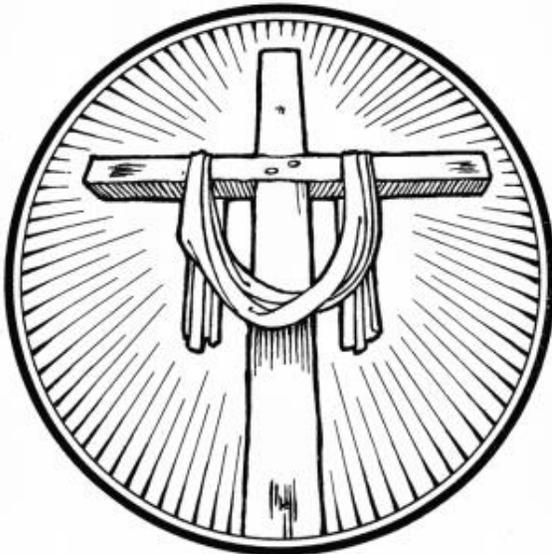
Maundy Thursday

April 1 – 7:00 PM



Good Friday

April 2 – 7:00 PM



Sunday, April 4

**A continental breakfast
will be offered (9:00-9:45 AM)
for any who might be interested.**

April 4 – 10:00 AM

**The Festival of
the Resurrection**

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS)

41415 W. 9 Mile Road

Novi, Michigan 48375-4306

Office Phone
(248) 349-0565

Web Site
www.GoodShepherdNovi.org

Church E-Mail
welsnovi@aol.com

Pastor Thomas E. Schroeder

Pastor's Cell Phone (248) 719-5218

Pastor's Blog – www.LutheranSubject.blogspot.com

We encourage our members to utilize opportunities for Christian education, grounded in the Evangelical-Lutheran faith. While we do not own and operate a school on our property, we are able to enroll our children at the following schools.

St. Peter Lutheran School

(Pre-K only)

1343 Penniman Avenue

Plymouth, MI 48170

(734) 421-9022

www.splp.org

Becky Lohrmann, teacher

St. Paul Lutheran School

(Pre-K through 8th grade)

17810 Farmington Road

Livonia, MI 48152

(734) 453-0460

www.stpaulslivonia.org

Mr. Paul Leifer, principal

Huron Valley Lutheran High School

(9th grade thru 12th grade)

33740 Cowan Road

Westland, MI 48185

(734) 525-0160

www.hvlhs.org

Mr. Matt Foley, principal