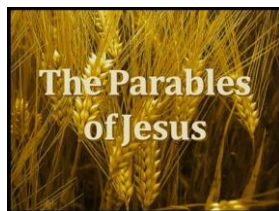


* Lord's Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

* Benediction & Doxology: (sung, p. 24 for melody): Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Dismissal: L: Go in Peace, and Serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.



Our Lenten theme this year is entitled, "The Parables of Jesus." Each of our round-robin speakers will focus on a different parable of Jesus. Our round-robin series will conclude with our Good Friday service.

The Parable of the Sower
Darold Bitterman

The Parable of the Foolish Builders
Maurice Bueber

The Parable of the Wicked Tenets
Pastor Barry Nelson

The Parable of the Great Banquet
Del Neumeister

The Parable of the Minas
Pastor Kevin Czymbor

Maundy Thursday - The Parable of the Hidden Things
First American: April 17 – 7:30pm – Keith Sprecher

Good Friday - The Parable of the Canceled Debts
Hope: April 18 – 7:30 pm – Pastor Barry Nelson

Lenten Offerings: First American – All Nations Family Center - Rosebud
Hope—SESD Lutherans for Life ultrasound fund/Douglas Co. Food Pantry

Lenten Suppers:

Thank you to everyone who helped to organize, prepare, and serve our Lenten meals and refreshments this year at Hope and First American!

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." – 1 Peter 4:10

First American Lutheran Church

Lenten Service

April 9, 2025

Please stand as you are able **Bold Items are read in unison*

Invocation & Call to Worship

Psalm 2

¹ Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain?

² **The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the LORD and against his anointed, saying,**

³ "Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles."

⁴ **The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them.**

⁵ He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,

⁶ **"I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain."**

⁷ I will proclaim the LORD's decree: He said to me,

"You are my son; today I have become your father.

⁸ **Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.**

⁹ You will break them with a rod of iron; you will dash them to pieces like pottery."

¹⁰ **Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling.

¹² **Kiss his son, or he will be angry and your way will lead to your destruction, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.**

* Opening Hymn – *Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord* Red **#611**

Lenten Reading

Matthew 27:27-44



²⁷ Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. ²⁸ They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹ and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. ³⁰ They spit on him, and took

the staff and struck him on the head again and again. ³¹ After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. ³² As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. ³³ They came to a place called Golgotha (which means "the place of the skull"). ³⁴ There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it.

³⁵ When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. ³⁶ And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. ³⁷ Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ³⁸ Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹ Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, “You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!” ⁴¹ In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. ⁴² “He saved others,” they said, “but he can’t save himself! He’s the king of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³ He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” ⁴⁴ In the same way the rebels who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

Confession of Sin: Merciful God and Heavenly Father, whose grace endures to all generations, You are patient and longsuffering and have promised to forgive the sins of those who truly repent. We have sinned against You and are unworthy of Your goodness and love. Look with compassion upon us, and hear our cries for mercy. Forgive us of all our sins, and help us to walk in a manner worthy of the calling we have received. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Declaration of Grace & Prayers of the Church

Epistle Philippians 2:9-11

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

New Testament Revelation 19:11-15

¹¹ I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “He will rule them with an iron scepter.” He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty.

*** Offertory: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation: and uphold me with Your free Spirit.**

* Confession of Faith Augsburg Confession, Article IV on Justification
It is taught among us that we cannot obtain forgiveness of sin and righteousness before God by our own merits, works, or satisfactions, but that we receive forgiveness of sin and become righteous before God by grace, for Christ’s sake, through faith, when we believe that Christ suffered for us and that for his sake our sin is forgiven and righteousness and eternal life are given to us. For God will regard and reckon this faith as righteousness. Amen.

Hymn – *Let Me Learn of Jesus* Red **#339**

Gospel Luke 19:11-27

¹¹ While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a parable, because he was near Jerusalem and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once. ¹² He said: “A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return. ¹³ So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. ‘Put this money to work,’ he said, ‘until I come back.’ ¹⁴ “But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, ‘We don’t want this man to be our king.’ ¹⁵ “He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it. ¹⁶ “The first one came and said, ‘Sir, your mina has earned ten more.’ ¹⁷ “‘Well done, my good servant!’ his master replied. ‘Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.’ ¹⁸ “The second came and said, ‘Sir, your mina has earned five more.’ ¹⁹ “His master answered, ‘You take charge of five cities.’ ²⁰ “Then another servant came and said, ‘Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. ²¹ I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take out what you did not put in and reap what you did not sow.’ ²² “His master replied, ‘I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in, and reaping what I did not sow? ²³ Why then didn’t you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?’ ²⁴ “Then he said to those standing by, ‘Take his mina away from him and give it to the one who has ten minas.’ ²⁵ “‘Sir,’ they said, ‘he already has ten!’ ²⁶ “He replied, ‘I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ²⁷ But those enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them—bring them here and kill them in front of me.’”

Sermon – *Thy Kingdom Come* Pastor Kevin Czymbor

*** Closing Hymn – *Jesus Is Calling* Red **#433****