

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**** PLEASE ENTER IN SILENCE ****

Welcome

Offering and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Responsive Reading: Isaiah 53: 2-11b

Procession of the Cross

Processional Dialogue

WERE YOU THERE

Solemn Reproaches

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

Passion Narrative from Mark 14: 26-15:39

Pastor Perry Aalgaard

BLESSED REDEEMER

Closing of the Book (Strepitus)

**The congregation will please leave in silence.*

What's going on in Worship?

Strepitus – A booming noise representing the earthquake when Jesus died (Matthew 27:51) and the confusion that came thereafter. It is also symbolic of the rolling of the stone over the covering of the tomb in which Jesus body was lain (Matthew 27:66, Mark 15:46).

What is a Paschal (paskul) Candle? – In the medieval church, allegorical meaning was ascribed to every aspect of the paschal candle. Unlighted, it represented Christ's death and burial; lighted, it represented the splendor and glory of Christ's resurrection. The wick represented Christ's humanity, and the halo of flame represented his divinity. Other candles lighted from the paschal candle symbolized Christ giving the Holy Spirit to the disciples. You still see this particular practice used in baptisms here at First Lutheran.

For us, this large candle is lit at baptisms and funerals. It symbolizes Christ's triumph over the darkness of sin and death. This symbolism is most apparent when the paschal candle is introduced each year to the congregation in the Easter Morning Vigil (6:30AM candlelight service). When the Vigil begins, the church is dark, symbolic of the darkness of the sepulcher that held the crucified Christ. A new fire is kindled, and the paschal candle is lighted, representing the Risen Christ, the Light of the world. The candle remains lit near the altar throughout the church season of Easter (50 days after Easter) as a reminder of Christ's resurrection.

Why is the Paschal Candle extinguished in this service? - Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." The Paschal candle is extinguished to signify the darkness that surrounded Christ at his death. (Matthew 27:45, Mark 15:33, Luke23:44)



Easter
Blessings

We invite you to come and
worship on Easter Sunday!

Worship Service Times

March 31st, 2024
6:30AM & 8:30AM & 10:30AM
7:30AM Pastries & Coffee

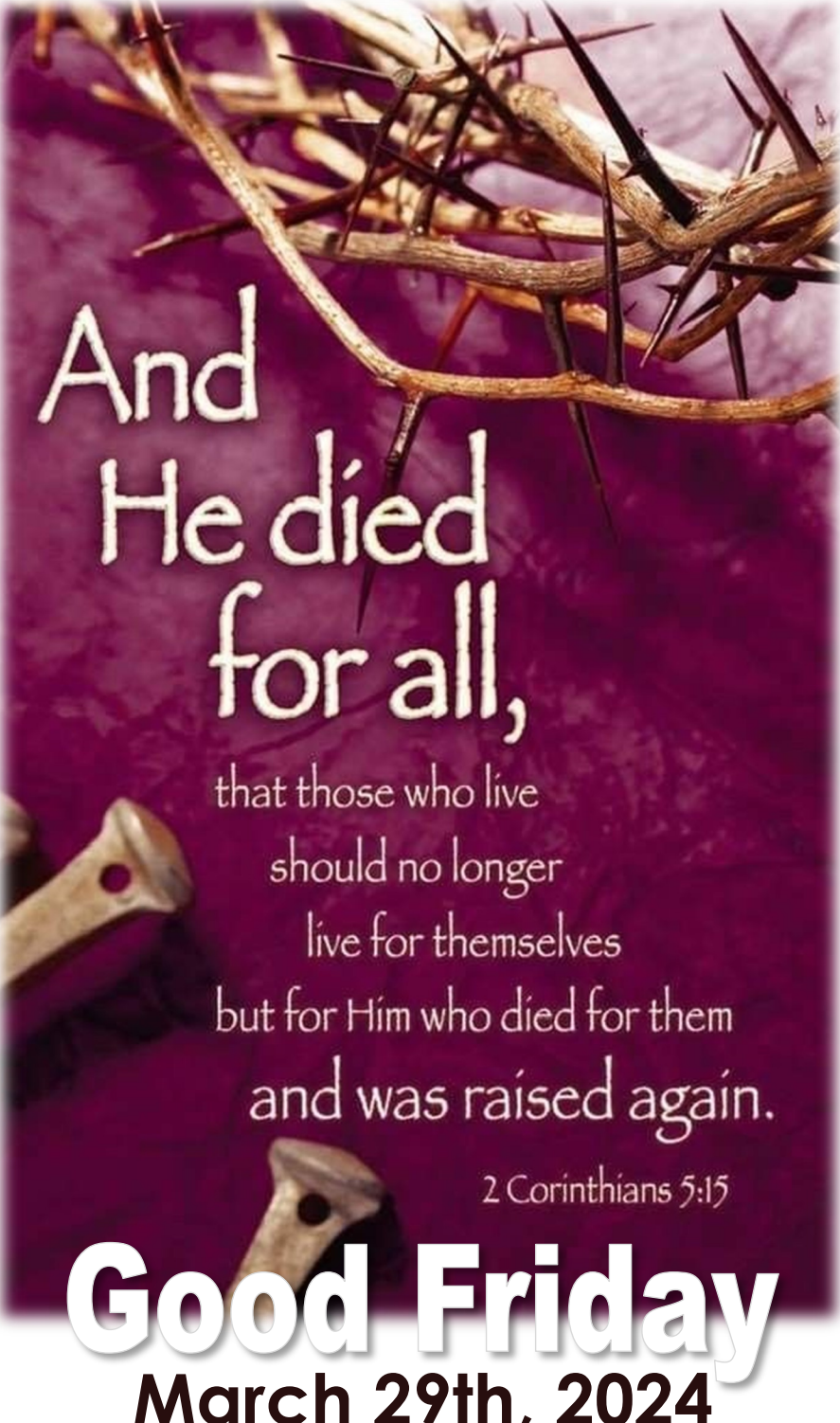
All Are Welcome!

1525 Three Cross Road, Milford, IA 51351

Monday– April 1st, 2024
Church Office CLOSED



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And
He died
for all,
that those who live
should no longer
live for themselves
but for Him who died for them
and was raised again.

2 Corinthians 5:15

Good Friday
March 29th, 2024