

GOOD FRIDAY

April 3, 2026

The Service of the Passion and Tenebrae, 7:30pm



Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's account, Jesus reveals his compassion even in the midst of his suffering. Standing with John and Jesus' Blessed Mother at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

**Abiding Presence Lutheran Church and Preschool
Route 25a and Sunken Meadow Road, 4 Trescott Path
Fort Salonga, New York 11768**

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The People of God, Ministers

The Reverend Robert Schoepflin, Pastor

The Reverend Dr. Toby Tobias, Pastoral Associate

Ms. Kathy Pucci, Deacon

Mr. Gavin Schwen, Deacon

Mr. Brian Forberg, Deacon

Dr. Thomas Zatorski, Director of Music

Ms. Lisa Pecchio, Soloist

Mr. Rob Cubbon, Usher

Mr. Garrett VanderBrink, Video Production

Ms. Marialaina Sheehan, Preschool Director



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY- April 3, 2026
The Service of the Passion and Tenebrae, 7:30pm

SILENT PROCESSIONAL (*Please stand*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 52:13-53:12

A Reading from Isaiah

See, my servant shall prosper;
he shall be exalted and lifted up,
and shall be very high.

Just as there were many who were astonished at him
— so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form
beyond that of mortals — so he shall startle many nations;
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;
for that which had not been told them they shall see,
and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

Who has believed what we have heard?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.
But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.
He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.
They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.
Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many
righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“For God So Loved the World ”
Choir of The Abiding Presence

Sally Ann Morris

SECOND LESSON Hebrews 10:16-25

A Reading from Hebrews

¹⁶"This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, says the Lord:
I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds,"

¹⁷he also adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the
blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the
curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the
house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our
hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure
water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he

who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

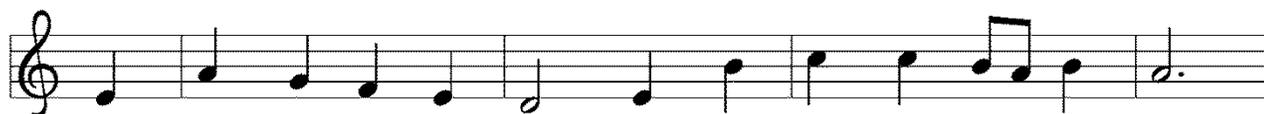
Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

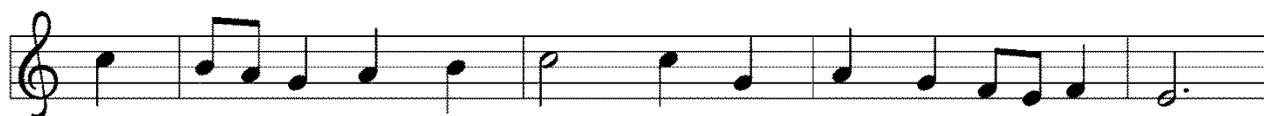
HYMN 351 **“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”**



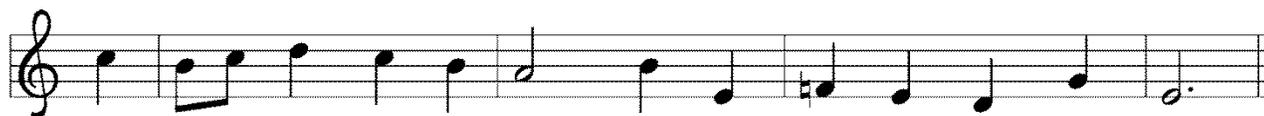
1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, German melody, c. 1500; adapt. Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN

St. John 18:1-19:42

(SEPARATE BOOKLET. PLEASE RETURN TO USHER.)

(SEPARATE ATTACHMENT ON WEBSITE FOR THOSE WORSHIPPING AT HOME.)

*Following the words, "He gave up His Spirit,"
all pray the Our Father silently.*

OFFERING

NO OFFERING ENVELOPE?
SCAN THE QR CODE TO CONTRIBUTE



OFFERING HYMN

"O Savior of the World"
Choir of the Abiding Presence

John Goss

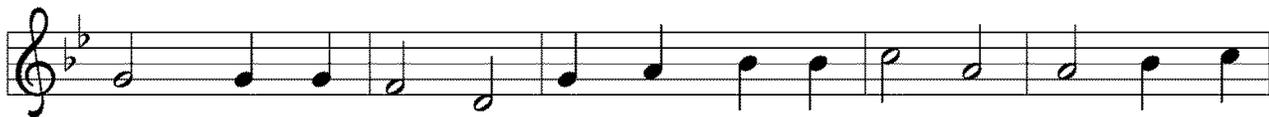
BIDDING PRAYER

(SEPARATE ATTACHMENT ON WEBSITE FOR THOSE WORSHIPPING AT HOME.)

OUR FATHER

Please stand as you are able

HYMN 349 *"Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended"*



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to
2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.
while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.
Music: HERZLIEBSTER JESU, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior | of the whole world.
R/. **Oh come, let us | worship him.**

THE SOLEMN REPROACHES (*Please be seated*)

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you?
How have I offended you?

Answer me.

I led you out of slavery into freedom,
and delivered you through the waters of rebirth,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

R/. **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me.

Forty years I led you through the desert,
feeding you with manna on the way;
I saved you from the time of trial and gave you my body, the bread of heaven,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

R/. **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me.

I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud and fire,

but you led me to the judgment hall of Pilate;
I guided you by the light of the Holy Spirit,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**R/. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?
Answer me.

I planted you as my fairest vineyard, but you brought forth bitter fruit;
I made you branches of the vine and never left your side,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**R/. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?
Answer me.

I poured out saving water from the rock,
but you gave me vinegar to drink;
I poured out my life and gave you the new covenant in my blood,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**R/. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?
Answer me.

I gave you a royal scepter, but you gave me a crown of thorns;
I gave you the kingdom and crowned you with eternal life,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**R/. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?
Answer me.

I struck down your enemies, but you struck my head with a reed;
I gave you my peace, but you draw the sword in my name,
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**R/. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me.

I opened the waters to lead you to the promised land,

but you opened my side with a spear;

I washed your feet as a sign of my love,

but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**R/. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me.

I lifted you up to the heights,

but you lifted me high on a cross;

I raised you from death and prepared for you the tree of life,

but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**R/. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me.

I grafted you into my people Israel,

but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt,

and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**R/. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me.

I came to you in the least of your brothers and sisters,

but I was hungry and you gave me no food,

thirsty and you gave me no drink,

a stranger and you did not welcome me,

naked and you did not clothe me,

sick and in prison and you did not visit me,

and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**R/. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us:

R/. Save us and help us, we humbly pray, O Lord.

***(While church is in darkness, choir leads congregation in singing
“Jesus, Remember me.”)***

Jesus, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom.

***(After light reappears, the congregation departs in silence, following the
Choir, Acolytes and Clergy.)***

Tenebrae is a Latin word which means *shadows*. It is the name given to the ancient night services for *Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday*. For over a thousand years, these services have been conducted by the Church as devotionals for the events of the Resurrection.

The most conspicuous symbol of these services is the candelabrum called a *Tenebrae Hearse*. During the final part of the service, the candles are gradually extinguished, reminding us of the way in which one apostle after another left our Lord. One candle remains, a symbol of our Lord alone, crying out: *Where are you, O My people?*

The last candle is not extinguished, but is carried behind the Altar and shielded. The church is in complete darkness. A rumbling is heard which reminds us of the earthquake at the moment of Jesus' death. The candle is then brought before the Altar as a ray of hope, anticipating the glorious Easter Paschal Light. The candle is then placed on the *hearse* and the congregation, following the acolytes, choir and clergy, departs in silence.

***Holy Saturday - The Great Vigil of Easter - 7:30pm
Easter The Festival of the Resurrection, 2026
6:30am at Sunken Meadow State Park
9:00am and 11:00am at Abiding Presence Church***

***Festival Eucharists: Choirs, Instrumentalists, Organ, Hand Bells,
Easter Hymns, and Holy Communion.***

THE PARISH COUNCIL

*If you would like contact information for the council members listed below,
please call the church office at 631-269-6454.*

- Joanne Pitfick, President
- Pr. Robert Schoepflin, Vice-President
- Brian Ansink, Fellowship
- Karen Garone, Finance
- Joie Burkhardt, Treasurer
- Karen Garone, Assistant Treasurer
- Mark Waldron, Assistant Treasurer
- Arthur Wakefield, Assistant Treasurer
- Barbara Kaifler, Secretary
- Marina Bedrossian, Youth
- Paul Fick, Property
- Karen Wallin, Social Ministries
- Betty Bose, Music and Worship
- Aubrey Minton, Christian Education
- Paul Farber, Stewardship
- Lauri Christiansen-Wegener, Outreach and Marketing (Evangelism)

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Sunday Schedule	9:30am In person and Live stream via YouTube	The Holy Eucharist
Sunday school N3 – Grade 5	9:30am In person	
Monday Schedule	7:30pm In person	The Holy Eucharist

OUR MISSION

The mission of Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, a spiritual home centered in Christ and community, is to share Jesus’ love in our words and in our works as we welcome all to the family of God.



CHURCH WEBSITE



PRESCHOOL WEBSITE

**Church: www.abidingpresencechurch.org email: abidingpresenceoffice@gmail.com
Preschool: www.abidingpresencepreschool.com email: aplcpreschool@gmail.com**