



BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
15 WEST 14TH STREET, SPENCER, IA 51301
www.bethluthspencer.com

GOOD FRIDAY-APRIL 3, 2026

PRELUDE: *"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"* Jason W. Krug, Tune: ST. CHRISTOPHER

PRAYER OF THE DAY (in unison)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

GOSPEL ACCLIMATION: *"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"*

ELW #351 vs. 1 & 3

GOSPEL

John 18:1-19:42

John 18:1-14

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

ELW #349 vs. 1

John 18:15-27

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

ELW #349 vs. 2

John 18:28-40

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

ELW #349 vs. 3

John 19:1-16a

"Were You There"

ELW #353 vs. 1 & 2

John 19: 16b-30

"Were You There"

ELW #353 vs. 3 & 4

John 19:31-42

HYMN OF THE DAY: *"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"*

ELW #351 vs. 2 & 4

BIDDING PRAYERS

Leader concludes each prayer: We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Congregation: Amen

Silent prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

Behold the life-giving cross,
on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

Congregation: *Oh, come, let us worship him.*

Behold the life-giving cross,
on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

Congregation: *Oh, come, let us worship him.*

Behold the life-giving cross,
on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

Congregation: *Oh, come, let us worship him.*

HYMN: "*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*"

ELW #338

WHEN YOU ARE READY, PLEASE LEAVE IN SILENCE



♪ Worship Notes ♪

Thank you for joining us for our Good Friday worship service this evening here at Bethany and in our livestream to homes near and far away. It is our hope that each of you experience the love of Christ and His presence during our worship service today.

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples 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 at Easter Worship.

Be sure to join us for worship on Easter Sunday, April 5 at 9am to hear the rest of the Easter story. Fellowship time and an Easter Egg hunt will follow the service. All are welcome!

NOTE-Sunday Worship is rebroadcast on SMU CH #2: Tuesday-5pm, Wednesday-10am or can be found on You Tube (search Bethany Lutheran Church, Spencer IA)

Worship leaders are:

Pastor Erma Wolf and Elina Leander Ozolins, pianist-organist.

A heartfelt thank you to our worship volunteers:

Greeters: Danny & Candy Huber

Usher: Kent Baker

Readers: Judy Hiemstra, Rhonda Salts, and Deb Mechler