

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Vibrantly open to the spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church serves God and its neighbors by joyfully living and sharing the Good News.

Sunday, February 25, 2018

Second Sunday of Lent

Aaron Holmgren, Pastor

Jan Smith, Organist

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Gathering Hymn "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" ELW # 324

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

During the season of Lent we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart. Let us confess our sin and seek reconciliation with God and neighbor.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

Merciful God, You sent Jesus Christ to save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We fail in love, neglect justice, and ignore your truth. Have mercy on us and wash away our sin. Create in us clean hearts for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Behold, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation. Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen**

Kyrie ELW # 157

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray; **O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you redefined the meaning of glory in this world. Grant us the strength to carry our cross that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Choir "What Wondrous Love Is This" by Jack Schrader

WORD

First Reading Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message "Life Changing"

Second Reading Romans 4:13-25

Lenten Acclamation ELW # 176

The holy gospel according to Mark the eighth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading Mark 8:31-38 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon "The World Turned Upside Down"

Hymn of the Day "Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery" ELW # 334 (final stanza=Lent 2)

Prayers of Intercession Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Peace The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Offering

We now enter into a time of offering where we joyously share in God's abundance.

Offertory Hymn "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" ELW # 184

Offertory Prayer

Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. Amen

MEAL

We now share in Christ's holy meal of forgiveness, love, and grace.

Table Prayer **Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. Let these gifts to us be blest. Amen.**

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer (p. 112)

Distribution Hymns "O Lamb of God" ELW # 198

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" ELW # 803

SENDING

Blessing

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as beloved children, strengthen you and renew your strength. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace. **Amen**

Sending Hymn "If You But Trust in God to Guide You" ELW # 769

Dismissal Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude