

## BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Vibrantly open to the spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church seeks to serve God and its neighbors by joyfully living into the good news of Jesus Christ.*

Sunday, February 19, 2023

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Praise Service/WELCA Thankoffering Service

Stefan Swanson, Interim Vicar

Jan Smith, Accompanist

GivePlus Text 866-298-7547

### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

Prelude

Gathering Songs

Green Binder #3 "This is the Day"

Green Binder #123 "Days of Elijah"

Green Binder #84 "How Shall I Call You?"

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God,  
who makes all things new,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Holy One, source of our renewal,

**We confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Thus says our God:

"The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of +Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

Entrance Song

GB #129 "I Will Call Upon the Lord"

Prayer of the Day

O God, with our whole hearts,

**we give you thanks.**

For your loving kindness and tender mercies,

**we give you thanks.**

For the rest and restoration you gift to the earth,

**we give you thanks.**

Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit,

**we give you thanks. Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

First Reading Exodus 24:12-18

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 2 (read responsively)

Second Reading 2 Peter 1:16-21

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

Gospel Song GB #5 "Open Our Eyes"

Gospel Reading Matthew 17:1-9

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Song of the Day GB #131 "I Saw the Light"

Apostles Creed

Prayers of the People

We pray, **with thanksgiving in our heart.**

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

Offering

Offertory Prayer

**O God, we give you thanks for your overwhelming generosity toward all your children. We thank you for the ministry of the Women of the ELCA. Help us to continually heed your call to go out of this building, and into the neighborhood, that we might be for our communities signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Offertory Song GB #65 "I Surrender All"

Communion

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Communion Song GB #68 "Fear Not" (I Love You This Much)

Prayer after Communion

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

Benediction Song GB #25 "The Lord Bless Thee"

Blessing

The God who faithfully brings justice and breaks the oppressor's rod +bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today, and always. **Amen.**

Sending Song GB #91 "Send Us Out"

Sending Words

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

# WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—February 19, 2023, Transfiguration of Our Lord

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT** Vibrantly open to the Spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church seeks to serve God and its neighbors by joyfully living into the good news of Jesus Christ.

**QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS?** Please contact the church office at 320-395-2125 at [bethellutheranlp@gmail.com](mailto:bethellutheranlp@gmail.com) or [pastor@lpbethel.org](mailto:pastor@lpbethel.org). For emergency pastoral care needs, please call the church office first, and if nobody answers, call Vicar Stefan at 320-434-7113. Bulletin submissions due: Wednesdays at noon. Newsletter deadline: 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## TODAY

- **Hearing assist devices are available:** Speak to an usher for assistance.
- **Sunday school and Confirmation class:** 10:15 am
- **The Chosen video series-Season 2:** 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

## MONDAY

- **Coffee hour:** 8:30 am-9:30 am

## **ASH WEDNESDAY-LENT BEGINS**

- **Quilting:** 1:00 pm-4:30 pm
- **Ash Wednesday supper:** 5:15 pm-6:00 pm, serving chili and hotdogs
- **Choir practice:** 6:00 pm during Lent
- **Ash Wednesday Worship:** 6:30 pm

## **SUNDAY** (1 Lent)

- **Worship** at 9:00 am (Noisy offering)
- **Sunday school and Confirmation class:** 10:15 am
- **The Chosen video series-Season 2:** 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

**March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29—**Lenten worship services: 6:30 pm

Lenten suppers: 5:15 pm-6:00 pm, free will offering (We are looking for people to host suppers on March 1, 15, 22, and 29. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. If you have questions speak to a WELCA member.)

**Thank you** to our Worship Team for leading us in song today! If you have a favorite song you would like included next time, talk to Lloyd Wortz.

**March Book Club:** *Everything Isn't Terrible: Conquer Your Insecurities, Interrupt Your Anxiety, and Finally Calm Down* by Dr. Kathleen Smith—Licensed therapist and mental health writer Dr. Kathleen Smith offers a smart, practical antidote to our anxiety-ridden times. *Everything Isn't Terrible* is an informative and practical guide—featuring a healthy dose of humor—for people who want to become beacons of calmness in their families, at work, and in our anxious world. *Everything Isn't Terrible* will give anyone suffering from anxiety all the tools they need to finally...calm...down. Ultimately, living a calmer and less anxious life—one that isn't terrible—is possible, and with this book you'll learn how to do it.

**Discussion date:** Wednesday, March 15, 7:30 pm

**WELCA offering:** Envelopes have been placed in church mailboxes ahead of a special offering to be taken on Sunday, February 15, for our Churchwide WELCA organization which provides educational materials, programming support, and more for our local WELCA unit.

**Save the Date!** Bethel Women's Retreat at Green Lake Bible Camp's Medayto Lodge, September 8-10, 2023.

**Next WELCA planning meeting:** Tuesday, March 7, 6:30 pm at church. All women of Bethel are welcome to join in!

**Bethel Quilting:** The group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month in the Fellowship Hall from 1:00 pm-4:30 pm—come and go as you wish. (*If you are interested in evening quilting, call Judy or Roxanne.*) Quilts worked on are for baptized babies, graduates, GLLM Quilt auction, and Don't Cry I'm Here (homeless shelter).

**On the fourth Sunday of the month the “Noisy” offering** supports camperships for Bethel youth attending Green Lake Bible Camp. On your way out of the sanctuary, drop your loose change into the metal can with a clang! Although paper bills and checks won't have the same noisy effect, they will be accepted and appreciated! (2/26)

**Volunteer sign up sheets are posted** on the bulletin board. Please consider how you can serve here at Bethel in 2023! If you have questions contact the chairperson listed at the top of the sign-up sheet. *Experience is not necessary—you will have help!*