

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.

Midweek Lenten Service

Stefan Swanson, Interim Vicar

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Jan Smith, Accompanist

Taizé Style, Week 2

GivePlus Text 866-298-7547

WELCOME

OPENING SONG

ACS #1033 "Nothing Can Trouble"

PSALM READING (read responsively) Psalm 128

PSALM RESPONSE SONG ELW #751 "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

SCRIPTURE READING 2 Corinthians 5:11-21 (on back side)

REFLECTIVE MEDITATION

During this time of meditation, you are invited to rest, breathe, and reflect in whatever way is life-giving for you.

Here are some ideas –

Where and how are you noticing things in your own life which might need to be left behind?

Where and how are you noticing new creation in your own life?

Where in your life could you experience reconciliation?

Use the crayons and paper to create something new here tonight.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

CLOSING SONG

ACS #1069 "God Bestows on Every Sense"

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences.

We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.