

## 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.*

Second Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023

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

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, who journeys with us in the wilderness, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

**Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy. *(Silence is kept for reflection)*

Holy God,

**We confess to you our faults and failings. We neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. God embraces you with divine mercy, +forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

**Amen.**

Gathering Hymn "As the Winter Days Grow Longer" ACS #924

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Kyrie (ELW p. 138)

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray,

**O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

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

First Reading      Genesis 12:1-4a      The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 121 (read responsively)

Second Reading      Romans 4:1-5, 13-17      The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 142) **Return to the Lord, your God...**

The Holy Gospel according to John the third chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel      John 3:1-17      The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day      "God Loved the World" ELW #323

Apostles Creed (p. 105)

Prayers of Intercession      Merciful God. **Receive our prayer.**

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

**God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Jesus Christ, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving (ELW p. 144)

Words of Institution

Hymn      "The Lord's Prayer" Green Binder #134

Communion

Communion Hymns (ELW p. 146) **O Lamb of God...**

"As the Wind Song" ACS #943

Prayer after Communion

## SENDING

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

Blessing

Sending Hymn      "Lift High the Cross" ELW #660

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love.

**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

# WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—March 5, 2023, Second Sunday in Lent

**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.
- **Congregational meeting**: The meeting will follow the worship service. This is in regard to the purchase of a new organ for the sanctuary.
- **The Chosen video series-Season 2**: 6:00 pm-7:30 pm (Everyone is welcome to join at any time! Stream the episodes you missed or view them on your phone app.)

## MONDAY

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

## TUESDAY

**WELCA planning meeting**: 6:30 pm, All women of Bethel are welcome to join in!

## WEDNESDAY

- **Quilting**: 1:00 pm-4:30 pm
- **Lenten supper**: 5:15 pm-6:00 pm
- **Choir practice**: 6:00 pm (during Lent)
- **Lenten service**: 6:30 pm

## SUNDAY (Third Sunday in Lent)

- **Worship**: 9:00 am
- **The Chosen video series-Season 2**: 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

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

Lenten suppers: 5:15 pm-6 pm, free will offering, the menu is posted in the narthex

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

**Ukrainian Egg Decorating** at Bethel on Sunday, March 12, from 10:30 am-1:00 pm. It's that time again! Easter is coming! Roxanne Simonds and Alexandra Woodmansee will be doing a demonstration and class in Ukrainian Eggs. Come and watch or make an egg to take home! Adults and children can make an egg, but kids under 10 need an adult to help them. All supplies will be provided free of charge. Alexandra has been making eggs since she was a child. Her family came here from Ukraine. Learn the history and the symbols that get dyed onto the eggs. A great family activity to celebrate Easter!

**March Book Club:** *Aftermath* by Terri Blackstock

Three best friends are rocking to the music of their favorite band—until an explosion rips through the venue. Later, the police stop army veteran and security systems expert Dustin Webb and discover a trunk full of incendiary devices in his car. How did they get there? Can attorney and childhood friend Jamie Powell discover who's framing Dustin—and why? **Discussion date:** Wed., March 15, 7:30 pm

**Crow River Conference Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering—Saturday, April 22**

Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 211 E Atlantic AVE, Dassel, MN 55325. Registration begins at 8:00 am. Brunch begins at 8:30 am. Theme: "Angel Dress Ministry" with Guest Speaker, Patty Hauer. Offering: 50% to SW MN Synod Women of the ELCA and 50% to Dassel Summer Lunch Program. In Kind offering: Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kits. You may bring any kits, quilts, and shipping cost contributions. Reservation: \$10 payable to Diane Horsman by April 12. Questions can be directed to Jill Duncan.

**Volunteer Sign Up:** Check out the opportunities to volunteer on the bulletin board by the office. If something interests you sign up! Experience is not necessary to volunteer! *New people are needed!* If you have questions contact the chairperson listed at the top of the sign-up sheet.

**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! (March 26)