

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, March 3, 2024
Third Sunday in Lent
ELW Setting 10

Rev. Molly Wills, Bethel Pastor
Jan Smith, Accompanist
GivePlus Text 866-298-7547

GATHERING

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

Prelude "Fairest Lord Jesus" arr. by Tedd Smith and Don Hustad
"Lead Me to Calvary" arr. by Tedd Smith and Don Hustad
Jan Smith and Elaine Olson

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection

Holy God, **we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

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

Greeting (p. 203)

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. 203) **Have mercy on us, Lord...**

Canticle of Praise (ELW p. 204) **Glory be to God in heaven...**

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through 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 Exodus 20:1-17 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 19 (read responsively)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 205)

We are turning, Lord, to hear you; you are merciful and kind-slow to anger, rich in blessing, and with love to us inclined.

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

Gospel Reading John 2:13-22 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Apostles Creed (ELW p. 105)

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

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offertory "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Terri Helland

Offering Prayer

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving (ELW p. 206)

Preface for the Day (ELW p. 207) **Holy, holy, holy Lord...**

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

Communion (p. 208) **O Lamb of God...**

Communion Hymn "How Great Thou Art" ELW #856

Prayer after Communion

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

SENDING

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

Blessing

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Song "God of grace and God of Glory" ELW #705

Dismissal Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude "Psalm 19" by Benedetto Marcello

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—March 3, 2024, Third 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. For emergency pastoral care needs, please contact the church office first, and if nobody answers, call Pastor Molly Wills at 320-339-8169. Bulletin submissions due: Wednesdays at noon.

Newsletter deadline: 25th of the month. **GivePlus Text 866-298-7547**

SIMPLY GIVING offers convenience for you and much needed consistency for Bethel! Try it this summer! If you have questions contact Stacy Meyer, Financial Secretary, at finsec@lpbethel.org.

TODAY

- Hearing assist devices are available: speak to an usher for assistance
- Large print hymns are available: contact the office if you'd like to use them
- McLeod Em. Food Shelf March Campaign: donation envelopes available
- Sunday school/Confirmation/Adult Education: following worship

MONDAY (4/4)

- Bible study: 1:30 pm

TUESDAY (4/5)

- Quilting: 1:00-4:30 pm
- WELCA meeting: 6:30 pm

WEDNESDAY (4/6)

- Lenten supper: 5:00-6:15 pm (baked potato bar)
- Choir practice: 5:45 pm
- Holden Evening Prayer: 6:30 pm

SUNDAY (4/10)

- Worship: 9:00 am (Daylight Saving Time begins)
- Sunday School/Adult Education: following worship
- Bethel Lutheran Teens event: 10:00 am-11:00 am, Fellowship Hall, (see details on opposite page)

A Lenten meal will be served every Wednesday night throughout the Lenten season from 5:00-6:15 pm (free will offering). Help with clean up is appreciated! Next week's menu: baked potato bar and bars **Holden Evening Prayer**: 6:30 pm.

Seeking Lenten worship service volunteer for March 6: Pastor Molly wants to get to know the people from the congregation! One way to do this is for her to interview people during the Wednesday night Lenten services or have people speak during the service for 5-10 minutes. She wrote up a set of questions people can choose from to answer in an interview or during the talk. If you are willing to be interviewed or speak, please email Pastor Molly (pastor@lpbethel.org) or sign up on the bulletin board so she can get you on the schedule and send you the questions to look through!

WELCA Lenten Mission Project: Celebration Bank: Bring your change to worship on Sundays during Lent, drop it in the *Celebration Bank*, and tell us what you are celebrating! It could be a birthday, anniversary, losing a tooth, the "all clear" to start sports again after an injury, or whatever you are celebrating! Our goal is to purchase a goat through the ELCA Good Gifts program.

MEFS March Campaign: WELCA will hand out envelopes on Sunday, March 3 and 10, for the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf March Campaign. Please make checks out to Bethel Lutheran Church. Bethel will write one check to the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf at the end of the campaign.

Bethel Lutheran Teens are invited to a March Madness Oreo Tasting and Books of the Bible Spoons event on Sunday, March 10, from 10:00 am-11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your ideas that BLTs could participate in and enjoy throughout the year. If you can't make the event but would like to fill out a survey, you can pick one up on the bulletin board. Questions? Contact Terri Helland at terrihelland@gmail.com

March Book Club: *All the Light You We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr
A book about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. A copy of the book will be available in Bethel's library.

Discussion date: Wednesday, March 20, 7:30 pm.