

## 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 10, 2024  
Fourth Sunday in Lent  
ELW Setting 10

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

### GATHERING

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

Prelude "There in God's Garden" arr. by Jeremy Young  
"Amazing Grace" arr. by Mark Albrecht

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 "Just As I Am, without One Plea" ELW #592

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

**O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Choir Anthem "Sim Shalom" by Jennaya Robinson

### WORD

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

First Reading Numbers 21:4-9 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**  
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (read responsively)

Second Reading Ephesians 2:1-10

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 third chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading John 3:14-21 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "What Wondrous Love Is This" ELW #666

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 "As a Deer" arr. by Patricia Sanders Cota

Chime Choir

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...**

Lord's Prayer (p. 208)

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

Communion Hymn "For by Grace You Have Been Saved" ELW #598

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 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" ELW #779

Dismissal Go in peace. Share your bread.

**Thanks be to God.**

# WELCOME

## Bethel Lutheran Church—March 10, 2024, Fourth 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). 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: 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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, please make checks out to Bethel Lutheran Church.
- Sunday school/Adult Education: following worship
- Bethel Lutheran Teens March Madness event: 10:00-11:00 am, Fellowship Hall

### MONDAY (3/11)

- Bible study: 1:30 pm
- Council meeting: 6:00 pm

### TUESDAY (3/12)

- Quilting: 1:00-4:30 pm

### WEDNESDAY (3/13)

- Worship meeting: 4:00 pm
- Lenten supper: 5:00-6:15 pm (turkey, bars)
- Choir practice: 5:45 pm
- Holden Evening Prayer: 6:30 pm

### SUNDAY (3/17)

- Praise Worship: 9:00 am
- Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Education: following worship

**Note:** Bethel Breakfast will be on Sunday, March 24, 10:30 am, at Longhorn's.

**Bethel Lutheran Teens (BLTs) March Madness event TODAY:** Oreo Tasting and Books of the Bible Spoons game, 10:00 am-11:00, Fellowship Hall. Bring your ideas to 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 from the bulletin board. Questions? Contact Terri Helland at [terrihelland@gmail.com](mailto:terrihelland@gmail.com)

**Music Notes:** The Choir Anthem today, "Sim Shalom", was written by Jennaya Robinson, Artistic Director of the National Lutheran Choir and church musician at the First Lutheran Church in Mission Hills, Kansas. This song is a prayer for peace and is sung by the choir using the Hebrew text. The English translation is: "Grant peace, goodness, and blessing to us and unto all Israel, your people." It was the hope of the composer that this melody would be one that singers and listeners could carry with them into their daily lives. Recently, ten members of the Bethel Choir attended a Choral Tune-Up in Roseville, conducted by Jennaya Robinson. It was an opportunity to learn new music for worship under her direction with approximately 300 vocalists. This included members of the NLC and choir members from churches across the region. The group studied four pieces of music that could be used in a worship setting throughout the year. Three out of the four composers of the songs were in attendance that day. The choir will share other choral pieces learned at the Tune-Up in the future. (By the way, Pastor Aaron is a member of the National Lutheran Choir and was eager to send greetings to Bethel!)

**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.

**Thank you** for the thoughts, prayers, and cards we have received after the loss of my Dad, Al Bongard. We appreciate the support of our Bethel family and friends. Daved, Katie, Oliver, Grace, Max, and Luke Anderson-Petersen.

**The Easter Flower Sign-up sheet** has been posted on the bulletin board. Indicate which type of flower and designation you want. Make your checks out to Bethel Lutheran and give it to Judy Angvall.

**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.