

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 17, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Rev. Molly Wills, Pastor

Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

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

Prelude "All Are Welcome" by Marty Haugen; "Thy Holy Wings" Swedish folk
tune; "Child of the Water" by Hans Peterson, Larry Olson, David Lee Brown

Gathering Songs Green Binder #102 "Here I am to Worship"
Green Binder #84 "How Shall I Call You?"
Green Binder #82 "Go, Make Disciples"
Green Binder #45 "In His Time"

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 God, and 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.**

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to
us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the
promise of life through ☩ Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Song of Praise (two-sided insert) "Made for Love"

Prayer of the Day

**O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive
our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life
and death we may live in 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

Jeremiah 31:31-34 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 51:1-12 (read responsively)
Second Reading Hebrews 5:5-10 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**
Gospel Acclamation (insert) "Help Us Lord"
Gospel Reading John 12:20-33 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**
Children's Sermon
Sermon
Song of the Day ELW #732 "Borning Cry"
Holy Baptism of Millie Mae Heuer (p. 227-231)
Prayers of the People Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
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 Green Binder #26 "Give Thanks"
Offertory 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.

Communion

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer (p. 112, ELW)

Communion Song ACS #969 "Welcome Table"

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. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

Benediction Song (insert) "Blessing"

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 Green Binder # 91 "Send Us Out"

Sending Words Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude "Go, My Children, With My Blessing" arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—March 17, 2024-First 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 call 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
- Sunday School, Confirmation, and Adult Education: following worship

MONDAY 3/18

- Bible study: 1:30 pm

TUESDAY 3/19 (spring begins)

- Quilting: 1:00-4:30 pm

WEDNESDAY 3/20

- Lenten supper: 5:00-6:15 pm, tacos and bars, free will offering
- Choir practice: 5:45 pm
- Holden Evening Prayer: 6:30 pm
- Book Club discussion: 7:30 pm, *All the Light You We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr

SUNDAY 3/24 (Palm Sunday)

- Worship: 9:00 am
- Noisy offering: drop your coins [cash or check] in the tin can on your way out of the sanctuary. (Supports Bethel Youth Camperships)
- Sunday school: following worship
- Bethel Breakfast: 10:30 am at Longhorn's

Bethel welcomes a new member into God's family: Millie Mae Heuer, child of Heather and Peter Heuer, born February 4, 2024. Millie's sponsors are Jenna Pariseau, Crystal Paumen, Celeste Hinman, and Sophia Heuer (Millie's aunts). May God bless you, Millie, today and always!

WELCA Lenten Mission Project: Celebration Bank: Bring your change to worship on Sundays through March 24, 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.

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.

Holy Week schedule:

Palm Sunday, March 24: 9:00 am worship

Maundy Thursday, March 28: 6:30 Agape Meal & Foot Washing (Fellowship Hall)

Good Friday, March 29: 6:30 worship

Easter Sunday, March 31: 9:00 am worship, 10:00 am Brunch (Fellowship Hall)

Agape Meal volunteers: We are looking for volunteers to make four pots of soup for an Agape Meal Maundy Thursday service. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board near the offices.

Hey Kids! Next Sunday, March 24, is Palm Sunday and we are asking kids to carry palms and wave them around during the first song! We'll ask you to stay in the narthex until the congregation starts singing and then come into the sanctuary together, waving your palms. Pastor Molly will lead you into the sanctuary.

A Community Meet & Greet: Wednesday, April 3, 4:00 pm-6:00 pm, McLeod Food Shelf, 719 13th ST E, Glencoe. Meet the new Executive Director, Carrie Lewis, board members, and dedicated volunteers. Light refreshments will be served. Reminder-the March Campaign will still be going, please consider donating.

Bethel Youth Bible Camp Fundraiser: Monday, April 8, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm, Unhinged Pizza, Glencoe. Bring family, friends, neighbors and join us for food, fun, and fellowship while supporting our Bethel Youth! A percentage of all "buffet dinners" and all the tips will go to support the Bethel Youth Campers!