

Bethany Lutheran Church

3rd SUNDAY IN LENT

March 12, 2023

8:00 & 9:30 AM

WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are so glad you are here in God's house for worship. Here are some things to remember as we are gathered together today:

Before worship, talk to God! (see inside cover of hymnal for pre-service prayer prompts)

During worship, let God talk to you!

After worship, talk to one another; and if you're a visitor, please stop by the Connections table before you leave today and capture the QR codes for more information.

Parents of Young Children: *We love to have children in worship.* God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to completely suppress it in God's house. We know the presence of children in worship is a gift to the church! It is in the Lord's house that we learn how to listen and speak to our God with our brothers and sisters in faith. Feel free to quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of those leading worship. Children learn how to worship by copying you. If you have a need, we have "worship bags" in the Narthex filled with items to help children and families during worship. There is a **Cry Room** across the courtyard in the office complex, where you as a parent may take your little one needing a break. You will still be able to hear the worship service; and thus be able to continue your worship of the Lord.

Please place cell phones and electronic devices on mute as you join us in worship this morning. Thank you.

PRELUDE: ***“Andante Sostenuto from Symphony Gothique, Op. 70”*** Organ
 ~ Charles-Marie Widor

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain"**LSB 435**

1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -
4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -
by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,
tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er
Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -
From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -
pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.
deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Based on Ephesians 3:17-19)

Leader: May God the Father strengthen you with power
through His Spirit in your inner being,
so that Christ may dwell in your heart through faith;
so that you, being rooted and established in love,
may have power together with all the saints
to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ
that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Leader: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves
and we are not rooted in the truth.

People: **But if we confess our sins,
God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Leader: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God,
we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.
We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved You with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.
For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will
and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for His sake God forgives us all our sins.
Those who believe in Jesus Christ are God's own children
and on them He bestows His Holy Spirit.
May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us,
bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: *(Luther's Small Catechism)*

Leader: Your kingdom comes Lord when You give us Your Holy Spirit.

People: **So send us Your Spirit we pray Lord, that we believe Your Word,
lead godly lives that bear witness to You,
and share the love of Christ in what we do and say
that many might welcome Your kingdom come. Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: *Exodus 17:1-7*

The whole community of Israelites left the desert of Sin and traveled from place to place as the LORD commanded them. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they complained to Moses by saying, “Give us water to drink!”

Moses said to them, “Why are you complaining to me? Why are you testing the LORD?”

But the people were thirsty for water there. They complained to Moses and asked, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt? Was it to make us, our children, and our livestock die of thirst?”

So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What should I do with these people? They’re almost ready to stone me!”

The LORD answered Moses, “Bring some of the leaders of Israel with you, and go to where the people can see you. Take the staff you used to strike the Nile River. I’ll be standing in front of you there by a rock at Mount Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.”

Moses did this while the leaders of Israel watched him.

He named that place Massah [Testing] and Meribah [Complaining] because the Israelites complained and because they tested the LORD, asking, “Is the LORD with us or not?”

– GW ®

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: *Romans 5:1-8*

Now that we have God’s approval by faith, we have peace with God because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done. Through Christ we can approach God and stand in His favor. So we brag because of our confidence that we will receive glory from God. But that’s not all. We also brag when we are suffering. We know that suffering creates endurance, endurance creates character, and character creates confidence. We’re not ashamed to have this confidence, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Look at it this way: At the right time, while we were still helpless, Christ died for ungodly people. Finding someone who would die for a godly person is rare. Maybe someone would have the courage to die for a good person. Christ died for us while we were still sinners. This demonstrates God’s love for us. – GW ®

CHILDREN’S SERMON

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *John 4:5-30, 39-42*

He arrived at a city in Samaria called Sychar. Sychar was near the piece of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s Well was there. Jesus sat down by the well because He was tired from traveling. The time was about noon.

A Samaritan woman went to get some water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink of water.” (His disciples had gone into the city to buy some food.)

The Samaritan woman asked Him, “How can a Jewish man like You ask a Samaritan woman like me for a drink of water?” (Jews, of course, don’t associate with Samaritans.)

Jesus replied to her, “If you only knew what God’s gift is and Who is asking you for a drink, you would have asked Him for a drink. He would have given you living water.”

The woman said to Him, “Sir, You don’t have anything to use to get water, and the well is deep. So where are You going to get this living water? You’re not more important than our ancestor Jacob, are You? He gave us this well. He and his sons and his animals drank water from it.”

Jesus answered her, “Everyone who drinks this water will become thirsty again. But those who drink the water that I will give them will never become thirsty again. In fact, the water I will give them will become in them a spring that gushes up to eternal life.”

The woman told Jesus, “Sir, give me this water! Then I won’t get thirsty or have to come here to get water.”

Jesus told her, “Go to your husband, and bring him here.”

The woman replied, “I don’t have a husband.”

Jesus told her, “You’re right when you say that you don’t have a husband. You’ve had five husbands, and the man you have now isn’t your husband. You’ve told the truth.”

The woman said to Jesus, “I see that you’re a prophet! Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain. But You Jews say that people must worship in Jerusalem.”

Jesus told her, “Believe me. A time is coming when you Samaritans won’t be worshiping the Father on this mountain or in Jerusalem. You don’t know what you’re worshiping. We Jews know what we’re worshiping, because salvation comes from the Jews. Indeed, the time is coming, and it is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth. The Father is looking for people like that to worship Him. God is a spirit. Those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

The woman said to Him, “I know that the Messiah is coming. When He comes, He will tell us everything.” (*Messiah* is the one called *Christ*.)

Jesus told her, “I am He, and I am speaking to you now.” ...

At that time His disciples returned. They were surprised that He was talking to a woman. But none of them asked Him, “What do you want from her?” or “Why are you talking to her?”

Then the woman left her water jar and went back into the city. She told the people, “Come with me, and meet a man who told me everything I’ve ever done. Could He be the Messiah?” The people left the city and went to meet Jesus...

Many Samaritans in that city believed in Jesus because of the woman who said, “He told me everything I’ve ever done.” So when the Samaritans went to Jesus, they asked Him to stay with them. He stayed in Samaria for two days. Many more Samaritans believed because of what Jesus said. They told the woman, “Our faith is no longer based on what you’ve said. We have heard Him ourselves, and we know that He really is the Savior of the world.” – GW ®

SERMON HYMN: *“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”* LSB 849



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two-edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

SERMON: *“Why and How Should I Tell Others”*

Text: John 4:5-30, 39-42

HYMN OF THE DAY: "How Shall They Hear, Who Have Not Heard" LSB 831

1 "How shall they hear," who have not heard
 2 "To all the world," to ev'ry place,
 3 "Whom shall I send?" Who hears the call,
 5 Spir - it of love, with - in us move:

News of a Lord who loved and came;
 Neigh - bors and friends and far - off lands,
 Con - stant in prayer, through toil and pain,
 Spir - it of truth, in pow'r come down!

Nor known His rec - on - cil - ing word,
 Preach the good news of sav - ing grace;
 Tell - ing of One who died for all,
 So shall they hear and find and prove

Nor learned to trust a Sav - ior's name?
 Go while the great com - mis - sion stands.
 To bring a lost world home a - gain?
 Christ is their life, their joy, their crown.

APOSTLES' CREED: (* catholic means the universal Christian Church)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the virgin Mary.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy *catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING: *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maraley at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.**

***** For our 8:00 a.m. worshippers, the service continues on page 13 with Special Announcements.**

***** For our 9:30 a.m. worshippers, the service continues with the Celebration of Holy Communion:**

+ Holy Communion +

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

To help you prepare for communion we invite you to take a few moments of quiet prayer. For aid there are prayers on the front page of the hymnal for both before and after the reception of communion. Or simply pray, Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation You invite me to come to You, to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacrament of Your altar. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

For those communing, who so desire, the center cups in each tray are alcohol free.

The wafers next to the Christ candle side are gluten free;

for those with dietary restrictions, please take a gluten free wafer.

For those wishing to use a self-contained communion chalice, let an usher know.

In our 9:30 a.m. service we will practice the Easter tradition of continuous communion. We will not kneel at the altar, rather we will join the procession of saints and come forward and remain standing as we receive the bread and wine. After receiving the elements, you are invited to return to your seat and continue in meditation, prayer and song.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord” LSB 637

1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,
And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.
Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow
Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

"I Love to Tell the Story"

LBW 390

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; I'll sing this theme in glo - ry

and tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION:

Leader: If the root is holy, so are the branches.

People: He is the root, we are the branches.

Leader: So ever keep in the mind the kindness of God
who grafted You into Himself through Christ.
Oh, the depth of His riches and wisdom and knowledge.
For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things!

People: To Him be the glory forever! Amen!

CLOSING HYMN: *“Spread the Reign of God the Lord”* LSB 830



1 Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spo - ken, writ - ten, might-y Word;
2 Tell how God the Fa - ther's will Made the world, up - holds it still,
3 Tell of our Re-deem-er's grace, Who, to save our hu-man race
4 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n Now to guide us on to heav'n,



Ev - 'ry - where His crea-tures call To His heav'n-ly ban - quet hall.
How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.
And to pay re - bel-lion's price, Gave Him-self as sac - ri - fice.
Strong and ho - ly, just and true, Work-ing both to will and do.

- 5 Enter, mighty Word, the field;
Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few
For the work there is to do!
- 6 Lord of harvest, great and kind,
Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath'ring nations all
See Your light and heed Your call.

POSTLUDE: “Allegro maestoso e vivace from Sonate No. 2, Op. 65”

Organ

~ Felix Mendelssohn

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“Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain” LSB 435

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt. Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812-87;
setting: *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978. Text and Music: Public domain

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness” LSB 849

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955. Tune: *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844.
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“How Shall They Hear, Who Have Not Heard” LSB 831

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“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord” LSB 637

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.
Tune: *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois;
setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text and music: Public domain.

“I Love to Tell the Story” LBW 390.

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“Spread the Reign of God the Lord” LSB 830

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Tune: *Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch*, Halle, 1704, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.;
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You can hear them as podcasts on our website www.bethanylutheran.org.

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The **Bethany Bullet** is a weekly capsule of worship highlights, and important information about events taking place at Bethany Lutheran Church. If you would like to receive the **Bethany Bullet** please email Aimee Coleman at acoleman@bethanylutheran.org with your name and email address. Tell a friend about the **Bethany Bullet**!