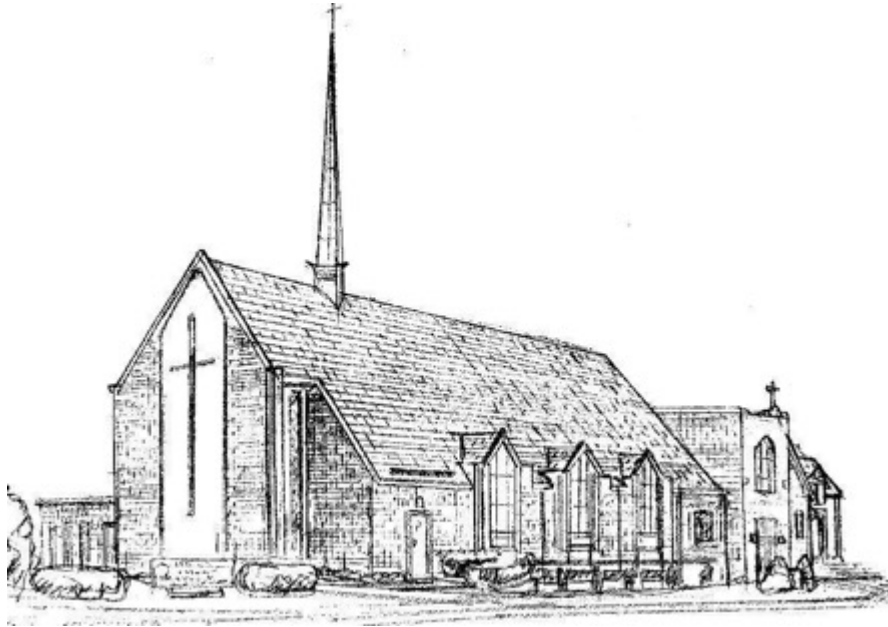


# **BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**



*Serving, accepting, and loving all.*

**Bulletin**

**Second Sunday of Lent**

**March 16, 2025**

**Daniel P. Smail & Ellen S. Lundie, Pastors**  
**Laura M. Henri, Organist and Director of Choirs**

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**Sunday, March 16, 2025**  
**Second Sunday in Lent, Year C**

**Introduction**

*Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."*

**GATHERING**

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father,

and of the † Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

A Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

A Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

A Most merciful God,

**C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### **GATHERING SONG NO. 831 The God of Abraham Praise, Verses 1-3 and 8**

1 The God of Abr'ham praise,  
who reigns enthroned above;  
Ancient of everlasting days,  
and God of love--

"I Am the One I Am"--  
by earth and heav'n confessed;  
I bow and bless the sacred name  
forever blest.

2 The God of Abr'ham praise!  
At your supreme command  
from earth I rise and seek the joys  
at your right hand.  
I all on earth forsake--  
its wisdom, fame, and pow'r--  
and you my only portion make,  
my shield and tow'r.

3 The God of Abr'ham praise!  
Your all-sufficient grace

shall guide me all my pilgrim days  
in all my ways.

You deign to call me friend;  
you call yourself my God!

And you will save me to the end  
through Jesus' blood.

8 The whole triumphant host  
give thanks to God on high.  
"Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"  
they ever cry.

Hail, Abr'ham's God and mine!

I join the heav'nly lays:  
to you be glory, might divine,  
and endless praise!

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725-1799, alt., based on the *Yigdal*, c. 14th cent.

## **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

**C** **And also with you.**

## **KYRIE (ELW Pg. 138)**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## WORD

### **FIRST READING Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18**

*God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.*

A reading from Genesis,

<sup>1</sup> After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” <sup>4</sup> But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup> He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” <sup>6</sup> And he believed the LORD, and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

<sup>7</sup> Then he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” <sup>8</sup> But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” <sup>9</sup> He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” <sup>10</sup> He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other, but he did not cut the birds in two. <sup>11</sup> And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup> As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

<sup>17</sup> When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup> On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates.”

A: The word of the Lord.

**C : Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 27**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then | shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

<sup>2</sup> **When evildoers close in against me to de- | vour my flesh,  
they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- | ble and fall.**

<sup>3</sup> Though an army encamp against me, my heart | will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will | not be shaken.

<sup>4</sup> **One thing I ask of the LORD; one | thing I seek;**

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;**

**to gaze**

**upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God | in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup> For in the day of trouble God will | give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high

up- | on a

rock.

<sup>6</sup> **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies | who surround**

**me.**

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of  
rejoicing; I**

**will sing and make music | to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup> Hear my voice, O LORD, | when I call;

have mercy on me and | answer me.

<sup>8</sup> **My heart speaks your message— | “Seek my face.”**

**Your face, O LORD, | I will seek**

<sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- | vant in  
anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God  
of | my

salvation.

<sup>10</sup> **Though my father and my moth- | er forsake me,**

**the LORD will | take me in.**

<sup>11</sup> Teach me your | way, O LORD;

lead me on a level path, because of<sup>1</sup> my oppressors.

<sup>12</sup> **Subject me not to the will<sup>1</sup> of my foes,  
for they rise up against me, false witnesses<sup>1</sup> breathing violence.**

<sup>13</sup> This I believe—that I will see the goodness<sup>1</sup> of the LORD  
in the land<sup>1</sup> of the living!

<sup>14</sup> **Wait for the LORD<sup>1</sup> and be strong.  
Take heart and wait<sup>1</sup> for the LORD!**

## **SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17—4:1**

*Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.*

A reading from Philippians,

<sup>17</sup> Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us.

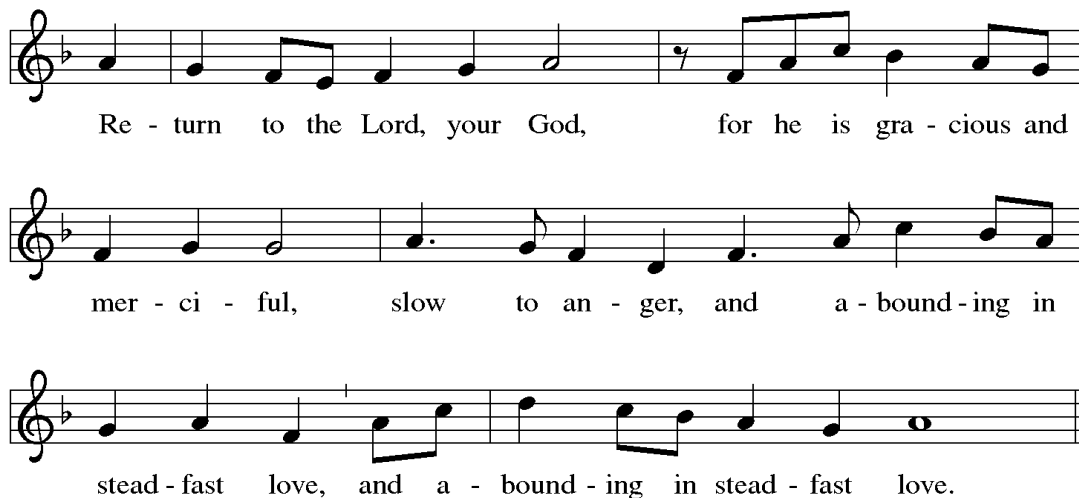
<sup>18</sup> For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. <sup>19</sup> Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup> He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. <sup>4:1</sup> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.



A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW Pg. 142)



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35

*Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.*

P: The holy gospel according to Luke,

**C Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>31</sup> At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." <sup>32</sup> He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. <sup>33</sup> Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' <sup>34</sup> Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it!

How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup> See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.' "

P The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON – *The Rev. Daniel P. Smail***

**HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 596 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**

1 My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
no merit of my own I claim,  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*Refrain*

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
all other ground is sinking sand,  
all other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face,  
I rest on his unchanging grace;  
in ev'ry high and stormy gale  
my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

3 His oath, his covenant, his blood  
sustain me in the raging flood;  
when all supports are washed away,  
he then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,  
oh, may I then in him be found,  
clothed in his righteousness alone,  
redeemed to stand before the throne! *Refrain*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world,  
and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the  
churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may  
take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God,  
in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars.  
Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the

planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers.  
God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need; especially those we name within our hearts (*a moment of silence*). May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love,  
in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.  
**Amen.**

**PEACE**

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C:** **And also with you.**

## MEAL

**OFFERING** - *Offering boxes are located in the narthex and in back of the sanctuary.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

L: Let us pray, Gracious Provider,

**C: you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.**

**As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those  
treasures with others,  
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

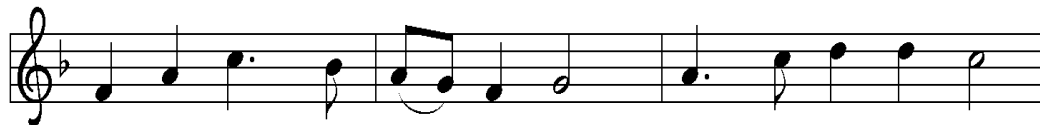
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise..**

## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....we praise your name and join  
their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW Pg. 144)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God,

our living Water and our merciful Guide,  
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs  
we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert,  
and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,  
who joined us in our desert,  
pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,  
his life, death, and resurrection,  
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food  
and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:  
wash away our sin,  
that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**Amen**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C** **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

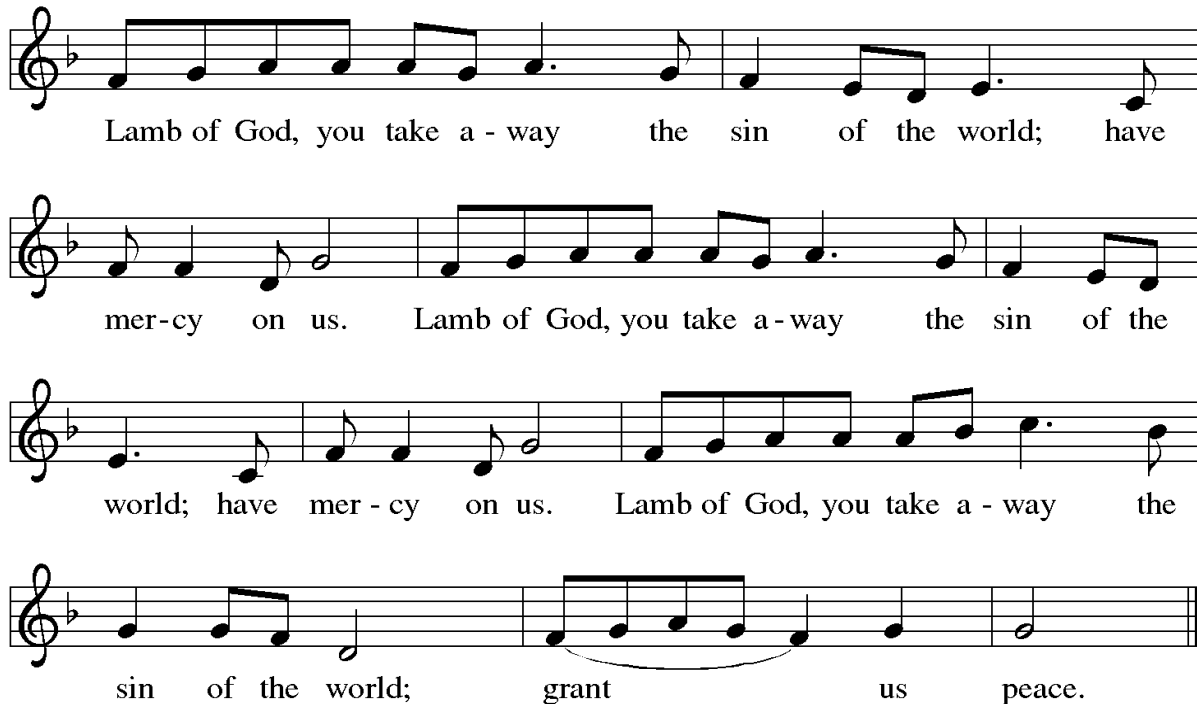
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

## COMMUNION SONG (ELW Pg. 146)



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## SENIOR CHOIR – *On the Via Dolorosa*, Douglas E. Wagner

### COMMUNION HYMN

#### NO. 727 Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth

- 1 Lord Christ, when first you came to earth,  
upon a cross they bound you,  
and mocked your saving kingship's worth  
by thorns with which they crowned you.  
And still our wrongs may fashion now  
new thorns to pierce that steady brow,  
and robe of sorrow round you.
- 2 O awesome Love, which finds no room  
in life where sin denies you,  
and, doomed to death, shall bring to doom

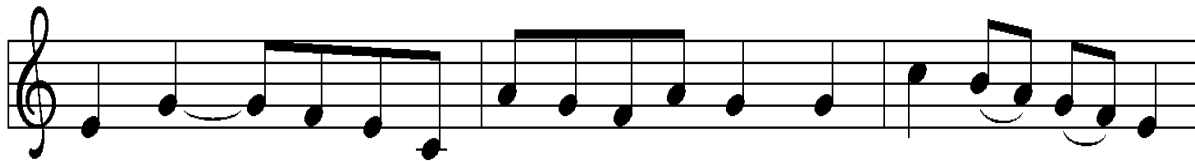


the pow'r that crucifies you,  
till not a stone is left on stone,  
and then the nations' pride, o'erthrown,  
will nevermore defy you!

3 New advent of the love of Christ,  
will we again refuse you,  
till in the night of hate and war  
we perish as we lose you?  
From ancient doubts our minds release  
to seek the kingdom of your peace,  
by which alone we choose you.

4 O wounded hands of Jesus, build  
in us your new creation;  
our pride is dust, our vaunt is stilled;  
we wait your revelation.  
O Love that triumphs over loss,  
we bring our hearts before your cross;  
come, finish your salvation.

Text: W. Russell Bowie, 1882-1969, alt.



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



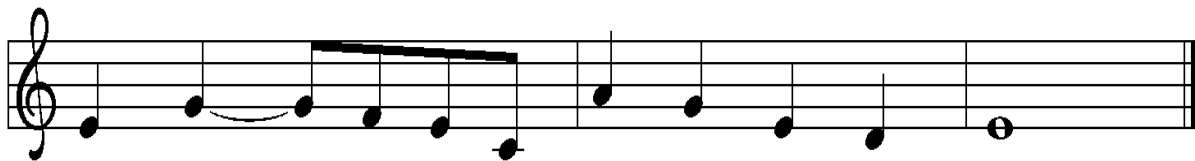
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Let us pray.

Generous Host,

you have shared your feast with us and made us new.

Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,

that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,

in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

God our tender parent,  
God the crucified one,  
God the reconciling Spirit,  
‡ bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN - NO. 705 God of Grace and God of Glory**

1 God of grace and God of glory,  
on your people pour your pow'r;  
crown your ancient church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days,

3 Cure your children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to your control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore;  
let the gift of your salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving you whom we adore,  
serving you whom we adore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969

## **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **POSTLUDE**

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## **Children's Space**

We encourage children to worship in the sanctuary as much as possible. However, we know that some days, a break may be needed. Please stop in the lounge for shorter breaks where there are coloring activities and snacks provided. All children must be accompanied by an adult. The nursery is also available downstairs in Fellowship Hall with the ability to hear the service.

## **Stained Glass & Other Crafts**

The Stained Glass and Other Crafts classes have resumed here at BELC. We meet at 10:00am and craft till around noon. We gather in the downstairs music room as we had been doing last year. If you haven't given this a try why not stop in and see what it is all about. If you do not want do stained glass work, feel free to bring your favorite craft project to work on. Everyone is welcome and it is a nice time of fellowship for those attending.

## ***Are You Interested in Becoming A Member at Bethlehem Lutheran?***

Dear friends, as we enter the autumn months this is a time think about new starts and blessed beginnings. Have you been visiting Bethlehem, considering becoming a member of the congregation? Do you have questions about our congregation or the ministry we share here? Please feel free to reach out to one of our pastors ( Pastor Dan, [d.smail@belc.org](mailto:d.smail@belc.org) **or** Pastor Ellen, [e.lundie@belc.org](mailto:e.lundie@belc.org) ), they would be delighted to spend some time with you, answer your questions, and faithfully discern the next steps. Thank you for being an important part of this joy filled family of faith!

**Monthly Special Offering for March is: Crisis Center North**

## The Week at Bethlehem

Sunday, March 16th 8:00 am Worship & Communion

9:15am Sunday School

\*10:30am Worship & Communion

\* Live streaming of worship service

6:30-7:30pm Youth Leprechaun of the Church



Monday, March 17th Happy St. Patrick's Day

9:00-2:30pm PACC (Fellowship Hall)

11am-2pm Passage to Recovery (Library)

6:30-8:00pm Girl Scouts Mtg. (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, March 18th 9:00-2:30pm PACC (Fellowship Hall)

10:30-11:30am AA (Schmid Hall)

6:00-8:30pm NA (Fellowship Hall)

7:00pm Boy Scouts Comm. Mtg. (Lounge)

Wednesday, March 19th 6:00pm Lenten Dinner (Schmid Hall)

6:15pm Hand Bell Rehearsal

7:15pm Lenten Worship & Study

7-8:30pm Boy Scouts Mtg. (Fellowship Hall)



Thursday, March 20th Welcome Spring

10:00am Stained Glass & Other Crafts (Music Rm.)

4:30a & 7p ACT-1 (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, March 22nd 6:00pm Worship/Comm.



## **CANDY NEEDED**

Donations of **small** candy pieces are needed for us to fill the plastic eggs for the annual Egg Hunt.

So please, when you are doing your shopping, grab a little bag of candies and bring it to church with you and place your items in the box in the Narthex marked "CANDY for EGG HUNT" Thank you.



## **Our Blessing Box**

Our outdoor food pantry has been a blessing to our community providing needed items for those who are food insecure. Your generosity shows your commitment to do God's work but still day after day the box is being emptied by those in need.

Here are some of the most desired foods: Cereals -- small individual packages

Pop Tarts Granola or protein bars Individual: fruit, jello or pudding cups

Individual packages of cookies or snacks Single serve Coffee packets

CRACKERS saltines or club that have small individual sleeves in the box (we can given individual sleeves so more people can benefit from this one item...

Beef Stew with lift off tops Tuna in foil packages Canned spaghetti Sauce to go with Pastas

Grab and go items single serve **with lift off lids**

Small size Deodorants small bottles or shampoo individual bars of soap

**\*NO MEDICATIONS OF ANY KIND\***

The Next ***Fellowship Committee Meeting*** will be held on Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

New members are always welcome!!



### First Communion Classes

First Communion classes will be held on Wednesday, April 2 and April 9 from 5:15-6:00 pm. We are excited to celebrate First Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 7:30 pm. Children of any age are welcome to participate. If you have any questions about First Communion, the classes, or your child's readiness and interest, please don't hesitate to talk with the pastors. To sign up, contact Pastor Ellen or the church office.

### *Weekly Lenten Dinner 6pm*

**RSVP for: March 19<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Committee: Stuffed Shell Dinner by filling out the form below and either placing it in the offering boxes or returning it to the church office no later than 10:00am on Monday.**

**We hope you and your family will plan to join us.**

**Following dinner we will have our Mid -week worship and study.**

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**RSVP for : March 19thLenten Dinner Fellowship Committee: Stuffed Shells**

**I/we will attend**

**NAME(s) \_\_\_\_\_**

**# of Adults \_\_\_\_\_**

**# of Children \_\_\_\_\_**





## **EASTER MUSIC ANGELS – 2025**

**As we plan the music for during Holy Week and Easter, there will be instrumentalists used at our services. If you would like to donate toward this as a memorial to someone, now is the time.**

**Please use the tear off below to make your contribution/memorial and either drop it off to the church office or place it in the offering plates at worship.**

**\* Deadline to receive donations with dedications is:  
Sunday, April 6, 2025**

**Any and all amounts given are welcomed and appreciated.**

**Questions you may have about this can be directed to the church office and the staff will be happy to assist you.**

- 
- **Music Angel Contribution for Easter – Deadline is April 6th**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Dedication: \_\_\_\_\_**

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***\*Please note for music angels.* We will not guarantee dedications received after the deadline will be listed in the Easter bulletin; however we would publish them at a later date.**



## **PALM CROSS GATHERING**

**The Palm Cross Gathering is fast approaching, mark your calendars!**

**We will be meeting MONDAY night  
APRIL 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm – 9:00 pm.**

**The gathering will take place in Schmid Hall.**

*Look for the sign- up sheet in the Narthex*

**We will be making crosses for our church services, Sunday school, and shut ins.**

**Come join in on the fun!**

**They are easy to make and we will gladly show you how.**

**Hope to see you there!**



## **EASTER FLOWERS**

**On Easter Sunday, the chancel will be decorated with beautiful spring flowers. Please indicate the number and type of flowers you would like to order at the prices below. Contact Marianne Reed in the church office, (412) 486-0550, if you have any questions.**

**\*Your payment must accompany your order  
which must be received into the church office by Sunday, April 6th**

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*Easter flower order form – due by April 6, 2025*

\_\_\_\_ No. of Easter Lilies @ \$7.90 each = \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ No. of Hyacinths @ \$6.50 each = \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ No. of Tulips @ \$6.50 each = \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ No. of Hydrangeas @ \$12.50 each = \_\_\_\_

**TOTAL PAYMENT**

**ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory of** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor of** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Given By** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Name as you want it printed in the bulletin)**

**\*Plants can be picked up after the 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Service or later in the week**

**\* Please note for easter flowers. We will not guarantee dedications received after the deadline will be listed in the Easter bulletin; however we would publish them at a later date.**

## OUR LENTEN PRISON MINISTRY 2025



[Matthew 25:36](#) *I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in **prison** and you visited me.*

Each week many prisoners are released from the Allegheny County Jail, a 2,766 bed facility in the heart of Pittsburgh. Many of these men and women were incarcerated wearing clothes that were not fit to keep. These members of the body of Christ will be released without decent clothes to wear home.

The prison chaplain has informed us that they are constantly in dire need of sweat pants and sweat shirts. The sweatpants for men are the greatest need. Since 2019 Bethlehem has collected 231 items during Lent. Your Health & Wellness team hopes that you will, once again, offer some help to our brothers and sisters in Christ by donating these NEW items during the weeks of Lent. Please place your new sweatpants or sweatshirts in the bins in the narthex.

If you feel that you cannot do the shopping yourself, financial contributions can be made to the office in envelopes clearly marked "PRISON MINISTRY" and made out to BELC.

**Hebrews 13: 3** *Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison...*

### **COLLECTION NEW SWEATPANTS AND/OR SWEATSHIRTS**

**Sizes: Medium, Large, X Large, XX Large**

**Solid colors only but NO red or orange**

**Ash Wednesday, March 5th through Palm Sunday, April 13th**



You're Invited!!!

1<sup>st</sup> Monday Meal – Free Community Dinner

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

1719 Mt. Royal Blvd., Glenshaw, PA 15116

The next 1st Monday meal Bethlehem Lutheran Church will be hosting, is going to be held on **Monday, April 7th, 2025**

Our Free Community Dinner is from 5-7 pm. in Fellowship Hall.

Dinners will continue the first Monday of each month throughout 2025.

Menu will feature: Baked Ziti

Please feel free to join us for dinner and fellowship!

Any questions, please contact the church office at  
412-486-0550.

Hope to see you there!



On Wednesday, April 16th @ 6:00pm we will hold our annual Easter egg dyeing event. You & or your children have never dyed eggs? Well, this is a great way to try it with no hassle and no mess to clean up! We will gather in Fellowship Hall for pizza and then egg dyeing. Don't have time to buy eggs and then hard boil them? No excuse! Just mark how many dozen on the sign- up form and we'll purchase and hard-boil the eggs for you, so all you have to do is show up and have fun. As always, we will have the colors already mixed up and ready to go. Feel free to bring decorating "kits" if you wish. Hope you can join us for a fun evening- this is NOT just for families with kids, anyone who wants to join in the festivity is welcome to attend. This is fun for adults too – think of it like “coloring for adults”, but on eggs instead of in a book.

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**Sign-up for egg dyeing -- RSVP by April 6<sup>th</sup>**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_ adults \_\_\_\_\_ children

WANT HARD BOILED EGGS \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

HOW MANY DOZEN do you want \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Price per dozen eggs will be \$4.00 ea.)



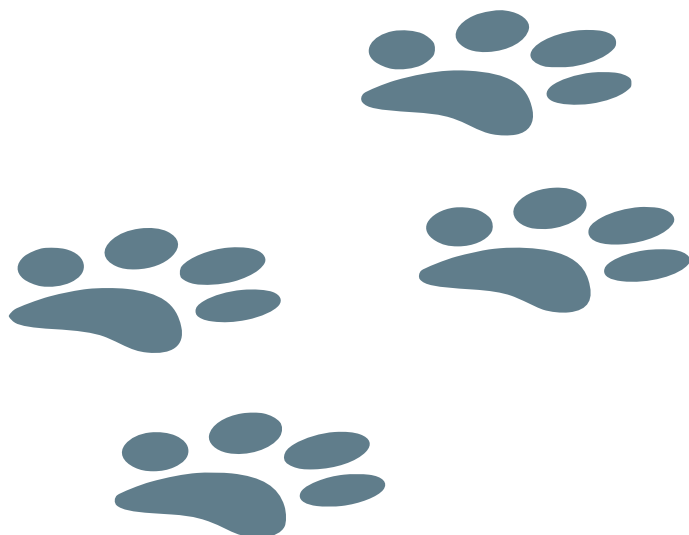


**ANNUAL**

## **EASTER EGG HUNT**

*The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 19th at 10:30am, RAIN or SHINE or (even SNOW) Be sure to mark the date and start a countdown with your children then hop on over to BELC.. This is always a fun-filled event not only for the children, but for the adults too who always enjoy seeing the children smiling and having a good time. Watch for a sign-up sheet to appear in the Narthex.*

*Don't forget to bring your basket!!*





## ***EASTER BREAKFAST***

***Join Us!!!***

***April 20th at 9am in Fellowship Hall***

***MENU: Breakfast Buffet***

***Suggested cost for the meal is as follows:***

***\$5.00 – Adults***

***\$2.00 – Children ages 6-12 yrs.***

***FREE – Children under 6 yrs. of age***

***Please submit payment with your reservation***

***and***

***reservations are required so we have an accurate count.***

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***Easter Breakfast Reservation Form: Due to office by deadline: April 13th***

***NAME*** \_\_\_\_\_

***# Adults*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***# Children*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***(6-12 yrs)***

***# Children*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***under 6 yrs. of age***

***Total Amount Enclosed \$*** \_\_\_\_\_