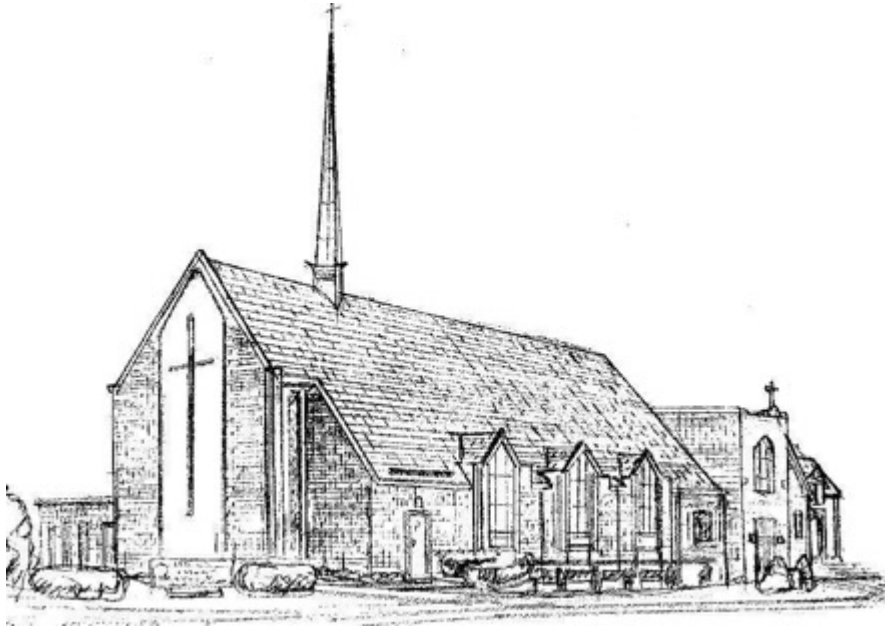


BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Serving, accepting, and loving all.

**Sunday Bulletin
Second Sunday of Lent
March 23, 2025**

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

**1719 Mt. Royal Boulevard – Glenshaw, PA 15116
Phone: 412-486-0550 E-Mail: office@belc.org**

Web Page: www.belc.org

Sunday, March 23, 2025

Third Sunday in Lent, Year C

Introduction

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!

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. 756 Eternal Father, Strong to Save

1 Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

2 O Savior, whose almighty word
the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walked upon the foaming deep,
and calm amid the storm didst sleep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

3 O Holy Spirit, who didst brood
upon the chaos dark and rude,
and bid its angry tumult cease,
and give, for wild confusion, peace:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

4 O Trinity of love and pow'r,
all trav'lers guard in danger's hour

from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1825-1878, alt.

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.

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through 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 Isaiah 55:1-9

To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to God will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways

A reading from Isaiah,.

¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts;
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,

because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;

⁷ let the wicked forsake their way
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

A: The word of the Lord.

C : **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 63:1-8 *sung responsively*

¹ O God, you are my God; eager- | ly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary
land where there | is no water.

² **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your | holy place,
that I might behold your power | and your glory.**

³ For your steadfast love is better than | life itself;
my lips shall | give you praise.

⁴ **So will I bless you as long | as I live
and lift up my hands | in your name.**

⁵ My spirit is content, as with the rich- | est of foods,
and my mouth praises you with | joyful lips,

⁶ **when I remember you up- | on my bed,
and meditate on you in | the night watches.**

⁷ For you have | been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I | will rejoice.

⁸ **My whole being ¹ clings to you;
your right hand ¹ holds me fast**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.

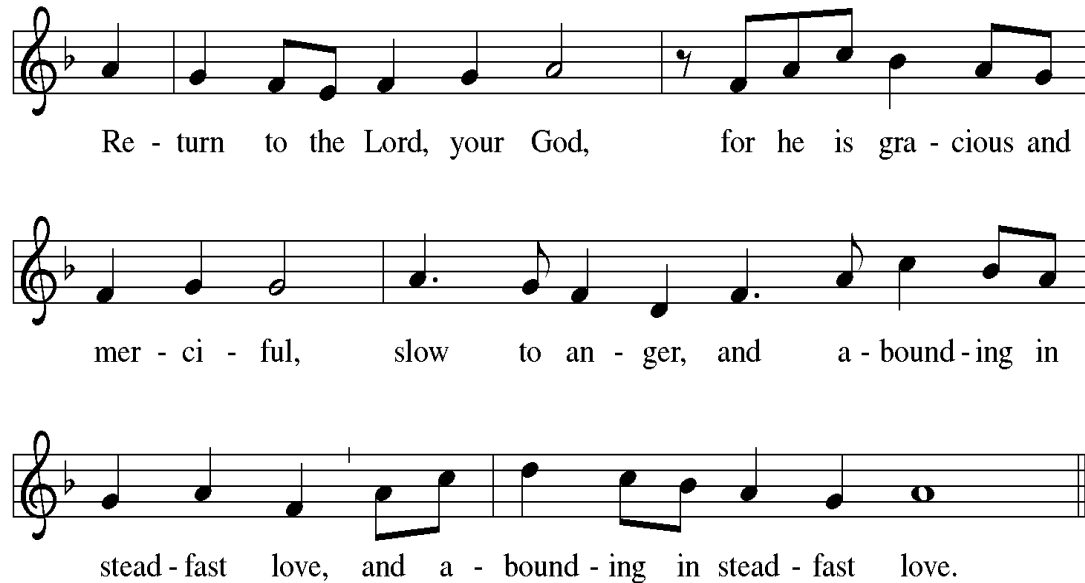
¹ I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not become idolaters as some of them did, as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸ We must not engage in sexual immorality, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰ And do not complain, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW Pg. 142)



GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-9

Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.

P: The holy gospel according to Luke,

C Glory to you, O Lord

¹ At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.² [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?³ No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the other people living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the man working the vineyard, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more

year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.’ ”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – *The Rev. Daniel P. Smail*

HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 618 Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,

**I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.**

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

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.

We pray for the church, called to be a witness to all peoples. Grant
humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and
congregations, that they may call upon you in making decisions. God, in
your mercy,
receive our prayer.

We pray for the earth, called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

We pray for the nations, called to protect their inhabitants, and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries, that all the world may have enough to live. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

We pray for those in need, called to receive your compassion. Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted through natural disasters and human conflict. Aid communities in coming together to mourn, heal, and rebuild. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

We pray for this assembly, called to welcome its neighbors to the table of your grace. Bless food pantries, community gardens and kitchens, clean water projects, and all ministries that address human hunger and thirst. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife, and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended. May their witness inspire our own. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, 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.**

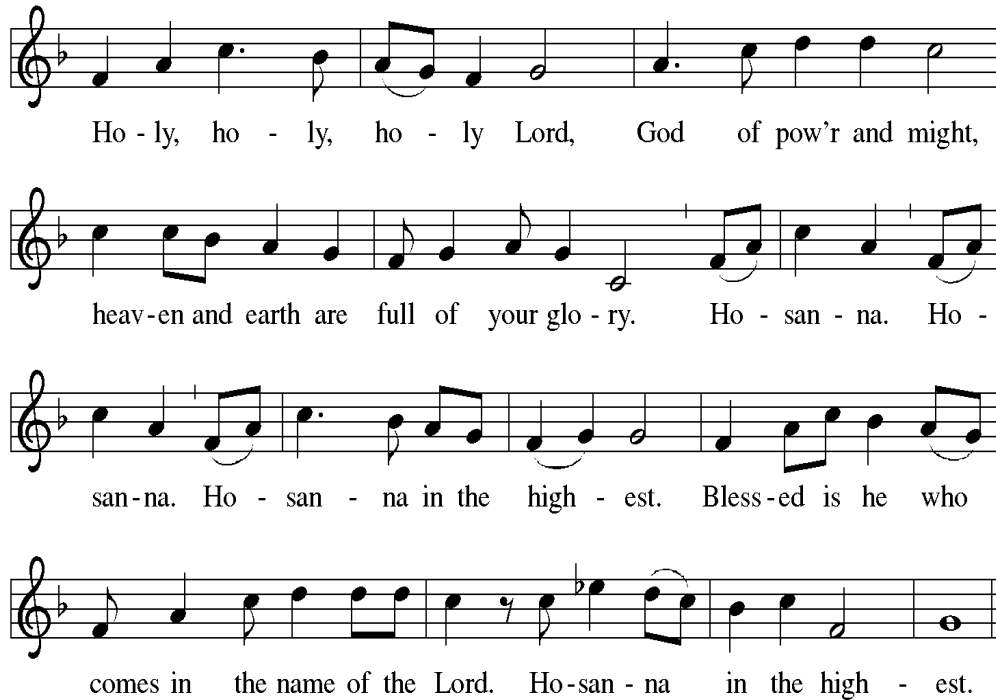
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

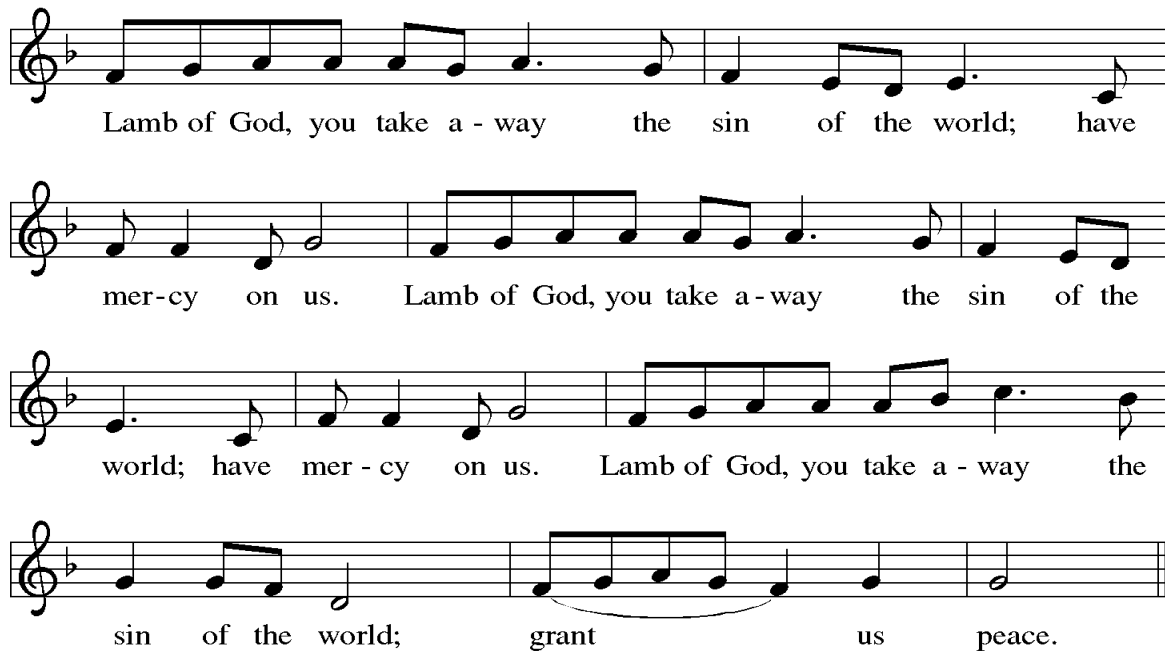
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.

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 - *Children of the Heavenly Father*, arr. Sean Paul

COMMUNION HYMN

NO. 488 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness,
leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,
come into the daylight's splendor,
there with joy your praises render.
Bless the one whose grace unbounded
this amazing banquet founded;
Christ, though heav'nly, high, and holy,
deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

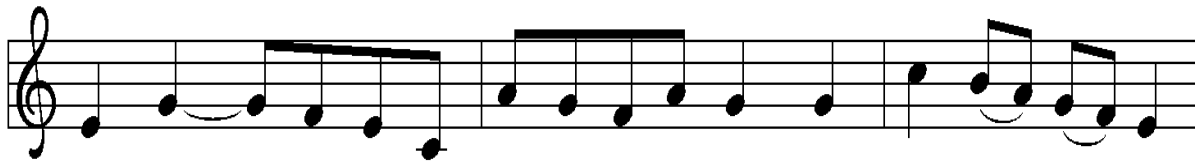
2 Hasten as a bride to meet him,
eagerly and gladly greet him.

There he stands already knocking;
quickly, now, your gate unlocking,
open wide the fast-closed portal,
saying to the Lord immortal:
"Come, and leave your loved one never;
dwell within my heart forever."

3 Now in faith I humbly ponder
over this surpassing wonder
that the bread of life is boundless
though the souls it feeds are countless;
with the choicest wine of heaven
Christ's own blood to us is given.
Oh, most glorious consolation,
pledge and seal of my salvation.

4 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
truest friend, and dearest treasure,
peace beyond all understanding,
joy into all life expanding:
humbly now, I bow before you,
love incarnate, I adore you;
worthily let me receive you,
and, so favored, never leave you.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship* Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin.
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Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



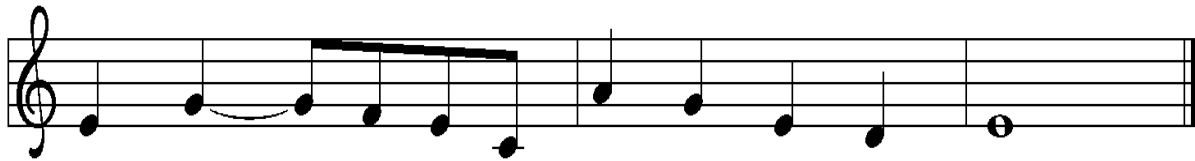
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



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. 658 O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

1 O Jesus, joy of loving hearts,

the fount of life, the light of all:
from ev'ry bliss that earth imparts
we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.

2 We taste you, ever-living bread,
and long to feast upon you still;
we drink of you, the fountainhead;
our thirsting souls from you we fill.

3 For you our restless spirits yearn,
where'er our changing lot is cast;
glad, when your smile on us you turn,
blest, when by faith we hold you fast.

4 O Jesus, ever with us stay!
Make all our moments fair and bright!
Oh, chase the night of sin away!
Shed o'er the world your holy light.

TEXT: ATTR. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX, 1091-1153; TR. RAY PALMER, 1808-1887, ALT.

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.



MoB (Men of Bethlehem)

**Plan to attend our upcoming Breakfast meeting on
Saturday, March 29th at 8:30am in Fellowship Hall.**

**One of the things we need to be discussing are our plans for
attending a Pirate game on Thursday, May 22nd when they play the
Milwaukee Brewers.**

**All men of the church are welcome and encouraged to attend our
breakfast and the ballgame!!**



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 “EGG HUNT” Thank you

Same Great Podcast With a Splash of New Energy!

The Bethlehem Backchat Podcast has been a staple here at Bethlehem for years, with a new episode landing just about every month. So many of you have faithfully downloaded those episodes and shared them with family and friends. Thank you! Keep looking for those new episodes, but please be aware they will be coming to you under a new title, “**Understanding Church.**” In the coming months, we will still be entertaining the topics that are important to you, but we will be inviting special guests to offer fresh and engaging perspectives that will surely edify our listeners. We’re so grateful for your ongoing support of the podcast, as well as your commitment to truly being an “**Understanding Church!**”

Stained Glass & Other Crafts

The Stained Glass and Other Crafts classes continue 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, 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 or Pastor Ellen, 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. 23rd 8:00 am Worship & Communion

9:15am Sunday School

*10:30am Worship & Communion

* Live streaming of worship service

6:30-7:30pm J.A.M. & Youth Switch Bowling & Board Games

Monday, March 24th 9:00-2:30pm PACC (Fellowship Hall)

11am-2pm Passage to Recovery (Library)

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

Tuesday, March 25th 10:30-11:30am AA (Schmid Hall)

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

Wednesday, March 26th 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 27th 10:00am Stained Glass & Other Crafts (Music Rm.)
4:30a & 7p ACT-1 (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, March 29th 8:30am Men of Bethlehem (MoB) Breakfast
(Fellowship Hall)
6:00pm Worship/Comm.



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 14th 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.



PALM CROSS GATHERING

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

**We will be meeting MONDAY night
APRIL 7th 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.**

Weekly Lenten Dinner 6pm

RSVP for: Wednesday, March 26th

Youth: Pizza and Pasta Nite

Fill out the form below and either place it in the offering boxes or return it to the church office no later than 10:00am on Monday morning, if you are planning to join us on Wednesday for the meal.

We hope you and/or your family will join us.

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

RSVP for : March 26th Lenten Dinner Youth: Pizza & Pasta Nite

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: _____

***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.**



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**

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...*

If you have any questions or would like to help with this prison ministry project or future H&W ministry projects, please contact Judy Sparlin.

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!!!

1st 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.

Sign-up for egg dyeing -- RSVP by April 6th

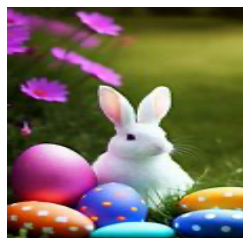
NAME _____

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.

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 \$ _____

Congratulations

Bethlehem Lutheran Church!



In 2024 BELC was the proud recipient of Thrivent Choice Dollars® grant funding from members of our congregation.

Thrivent is proud to help support the important work we do and hope we can accomplish even more together this year - 2025.

Thrivent would like us to encourage our BELC members who are Members of Thrivent to direct your remaining 2024 Choice Dollars to BELC **by the deadline of March 31**. Therefore, we are humbly asking each Thrivent member to simply log into their account and choose Bethlehem as your source donation recipient.

To those who have already signed up and designated BELC to be your Thrivent dollar funds recipient of choice, please know how grateful we are for that privilege.

Another way **YOU** can be a good steward!