

Welcome to Bethania Lutheran Kirke



First Sunday in Lent

February 18, 2024

9:30 a.m.

BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:

<http://www.bethanialutheran.org/bulletins/>

Order of Worship for Sunday, February 18, 2024

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

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PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

GATHERING

(Please rise)

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: There are some journeys for which we long.

C: But the journey to the cross looks as though it will be difficult.

P: The way of discipleship and faith is difficult.

C: We would prefer something easier. We are not ready for this trip.

P: Put your hearts at ease. You are not traveling alone.

C: Perhaps we can accomplish this trip. At least we will try the first step.

PROCESSIONAL & GATHERING HYMN

"O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days" # 99

Lutheran Book of Worship—Green Hymnal

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Let us Pray,

C: We have lists of things to do, for all the areas of our lives. Our lives are so time bound and duty bound that we feel imprisoned in them. Now we are challenged by Christ to take a journey of discipleship. We don't feel ready for this journey. We need more time. And we complain and cry about how much we have to do. Forgive us, Lord, when we place so many "duties" in the path to serving you. Reset our priorities so that we will be ready to commit our lives in your service. Lord, help us to be ready when you call us. Help us to courageously answer the summons you bring. Let us place our trust in you in all things. AMEN.

SALUTATION

L : 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

(Please be seated)

WORD

OUR FIRST LESSON is from the book of Genesis, chapter 3, verses 8 through 17.

Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." ¹²God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters

shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth."

¹⁷God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

OUR SECOND LESSON is from the book of First Peter; chapter 3, verses 18 through 22.

As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.

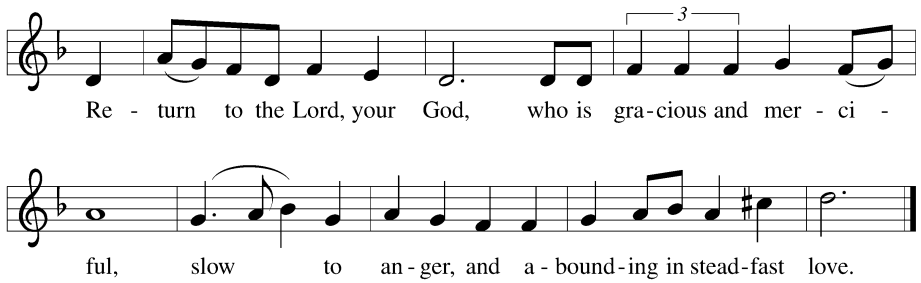
¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

L: This is the Spirit speaking to the church.

C: Thanks be to God!

(Please rise)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Text: Joel 2:13

Music: Anne Krentz Organ

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P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him.

¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

(Please be seated)

MESSAGE

(Please rise)

HYMN OF THE DAY -

“Thy Holy Wings” # 741

With One Voice—Blue Hymnal

PRAYER SONG



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

PRAYERS

P: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

P: God our truth, the ark of your church has room for many expressions of faith. We give thanks for voices that challenge and awaken your people. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God our maker, you remember your covenant with the earth and its inhabitants. Rescue communities and creatures hurting from natural disasters. Preserve species and habitats endangered by human carelessness and disregard. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God our light, you know our weakness. Free all who govern from the temptations of power. Sustain all who work for human rights in every nation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God our help, you care for your beloved children. Comfort all who are grieving, ill, afraid, in pain, or in despair especially Jeff & Sue, Anita, Grete, Heather, Mike, Danielle, and all those we name in our hearts. Feed hungry people living in food deserts. Protect any at risk from exploitation and abuse. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God our home, you gather your people. Grant us health and safety as we assemble. Keep us mindful of any who are homebound, hospitalized, convalescing, or traveling *especially* Bettie, Bonnie, Joyce, Carolyn, Marilyn, and all those we name in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God our hope, you promise eternal life to your beloved children. We remember with gratitude those who have lived and died in faith. Grant that we may also dwell with you in everlasting peace. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

PRAYER SONG (repeated)



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Shaking of hands and sharing the peace with one another)

OFFERTORY

(ELW #330 VS 3)

Seed that in earth is dying
rises to bear much fruit.

Christ, as we meet at your table,
give us the bread of life.

Lord, we do thank and adore you!

Unceasing praise of the ages
rises from night and death.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray,

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.

C: Amen

INTRODUCTION TO THE MEAL

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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 in remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
And gave it for all to drink, saying;
This is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you
And for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in remembrance of me.

P: Let us join our hands and hearts together in the prayer that our Lord taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

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

L: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.
Come and see.

(Please be seated)

SHARING THE MEAL

For in person, come up the center aisle, receive your communion wafer, carefully dip your wafer into the wine. If grape juice/ covid safe is preferred let the assistant know.

For at home using plain bread/crackers and wine/grape juice.

COMMUNION HYMN -

"I Want Jesus To Walk With Me" #660

With One Voice—Blue Hymnal

(Please rise)

COMMUNION BLESSING

L: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: Let us Pray,

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.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: 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.

C: AMEN!

I'm Going on a Journey



1 I'm go-ing on a jour-ney, and I'm start-ing to-day. My
head is wet, and I'm on my way. Christ's mark is on me;
it's on you, too; it says he loves me, and he loves you, too!

2 I'm be-com-ing this day a saint of God. It
real-ly does-n't mat-ter what roads I trod. Wher-ev-er I go, God's
been there, too. God's love has touched me and will car-ry me through.

3 There are oth-er saints who have said a-men. They'll
keep me faith-ful to my jour-ney's end. A-long the way
I want to be the kind of per-son that God set free.

Text: Kenneth D. Larkin

Music: WET SAINTS, Edward V. Bonnemère, 1921-1996

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RECESSIONAL

A: We follow the cross of Christ into the world.

Congregation turns as the cross passes them—so they are facing the back of the church)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

TODAYS WORSHIP LEADERS:

Worship Leader: Pastor Paul Nuechterlein Lector: Kelly Imhoff
Communion Assistants: Kelly Imhoff & Jerod Alderson
Acolyte & Offering Presenter: Kelly Imhoff
Coffee Hour: Altar Guild Altar Flowers: Open
Building Host: Kelly Imhoff

WORSHIP LEADERS NEXT WEEK (Sunday 2/25):

Worship Leader: TBD Lector: Anita Nielsen
Communion Assistants: Brad Larsen & Anita Nielsen
Acolyte & Offering Presenter: Brad Larsen
Coffee Hour: Open Altar Flowers: Open
Building Host : Brad Larsen



Join Us for "Gospel Talk": Sundays, after the Coffee Hour, between 11:00 and 11:15 am, ending around noon.

Pastor Paul is hosting "Gospel Talk"

.The first goal of "Gospel Talk" is to offer conversation about the day's

sermon – any questions, clarification, or feedback. We will then move to learning in small pieces about the Christian understanding of being human that's behind Pastor Paul's preaching. We will use the book *The Ideas of René Girard: An Anthropology of Violence and Religion*, by David Cayley (cost \$10), based on a radio show which we will also listen to in snippets .

ALTAR FLOWERS

There are plenty of Sundays available to sign up for Altar flowers. They cost \$25 and the sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the Pastors office.

Remember the food pantry. Suggested items: Canned dinners, Peanut butter, toilet paper, hygiene items, soup, and pastas.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED

Please consider hosting coffee hour. The coffee will be started by the building opener. Treats maybe store bought or home-made.

Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside Pastor's office.



This year we will be participating in Joint Wednesday Lenten services. There will be 2 opportunities each Wednesday in which to worship. In the afternoon we will gather together at 12:30 p.m. for bread & soup and then join in Worship at 1:00 p.m.. In the evening we will gather together at 5:30 p.m. for bread & soup and then join in Worship at 6:00 p.m.

Please note: there will be NO 12:30 p.m. Worship on Wednesday, March 20.

There will still be bread & soup at 5:30 p.m. and a speaker at 6:00 p.m. instead of worship.

DATE	PLACE	ADDRESS	PASTOR
February 21	REDEEMER	2417 Drexel Ave,	Rev. Matt James
February 28	Journey In Faith	6767 Hwy 38 Framlsville	Rev. Allison Johnson
March 6	Living Faith	2915 Wright Avenue	Rev, Justin Kierzek
March 13	United Lutheran	3825 Erie Street	Rev. John Bishoff
March 20	BETHANIA	4120 Wright Avenue	

BETHANIA HOSTS COMMUNITY MEAL SUNDAY MARCH 3, 2023

For more information please see
Jeff or Shelly Alderson.

EMPTYIES FOR CASH

"one persons junk is another persons treasure"

- ★ Bring in your empty inkjet cartridges—black or color.
- ★ Do not put any tape on the cartridge.
- ★ Place your empty cartridge in a zip type plastic bag. (ex: zip lock)

Bethania will receive \$2 per cartridge.

NO Toners please.

Cans FOR K-9's



We are
collecting
aluminum cans
to help support
the Racine
County K-9
program.

Help Us Decorate For Easter

Help us celebrate our risen Christ with beautiful Easter Flowers as well as decorate our sanctuary. Easter flowers can be purchased In loving memory or In Honor of your friends and loved ones. You may pay by cash or check, just please make your check payable to “Bethania Lutheran Church”. **Deadline to Order is TODAY February 18, 2024.**

____ Easter Lily ____ x \$14. 00 = _____

____ Regal Geranium (purple) ____ x \$14.00 = _____

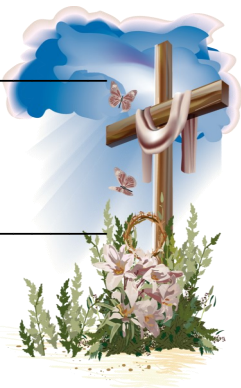
TOTAL:

_____In Loving Memory of: (deceased)

_____In Honor of: (alive)

Name:

Phone#:



THIS WEEK AT BETHANIA....

Sunday, February 18, 2024 -

9:30 a.m. – Worship In Person & on Facebook Live

10:30 a.m. -COFFEE HOUR

11:15 a.m.—Gospel Talk with Pastor Paul

Monday, February 19, 2024 -

7:30 a.m. to 9:30a.m.—Office Open

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 -

7:30 a.m. to 9:30a.m.—Office Open

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 -

7:30 a.m. to 9:30a.m.—Office Open

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.—Thread By Thread OPEN

12:30 p.m. -Soup Lunch, Redeemer

1:00 p.m.—Lenten Worship , Redeemer

5:30 p.m. -Soup Supper , Redeemer

6:00p.m. –Lenten Worship , Redeemer

Thursday, February 22, 2024 -

7:30 a.m. to 9:30a.m.—Office Open

Friday, February 23, 2024 -

7:30 a.m. to 9:30a.m.—Office Open

Sunday, February 25, 2024 -

9:30 a.m. – Worship In Person & on Facebook Live

10:30 a.m. –Coffee Hour