



# Bethel Lutheran Church

Pastors: Jonathan Dahl  
Kathy Hartley  
Bob Dahl  
Deacon: Beverly Baseman

Today at Bethel:  
Preacher: Pastor Jonathan Dahl  
Worship Leader: Pastor Kathy Hartley  
Lector: Betty Croonquist  
Musician: Lois Dahl

*March 4, 2018*

*9:15 a.m.*

**Welcome to Bethel! We are glad you are here!**

**Bethel guests, please fill out the Connect Card in the pew and place it in the offering plate. Bethel members, please fill out the Connect Card if your contact information has changed. If you have a joy or prayer concern to share with the staff, remember to fill out the back of the Connect Card.**

PRELUDE *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* Lois Dahl

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery* #334  
(vs. 1-3, Lent 3)

GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

During the season of Lent we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart. Let us now seek togetherness with God and neighbor.

Merciful God, **You sent Jesus Christ to save and turn and redeem all the world. We confess that we have strayed from you and missed the mark on your ways. We fail in love, neglect justice, and ignore your voice. Have mercy on us and wash away the ugliness that rests upon us and in us. Create in us clean hearts for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Behold, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of being made right with God. In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven and in its place you are given life – for today and always. Discover renewed passion and purpose in this gift of life from God. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Together we pray: **Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

TIME FOR YOUTH

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

READING

Exodus 20:1-17

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

S 142b

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

John 2:13-22

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

*Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways*

#772

CONFESSION OF FAITH

*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 THE CHURCH

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

OFFERINGS ARE RECEIVED

(In gratitude for what God has given us, we offer something of our lives to God and as part of our joyous service to the world.)

NOISY COIN OFFERING

*This Little Light of Mine*

#677

OFFERING

*I Cry Holy*

Cathedral Choir

THE TABLE BLESSING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF PROMISE FOR THE MEAL OF HOLY COMMUNION

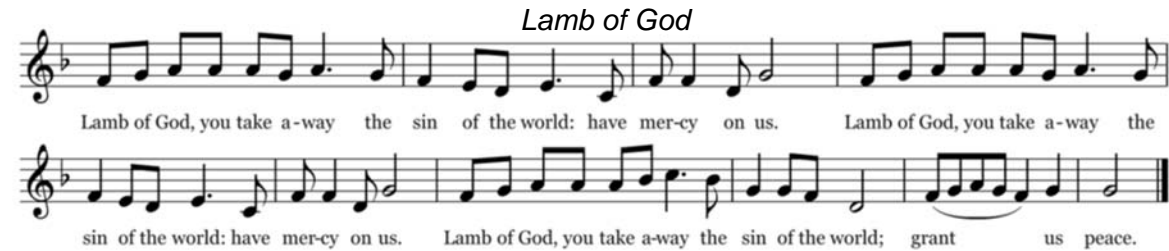
LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

(Everyone is invited to the Lord's Table. Children receive a blessing. Please inform the pastor if you need a gluten-free communion wafer. The cups in the middle of the communion tray are grape juice. Upon returning to your seat, enjoy silent prayer or singing.)

*Lamb of God*



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.

<i>Beneath the Cross of Jesus</i>	#338
<i>Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land</i>	#333
<i>We Come to the Hungry Feast</i>	#479

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**Amen.**

Together we pray: **Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN                      *The Church of Christ, in Every Age*                      #729

### DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE                                      *Christ, the Life of All the Living*                                      Lois Dahl

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