

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 10, 2024



Bethany Lutheran Church
2515 Madison Ave., Burlington, IA
Phone: (319) 752-3621
www.bethanyburlington.org

Bethany's Mission Statement: Reaching out in Worship, Fellowship, Learning and Love - we are God's people.

We are so glad you chose to worship with us this morning. We hope everyone feels welcome as we strive to serve and strengthen each other in faith toward God and in love toward all. Now, as you wait for the service to begin, please relax, enjoy the music, and quiet your heart before God.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

ELW indicates that hymns or liturgy are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship-red hymnal

PRELUDE

Welcome, Announcements, Celebration Bank

(money given to Human Concerns Fund)

We Gather to Acknowledge God's Presence

(Please stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen**

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

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: **Amen.**

(Please Stand)

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

OPENING HYMN

"Give to Our God Immortal Praise!"

ELW Hymn 848

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

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the

2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for

4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for

hun - gry and the poor; that

friends and fam - i - ly; for

wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,

we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,

life and for love, for our work and our play,

nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



Refrain

let us pray to the Lord,

let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: **O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

FIRST READING

Numbers 21:4-9

A reading from Numbers.

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

L: Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,
for God's mercy endures forever.

C: **Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,
gathering them in from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.**

L: Some were fools and took rebellious paths;
through their sins they were afflicted.

C: **They loathed all manner of food
and drew near to death's door.**

L: Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD
and you delivered them from their distress.

C: **You sent forth your word and healed them
and rescued them from the grave.**

L: Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.

C: **Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 2:1-10

A reading from Ephesians.

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

P: The Gospel according to John the 3rd chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord**

SERMON TEXT

John 3:1-17

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON

“We’re A Born-Again People”

Pastor Pete Hagglund

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“This Is the Spirit’s Entry Now”

ELW Hymn 448

We Respond to God’s Word

THE APOSTLES’ CREED *(unison)*

**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.**

(Please be seated)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

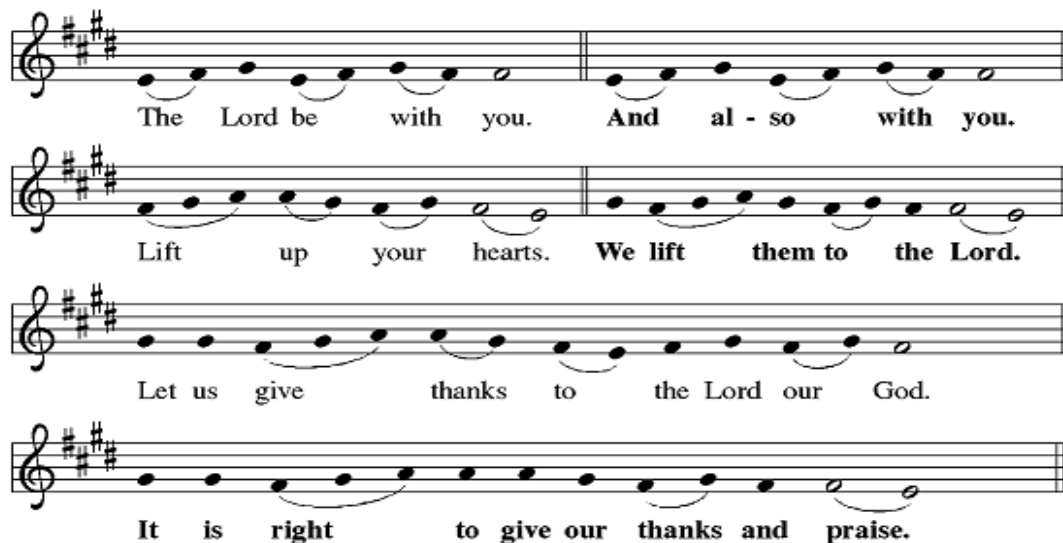
Each petition concludes:

P: Hear us, O God

C: **Your mercy is great.**

We Share in the Holy Meal

(Please stand)



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

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: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

(Please be seated)

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

DISTRIBUTION BY INDIVIDUAL GLASSES

(Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

All who believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to commune. Children who do not commune are welcome to come for a blessing. You will be given a wafer. The glasses of dark liquid are wine; the middle ring is juice. There is a bowl of water if you would like to remember your baptism.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Just As I Am Without One Plea”

ELW Hymn 592

(Please stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Lord, God, you gave your Son, both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the Godly life. Enable us to receive Him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to His; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING *(unison)*

C: **Peace be to the whole community, and love with faith, from God the father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who have an undying love for our Lord Jesus Christ.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Amazing Grace”

ELW Hymn 779

THE DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector: Dan Harken
Usher: Susan Swanson
Communion: Mark Rosenberg; Rachel Lindeen
Greeters: Lynda Johnson
Missionary Support: Open
Altar Flowers: Bev Sherbondy
Remember in prayer: Bonnie Darrah, Donna Edgington, & Jim & Bev Felland

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A Cry Room for infants is available up the stairs and to the right.
There are Kids Celebrate children's bulletins available for youngsters
who'd like to have their own reference to the lessons for this week.
Ask our usher for help.

Please join us for coffee and donuts in the fellowship
hall following the worship service. We would like to
get to know you and offer our friendship.

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ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Today: **Fourth Sunday in Lent**
8:00 a.m. **Bethany Choir rehearsal**
9:00 a.m. **Worship with Holy Communion**
10:15 a.m. **Church Life**
10:55 a.m. **Lutheran Church of Hope Service**
5:00 p.m. **Lenten Film Club @ Faith/Trinity Lutheran
showing "Au Hasard Balthazar"**

Monday: 6:30 p.m. **Property Meeting**

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. **Lenten Renewal Event for Rostered
Ministers Only**
5:30 p.m. **Church Outreach**
6:30 p.m. **Executive Committee Meeting**

Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. **Bible Study**
6:00 p.m. **Soup Supper @ Messiah Lutheran**
7:00 p.m. **Holden Service @ Messiah Lutheran**

Thursday: 6:30 p.m. **Finance Meeting**

Next Sunday: **Fifth Sunday in Lent**
9:00 a.m. **Worship with Holy Communion**
10:15 a.m. **Church Council Meeting**
10:55 a.m. **Lutheran Church of Hope Service**
5:00 p.m. **Lenten Film Club @ Faith/Trinity Lutheran
showing "First Reformed"**

LENTEN RENEWAL EVENT FOR ROSTERED MINISTERS

This event was previously thought to be a renewal day and open all day on March 21. Newer information has come to pass and the event is, in fact, a renewal event for rostered ministers only on March 12 from 10am-1pm. A few volunteers are needed for the luncheon portion of this event. Please, contact Judy Craven or Bill Mundt to check if there is still a need for volunteers, if you are interested. So, please, disregard March 21 in your calendars, as there will be no event on that date. I apologize for any inconvenience or confusion this miscommunication may have caused.

TOILET PAPER DRIVE

Outreach Committee will be collecting toilet paper all month long for the homeless and disadvantaged!

EASTER LILIES

Last Call for Lily orders! Today is the last day for Lily orders! If you would like an Easter Lily, please fill out the order form and drop in today's offering plate! Orders will be placed Monday morning and no orders will be accepted after the order is placed. Thank you everyone!

HOLDEN SERVICES

Messiah Lutheran will be holding the Holden Services for Lent this year. Holden Service Prayer will start at 7:00pm with the soup supper starting at 6:00pm every Wednesday evening during Lent.

LENTEN FILM CLUB

Lenten Film Club will be hosted every Sunday at 5:00pm during Lent at Faith/Trinity Lutheran, hosted by Pastor Ryan. This week the film will be "Au Hasard Balthazar". Discussion and snacks to follow.

FREE COOKBOOKS

The cookbooks on the table in the fellowship hall are up for grabs! If you would like one or several, please take what you would like!

WEBSITE OVERHAUL

The church is looking for someone to do a complete overhaul of our website so that it is easier to access/view on a cell phone. If you, or someone you know, are website tech savvy, please contact the office @ 319-752-3621 during office hours. Thank you!

COFFEE AND DONUTS

Please don't forget to sign up to help with coffee and donuts on Sunday mornings! Sign up is on the marker board in between the kitchen windows. Their needs to be at least 2 people signed up each week. Thank you!

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*Bethany Lutheran Church
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Pastor Pete's contact info: 319-470-9057; petemdiv@gmail.com

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Our Staff

Pastor Pete Hagglund
Cory Byrne
Kim Engle
Wendy Bell
Michelle Huppenbauer
Pam Crable

Interim Pastor
Organist/Choir Director
Stephen Minister Coordinator
Office Administrator
Financial Secretary
Custodian