

Those who love their life lose it,  
and those who hate their life in this world  
will keep it for eternal life.

John 12:25

## BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT—REGRETS WITH SICKNESS & SUFFERING

MARCH 17TH, 2024

8:30 AM & 10:45 AM

*+ indicates to stand in body or spirit;*

***bold print** indicates congregational responses*

### ✠ GATHERING ✠

**PRELUDE (8:30)** “O Sacred Head Now Wounded” arr. John Behnke  
**(10:45)** “Assurance” Anne Marie David

### WORDS OF WELCOME

#### + CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

In this season of Lent, we are naming collective regrets as an act of praise,  
trusting that with God nothing is wasted.

Most merciful God, you ate with those considered unclean and came close to lepers.

You healed those plagued by demons—

physical, mental and emotional conditions that made others afraid.

You mourned with those who were mourning.

**We regret when we let our discomfort with sickness and suffering  
become an excuse to not engage or accompany.**

Show us how to bring your peace to the dis-ease of our lives.

**When our empathy wanes and compassion falters, renew us.**

When we are grieving what was or might have been,  
**help us find you working with what is.**

When we are anxious or overwhelmed by need,  
**provide us with companions with different skills and resources.**

When we are discouraged, **help us to rest rather than quit.**

When it is time for others to take a breath, **help us sustain the song of your love.**

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. Amen.

### A SONG OF ABSOLUTION “God Is Forgiveness” Gather #959 sung as the Spirit moves us

*Sometimes forgiveness (from God and from others) helps transform regret into insight that can guide us on new paths.  
Sometimes forgiveness (of others, of ourselves) helps us be at peace with the regrets that come from staying true to a path.*

God is for - give - ness. Dare to for - give and God will be with you.

God is for - give - ness. Love, and do not fear.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the Treble clef, with the Bass clef providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

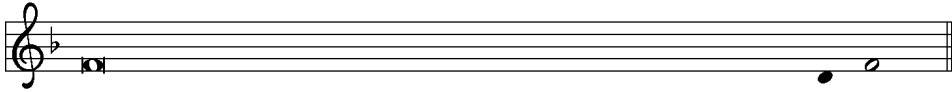
### APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

### + KYRIE

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

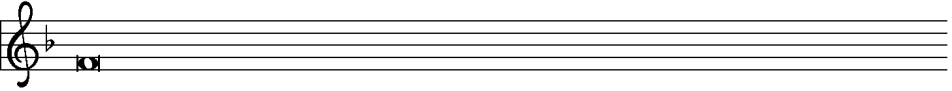
The musical score is written for a single staff in Treble clef, in the key of D major (two sharps). The melody is simple and melodic, with the lyrics written below the staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line.



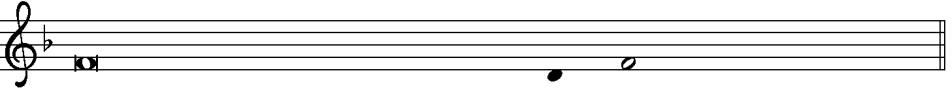
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



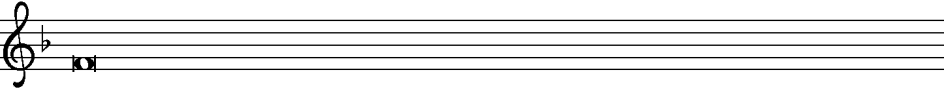
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.

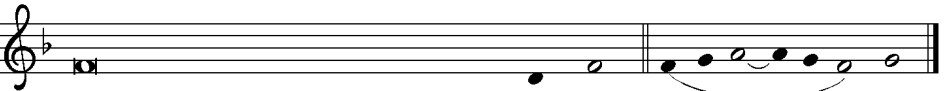


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



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

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## ✠ WORD ✠

### FIRST READING *JEREMIAH 31:31-34*

A reading from the 31st chapter of Jeremiah.

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

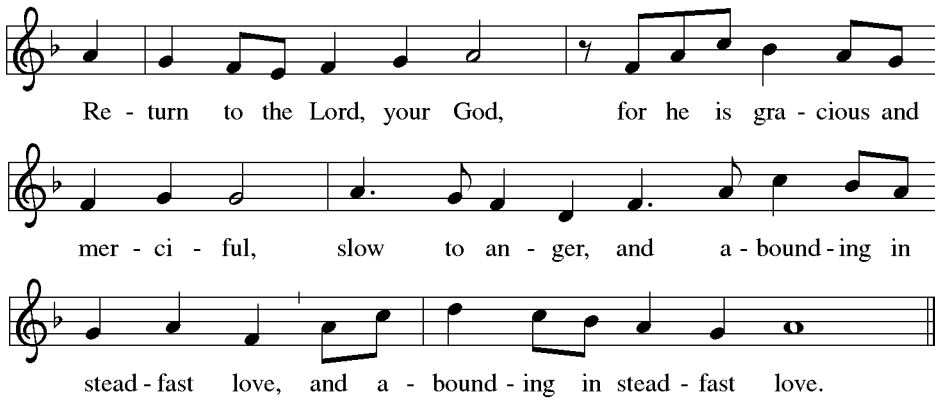
### PSALM *PSALM 51:1-12*



- <sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.
- <sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me | from my sin.**
- <sup>3</sup>For I know | my offenses,  
and my sin is ev- | er before me.
- <sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment. R**
- <sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my | mother's womb.
- <sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**
- <sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.
- <sup>8</sup>**Let me hear | joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken | may rejoice. R**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face | from my sins,  
and blot out | all my wickedness.  
<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean | heart, O God,**  
**and renew a right spir- | it within me.**  
<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away | from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.  
<sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of | your salvation.**  
**and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit. R**

**+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**+ HOLY GOSPEL** *JOHN 12:20-33*

The Gospel according to John, the 12th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.  
<sup>27</sup>“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

## CHILDREN'S HOMILY & HOMILY

+ **HYMN OF THE DAY** *"Seed That in Earth is Dying"* ELW #330

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

## + SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

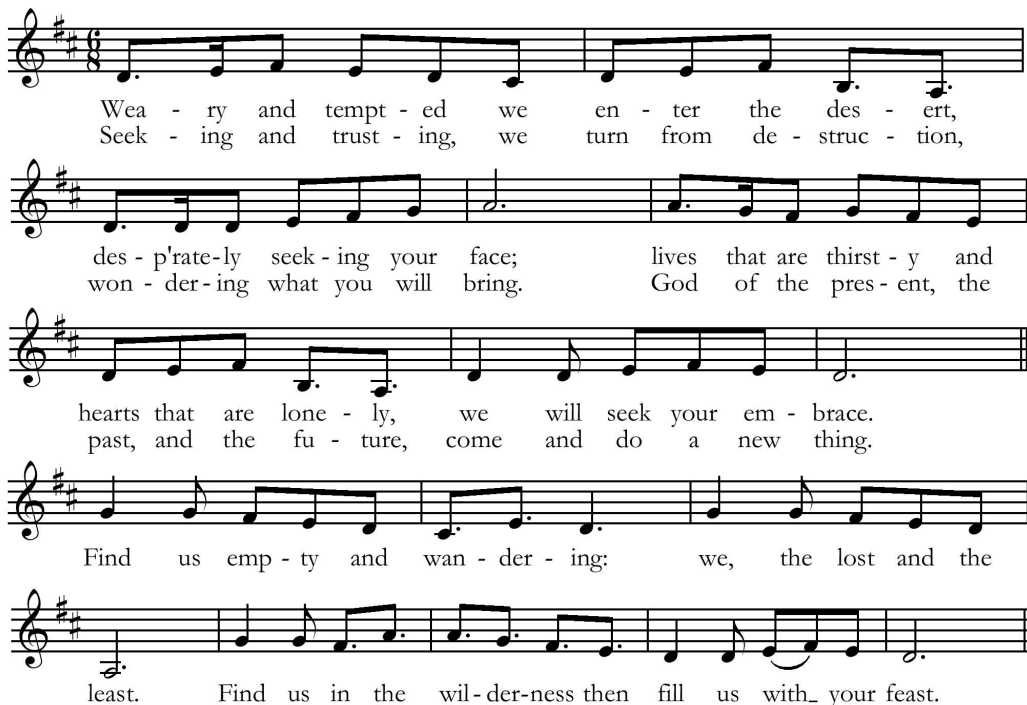
We pass the peace of Christ beyond our congregation and this moment through our offerings of time, talent, and treasure. Use this QR code for a one-time gift or to schedule an automatic donation through Simply Giving. Online giving cards (in the back of hymnal), checks or cash may be placed in the offering plates as they are passed.



**ANTHEM (8:30)** *"Beautiful Things"* Michael Gungor & Lisa Gungor; arr. Megan Engel

**ANTHEM (10:45)** *"When the Poor Ones"* arr. Kyle Webber

## + OFFERTORY *"Fill Us With Your Feast"*



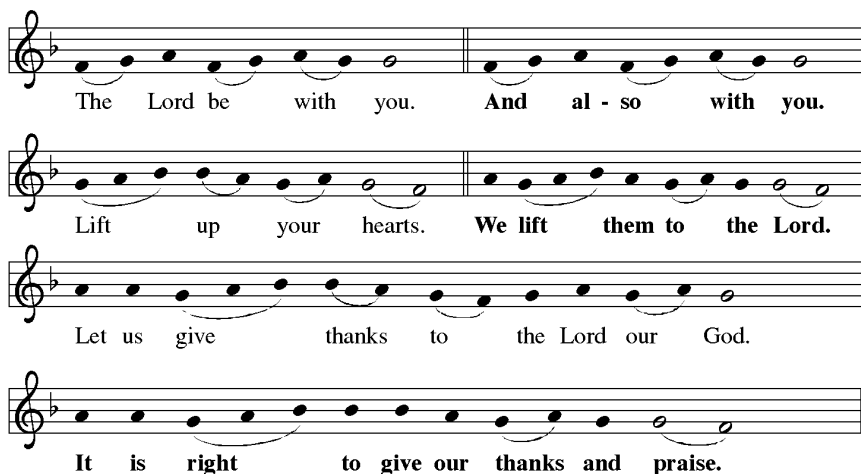
Wear and tempt-ed we enter the desert,  
Seek-ing and trust-ing, we turn from destruction,  
des-p'rate-ly seek-ing your face; lives that are thirst-y and  
won-der-ing what you will bring. God of the present, the  
hearts that are lone-ly, we will seek your embrace.  
past, and the fu-ture, come and do a new thing.  
Find us emp-ty and wan-der-ing: we, the lost and the  
least. Find us in the wil-der-ness then fill us with your feast.

## + OFFERTORY PRAYER

O God who gave us life, and in whose arms we die,  
you know us as we are, understand what we have been, and see what we shall become.  
We give you back our lives that you may make them new:  
generous, committed to hope, and fearless to do your will;  
that your whole creation may live to praise your name now and forever. Amen.

## ✠ MEAL ✠

## + GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.

## + EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, 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. Ho - san - na. Ho -



Faithful God, even when we are broken and prone to breaking things, you seek our company and partnership. In great love, you invite us into an unbreakable covenant that relies on your grace.

### *The Words of Institution*

As you lifted up your Son through suffering and death to resurrected glory, lift up the wretched of the earth to find peace and rest at your side and in your heart. Draw all people to yourself, until all injustice is transformed by your mercy, all deceit is healed by your truth, and all oppression is dismantled by your grace, and you are known. **Amen.**

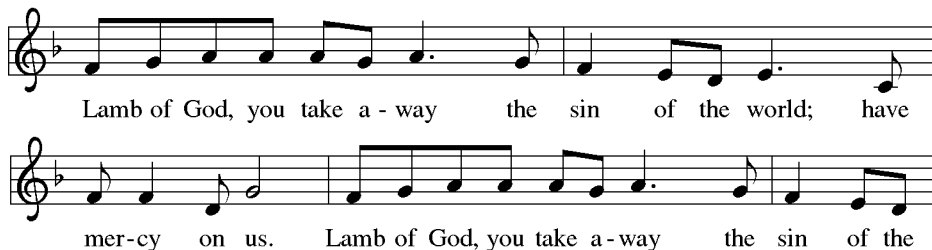
### **+ THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory  
are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **+ EL PADRE NUESTRO**

Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos,  
santificado sea tu nombre;  
venga a nos tu reino;  
hágase tu voluntad,  
así en la tierra como en el cielo;  
el pan nuestro de cada día, dánoslo hoy;  
y perdónanos nuestras deudas  
así como nosotros perdonamos  
a nuestros deudores;  
y no nos dejes caer en la tentación;  
mas líbranos del mal.  
Porque tuyo es el reino,  
el poder y la gloria,  
por los siglos de los siglos. **Amén.**

### **LAMB OF GOD**







SENDING HYMN “Nothing Worth Doing” by Brett Hesla



1. Noth - ing worth do - ing can we com - plete in our life - time.  
2. Noth - ing of beau - ty is whole - ly seen at its birth - ing.  
3. Noth - ing we do — can we a - chieve on our own. —  
4. Act - ing with vir - tute, we are not seen quite so pure. —



Can we com - plete in the span, the span of our days. And  
Is whole - ly seen at the dawn, the dawn of its days. And  
Can we a - chieve on our own, no strug - gle won a - lone. And  
We are not seen quite so pure by foe nor friend. And



so we are saved by hope. We must be saved by  
so we are saved by trust We must be saved by  
so we are saved by love. We must be saved by  
so we must be saved by for - give - ness. In for - give - ness we are



hope, the fuel of the heart.  
trust the jew - el of the soul.  
love, the weav - er of the whole.  
saved and shown the way of peace.

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE “Seed That in Earth is Dying” arr. David Maxwell

**WORSHIP LEADERS**

Pastor Inger Hanson, Pastor Ben Schori, & Pastor Phil Ruud

Acolytes: (8:30) Lauren Blumhoefer (10:45) Magdalene Bateza

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Eric Lundin (10:45) Ellen Haefner

Ushers: (8:30) Bruce Dueffert, Craig Grunzke, Larry Narhi, Dale Turnaclyff

(10:45) Alyssa Bauer, Chad Jenkinson, Marvin Farmer

Readers: (8:30) Paula Mathison (10:45) Elizabeth Leer

Sacramental Ministers: (8:30) Beth Christensen, Judy Code, Dottie Hammer, Carol Cole, Wayne Kivell  
(10:45) Kirsten Scott

Altar Care: (set) Carol Cole (clean) Carol Cole  
Director of Ring Forth & Brio: Jill Mahr Percussion: Connor Fogarty  
Rainbow Singers: Catherine Engle, Ellen Haefner, Inger Hanson, Kristi Larson,  
Megan Engel, Krista Middlebrooks, Joanna McLees  
Keyboards: Megan Engel  
A/V Technicians: Sam Dwyer, Sebastian Jenkinson, Boden Jenkinson, Brent Kivell, Nathan Hoekstra

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

This Lent’s theme focuses on corporate regret and is inspired by  
the resources made available through St. Olaf’s Nurturing Vocation Project

“*God Is Forgiveness*” Text and Tune: Taizé Community  
© 2007, 2011, Les Presses de Taizé , GIA Publications, Inc., agent

“*Fill Us With Your Feast*” Text and music by Phil Campbell-Enns;  
© 2005 Phil Campbell-Enns

The Offering prayer is written by Janet Morley, as found in her book  
*All Desires known* © 2006 Moorhouse Publishing; New York

The Eucharistic prayer is cobbled from Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher’s  
*Eucharistic Prayers* © 2016 William B. EerdMans Publishing Company

The benediction is from the Mennonite Church’s 2020 hymnal *Voices Together*

“*Christ Is the Life*” Text by Susan Palo Cherwien. Tune: KINGSFOLD; English Folk tune,  
arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams. Text © 1989 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin.. Augsburg Fortress.

We are using ELW Setting Three for our liturgy.  
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**SUNDAY ATTENDANCE & FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT**

| March 10th | in person attendance |
|------------|----------------------|
| 8:30 am    | 179                  |
| 10:45 am   | 128                  |
| Total      | 307                  |

| Offering—General Operating Budget  | 2024 Budget monthly goal: \$80,771 |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| March 2nd online giving            | \$10,021                           |
| March 9th online giving            | \$3,888                            |
| Plate Offering March 3rd and 10th  | \$12,101                           |
| March 16th online giving           |                                    |
| March 23rd online giving           |                                    |
| Plate Offering March 17th and 24th |                                    |
| March 30th online giving           |                                    |
| March Total                        | \$26,010                           |

**2024 Financial Status**  
**(YTD as of end of February)**

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Income received | \$166,659 |
| Expenses        | \$170,460 |
| Net Deficit     | \$3,800   |

**THIS WEEK**  
**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS 9 AM - 3 PM**

**MONDAY**

**6:30 pm**



**Resonance Adult Bell Choir**  
**Northfield Youth Choirs**

**TUESDAY**

**9:45 am**

**Staff Meeting**

**12:00 pm**

**Lydia Circle**

**3:00 pm**

**Befriender Group**

**6:30 pm**

**Church Council Meeting**

**WEDNESDAY**

**11:30 am**

**Lenten Midday Worship**

**12:00 pm**

**Soup Lunch**

**3:30 pm**

**Limitless**

**5:45 pm**



**Bistro Soup Dinner**

**6:15 pm**

**Ring Forth Youth Bell Choir**

**6:30 pm**



**Joyous Light Evening Prayer**

**7:00 pm**

**Church Choir Rehearsal**



**LAST CONFIRMATION CLASS & PARTY**

**Hang Time**

**8:05 pm**



**Brio Youth Bell Choir**

**THURSDAY**

**8:30 am**

**Men of Bethel (Room 62)**

**9:30 am**

**FAB (Faith & Books) (Youth Room)**



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