



# BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## *The Man Born Blind*

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 1ST, 2026

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

*+ indicates to stand in body or spirit;  
bold print indicates congregational responses*

## ✠ GATHERING ✠

**PRELUDE** "Sonata, KV 67" W. A. Mozart; arr. Sue Mitchell-Wallace and John H. Head

### WORDS OF WELCOME

### + CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

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.**

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

Most merciful God,

**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.**

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  $\text{†}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lord, you are the light of the world.

**When we are blind to you, heal us and help us see.**

+ **GATHERING HYMN** *“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”* ELW #779 stanzas 1, 3, & 4

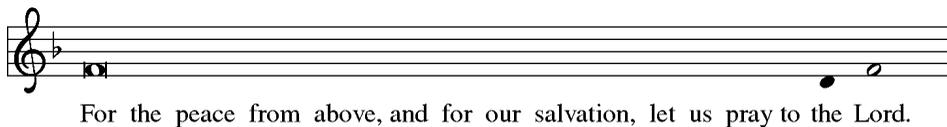
+ **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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.**

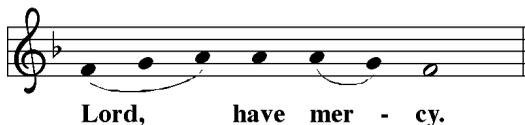
+ **KYRIE**



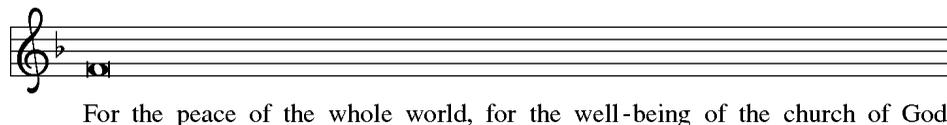
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



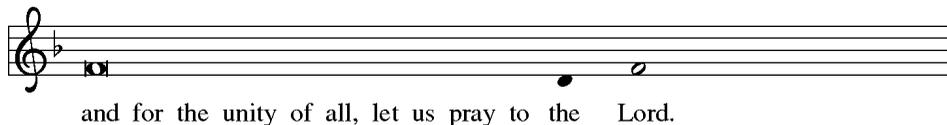
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



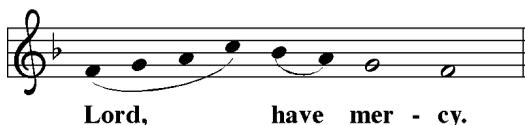
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



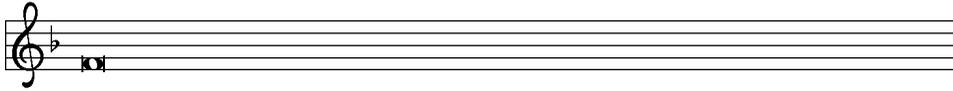
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



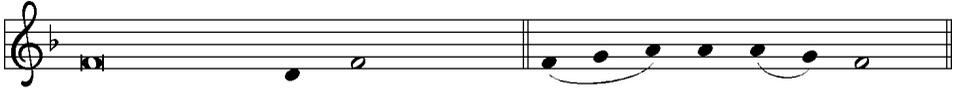
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



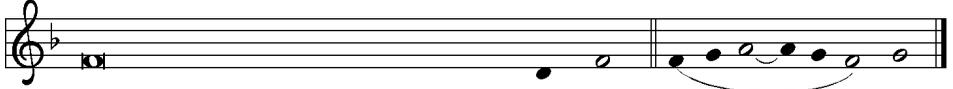
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



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.

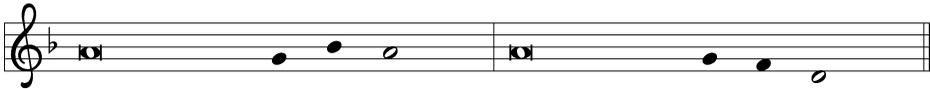
### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Bend your ears to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. Anoint us with your Spirit that we might have the light of life and see what really matters, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*(10:30) At this time, children age 3 to grade 5 are invited to go to Sunday School. They will return to the sanctuary before communion.*

### ✠ WORD ✠

#### PSALM *PSALM 27:1-4*



<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then | shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

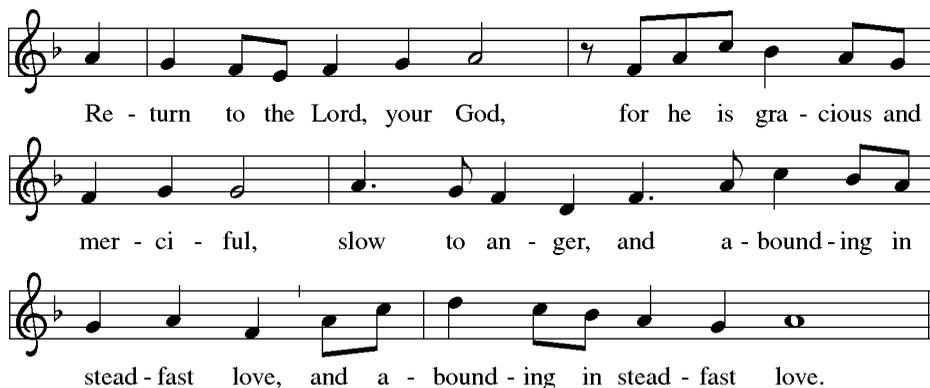
<sup>2</sup>When evildoers close in against me to de- | vour my flesh,  
they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- | ble and fall.

<sup>3</sup>Though an army encamp against me, my heart | will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will | not be shaken.

<sup>4</sup>One thing I ask of the LORD; one | thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;  
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God | in the temple.

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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.

+ HOLY GOSPEL *JOHN 9:1-13; 35-38*

The Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup> We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup> When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, <sup>7</sup> saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

<sup>8</sup> The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup> Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” <sup>10</sup> But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup> He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup> They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.

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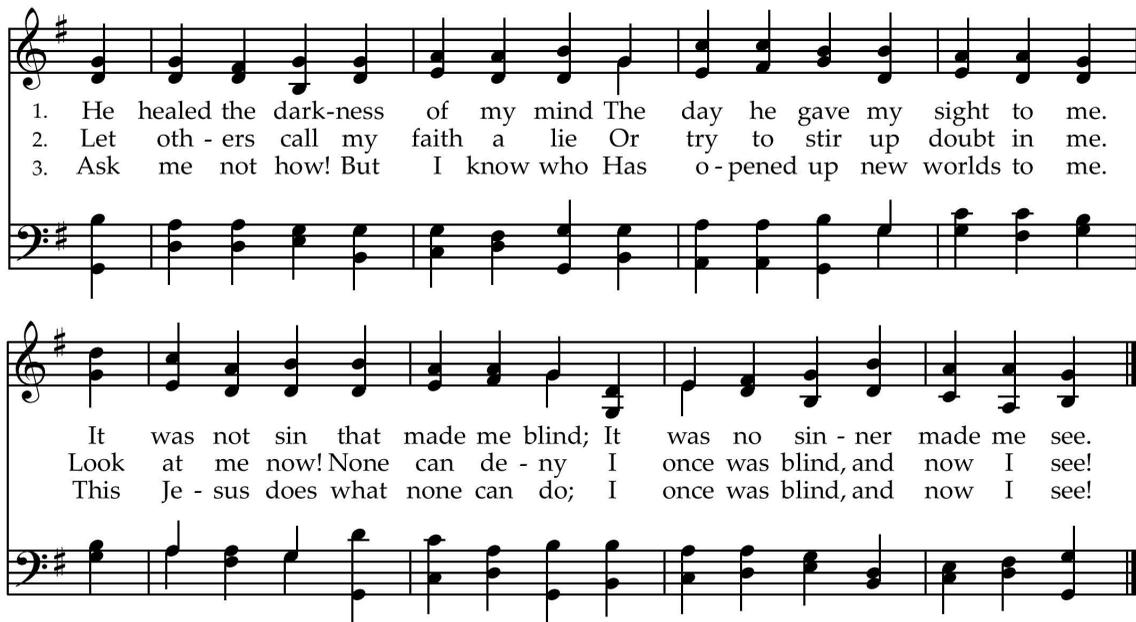
<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup> He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.”

<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” <sup>38</sup> He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.

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

HOMILY *“Working the Works”*

+ HYMN OF THE DAY *"He Healed the Darkness of My Mind"* Gather #1048



1. He healed the dark-ness of my mind The day he gave my sight to me.  
2. Let oth - ers call my faith a lie Or try to stir up doubt in me.  
3. Ask me not how! But I know who Has o - pened up new worlds to me.

It was not sin that made me blind; It was no sin - ner made me see.  
Look at me now! None can de - ny I once was blind, and now I see!  
This Je - sus does what none can do; I once was blind, and now I see!

+ 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 PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

## + SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

## OFFERING



Guests

Generosity is part of who we are as God's people. Guests can use their QR code to give via Breeze, Bethel's trusted online giving platform. Select "Member Faith Giving" to give to the general budget. Members can use their QR code to sign into Breeze to give a one-time gift or to schedule an automated donation. Online giving cards (at the name tag stations), checks, or cash may be placed in the offering plates as they are passed.



Members

**ANTHEM** "Healer of Our Every Ill" arr. Dan Kallman

## + OFFERTORY "Fill Us with Your Feast" VT #309



Wea - ry and tempt - ed we en - ter the des - ert,  
Seek - ing and trust - ing, we turn from de - struc - tion,



des - p'rate-ly seek - ing your face; lives that are thirst - y and  
won - der - ing what you will bring, God of the pres - ent, the



hearts that are lone - ly, we will seek your em - brace.  
past, and the fu - ture, come and do a new thing.

### *Refrain*



Find us emp - ty and wan - der - ing; we, the lost and the



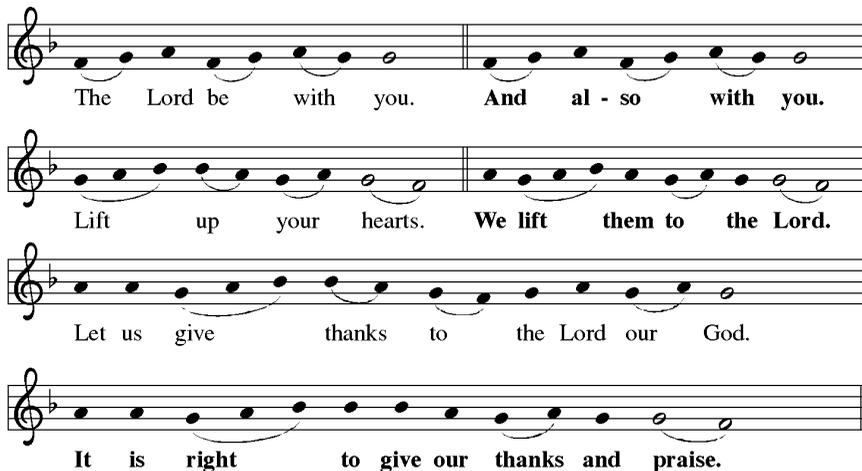
least. Find us in the wil - der - ness then fill us with\_ your feast.

## + 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

Holy God, we sing the praise of your creations: wheat and donkey, perfume and palms. You wash the mud from our eyes when focus falters; you abide with us in doubt and darkness; you comfort us in the places where the stench of death still lingers. Mighty and merciful God, unbind our apathy. Call us from our graves of certainty and ambition. Teach us to counter cruelty with tenderness.

*The Words of Institution / Las Palabras de la Institución*

You are the grain of wheat, bearing fruit in death. You are the shepherd who laid down his life. You passed through the gate of death so that we could graze with you in eternal life. As we eat this bread and drink this wine, may the Spirit that passes all understanding grant us the courage to see that your body still walks among us: in the patient, the prisoner, the immigrant, and the stranger. May this meal strengthen us to love others as you have loved us. **Amen.**

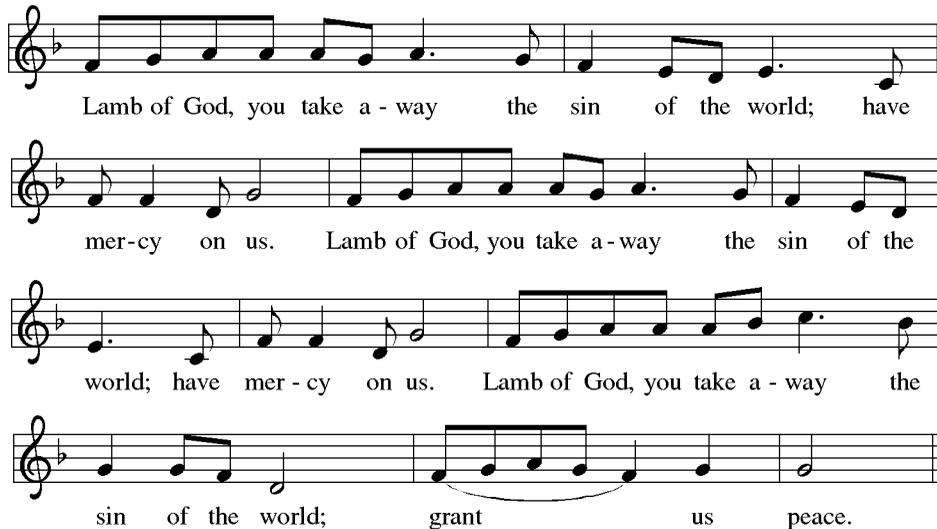
+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

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



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.

HOLY COMMUNION HYMN "Be Thou My Vision" ELW #793

+ TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

**+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**✠ SENDING ✠**

**+ BENEDICTION**

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 to life renewed.  
Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty,  
✠ bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

**+ SENDING HYMN** *“Christ, Be Our Light”* ELW #715 stanzas 1 & 2

**+ DISMISSAL**

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

**POSTLUDE** *“Amazing Grace”* arr. Robert A. Hobby

**WORSHIP LEADERS**

Pastor Inger Hanson & Pastor Ben Schori

Guest Preacher: Rev. Mark Aune

Acolytes: (8:30) (10:30)

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Ellen Haefner (10:30) Rolf Kragseth

Ushers: (8:30) Bruce Dueffert, Bob Vanderhoof, Harley Foster, Dale Turnacliff

(10:30) Don Pavek, Gene Broughton

Readers: (8:30) Wayne Kivell (10:30) Darlene Broughton

Sacramental Ministers: (8:30) Clark Cary, Judy Code, Dottie Hammer, Telford Norvold, Phil Ruud

(10:30) Darlene Broughton

Altar Care: (set) Rosann Brawley (clean) Winnie Johnson, Rosann Brawley (cups) Connie DeGrote

Trumpet: Gerry Hoekstra

Keyboards: Megan Engel

A/V Technicians: Sam Dwyer, Asher Engle, Nathan Broughton, Nathan Hoekstra

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are using ELW Setting Three for our liturgy.

The Prayer of the Day is adapted from ELW Year C prayers for Lectionary 15 and 16.

“*He Healed the Darkness of My Mind*” Text: Fred Pratt Green, © 1982 Hope Publishing Company.

Music: TALLIS’ CANON, Thomas Tallis, 1505-1585.

“*Fill Us With Your Feast*” Text and Music: Phil Campbell-Enns, © 2005.

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

The Eucharistic prayer for Lent 2026 is by Kaethe Schwehn.

The benediction is modified from Sundays & Seasons 2018 and 2022.

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## SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

February 22	in person attendance
8:30	153
10:30	76
Total	229

### NEXT SUNDAY...

The text of the day  
will be **John 10:1-18** (with Psalm 23).

## TODAY!

- A staffed nursery for little ones is available during and between worship services.
- 9:40—10:25 am Coffee Fellowship (CLC) and Faith Formation opportunities:

**Kids’ & Youth Fellowship** (Center Pod & Youth Room)

**Bethel Presents: *Lutheran Social Service of MN* with Rev. Aune**



- **Sunday School** is offered during the 10:30 am worship service (*children grades age 3—Grade 5 are invited to go with Kristi after the prayer of the day and will rejoin parents prior to communion.*)



As another budgeted benevolence obligation was ending, Bethel's Finance Committee made a project gift pledge to Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota's Empower What's Possible campaign.

The Empower What's Possible campaign will be a catalyst for change throughout the social service sector. The campaign is built on four foundational pillars:

- 1. Service Design, Innovation & Measurement** Investing in our ability to rethink, reinvent, modernize and advance the way we provide services will ensure that we can empower what's possible for our neighbors for generations to come.
- 2. Service Model Pilots** As the largest and most comprehensive social service provider in Minnesota, LSS is at the forefront of identifying statewide trends. We asked community members to share their most pressing needs — and we listened. With campaign investments, LSS will launch a series of strategic pilot programs in various regions across the state. Once fully developed, we envision that these approaches to service delivery will not only affect change in the lives of those we support, but will also influence systemic changes within the social service sector.
- 3. Service Sustainability & Growth** When Minnesotans face life's challenges, LSS is there. Growing annual support and planned gifts will help us continue to deliver life-transforming services for generations to come, no matter what challenges arise.
- 4. Service Infrastructure and Capacity** In addition to service innovations, empowering what's possible means ensuring services are provided in up-to-date, modern, and accessible facilities. LSS can improve and increase facilities that provide critical community services for early learners, youth experiencing homelessness, individuals with identified needs and more. Investing in service infrastructure and capacity is an investment in communities — allowing LSS to provide better supports, individualized care, and increased choice for full and abundant lives.

**The Center for Changing Lives (Frogtown-Rondo) particularly aligned with Bethel's passion for housing and Reconciling in Christ (RIC) commitments.** Offering safe and supportive space for youth and families is a hallmark of LSS — and we are expanding services in Saint Paul's Frogtown Neighborhood, at our University Avenue building. Through a planned \$7.5 million renovation, this facility will be a flagship location for service innovations, expansion and measurement initiatives of the campaign.

First floor renovations will include expanded spaces to serve Early Learning Center — Frogtown-Rondo students and their families as well as spaces to provide employment services, financial counseling and education, housing services and behavioral health services. Second floor renovations will provide expanded housing for youth and young families experiencing homelessness.

Once complete, the Center for Changing Lives — Frogtown-Rondo will offer an array of integrated support services in one location.



# THIS WEEK—MARCH 1—6

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—THURSDAY 9 AM - 3 PM

## MONDAY

12:00 pm  Bible Study @ the Vault (1520 Clinton Lane)

6:30 pm  Resonance Bell Choir (Adults)

## TUESDAY

9:45 am Staff Meeting

6:30 pm Mission & Justice

## WEDNESDAY

11:30 am Lenten Midday Worship & Soup Lunch

3:30 pm Limitless

5:00 pm Congregational Life

5:30 pm  Lenten Soup Supper

6:15 pm  Ring Forth Youth Bell Choir

6:30 pm  Joyous Light Lenten Evening Prayer *with harp music beginning at 6:15 pm, and following the service. Please enter and depart quietly for those taking part in the extended worship option.*

7:00 pm Church Choir Rehearsal

 Confirmation 7th—9th Grades

Hangtime

8:05 pm  Brio Youth Bell Choir

## THURSDAY

8:30 am MoB (Men of Bethel) (Room 54)

9:30 am FaB (Faith & Books) (Youth Room)

10:45 am OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans)

2:00 pm Monthly Movie: *Radio* starring Cuba Gooding Jr. and Ed Harris

7:00 pm Bethel Vision Seekers @ Reunion (501 Division St)

## FRIDAY

9:15 am WoW (Women of the Word) via zoom



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