



# BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Jesus Raises Lazarus*

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 15TH, 2026

**8:30 AM & 10:30 AM**

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

## ✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE *"Be Thou My Vision"* arr. Daniel Burton

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 resurrection and the life.

**Come and see our devastation, and call us into new life.**

+ **GATHERING HYMN** *“Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death”* ELW #452 stanzas 1-3

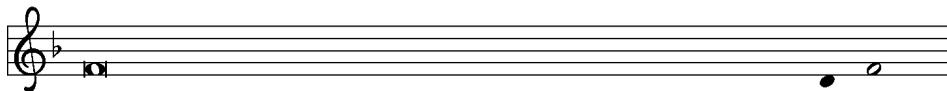
+ **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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**



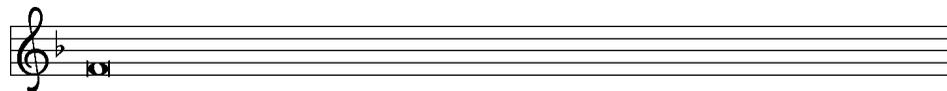
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



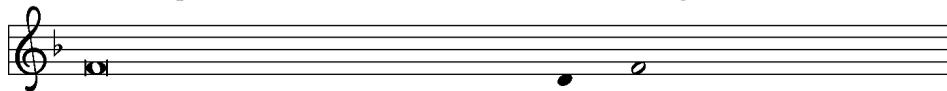
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



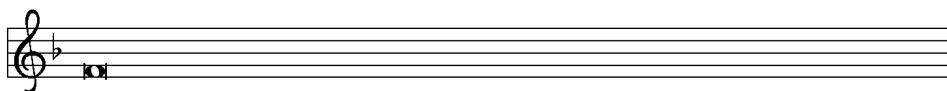
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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

**Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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 104:27-30*

- <sup>27</sup>All of them look to you  
to give them their food in due season.
- <sup>28</sup>**You give it to them; they gather it;  
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.**
- <sup>29</sup>When you hide your face, they are terrified;  
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.
- <sup>30</sup>**You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;  
and so you renew the face of the earth.**

### + 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.

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

<sup>1</sup> Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

<sup>2</sup> Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill."

<sup>4</sup> But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." <sup>5</sup> Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup> after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup> The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?"

<sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." <sup>11</sup> After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." <sup>12</sup> The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." <sup>13</sup> Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup> For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup> Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

<sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

<sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup> She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

<sup>32</sup> When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup> He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup> Jesus began to weep.

<sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup> But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, "Did I

not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me.<sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me."<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"<sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

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

## HOMILY

+ **HYMN OF THE DAY** "*Christ is the Life*" ACS #927



1. Christ is the life of all that is, God's pure cre - a - tive Word,  
 2. Christ is the death of all that is; a\_\_\_ broad and beck - 'ning tomb,  
 3. Christ is the death of all that is, a\_\_\_ bright, con - sum - ing fire,  
 4. Christ is the life of all that is, Be - gin - ning and\_\_\_ the End;



whose pow'r be - yond and through all space the\_\_\_ worlds to Be - ing stirred.  
 who\_ wel - comes us from well - worn ways to\_\_\_ dark - ness of\_\_\_ the womb.  
 whose flames re - quire our pri - or self as\_\_\_ kin - dling for\_\_\_ the pyre.  
 cre - a - tive force, most peace - ful death, trans - form - ing burn - ing brand.



Christ is the life\_\_\_ be - yond all time, cre - a - tion's birth and breath,  
 Christ is the death, the sing - ing down past\_\_\_ all de - sire and fear,  
 Christ is the death of dust - y days of\_\_\_ un - cre - a - tive strife,  
 Christ is the life,\_\_\_ in whose wise love cre - a - tion\_\_\_ lives and dies



whose la - bor brings all\_\_\_ things to be and\_ brings all things to death.  
 whose prom - ise in\_\_\_ the\_\_\_ gen - tle dark bids\_ new - ness to\_\_\_ ap - pear.  
 for\_\_\_ out from fire\_\_\_ we\_\_\_ tread up - on the\_\_\_ thresh - old of\_\_\_ new life.  
 and\_ thus for - ev - er - more shall bless the\_\_\_ Source, the liv - ing Christ.

## + 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

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

## + 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 (8:30)** *"When Jesus Wept"* arr. Daniel Kallman

**ANTHEM (10:30)** *"For the Beauty of the Earth"* arr. Daniel Burton

+ 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



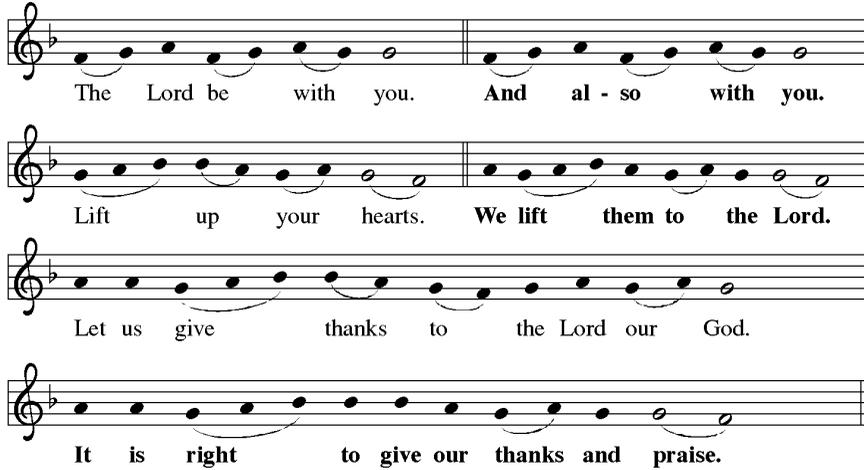
least. Find us in the wil - der - ness then fill us with\_ your feast.

+ 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 ANTHEM (8:30) *"For the Beauty of the Earth"* arr. Daniel Burton  
 HYMN (10:30) *"Christ, the Life of All the Living"* ELW #339

+ 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 *"Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land"* ELW #333 (*A soloist will sing the verses.*)

+ DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE *"Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land"* arr. Ronald A. Nelson

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Inger Hanson & Pastor Ben Schori

Acolytes: (8:30) Josephine Lancaster (10:30)

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Eric Lundin (10:30) Krista Middlebrooks

Ushers: (8:30) Harley Foster, Dale Turnacliff, Bob Vanderhoof, Scott Broughton  
(10:30) Jeff Kreis

Readers: (8:30) Yvonne Roesel (10:30) Gene Broughton

Sacramental Ministers: (8:30) Judy Code, Dottie Hammer, Yvonne Roesel, Wendell Arneson, Phil Ruud  
(10:30) Gene Broughton

Altar Care: (set) and (clean) Linda Zolnosky (cups) Kari Kust

Harp & Flute: Sarah Swan McDonald & Krista Middlebrooks

Flutes: Jill Mahr & Krista Middlebrooks

Church Choir Director: Peter Schleif

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.

*“Christ Is the Life”* Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, © 1989, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Tune: KINGSFOLD, English Traditional.

*“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

March 8	in person attendance
8:30	126
10:30	121
Total	247

### NEXT SUNDAY...

The text of the day  
will be **John 12:1-8**.  
Pastor Inger will preach.

# THIS WEEK—MARCH 15—21

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

12:00 pm Lydia Circle

3:00 pm ARLA Monthly event

5:00 pm Personnel

6:30 pm  Church Council

## WEDNESDAY

11:30 am Lenten Midday Worship & Soup Lunch

3:30 pm Limitless

4:30 pm Homes for God's Children

5:00 pm Congregational Life (Fireside Room) / Path to Palm Talk ( back of CLC)

5:30 pm Lenten Soup Supper *Chicken Enchilada & Tomato Basil Bisque*

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

Last Confirmation Class & Party/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)

10:00 am Parkview Fellowship

## FRIDAY

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



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