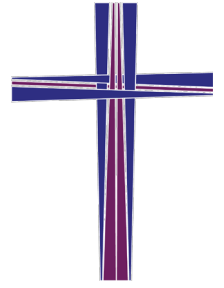


# Bethany Lutheran & Trinity Lutheran

*welcome you to worship!*



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Midweek Lent Worship

March 3, 2021

## Order of Worship

### Prelude

**Welcome from Safely Regathering Task Force** (in person only)

Mark Nymo

### Welcome

### Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✕ one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Fountain of living water, **pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are ✕ forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus. **Amen.**

### Opening Music

*"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"*

DeAnna Westphal

### Prayer of the Day

Lord God, **you opened the eyes and heart of Simon of Cyrene, and you gave him, by his share in your Cross, the grace of faith. Help us to aid our neighbors in need, even when this interferes with our own plans and desires. Help us to realize that it is a grace to be able to share the cross of others and, in this way, know that we are walking with you along the way. Amen.**

## Reading

Mark 15:21-24

The reading comes from the Gospel of Mark, the 15th chapter:

<sup>21</sup>They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. <sup>22</sup>Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). <sup>23</sup>And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. <sup>24</sup>And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Remarks

Pastor Chris Sesevold

## Simon of Cyrene Portrayal

*“Forgive Them? Never!”*

Jamie Jacobson

## Silent Reflection

## Offering

Bethany Text Giving Available: 715-303-3484

## Offering Music

*“I Love You, Lord”*

Adam Bever

## Closing Prayer

God of our longing, you prepare a home and dwelling place for our weary souls. Grant that we may rest in you. Build our foundation on the cornerstone of Christ. In Jesus' name we pray.  
**Amen.**

## Prayers

Beneath the cross of Jesus, we lift up our joys and our sorrows to God.

*A brief silence.*

O Lord, amid the shifting sands of this world,

**be our rock and our foundation.**

In the fears and uncertainties of our lives,

**be our home and our resting place.**

When we lay our sins before you,

**be our comfort and our guide.**

As we gaze upon the cross of Christ,

**be our hope and our salvation.**

## Closing Announcements

## Blessing

## Dismissal

Go in peace, led by the cross of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

35 W. Messenger Street • Rice Lake, WI 54868 • Church Office: 715-234-9028

**Email:** lhullinger@bethanyricelake.org

**Worship:** Sundays 8:00 a.m.

**Website:** www.bethanyricelake.org

**Live Streaming:** Sundays 8:00 a.m. on Bethany’s website and Facebook page

**Facebook:** Bethany Lutheran - Rice Lake, WI

**Live Radio Broadcast:** Sundays 8:00 a.m.  
WJMC 96.1 FM & 1240 AM

**Cable Broadcast:** Channels 992 (Charter) & 993 (Mosaic)  
Sundays 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM; Thursdays 7:00 PM

**Bethany Text Giving Available: 715-303-3484**

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Interim Pastor Peter Muschinske *Cell:* 314-703-1496  
Pastor Luci Sesvold *Cell:* 715-225-0979

**Synod Delegates:** A vacancy has opened an opportunity for two new persons to attend the Northwest Synod of WI Synod Assembly on April 15 (evening) and Saturday, April 17. The theme this year is “Justice and Joy: When justice is done, it brings joy to the righteous.” Bethany may have three voting representatives. (This event will be by Zoom, so participants are required to have Zoom capabilities.) More information can be found at [nwswi.org/2021-synod-assembly](http://nwswi.org/2021-synod-assembly).

If interested, please contact the church office, or Pam Crouse, by Friday, March 5.

**From the Council President:** Recently I read a devotion entitled, “The Inadequacy of Words,” based on Isaiah 55:8-9.

“My thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways are not your ways... As high as the heavens are above the earth, so my ways are beyond your ways, and my thoughts are beyond your thoughts.”

It made me wonder, what would Jesus ask of us right now? Of course, first and foremost is to love and care for one another. Let your needs be known to someone you trust and we pray that as servants and saints, we can find a healing place to reside. You can reach our pastoral staff just by calling the office. Council members are also ready to hear your concerns. Thank you for the conversations underway about what is best for Bethany at this time and place. Read more about this on the Bethany 411! webpage.

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**Office Hours:** We are pleased to announce the opening of our doors and office to walk-ins according to the following schedule: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. As with our limited regathering for worship, all who enter are asked to wear a mask over nose and mouth, sign in (to report to us if you develop covid and for us to share news of a positive case with you) and limit time and touch. On other days, phones are answered or messages checked often. As always, contact either pastor in a time of urgent need.

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**Bethany Tots:** These resources are available for parents of newborns through toddlers (age 3) to help to teach faith at home through activities, crafts and games. The Frolic lessons have been adapted for parents to do at home with your tots.

Pastor Luci and Angie Buchli will be at Bethany Sunday, March 14 from 9:00-10:00 a.m. handing out the lesson, book and activity cards. Just pull up under the carport anytime Sunday, March 14 from 9:00-10:00 a.m. we will hand you your Bethany Tots lesson materials. If you missed our lesson and baptismal milestone pick up in November and/or December, you can get those at this time also.

If you cannot make that time, please contact Angie Buchli to arrange another time. We look forward to seeing you!!

**Lent-in-a-Box:** Journey through Lent with our Lent-in-a-Box! This is a resource with fun, meaningful activities for households to do at home as you journey through the Lenten season. Our Lent Devotion booklet is a great companion to this resource. Our hope is that each household experiences Lent together in a meaningful way. Boxes are available; please contact Angie Buchli at [abuchli@bethanyricelake.org](mailto:abuchli@bethanyricelake.org) to arrange a time to pick yours up!

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**First Communion Class:** First Communion classes will be offered in March and April 2021. Classes will consist of four sessions and meet in person in the Gathering Room or Fellowship Hall on Sundays March 7, March 14, April 11 and April 18 at 10:45 a.m. Students will receive their first communion on Sunday, April 25 at the 10:00 a.m. worship service. These special classes are designed to support ongoing learning by exploring the stories, rituals and images of this meal. We strongly encourage a parent or another adult to attend class with each child. If you prefer an at-home class option, please let us know when you register.

The classes will be open to all children age three years and older. We highly encourage students to attend a First Communion class sometime between age three and 3rd grade. However, please know that you, as parents and guardians, have the primary responsibility to determine when your child should begin receiving Holy Communion.

Please register for the class by contacting Angie Buchli at [abuchli@bethanyricelake.org](mailto:abuchli@bethanyricelake.org) before March 5, so that we can make sure to have enough supplies for everyone. If you have any questions, please contact Angie Buchli or Pastor Luci at [pastorluci@bethanyricelake.org](mailto:pastorluci@bethanyricelake.org).

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**Easter Cake Decorating Contest:** Get in the Easter spirit! Households are invited to participate in an outrageously fun cake decorating challenge. No experience needed and starter kit provided.

Households must register by Wednesday, March 10 to participate. (If you would like more than one starter kit, cost will be \$5/additional kit. Contact Angie Buchli.)

Each starter cake decorating kit will include two 8” round white cake layers and approximately 3 ½ cups vanilla whipped icing. We will contact participants when starter kits are available for pick up.

Winners chosen in THREE categories:

- **Easter Scene:** Use decorating elements of your choice to create your favorite Easter themed scene and finished cake is round two-layers.
- **Fresh Fruit Decoration:** Use fresh fruit as main decorating element and finished cake is round two-layers.
- **Reshaping Challenge:** Finished cake can be any theme and appears other than a two-layer round cake.

Pictures of finished cakes must be submitted no later than Easter Sunday, April 4. Winners will be announced the following week after Easter, but you are welcome to enjoy your cake once you have submitted the picture!

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**Freshening Up:** As we start to regather for worship, you may notice there is a fresh coat of paint! Painters are painting the main level, Fellowship Hall and parts of the basement. The building hasn't had new paint since the addition was added.

The paint color was selected from samples chosen to be neutral and to the lighter side to be classic/timely in nature and coordinate with other features in the building. Members of the Property Committee, their significant others and staff voted on the color by blind ballot. If you have questions, please contact Keith Moffatt, Property Chair.

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Sunday School Lessons are available online: Even though we are not meeting in person at the moment, you can still participate in Sunday School! The lessons are posted on Bethany's website under the At-Home Resources page. The page is password protected, due to copyright, so please see the email from Angie Buchli for the password. If you did not receive the email and password, please contact Angie at [abuchli@bethanyricelake.org](mailto:abuchli@bethanyricelake.org).



# Worship Opportunities

Follow along!  
Bulletins  
available  
online



Tune in Sunday  
at 8:00 am  
WJMC FM 96.1  
AM 1240



8:00 am LIVE stream  
[bethanyricelake.org](http://bethanyricelake.org)  
Bethany Facebook



Local access cable channels  
992 (Charter) & 993 (Mosaic)  
Sundays 11:00 AM & 7:00 pm  
Thursdays at 7:00 pm

## Volunteer Opportunities

*Will you help us?*

- Hymn Request
- Ushers
- Readers
- Welcome Video
- Special Music

**Please register**

Bethany's website under the [Signups](#) tab or contact the church office at 715-234-9028 or [lhullinger@bethanyricelake.org](mailto:lhullinger@bethanyricelake.org).

## Gathering In person

Sundays 10:00 am  
Wednesday Lent  
Noon and 6 pm



*Please register*

Bethany's website under the [Signups](#) tab or contact the church office at 715-234-9028 or [lhullinger@bethanyricelake.org](mailto:lhullinger@bethanyricelake.org).

*Masks are required*

## At the Foot of the Cross Returns:

This is a Lenten Drama Portrayal written by Dennis Mauer and many of the same actors are returning this year. Join us each Wednesday as we hear from members portraying significant figures present at the crucifixion of Jesus.

March 3: *"Forgive Them? Never!"*

Simon of Cyrene by Jamie Jacobson

March 10: *"I Hate Executions"*

The Centurion by Jake Donze

March 17: *"What's Love Got to Do With It?"*

John by Ben Nieman

March 24: *"Hanging On to Faith"*

Mary by Deb Slagstad

Maundy Thursday, April 1: *"I'm No Rock!"*

Peter by Mike Bock