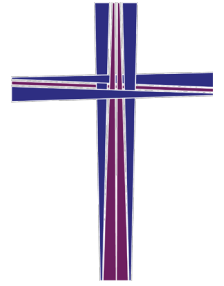


# Bethany Lutheran & Trinity Lutheran

*welcome you to worship!*



Midweek Lent Worship

March 10, 2021

## Order of Worship

### Prelude

### 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

*"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"*

DeAnna Westphal

### Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, **your son was despised and rejected, oppressed and afflicted, yet he was prepared to be wounded for our sins. We come to you, overwhelmed by the depth of Jesus' love for us and his commitment to defeat evil. May his actions continue to lead us in our own discipleship as we strive to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Amen.**

### Reading

Mark 15:25-39

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

<sup>25</sup>It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. <sup>26</sup>The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." <sup>27</sup>And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left.

<sup>29</sup>Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, <sup>30</sup>save yourself, and come down from the cross!"

<sup>31</sup>In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among

themselves and saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. <sup>32</sup>Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.” Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

<sup>33</sup>When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. <sup>34</sup>At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

<sup>35</sup>When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “Listen, he is calling for Elijah.” <sup>36</sup>And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.” <sup>37</sup>Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. <sup>38</sup>And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. <sup>39</sup>Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was God’s Son!”

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

**Remarks**

Pastor Luci Sesvold

**Simon of The Centurion**

*“I Hate Executions”*

Jake Donze

**Silent Reflection**

**Offering**

Bethany Text Giving Available: 715-303-3484

**Offering Music**

*“Come to Jesus”*

Mark Nymo

**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**

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Pastor Luci Sesvold *Cell:* 715-225-0979



# 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

## 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 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

## 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).

# Announcements, Announcements, **ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

**Safely Regathering Task Force Update:** We are presently in phase 2. Recent data as of March 3, shows a case rate of 20/100,00. The infection rate is 0.83% (good), positive test rate just over 6% (goal less than 5%), and to date almost 17% have received at least one dose of the Covid vaccine. A great source for reviewing where we are and also linking you to when you qualify for a vaccine and where you can get it is: [covidactnow.org](https://covidactnow.org). We strongly encourage you to check this out.

A special shout out to our non-medical task force members who have balanced our medical opinions with the needs and safety of our congregation. They have been on the front lines of implementing the services you have seen in phase 2. They include Amy Brekke (Music Ministry), Angie Buchli (Director of Education, Youth and Congregational Ministry) and Dawn Paul (Director of Church Business). They continue to be invaluable in our working group and are literally our boots on the ground. Thank you! At our next meeting, we will be discussing plans for the next phases.

What can you do? 1) Wear your mask. 2) Keep physically distanced as much as possible. 3) Wash your hands. 4) Get immunized when you are eligible. Thank you all. Stay safe, stay healthy! If you have questions, please check the COVID-19 page on Bethany's website. Or, contact Mark Nymo, chair of the Safely Regathering Task Force at [nymomtn@gmail.com](mailto:nymomtn@gmail.com).

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**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.

**Word or words: zoomversations on our life of faith:** To be a part of conversations (zoomversations!) on the first and third Wednesday mornings of the month at 10:00 a.m., please email Pastor Peter at [pastorpeter@bethanyricelake.org](mailto:pastorpeter@bethanyricelake.org) so he can provide links for essential background/pre-session preparation. Post-session applications will be up to all of us as Disciples of Jesus Christ! The next conversation is Wednesday, March 17, 2021!

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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.

**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!!

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**Bethany Trust Fund:** The Bethany Trust Fund is pleased to announce that it is now accepting funding requests for 2021. All requests must be made by completing an application which can be found on the Bethany website by going to Resources and Trust Fund tab. The application is at the bottom of that page. If you have trouble finding the information, please get in touch with Leah in the church office. In addition, the Trust Fund welcomes Chick Feather to the committee. Chick is well known in the community and brings a wealth of experience to the Trust Fund. Also, Roxie Olsen was recently added to our committee due to the recent resignation of Rick Benson. Both Roxie and Chick are solid additions to the Trust Fund. In the weeks ahead, we look forward to telling the story of how the Trust Fund has touched the lives of individuals and organizations. If you would like to leave a legacy that will impact the lives of many for years to come, please contact any member of the Trust Fund or Dawn Paul at the Bethany church office.

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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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**Synod Assembly Resolutions:** Did you know there will be five Social Justice Resolutions being voted on at the Northwest Synod of WI's Synod Assembly in April? If you are interested in learning more about the resolutions and the topics they correspond with, please check out the synod's Social Justice & Advocacy webpage. Spirit Lutheran in Eau Claire is hosting forums on resolution topics on Mondays, March 15, 22 and 29 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. Please contact Gail at Spirit at 715-832-2421 or gsmall@spiritlutheran.org to receive the zoom code.

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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.