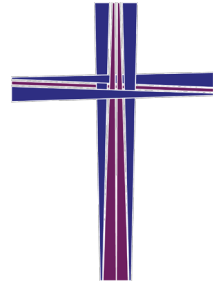


Bethany Lutheran & Trinity Lutheran

welcome you to worship!



Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 14, 2021

8:00 a.m.

Theme: Baptismal Covenant

Order of Worship

We Gather

Prelude

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Susan Barta / Amy Brekke

Welcome

Welcome Video

Panasuk Family

Confession and Forgiveness

“Naken / Broken”

Bulletin Page 4

Greeting

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord, who runs to meet us while we are still far away, who gathers her children as a hen gathers her brood, who fills our hearts with treasure that lasts. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

O God, rich in mercy, **by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

We Hear God’s Word

Special Music

“Beautiful Terrible Cross”

Sarah Buchli

First Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

Psalm

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God’s mercy endures forever.

²**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**

³gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

¹⁷**Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted.**

¹⁸They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door.

¹⁹**Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD and you delivered them from their distress.**

²⁰You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave.

²¹**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.**

²²Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

Gospel Acclamation

"Listening Now"

Bulletin Page 4

Gospel Reading

John 3:14-21

The holy gospel according to St. John, the 3rd chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁴"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Message

Pastor Chris Sesevold

Hymn of the Day

"Drawn to the Light"

Bulletin Page 5

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 Intercession

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing of Peace

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

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Offering

Bethany Text Giving Available: 715-303-3484

Offering Hymn

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

Bulletin Page 6

Requested by Judy Friess in gratefulness for the Bethany family that has persevered through this pandemic

Offering Prayer

Faithful God, **you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.**

Thanksgiving at the Table

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Communion Song

"Go Down Moses"

Vesper Bells

Prayer after Communion

We Are Sent

Announcements

Blessing

Sending Hymn

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Bulletin Page 7

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Susan Barta

Confession and Forgiveness

Naked / Broken

1. When my mask is stripped away
and my smile falls to the ground
you can see into my heart,
all my hiding has been found.

Refrain:

Tell me how can I be loved,
if then this is what God sees?
Feeling naked, incomplete
makes me fall down on my knees. *(Repeat)*

2. I can only be myself
standing stripped before your gaze,
And the fear of who I am
makes me turn my eyes away. *(Refrain)*

3. Have mercy on me, God
and cleanse me from my sin
From the guilt that all can see
and what's hiding deep within. *(Refrain)*

4. Create in me, O God,
a clean, unbroken, heart.
Let your Holy Spirit guide me
in a brand new start.

End Refrain:

So then this is how God loves!
O Lord, open my mouth
And I joyfully will sing
your praises North and South! *(Repeat)*

Steve Eulberg. 1984, 1998. Owl Mountain Music.

Gospel Acclamation

Listening Now

We're so thankful that You are still speaking
You're still speaking gracious God,
for the sake of the world You are seeking
we are list'ning, list'ning now.

O God Your precious word has been a lamp unto our feet
ev'ry time we stray and still it lights the shadows
out along our path showing us the way.

We're so thankful that You are still speaking
You're still speaking gracious God,
for the sake of the world You are seeking
we are list'ning, list'ning now.

Drawn to the Light



1 Peo - ple who walk in dark - ness have sought a light in the
2 How can we tell a heav - en from hell if ev - 'ry - one
3 Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none! The Lamb is the



heart of the dark - est night. Just when we thought all would be
dwells in the dark of night? Morn - ing dis - pels, gent - ly com -
one who is shin - ing bright, bids us to come! Life has be -



lost, we were drawn to the light of God.
pels, and we're drawn to the light of God.
gun when we're drawn to the light of God.

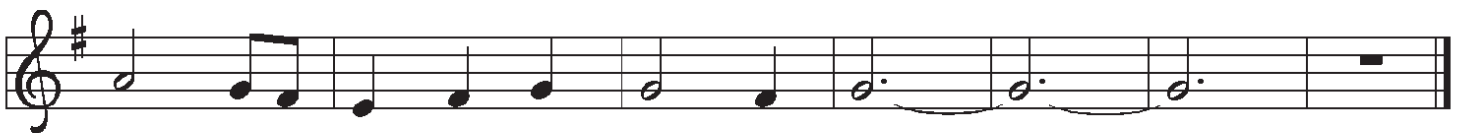
Refrain



Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night, drawn to the



light and the morn - ing. Glo - rious and bright, oh, what a



sight to be drawn to the light of God.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: LA CROSSE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1990 John C. Ylvisaker.

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Blest Be the Tie That Binds



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.
Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

My Faith Looks Up to Thee



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887

Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

The Bethany WeekAhead • March 14 - 20, 2021

Sunday
14 8:00 AM Worship/Streamed Online & Radio
Sunday School Lessons Available Online 10:00 AM In-Person Worship/SA
9:00-10:00 AM Bethany Tots Lesson Pickup

Monday
15 **Good NewsBreak Deadline**
1:00 PM Quilting/QR 6:00 PM Justice Resolution Forum/Spirit
5:30 PM Council Meeting/Zoom Lutheran in Eau Claire, Zoom

Tuesday
16 9:00 AM Staff Meeting/Zoom
12:00 PM Lunch Box/Parking Lot
5:30 PM Welcome Team/Zoom

Wednesday
17 10:00 AM Word or words/Zoom
12:00 PM Midweek Lent Worship Experience/SA
6:00 PM Midweek Lent Worship Experience/SA

Thursday
18 11:00 AM Heidi Jacobson Private Funeral/SA
5:00 PM Stewardship Committee/Zoom
7:00 PM AA/3F

Friday
19

Saturday
20

Main Level: CR-Conference Room GR-Gathering Room LI-Library NA-Narthex SA-Sanctuary NS-Nursery BR-Bell Room
Lower Level: LL-Luther Lecture FH-Fellowship Hall QR-Quilting Room YR-Youth Room *Upper Level:* 3F-3rd Floor

Bethany Text Giving Available: 715-303-3484

Liturgical Acknowledgments: From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006893.

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

Weekly Worship Opportunities:

- Tune in every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. to WJMC FM 96.1 & AM 1240
- 8:00 a.m. worship is streamed live on Bethany's website and Facebook page
- Watch on local access cable channels 992 (Charter) & 993 (Mosaic) on Sundays at 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM and Thursdays at 7:00 PM
- In person 10:00 a.m. worship on Sundays. Reserve a spot through Bethany's website under the Signups tab or contact the church office at 715-234-9028 or lhullinger@bethanyricelake.org.

Midweek Lent services: In person OR online

- In-person worship 12:00 and 6:00 p.m. every week during Lent - reserve a spot through Bethany's website under the Signups tab or contact the church office at 715-234-9028 or lhullinger@bethanyricelake.org.
- Online worship available after 9:00 a.m. each Wednesday

Safely Regathering Task Force Update: At midweek, the average daily new case count for Covid in Barron County was 23.7 per 100,000 population. For this case count, Barron County Public Health continues to recommend indoor gatherings be limited to 25% of room capacity as long as masking, six foot distancing and hand sanitizing access are maintained. With more residents being vaccinated, the Safely Regathering Task Force looks forward to the case count decreasing to 10 per 100,000 population, at which time the public health recommended indoor gathering room limit would be increased to 50% of room capacity and more of the worship practices could approach what we are normally accustomed to.

To get to that point, we urge everyone to be vaccinated when they are eligible and when the vaccine is available. The newly operational Barron County Public Health vaccine clinics are another source for vaccinations. Barron County residents can register at barroncountywi.gov or by calling 715-537-6123.

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.

Ushers Needed: While we are excited to be moving into Phase 2 of regathering and in-person worship, we need your help! We are in need of ushers to instruct

and guide participants during upcoming worship services. You can sign up online to usher. The signup link can also be found on the Signups tab of the Bethany website.

You will be given instructions and training for your role. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Brekke at brekke.amy@gmail.com or Mark Nymo of the Safely Regathering Task Force at nymomtn@gmail.com.

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 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!

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 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!!

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.

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.

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 to arrange a time to pick yours up!

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. Next Wednesday, we hear from John, portrayed by Ben Nie-man.

Will you help with a Welcome Video? Couples, singles, families or group of friends, of all ages, are wanted to record a Welcome Video that will be played at the beginning of worship. It's so easy, just sign up for a date, then Amy Brekke will contact you, send you the script and arrange a time to come to your home to record (if needed). It's a really fun way to contribute to worship! Signups can also be found on the Bethany website under the Signups tab.

Follow Along with Worship: The Sunday bulletins are available on Bethany's website homepage and archived on our bulletin publications page! We invite you to print a copy or follow along on your device with our order of service.

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.

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

Email: lhullinger@bethanyricelake.org

Website: www.bethanyricelake.org

Facebook: Bethany Lutheran - Rice Lake, WI

Live Radio Broadcast: Sundays 8:00 a.m.

WJMC 96.1 FM & 1240 AM

Worship: Sundays 8:00 a.m.

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

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

Prayer Ministry

New Prayers for Members:

Ongoing Prayers for Members: Sandie Anderson • Ray Arnevik • Red Axtell • Jaquan Bever • Laif Bever • Ron Debner • Jonathan Fritz • Jim Hagen • Lee Haight • Kevin Jacobson • Doug Karis • Carolyn Kochel • Maci Lundequam • Alyssa McCullough • Dick Moe • Regina Mueller • Leon Mundt • Randy Read • Shirley Stokes • Lynn Sulackow • Virginia Tronstad • Ray Vaughn

New Prayers for Family & Friends of Members:

Ongoing Prayers for Family & Friends of Members: Bonnie Brandt • Chuck Dahl • John Jaros • Clara Kern • Paul Klancher • Pr. Chad Kohlmeyer & Family • Marianne Koser • Charlie Lawton • Mark Loehlein • Gloria Mattakat • Colin McCann • Bruce Olson • Kaye Olson • Nolan Passint • Mary Simma • Holly Thompson • Kelly White (Anderson) • Paul Wilker

Active Military Duty: Tanner Ely • Samuel Krebs • Alex Kusilek • Jonathan Marsh • Ethan Nieman • Alain Pierre • Jason Randall • Abby Ring

You may make requests for the Prayer Ministry by calling the church office at 715-234-9028. You can also email bethany@bethanyricelake.org or fill out a request form on Bethany's website.

Prayers for Our Home Members

Sandie Anderson • Edie Berg • June Brunette • Irene Christianson • Foster Dunwiddie • Pauline Eidahl • Donna Gagner • Elaine Gonske • Betty Granum • Nancy Herbert • Esther Honetor • Alice Johnson • Sid & Carolyn Johnson • Dick Moe • Lois Nefstead • Randy Read • Nadyne Reiten • Janie Riggs

Congregational Leaders & Staff

Ministers: All Members • **Ministry Team:** Peter Muschinske, *Interim Pastor*; Luci Sesvold, *Associate Pastor* • **Director of Education, Youth & Congregational Ministries:** Angie Buchli • **Director of Business:** Dawn Paul • **Communications & Publications Specialist:** Leah Hullinger • **Cleaner:** Amanda Baker •

Council President: Pam Crouse • **Council Members:** Mal Bailey, Wanda Bock, Tami Bowman, Andy Denison, Mike Diercks, Bill Evans, Alexa Giddings, Dave Myre, Mackenzie Narins, Jennifer Nelson, Deb Slagstad, Brad Wiedmann