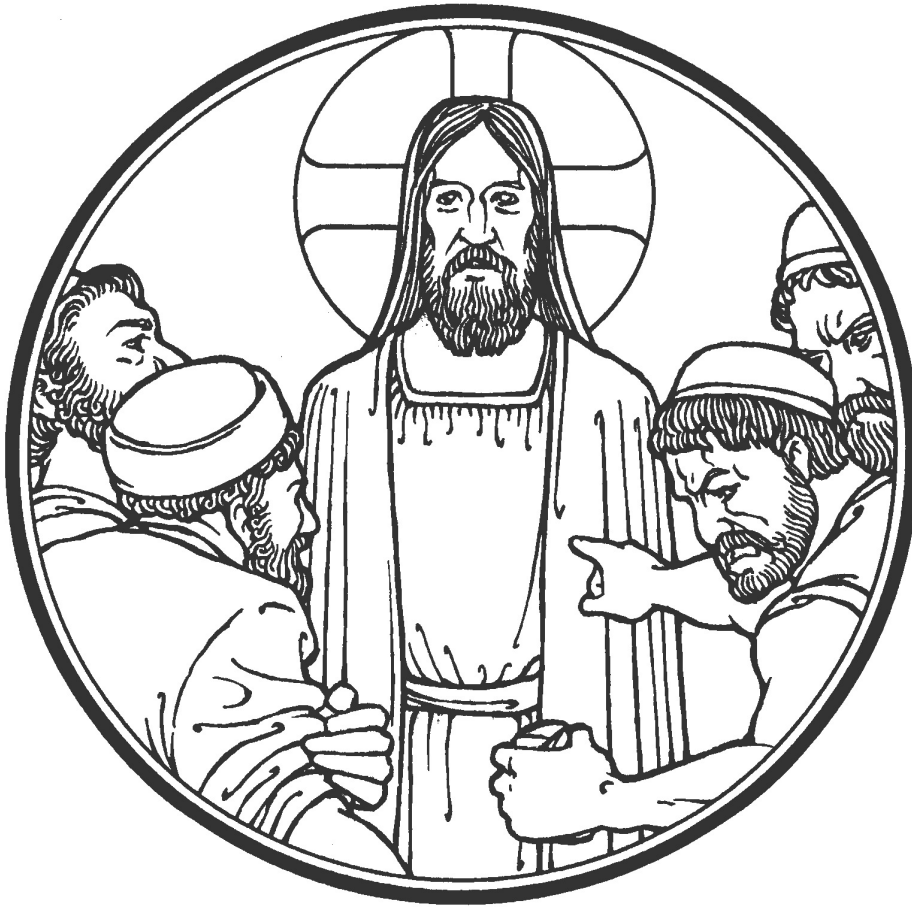


Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Fifth Sunday in Lent (Judica) March 29th, 2020

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Welcome to Bethlehem Lutheran – Ferrin! We are glad to have you join us today. Every week we gather to receive the gifts of our risen and living Savior, Jesus Christ. If you would like to learn more about what we believe, teach, and confess, please feel free to speak with Pastor Jennings. The Lord's blessings to you in Christ Jesus.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the confession that Jesus Christ gives us His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sin (Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:29). With joyful obedience to this clear teaching, all are invited to His table who trust in Christ's words, repent of all sin, set aside any refusal to forgive others and confess at this altar the same faith as those they will commune with. Out of concern for souls, anyone who has not yet been instructed, is in doubt, or who holds a confession differing from that of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, should not partake in the Lord's Supper today.

This Week in our congregation:

Today:	9:30am Divine Service
Wednesday:	8:30am Matins
	7:00pm Lenten Vespers Service
Sunday:	9:30am Divine Service

Large Catechism – Close of the Lord's Prayer: The efficacy of prayer consists in our learning also to say Amen to it—that is, not to doubt that our prayer is surely heard and will be answered. This word is nothing else than an unquestioning word of faith on the part of the one who does not pray as a matter of luck but knows that God does not lie because he has promised to grant it. Where there is no faith like this, there also can be no true prayer. It is therefore a pernicious delusion when people pray in such a way that they dare not wholeheartedly add "Yes" and conclude with certainty that God hears their prayer. Instead, they remain in doubt, saying, "Why should I be so bold as to boast that God hears my prayer? I am only a poor sinner," etc. That means that they are looking not at God's promise but at their own works and worthiness, and thereby they despise God and accuse him of lying. Therefore they receive nothing, as St. James says, "But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind; for the doubter ... must not expect to receive any-thing from the Lord." Look! God has attached much importance to our being certain so that we do not pray in vain or despise our prayers in any way.

Announcements

What does this mean? The fifth Sunday in Lent is called Judica, which means "Judge (me)" in Latin (the ESV translates as "Vindicate me"). This is the opening phrase of this Sunday's Introit, "Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people, from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!" (Psalm 43:1)

Midweek Lenten Services: This Wednesday, April 1st at 7pm is the fifth and final midweek Lenten Vespers services. The focus during these midweek services will be on the Apostles' Creed. The Ten Commandments come first because by them God tells us what we must do and so forth. The Creed is the natural follow up to this as it teaches us about this God we are commanded to fear, love, and trust in above all things. The Holy Trinity is a mystery, and yet it has been revealed through Holy Scripture. You have been given to know this mystery by faith, even if your understanding or logic fail to grasp it. The Ecumenical Creeds (Apostles, Nicene, Athanasian) help summarize the teachings of the Scripture. They are of the same intent as the Catechism itself, taking the teaching of Scripture and putting it into a simple, clear, and concise confession of what Scripture teaches and what we ourselves believe.

Private Confession and Absolution: Our Lutheran Confessions state that private absolution should be retained and not abolished in the churches (Augsburg Confession, XI). With this in mind, if at any time throughout Lent or after you desire private confession and absolution, please give me a call and we can set-up a time to meet privately. In Christ - Pastor Jennings.

High Schoolers: I'm challenging you to learn the small catechism by heart. If you are able to recite this for me, you will receive a nice Lutheran Study Bible. Pastor Jennings

Church Council: Our next church council meeting will be April 14, 2020 at 7:00pm.

Huey/Ferrin/Boulder Fire Department Dinner: The fire department has decided to postpone their dinner until a later date.

CORLHS Sterling Evening Dinner & Auction: You are invited to the 16th annual "Sterling Evening" Dinner & Auction, which be held at CORLHS, on **A NEW DATE, Saturday, May 2**, with the doors opening and silent auction beginning at 4:30 p.m. A dinner will be served at 5:45 p.m. A live auction will begin at 7:30 p.m. and finish around 9:00. Sponsorships are also available to underwrite the purchase of special items and event features. *Items and sponsorships are now due April 17th. Tickets are \$40 and can be purchased at the school office or on the website prior to April 17th. All seats are reserved and must be purchased by the deadline.* View the auction items on our Facebook page or our website and at Preview Night, **Friday, May 1** 6:00-8:00 p.m.

The Congregation at Prayer
A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
for Week of the 5th Sunday in Lent (Judica)
March 29th through April 4th, 2020

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the selection from the catechism and memory verse for the week.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Ten Commandments

The Apostles' Creed

The Catechism – The Lord's Prayer, Conclusion

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

What does this mean?

This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us.

Amen, amen, means, "yes, yes, it shall be so."

Memory Verse

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:16)

Daily Reading

Sunday, March 29:	Exodus 1:1–22	Mark 14:12–31	Psalm 25
Monday, March 30:	Exodus 2:1–22	Mark 14:32–52	Psalm 51
Tuesday, March 31:	Exodus 2:23–3:22	Mark 14:53–72	Psalm 102
Wednesday, April 1:	Exodus 4:1–18	Mark 15:1–15	Psalm 130
Thursday, April 2:	Exodus 4:19–31	Mark 15:16–32	Psalm 413
Friday, April 3:	Exodus 5:1–6:1	Mark 15:33–47	Psalm 32
Saturday, April 4:	Exodus 7:1–25	Mark 16:1–20	Psalm 5

O, Lord, look down from heaven, behold, visit, and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers:

Our church: Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Preschool. **Circuit 7 Vacancies:** Trinity Lutheran Church-Centralia. **Those Who Mourn:** The Rommelmann family at the death of Norma (3/15). **Those in Need of Healing:** Randy Zimmermann, Jonathan Siddell, Joe Meyer (nephew of Sheri Nolte), Ryan Rounkles (Brother-in-Law of Marla Corry), Rodney Tate, Baker Firebaugh (great nephew of Opal Jones). **Homebound Members:** Mary Boeker, Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz, Connie Schilling. **Baptismal Birthdays:** 1st Diane Buening. 2nd Jacob Nolte, Brandi Gehrs, Mary Nolte. 3rd Susan Kleiboeker. 4th Kim Eggerman, Brittany Kleiboeker. **Local:** Hospitals – Doctors, nurses, and other staff.

Look upon them with eyes of Your mercy; grant them comfort and sure confidence in You; defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

The Lord's Prayer

Morning or Evening Prayer (From the Small Catechism)

The Order of Worship
Divine Service Setting Three (LSB 184)

*(Please stand if you are able for portions of the liturgy marked with an *)*

Announcements

Confession and Absolution*

LSB 184

Introit

(Ps. 43:1-5)

P: Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people,

C: from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me! For you are the God in whom I take refuge.

P: Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!

C: Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy, and I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.

P: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

C: Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people,

P: from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me! For you are the God in whom I take refuge.

Kyrie*

LSB 186

Gloria in Excelsis is omitted

Collect: Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Old Testament: Genesis 22:1-14

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." ³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." ⁶ And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷ And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸ Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. ⁹ When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³ And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-15

¹¹ But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) ¹² he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. ¹³ For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling

of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, ¹⁴ how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God. ¹⁵ Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia is omitted

Tract

***Holy Gospel:** John 8:46-59**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th chp. **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

⁴⁶ Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? ⁴⁷ Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God."

⁴⁸ The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?"

⁴⁹ Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰ Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. ⁵¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, if

anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." ⁵² The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will

never taste death.' ⁵³ Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died!

Who do you make yourself out to be?" ⁵⁴ Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It

is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, 'He is our God.' ⁵⁵ But you have not known him. I

know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I

keep his word. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad."

⁵⁷ So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" ⁵⁸ Jesus

said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." ⁵⁹ So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed*

LSB 191

Hymn: Not All the Blood of Beasts

LSB 431

Sermon

Offertory*

LSB 192

Offering

Prayer of the Church*

Service of the Sacrament*

LSB 194

Distribution

Nunc Dimittis*

LSB 199

Benediction