

Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Sexagesima Sunday *February 7, 2021*

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The Order of Service

Divine Service Setting Three (LSB 184)

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

Opening Hymn: Thy Strong Word

LSB 578

Confession and Absolution*

LSB 184

Introit

(Ps. 44:1-2, 7-8; antiphon: Ps. 44:23, 25a, 26a)

Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord?

Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever!

For our soul is bowed down to the dust.

Rise up; come to our help!

O God, we have heard with our ears, our fathers have told us,

what deeds you performed in their days, in the days of old:

you with your own hand rove out the nations, but them you planted;

you afflicted the peoples, but them you set free.

But you have saved us from our foes

and have put to shame those who hate us.

In God we have boasted continually,

and we will give thanks to your name forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord?

Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever!

For our soul is bowed down to the dust.

Rise up; come to our help!

Kyrie*

LSB 186

Gloria in Excelsis is omitted

Collect*: O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; 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 Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²“For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

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

Gradual: Let your enemies know that you alone, whose name is the LORD, are the Most High over all the earth. O my God, make them like whirling dust, like chaff before the wind.

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11:19–12:9

¹⁹For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves! ²⁰For you bear it if someone makes slaves of you, or devours you, or takes advantage of you, or puts on airs, or strikes you in the face. ²¹To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that! But whatever anyone else dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. ²²Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they offspring of Abraham? So am I. ²³Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. ²⁴Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. ²⁵Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; ²⁶on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; ²⁷in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. ²⁸And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. ²⁹Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? ³⁰If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show

my weakness.³¹ The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying.³² At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me,³³ but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands. **12** I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows.³ And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—⁴ and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter.⁵ On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses—⁶ though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me.⁷ So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited.⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.⁹ But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

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

Tract: O God, you have rejected us, broken our defenses; you have been angry; oh, restore us. You have made the land to quake; you have torn it open; repair its breaches, for it totters. That your beloved ones may be delivered, give salvation by your right hand and answer us!

Holy Gospel*: Luke 8:4-15

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

⁴ And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable,⁵ “A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it.⁶ And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture.⁷ And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it.⁸ And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.” As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”⁹ And when his

disciples asked him what this parable meant, ¹⁰ he said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’ ¹¹ Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. ¹² The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³ And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. ¹⁴ And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. ¹⁵ As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

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

Apostles’ Creed*	LSB 192
Hymn of the Day: Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens	LSB 589
Sermon	
Offertory*	LSB 192
Prayer of the Church*	
The Lord’s Prayer*	
Benediction*	
Closing Hymn: Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word	LSB 655

Announcements

Church Services: While it is our desire to gather as one body, the church has decided to offer again a second service on Sundays at 7:30am. This second service will continue until Easter. As the coronavirus vaccine is becoming more available, this will allow members more time to get the vaccine. If you or someone you know have any concerns, please feel free to contact Pastor Jennings or stop by the church throughout the week to schedule a time to receive God’s gifts.

Sexagesima: Sexagesima comes from the Latin word for “sixtieth.” Sexagesima Sunday is approximately 60 days from Easter and is the second Sunday of the Pre-Lenten Season or Shrovetide, which ends on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday.

Congratulations: Congratulations to Kaitlynn Hull on completing level 1 of the Catechism Learn-by-Heart program and Makenna Reckling on completing level 4. Level 1 includes reciting the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer. Level 4 includes the Ten Commandments and their meaning. Congratulations to you both and keep up the good work!

Ladies Aid/LWML: Our Ladies Aid/LWML meeting will be **Monday, February 8th at 7:00pm**. It was decided to again bring 4 small gifts to put in Valentines gift bags for our 4 preschool boys. We didn't sign up for specific items so anything you choose is fine. It was also decided to postpone our February bake sale to a future date and instead donate what you would have spent on the bake sale as a Gift of Love. A sort of bake-less bake sale. The servers for the evening are Dena Brammeier & Diane Buening.

Hoffman Trinity Lutheran School Pork Chop Dinner, COVID STYLE: So, get your Sweetheart and drive on over to Hoffman School **February 14th between 10:45am-1:30 pm** to pick up a to-go box filled with a yummy Smoked Pork Chop, steaming Baked Potato & Green Beans, a cup of love-filled Cinnamon Applesauce, and a piece of delicious cake all for only \$12.00! Every meal will be the same. The food will be delivered right to your car, so put on some tunes to enjoy with your sweetie as we serve you. All checks can be made payable to Trinity Lutheran School. All proceeds will go toward the PTL and will be used for the continued education of the students at the school, in areas of technology, P.E., classroom materials, and school wide projects, just to name a few. Thank you for your continued support! Trinity PTL

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 the season of Lent you desire private confession and absolution, please give Pastor Jennings a call to set-up a time to meet privately.

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