

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

***Blessed are
those who hear
the Word of
God and
keep it.***

***Third Sunday in Lent (Oculi)
March 20, 2022***

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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

Opening Hymn: Christ, the Life of All the Living

LSB 420

Introit

(Ps. 25:1-2, 17-18, 20; antiphon: Ps. 25:15-16)

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

**Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.**

To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.

**O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies exult over me.**

The troubles of my heart are enlarged;
bring me out of my distresses.

**Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.**

Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!
Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

**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.**

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.

Kyrie*

LSB 186

Gloria in Excelsis is omitted

Collect*: O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast

faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; 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: Jeremiah 26:1-15

¹ In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came from the LORD: ²“Thus says the LORD: Stand in the court of the LORD's house, and speak to all the cities of Judah that come to worship in the house of the LORD all the words that I command you to speak to them; do not hold back a word. ³It may be they will listen, and every one turn from his evil way, that I may relent of the disaster that I intend to do to them because of their evil deeds. ⁴You shall say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD: If you will not listen to me, to walk in my law that I have set before you, ⁵and to listen to the words of my servants the prophets whom I send to you urgently, though you have not listened, ⁶then I will make this house like Shiloh, and I will make this city a curse for all the nations of the earth.’” ⁷ The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD. ⁸ And when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! ⁹ Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant’?” And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD. ¹⁰ When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king's house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the LORD. ¹¹ Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, “This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears.” ¹² Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, “The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. ¹³ Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will relent of the disaster that he has pronounced against you. ¹⁴ But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. ¹⁵ Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.”

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

Gradual: Arise, O LORD! Let not man prevail; let the nations be judged before you!
When my enemies turn back, they stumble and perish before your presence.

Epistle: Ephesians 5:1-9

¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ² And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. ³ But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. ⁴ Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. ⁵ For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷ Therefore do not become partners with them; ⁸ for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true),

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

Alleluia is omitted

Tract: To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy upon us. Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us.

Holy Gospel*: Luke 11:14-28

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 11th chapter. **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹⁴ Now he was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. ¹⁵ But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons," ¹⁶ while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷ But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. ¹⁸ And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I

cast out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁰ But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²¹ When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; ²² but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. ²³ Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. ²⁴ “When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’” ²⁵ And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. ²⁶ Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first.” ²⁷ As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!” ²⁸ But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

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

Apostles' Creed*	LSB 192
Hymn of the Day: Lord of Our Life	LSB 659
Sermon	
Offertory*	LSB 192
Offering & Prayer of the Church*	
The Lord's Prayer*	LSB 196
Benediction*	
Closing Hymn: O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe	LSB 666

Announcements

What does this mean: The third Sunday in Lent is called Oculi, which means “My eyes” in Latin. This phrase is found in the opening line of the Introit, “My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net” (Psalm 25:15).

Lenten Midweek Vespers: Throughout the Season of Lent, you're encouraged to join us Wednesdays at 7:00pm for our Lenten Midweek Vespers. Our focus will be on the seven words of Jesus from the cross. While we see the depth of Jesus' suffering and pain with these words, we also see the depth of His love to redeem fallen man from his sin.

The 1% Challenge: 1% of your day is 14 minutes. While it's not a lot of time, you can still accomplish a lot in this short period. During the Season of Lent, I challenge you and your family to set aside 1% of your day to the reading of Scripture. If you're already doing this, I challenge you to add 1%. If you don't know where to begin, consider taking up the Congregation at Prayer or picking a book of the Bible. Setting aside 1% of your day to the reading of God's Word will not only enhance the penitential Season of Lent for you, but it will strengthen you in the one true faith.

Private Confession and Absolution: The 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 you desire private confession and absolution, please give Pastor Jennings

Thank You: Thank you to Brandon Schrage from Hubert Plumbing for all his help and expertise in regards to the plumbing issues at the parsonage. The Trustees

Casserole Sale: Agape youth will be hosting a casserole sale after church today, **March 20th**. This is a great way to get a homemade meal that you don't have to cook yourself!

Open House: There will be an Open House for Norman Kleiboeker's 85th birthday today, **March 20, 2022** from 2:00pm-4:00pm. All are welcome to attend.

Pinochle/Euchre Tournament: Bethlehem Lutheran Preschool Ferrin will be hosting a Pinochle and Euchre Tournament on **Friday, March 25th**, in their school basement. Doors will open at 6:30pm and play starts at 7:00pm. Entry fee is \$15.00 a player. Fried chicken, desserts, snacks, and drinks will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Reckling (618-616-4113). Our preschool families and staff greatly appreciate your support. Please come out and enjoy an evening of Christian Fellowship.

Book Launch: There will be a Book Launch for *Thank You Lord for the Privilege* on today, **March 20, 2022, at 2:00 P.M.**, at Trinity Lutheran School gym, Hoffman. This book was written by Eunice Hausler. There will be a hymn sing, also children's songs, so bring your children! If you already have a book and want it autographed Eunice will be happy to do that.

Flower chart: If you wish to adorn the church altar in remembrance of a loved one or for a special occasion such as a birthday or anniversary, sign up on the flower chart. It is in the narthex for your convenience.

Flowers for Easter: It is time to get your orders in for Easter. This year you have a choice of lilies or hydrangeas. The lilies will be \$15 each and the hydrangeas will be \$30 each. There are extra order forms in the ushers' room for you to complete and return to Sylvia Kleiboeker by **April 10th**.

VBS: Mark your calendars for June 27-30. Our theme will be **Baptized into Christ.** The Bible Verse for the event is **“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,” (Matthew 28:19).** I am looking for volunteers for helpers. If you are able to be a group leader for the kids, help in the kitchen with snacks, or wish to lead an area of interest, let me know. I will take ages High School and up. More details will be coming...Thank you, Deb Albers.

Upcoming Area Events:

- **March 20, 2022:** The Annual Trinity Hoffman Men's Club & Women's Fellowship Pork Chop dinner from 10:30am–1:00pm. This is drive-thru only. Tickets are \$12.
- **March 27, 2022:** Huey Ferrin Boulder Fire Department 20th Annual Pork Chop dinner from 11:00am–2:00pm. This is drive-thru only. Tickets are \$12.
- **April 3, 2022:** Trinity Centralia Youth Group is hosting a Spaghetti dinner from 4:00pm–5:30pm in Crouse Gymnasium. Proceeds will go towards the National Youth Gathering. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$6 for children (4-12), 3 & under free

Find Bethlehem on Podbean or Facebook: Listen to Pastor Jennings sermons on Podbean or our Facebook page. Download the app 'Podbean' to your smartphone. Search for Bethlehem Lutheran church and begin listening.

This Week in Our Congregation:

Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School

9:30am Divine Service

Monday: 8:30am–11:00am Preschool

Wednesday: 8:30am Matins

8:30am–11:00am Preschool

5:45pm–6:45pm Religion/Confirmation Class

7:00pm Midweek Lenten Service

Friday: 8:30am–11:00am Preschool

Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School

9:30am Divine Service