

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church



***Invocabit***  
***(First Sunday in Lent)***  
***February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024***

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**The Order of Worship**  
**Divine Service Setting One (LSB 151)**

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

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**Announcements**

**Opening Hymn: Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray**

**LSB 663**

**Confession and Absolution\***

**LSB 151**

**Introit**

(Ps. 91:1-2, 9-10, 13; antiphon: Ps. 91:15a, c, 16)

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will rescue him and honor him.

**With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.**

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

**I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust.”**

Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my  
refuge—

**no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.**

You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample  
underfoot.

**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.**

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will rescue him and honor him.

With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.

**Kyrie\***

**LSB 152**

**Gloria in Excelsis is omitted**

**Collect:** O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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: Genesis 3:1-21

<sup>1</sup> Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” <sup>2</sup> And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” <sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup> For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. <sup>8</sup> And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup> And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” <sup>11</sup> He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” <sup>12</sup> The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” <sup>13</sup> Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” <sup>14</sup> The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. <sup>15</sup> I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel. <sup>16</sup> To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.” <sup>17</sup> And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; <sup>18</sup> thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. <sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

<sup>20</sup>The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. <sup>21</sup>And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

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

**Gradual:** He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.

**Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10**

Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. <sup>3</sup>We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; <sup>7</sup>by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

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

**Tract:** He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the almighty. He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge. When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.

**Holy Gospel\*: Matthew 4:1-11**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup> And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup> But he answered, "It is written, "'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" <sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple <sup>6</sup> and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "'He will command his

angels concerning you,’ and “‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’”<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.<sup>9</sup> And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”<sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “‘You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.’”<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

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

<b>Apostles’ Creed*</b>	<b>LSB 159</b>
<b>Hymn of the Day: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God</b>	<b>LSB 656</b>
<b>Sermon</b>	
<b>Prayer of the Church*</b>	
<b>Offering</b>	<b>LSB 159</b>
<b>Offertory*</b>	
<b>Lord’s Prayer</b>	<b>LSB 162</b>
<b>Benediction</b>	
<b>Closing Hymn: A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining</b>	<b>LSB 438</b>

### **Announcements**

**What does this mean:** The first Sunday in Lent is known as Invocabit, which in Latin means, “he shall call” (The ESV translates it, “when he calls”). This is the opening phrase of the Introit: “He shall call upon me and I will answer him” (Psalm 91:15).

**Where did the alleluias go?** “Alleluia” is a Hebrew word that means, “Praise the Lord.” Yet because of the penitential nature of Lent, the church sets aside the Alleluias for a time being. It’s as we sing, “Alleluia can’t always be our song while here below; Alleluia, our transgressions make us for a while forgo; For the solemn time is coming when our tears for sin must flow” (LSB 417, Stz. 3).

**Midweek Lenten Vespers:** Midweek Lenten Vespers will once again be offered on Wednesdays at 7pm throughout the Season of Lent. You’re encouraged to join us for these services so that we may rest on God’s Word and His promise of forgiveness through the holy sufferings and death of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**Hymn of the Season:** Our Lutheran hymnody is beautiful and theologically rich. Spanning centuries, these hymns teach the faith and speak to every situation in life. Some of these hymns we know well and are engraved on our hearts. Other hymns,

we do not know as well. Yet, this does not mean that we should not try to learn them. In order that we may better know the hymns of our faith and sing them with all boldness and confidence, a hymn will be introduced at the beginning of the month or season. The hymn for this Season of Lent is *'A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth'* (LSB 438).

**Lenten Devotional:** Throughout the Season of Lent, we will be reading through the Large Catechism. For those who don't have a copy, you may access it online at [www.bookofconcord.org](http://www.bookofconcord.org) or the church can order you a hard copy. If you would prefer a hard copy, please let Pastor Jennings or Dena know.

**New Sunday Morning Bible Study:** For centuries, the psalms have been central to the church's worship. While the language is beautiful and rich and comforting, the poetry can make the psalms a little challenging to understand and pray. So, join us on Sunday mornings at 8:30am as we begin a new study on the Book of Psalms in order that we may integrate these prayers into our daily devotions and pray them with all boldness and confidence in any time of need.

**Wednesday Religion Class:** As mentioned in previous weeks, members of the church are invited to attend pastor's Lutheran catechesis class in the preschool basement on Wednesday night beginning at 5:45pm. This is a great opportunity to review the basic tenants of what we believe, teach, and confess as Lutherans. This week our focus will be on *The Sacrament of Holy Baptism (Part 3)*

**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 a call to set-up a time to meet privately.

**Lutheran Podcast:** Issues Etc. is a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5p.m. on KFUO, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen on-demand at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

**Flower Chart:** The flower chart for 2024 is up in the north office. Please stop by and sign up for any Sundays you would like to have flowers on the altar. Any questions please contact the Flower Committee.

**Grandparents Day:** We invite you to join us on Wednesday, March 6, for VIG (Very Important Grandparents) Day at Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School. We would like to honor those individuals who are grandparents of CORLHS students or other grandparents" who are friends of CORLHS. You do not have to have a child or grandchild at Christ Our Rock to come – you just have to have an interest in Christian education! The day's events will begin at 10:30 a.m. as we gather in the gym for brief

welcome and update, followed by student presentations and chapel with the students. After chapel, you will be able to eat with your grandchildren (or adopted grandchildren). The day's events will finish around 12:15 with the option to visit classrooms or have a quick tour from your grandchild. Please contact the school office at 226-3315 to make your reservation or for additional information. Please feel free to come even if you do not register and invite anyone else to come along with you. Registration is just so we have an idea of how much food to buy, but we always have plenty. There is NO COST for the meal, the Stallion Booster Club and a Thrivent Action Grant will be paying for the meal. The menu will consist of pulled pork, ham salad, potato salad, coleslaw, green beans, vegetable tray, pizza, and ice cream sundaes.

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