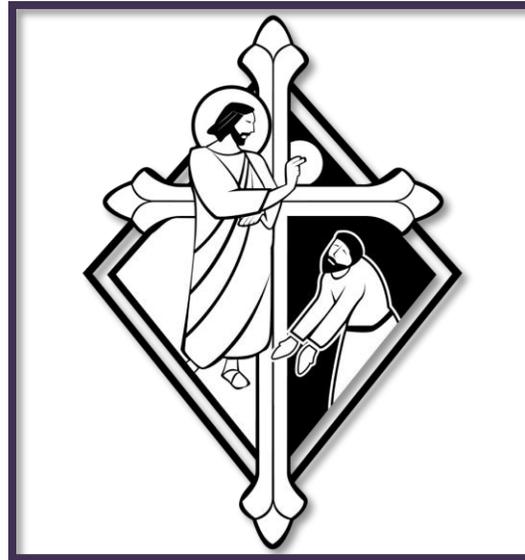

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2026



SERVING YOU TODAY

Pastor Tony Pittenger
Organist Megan Enstad
Acolytes Scott Amiling, Salvador Alas,
Donovan & Grant Singleton
Elder on duty this week Jeremy Gracia

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday: Join with us as we use
The Divine Service, *Rite Two*,
starting on page 60, with modifications.
*(Please follow along in the hymnal
or above the altar as announced)*
Monday: The Office of Compline, pg. 128

*Flowers on the Altar this week are given to the glory of God by
Doug and Kathy Seals in appreciation of all of God's blessings.*

HYMNS

259: 1, 3, 5
*The Kingdom
Satan Founded*

524
*In Thee, Lord,
Have I Put
My Trust*

Distribution
315
*Jesus, The Very
Thought of Thee*

Distribution
320
*Lord Jesus
Christ, You Have
Bestowed*

260
*Now Let
Triumphant
Faith Dispel*

INTROIT: My eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He shall pluck my feet out of the net. To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul, O my God, I trust in You. Turn Yourself to me and have mercy on me, For I am desolate and afflicted.

COLLECT: Lord God, heavenly Father, You have sent Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh, that He might overcome the devil, and defend us poor sinners against the adversary: We give thanks to You for Your merciful help, and we beseech You to attend us with Your grace in all temptations, to preserve us from carnal security, and by Your Holy Spirit to keep us in Your Word in Your fear, that we may be delivered from the

enemy, and obtain eternal salvation; through the same, Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

EPISTLE LESSON

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), *Ephesians 5:1–9 (ESV)*

GRADUAL: Christ humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

GOSPEL LESSON

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!” *Luke 11:14–28 (ESV)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For hearts softened by the Word of God and by the trials of this world, that we would repent of our sins and be found faithful at the Last Day, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church on earth, that Her Lord would preserve and bless Her; that He would keep us, Her members, from falling into the sin of pride and self-confidence; and that He would grant boldness to Her ministers as they preach His Word to all, especially to those in need of repentance, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the members of every Christian family, that the Lord who calls us to live in purity and holiness would protect us and guide us; and that we would love and seek chastity and decency, learning to grow in virtue and godly living, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our nation's leaders, that the King of kings and Judge of the earth would establish them and grant them wisdom for the good of those they govern; and for the Christian Church in our land, that God would keep her from persecution and graciously cause His Word to flourish, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

And for all who are sick, anxious, lonely or oppressed in any way, [*especially* _____,] that God, who is the strength of the weak, would overcome the devil's demonic attempts to lead them into despair, and grant His healing, cleansing power to rest upon their bodies and minds, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord God, heavenly Father, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to take up our flesh, that He might overcome the devil and defend us poor sinners against the adversary. Keep us in Your Word and fear, that we may be delivered from the enemy and obtain eternal salvation. **Amen.**

LENT CONTINUES

WEDNESDAY LENTEN WORSHIP 2:30pm & 7:00pm
SOUP SUPPER 5:30-6:30pm



During Lent, join us before the Wednesday evening service for food and fellowship.

Help is needed each week to make these meals enjoyable and delicious!

Please sign up on the purple bulletin board by the restrooms to serve, bring soup, bread, etc.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BETHANY BLESSED

Are you available Thursdays? Join the Bethany Blessed team as we partner with World Vision to help enrich our community. Please see Melissa Pittenger for more information.

CHOIR

Would you like to join the choir? We are preparing a simple, yet beautiful Easter piece with adults and Sunday School children. Whether you're an experienced singer or simply enjoy lifting your voice in praise, there is a place for you! We meet Wednesdays at 6:15pm. Choir members may jump the line for Soup Supper and be served first!

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

The Evangelism Committee is looking for more members to help plan and set up events. Our next meeting is Sunday, March 22. Reach out to Collin Starkel at (360) 801-4311 with any questions.

SPRING CLEANING

Please join for a congregational spring cleaning to help get the building and grounds ready for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter! We will gather Saturday, March 14, 8:00am - 12:00pm. If this date or time doesn't work for you, please still consider choosing a task to complete when you are able.

TEACHER CONFERENCE

It is Bethany's turn to host this annual event; 80 Lutheran educators are expected on Thursday – Friday, March 19 – 20. We will provide breakfast and lunch both days. Help is needed to prepare/set up/clean up. Please sign up on the hallway bulletin board if you are able to lend your hands to help this go smoothly. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Seals, meal coordinator.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, 3/8 Lent Three

9:00am Worship with Communion
10:15am Bible Class/Sunday School

MONDAY, 3/9

11:00am Bethany 55s:
Family Pancake House
7:00pm Worship

TUESDAY, 3/10

1:00pm Juanita's Bible Study
6:00pm Elders Meeting
7:00pm Council Meeting

WEDNESDAY, 3/11

2:30pm Midweek Lenten Service
5:30pm Soup Supper
6:15pm Choir
7:00pm Midweek Lenten Service

THURSDAY - FRIDAY, 3/12 - 3/13

Office Closed

SATURDAY, 3/14

8:00am-12:00pm Spring Cleaning

SUNDAY, 3/15 Lent Four

9:00am Worship
9:00am ELC-Kindergarten Sing
10:15am Bible Class/Sunday School
3:00pm Book Club: Junk Drawer Jesus,
Pages 149-183