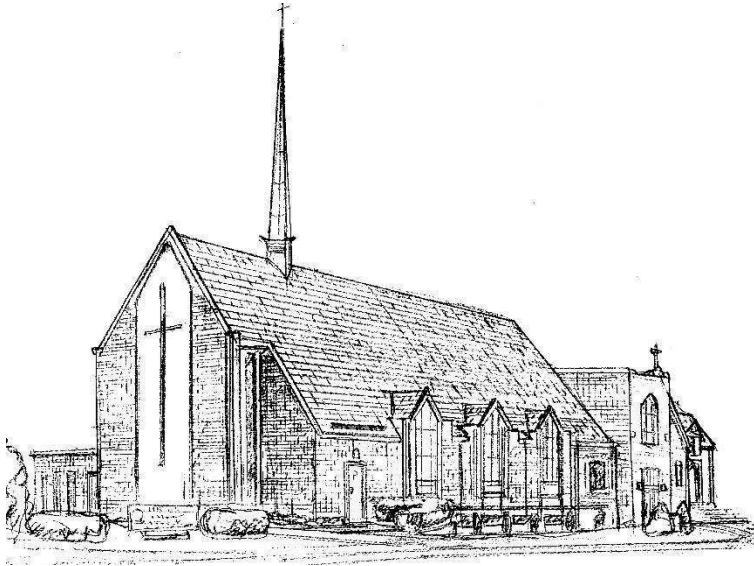


**Bethlehem Evangelical
Lutheran Church**



Bulletin

March 18 & 19, 2023

Serving, accepting, and loving all.

**Daniel P. Smail & Ellen S. Lundie, Pastors
Laura M. Henri, Organist and Director of Choirs**

**1719 Mt. Royal Boulevard – Glenshaw, PA 15116
Phone: 412-486-0550 E-Mail: office@belc.org**

Web Page: www.belc.org

Sunday, March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Introduction

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

GATHERING

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.

L: Let us acknowledge before God and one another
our need for repentance and God's mercy.

The congregation may kneel as able. Silence is kept for reflection

L: Holy God,

we confess to you our faults and failings.

Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;

we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;

we spoil rather than steward your creation;

we cause hurt though you call us to heal;

we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

as we seek to follow in your way of life.

C: Amen.

P: Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,

so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy,

✠ forgives you in Christ's name,

and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG NO. 722 O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate

1 O Christ, your heart, compassionate,
bore ev'ry human pain.

Its beating was the pulse of God;

its breadth, God's vast domain.

The heart of God, the heart of Christ
combined in perfect rhyme

to write God's love in human deeds,
eternity in time.

2 As once you welcomed those cast down
and healed the sick, the blind,
so may all bruised and broken lives
through us your help still find.
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep
that none may weep alone,
and help us bear another's pain
as though it were our own.

3 O Christ, create new hearts in us
that beat in time with yours,
that, joined by faith with your great heart,
become love's open doors.
We are your body, risen Christ;
our hearts, our hands we yield
that through our life and ministry
your love may be revealed.

4 O Love that made the distant stars,
yet marks the sparrow's fall,
whose arms stretched wide upon a cross
embrace and bear us all:
come, make your church a servant church
that walks your servant ways,
whose deeds of love rise up to you,
a sacrifice of praise!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

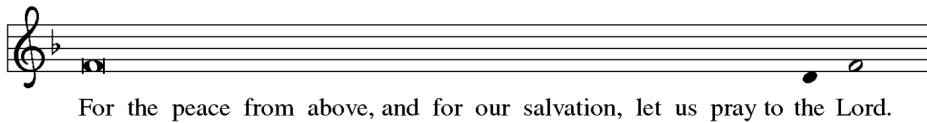
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE (ELW Pg. 138)



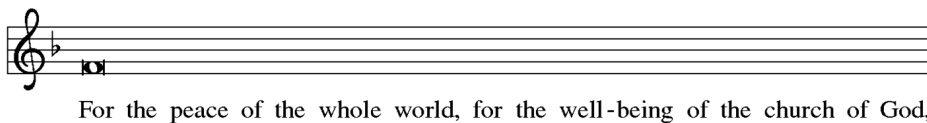
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



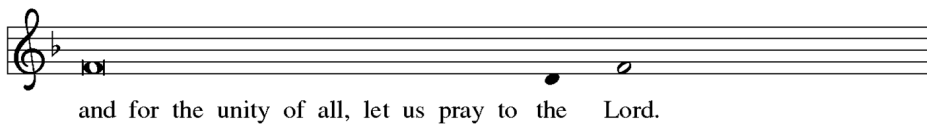
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



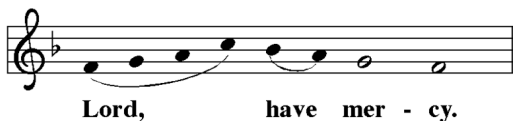
Lord, have mer - cy.



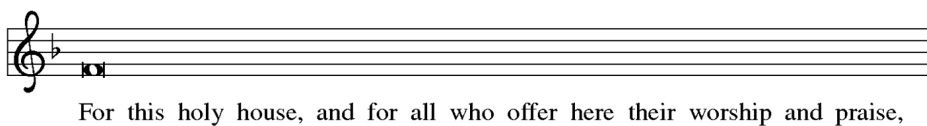
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



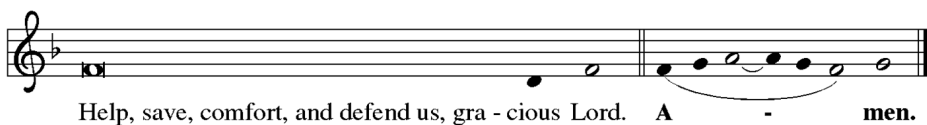
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.

A reading from 1 Samuel,

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD."

⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see

as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.”¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.”¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.”¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

A: The word of the Lord.

C : **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

¹The LORD¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not¹ be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down¹ in green pastures
and leads me be-¹ side still waters.**

³You restore my¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways¹ for your name’s sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall¹ fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they¹ comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is¹ running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the¹ LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

A reading from Ephesians,

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light.

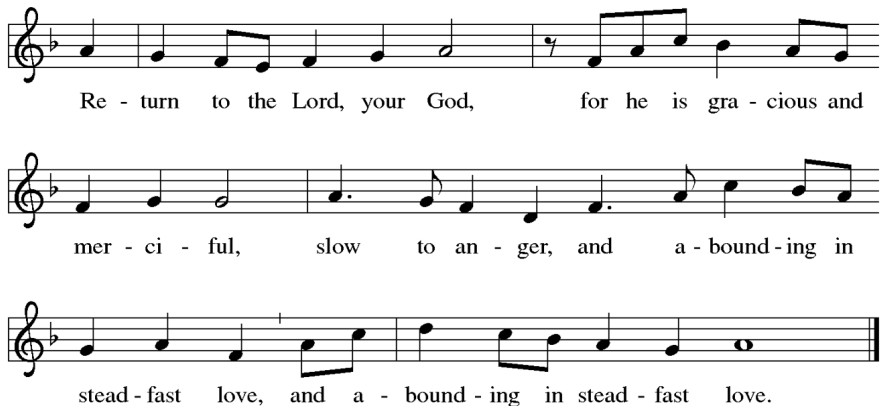
Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW Pg. 142)



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C Glory to you, O Lord

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his

sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.”

⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – *The Rev. Daniel P. Smail*

HYMN OF THE DAY

NO. 815 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2 I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934

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APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of Christ forever in baptism. Inspire us by your love as together we strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to perceive the beauty of the breadth of your

creation, from the grandest mountain range to the smallest springtime bud.
Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Powerful God, you anoint kings and establish rulers. Guide the work of heads of state and elected officials. Encourage them to lead with justice and to remove barriers that impede the well-being of all. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Shepherding God, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep; tend all who are sick and comfort those who grieve; especially those we name within our hearts (*a brief silence...*).
Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God our host, you fill us at your table with more than we could ever ask. Feed us with hunger for justice. Equip the feeding ministries of this congregation and community. Nourish us so we can nourish our neighbors.
Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of history, with thanksgiving we remember our ancestors in faith who cared for your people. We praise you for the ways they formed the faith of others and continue to inspire us. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray,

C: God of good gifts,

receive these and all our offerings

as we present them in faithful service

for the sake of your gospel.

Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal

as you pour out your very presence

through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise..

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....we praise your name and join their unending hymn

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW Pg. 144)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God,

our living Water and our merciful Guide,
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs
we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert,
and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,
who joined us in our desert,
pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food
and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:
wash away our sin,
that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

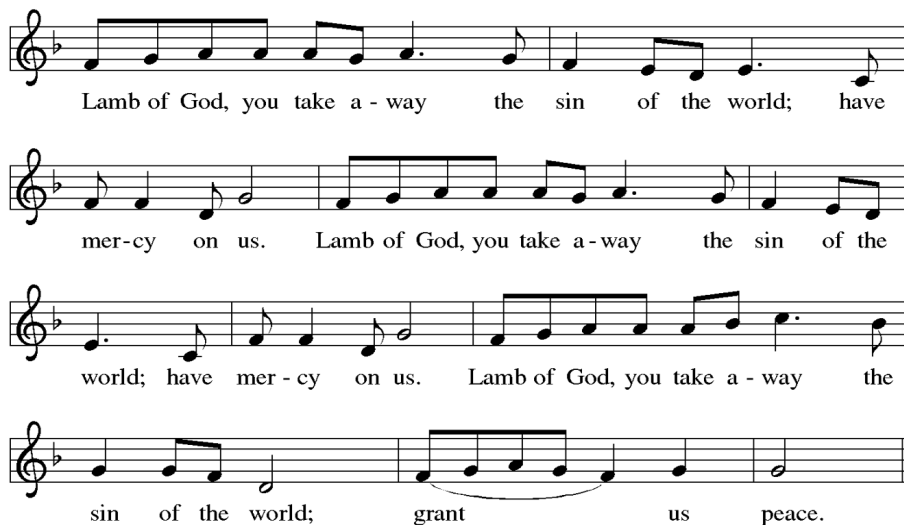
**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.**

Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW Pg. 146)



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

SENIOR CHOIR - *Brother James's Air*

COMMUNION HYMN NO. 793 Be Thou My Vision

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

4 Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Let us pray.

Embodied God,

at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.

With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,

empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors

and touch the world with your love.

C: Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P: God, the giver of love,

✠ Christ, the resurrection and the life,

and the Holy Spirit of rebirth

bless you in this Lenten journey.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG NO. 324 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory,
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

- 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo, it glows with peace and joy.

- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.

- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Altar Flowers The flowers in the Sanctuary this weekend are dedicated to the Glory of God and the adornment of His House in honor & celebration of our son-in-law, (Pastor) Dan Smail's birthday, given by Carole & Chuck Helvig.

Monthly Benevolence for March is: Crisis Center North

Your special envelope may be placed in the offering basket at any Worship service, or they can be mailed directly to the church office. Thank you for your generous support

Midweek Lenten Service

This year's Lenten Midweek Services include the return of the Midweek Update! In 2020, the Bethlehem community caught up with current events, funny stories, and weather reports in this news style program and we're excited to bring back anchors Pastor Dan and Pastor Ellen along with a new cast of reporters and characters. In 2023, we are ready for the for Midweek Update: Open My Life, Lord, a service of prayer, music, scripture, and laughter. Join us each Wednesday, at **7:30pm**.

Those Serving at worship this weekend

LECTORS

6:00pm - Terri Begenwald
8:00am - Ginny Villani
10:30am - Valerie Martincek

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

6:00 pm - Terri Begenwald
8:00am - Ginny Villani
10:30am - Valerie Martincek

LAY ASSISTANTS

8:00am - Wendy Farone
10:30am – Marilyn Okonak

Advancing the Slides

6:00pm - Jill Mitchell
8:00am - Jim Good OR David Rometo
10:30am - Cheryl Wolosik

ACOLYTE 10:30am Shea Stromoski

Ushers are:8am -- Bill & Ruth Hughes 10:30am – Rich McHale & Team

Monthly Counting Team: Debby & Jim Cenci, Chet Kletke, Joe & RuthAnn Leech

The Week at Bethlehem

Sunday, March 19th 8:00am Worship/Communion

9:00am Senior Choir

9:15am Sunday School Students & Adults

*10:30 am Worship/Communion

*Live streamed worship service

6:30-7:30pm J.A.M. Night

6:30-7:30 Youth Prayer Stations

Monday, March 20th -

First Day of Spring



Tuesday, March 21st

6:00pm NA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 22nd

6:00pm Lenten Dinner

6:00pm Senior Choir Reh.

6:45pm Handbell Choir Reh.

7-8:30pm Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)

7:30pm Mid-Week Lenten Worship

Thursday, March 23rd

4:30-6:30p Act -1

7:00pm Senior Youth Event - Bowling Zone **28**

Friday, March 24th

Men's Shelter Meal

Saturday, March 25th

11am LIFT Group Tour of Max Vanka Murals @ St. Nicholas Church

Millvale followed by Lunch – as determined by attendees

6pm Evening Worship/Comm.

Access to the Public:

Facebook (Public) search-Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church Glenshaw

Newsletter (Paper) Once per month mailed to you

YouTube (online) Weekly Livestream of Worship Service at 10:30 am

Access to BELC Only:

***Weekly Announcements** (email) Sent weekly directly to your email account

***Tuesday Tidings** (email) A weekly message from Pastor Dan

***Facebook** (Private group) search-Get Connected, Bethlehem!

Please send an email request to media@belc.org for those noted with a (). Make sure to include the email address for those in your household that would like to receive access/emails (e.g. Person1@gmail.com and Person2@yahoo.com). Any questions can be directed to media@belc.org. Please Join Us!



Lutherlyn is a God-given place to be accepted, challenged, and sent out into the world to make a difference. Summer campers live in Christian Community at camp and are sent home to shine with the light of Christ.

Learn more about Lutherlyn and the Bridging for the Future Campaign starting the weekend of April 15/16.



First Communion Classes

First Communion classes will be held starting this Wednesday, March 22 and March 29 from 5:15-6:00 pm. We are excited to celebrate First Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 7:30 pm. Children of any age are welcome to participate. If you have any questions about First Communion, the classes, or your child's readiness and interest, please don't hesitate to talk with the pastors. If you still wish to sign up, contact Pastor Ellen or the church office by tomorrow.



BELC Young Families Upcoming Events

All are welcome to attend these activities but they are geared towards families with children ages birth-kindergarten.

Night Out at Puttery Pittsburgh - Saturday, April 22, 7 p.m.

Join us for an adults only event at Puttery Pittsburgh, the city's latest entertainment venue. We will relax in one of the lounges before taking a tee time on one of the three courses. All are welcome to attend this event! Please let Carrie know by Sunday, April 16, so we can reserve a tee time.

Grown Up & Me at Lutherlyn - Thursday, June 29; Friday, June 30; Thursday, July 20; and Friday, July 21, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Campers age 3-6 spend a special day with their grown-up. Have fun doing a nature activity, craft, hay ride, songs, stories, swimming, parachute games, pony ride, worship, and campfire with s'mores! Adults must be 18 or older and must stay with their camper for the day. *Bethlehem members are registered for both June dates.* Visit lutherlyn.com to register.

If you plan to attend any of these events, please text Carrie at 412-708-2599 or email carrie.nurnberger@gmail.com.

Stay tuned for more information about an August playground and splash pad event!

The LIFT Group needs your help... for our Purse Project!

We are looking to collect ladies purses (new or in used, but still good, condition)... We are collecting them thru April 30, to fill with essentials. The purses will then be distributed to homeless women's shelters in the Pittsburgh for those in need. Do you have any purses that you are just "tired of" that can be donated? Look for a collection box in the Narthex, We also will be happy to receive donations for filling the purses (individual sized lip balm, Kleenex, hand cream, tampons, hand sanitizer, etc.) Monetary donations can also be made to support this project.. Please see Linda Ulrich with any questions. Thanks very much, as always, for being such a supportive congregation to our social ministry outreach projects!

****REMINDER -- Men of Bethlehem**

Your upcoming breakfast meeting will take place
next Saturday, March 25th
at 8:15am in Fellowship Hall here at the church.

We hope to see you all there – encourage another man to attend
with you as all men are welcome!



MID-WEEK LENTEN DINNER

Wednesday, March 22nd

NAME _____ No. _____

#Adults _____

#Child/Children _____



MUSIC ANGELS - 2023

As we begin plans for the music during Holy Week and Easter, there will be instrumentalists used at our services. If you would like to donate toward this as a memorial to someone, now is the time.

Please use the tear off below to make your contribution/memorial and either drop it off to the church office or place it in the offering plates at worship. Deadline to receive donations with dedications is Sunday, March 19, 2023

Any and all amounts given are welcomed and appreciated.

Questions you may have about this can be directed to the church office and the staff will be happy to assist you.

Music Angel Contribution for Easter – Deadline is March 19th

Name _____

Amount \$ _____

Dedication: _____

Please note for music angels and flowers: We will not guarantee dedications that are received after our deadline will be listed in the Easter bulletin, however we would publish them at a later date.



EASTER FLOWERS

On Easter Sunday, the chancel will be decorated with beautiful spring flowers. Please indicate the number and type of flowers you would like to order at the prices below. Contact Marianne Reed in the church office, (412) 486-0550, if you have any questions. Your payment must accompany your order which must be received into the church office _____ *by Sunday, March 19th.*

Easter flower order form – due by March 19, 2023

_____ **No. of Easter Lilies @ \$7.90 each =** _____

_____ **No. of Hyacinths @ \$6.50 each =** _____

_____ **No. of Tulips @ \$6.50 each =** _____

_____ **No. of Hydrangeas @ \$11.50 each =** _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$_____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given By _____

(Name as you want it printed in the bulletin)

*Plants can be picked up after the 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Service or later in the week.



On Wednesday, April 5th, @ 6:30pm we will hold our annual Easter egg dyeing event. You & or your children have never dyed eggs? Well, this is a great way to try it with no hassle and no mess to clean up! We will gather in Fellowship Hall for pizza and then egg dyeing. Don't have time to buy eggs and then hard boil them? No excuse! Just mark how many dozen on the sign- up form and we'll purchase and hard-boil the eggs for you, so all you have to do is show up and have fun. As always, we will have the colors already mixed up and ready to go. Feel free to bring decorating "kits" if you wish. Hope you can join us for a fun evening- this is NOT just for families with kids, anyone who wants to join in the festivity is welcome to attend. This is fun for adults too – think of it like "coloring for adults", but on eggs instead of in a book.

Sign-up for egg dyeing deadline is March 31st

NAME _____

No. Attending _____ adults _____ children

WANT HARD BOILED EGGS ___ Yes ___ No

(\$4.00 per dozen)

HOW MANY DOZEN do you want _____

Amt. Enclosed \$ _____



PALM CROSS GATHERING THE PALM CROSS GATHERING IS BACK!

On Monday, March 27th from 6:30-9:30pm in the church lounge, we will be making palm crosses for our 3 church services, Sunday School, and shut-ins for Palm Sunday. In the beginning of this month, a sign-up was put up in the Narthex if you would like to join us. Younger children might have difficulty in making the crosses. They are fun and easy to make – we will show you how! Enjoy the fellowship and beverages will be provided. Questions can be directed to Mae Dorben.

LIFT is asking **who is Max Vanka?**

Max Vanka was an extraordinary painter - famous for murals painted at St. Nicholas Church, Millvale and other places throughout the world!

See more information at: <https://vankamurals.org/vanka-murals/> . You will see on their website that there is a group that is “saving” the murals, so we will be contributing to a good cause and learning about and seeing the murals, too! The LIFT group is heading to St. Nicholas for a private tour (cost \$15 per person) on Saturday, March 25 at 11 am. please sign up on the Narthex bulletin board or let Linda Ulrich know. We will meet at BELC @ 10:30am to arrange for carpooling, since parking is limited. Following the tour (which is roughly an hour long), those

who are interested will head for lunch together (order from menu). Hope you can join us for this fun and interesting event!



JOIN US FOR EASTER BREAKFAST

April 9, 2023 at 9am in Fellowship Hall

MENU: Breakfast Buffet

(Featuring Something(s) for everyone)

Suggested cost for the meal is as follows:

\$5.00 – Adults

\$2.00 – Children ages 6-12 yrs.

FREE – Children under 6 yrs. of age

Payment must accompany your reservation and reservations are required.

Deadline for all reservations to be received is Sunday, April 2nd

(for final planning purposes by the committee)

Easter Breakfast Reservation Form:

NAME _____

Adults _____

Children _____ (6-12 yrs)

Children _____ under 6 yrs. of age

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____