

Sunday Worship Service

POST COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: "Shall We Gather at the River" (vv. 1 & 4) ELW, #423

CORPORATE PRAYER:
"Into Your hands we commit our lives. Into Your hands we commit Your church."

GO IN PEACE

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Worship Team for today:

Presider: Pastor Barb Lemke

Pianist: Cindy Josephson **Hymnists:** Laina Kelley-Walker and Sheila Kelley

Reader: Andrea French **Greeter:** **Usher:** Marv & Ev Kelley

Communion Asst.: Sean Gordon & **Screen/Sound:** Travis Kleven

Youth Offering Asst.: _ **Youth Communion Asst.:** _ **Acolyte:** Iliana M.

Video FaceBook & YouTube: Jamie Villante



Image: Church Art Online



Altar Flowers were given by Carol Kirkegaard in memory of her husband, Leslie Kirkegaard, PhD.



3rd Sunday of Lent

March 8, 2026

Bethel Lutheran Church
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SUNDAY WORSHIP

March 8, 2026

9:30 A.M.

PRELUDE: Cindy Josephson

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CORPORATE PRAYER:
“Into Your hands we commit our lives. Into Your hands we commit Your church.”

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS ELW, pp. 94–96

OPENING HYMN: “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly” ELW, #461

GREETING

KYRIE *responsively recite these lines*, pp. 138–139

L As we walk this Lenten road together, when the path is steep
and the night is long,
C **Lord, have mercy.**
L When we stumble over doubt, when we carry more than we
should,
C **Christ, have mercy.**
L When we grow tired but keep moving, trusting that You walk
beside us,
C **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAISE ELW #S 139, pp. 139–140

PRAYER OF THE DAY

1ST READING: Exodus 17:1–7

PSALM: Psalm 95

2ND READING: Romans 5:1–11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p. 142

GOSPEL: John 4:5–42

*Children leave for Sunday School afterwards, and will return for Communion.
Feel free to “pick them up” in the Fellowship Hall if you want them sooner.*

HYMN: “Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty” (vv. 1, 2, & 4) ELW, #777

SERMON “The Way Around, Part 1” Pastor Barb Lemke

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 into hell.*
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 THE CHURCH *see insert*

Thanksgiving for Families:

Virginia Crawford Scott & Dawn Crosby Barb Campbell

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: “Create in Me a Clean Heart” WOVS, #732

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER, GREAT THANKSGIVING, WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today 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.**

SONGS DURING COMMUNION:

“Lamb of God” ELW, p. 146
“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling” ELW, #608
“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” ELW, #597

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Recent hospitalizations, illnesses, and concerns:

Sugar Hilinski (*pancreatitis*) John Beiler (*Debbie Diedrich's acquaintance, terminal bone cancer*)
Bill Eirish (*stroke recovery*), at home
Daughtry Family (*Pr. Barb's friends in IA, husband ALS, hospice*)

For our homebound members and friends:

Wil Wertz – Jim Craig – Josh Carter – Cathy McConchie

For those diagnosed with cancer:

Patti Schoenfeld Rev. Mike Lemke Connie Lovell (*Deloris DeLapp's friend*)
Susan Riley (*Lorraine Chambers' friend*) Bob Bliss Patrick Stephenson
Ashlyn (*daughter of friend Wade and Lynn Hampton*) Pastor Steve Ruechel
Gary (*Andrea Newport's brother-in-law*) Marv Kelley Mike S. (*Gypsy's friend*)
Scott Petrock (*Carol Einertson's son-in-law*) Summer Stephens (*Doris Freund's niece*)
Tammy Hawley (*Sheila Kelly's boss*) Heather & Heidi Mortenson (*Lynn Hampton's friends*)
Linda Hardy Karen Ryberg (*Sylvia Cowan's niece*)
Andrew Carpenter (*Alexa Weaver's friend*) Ruth (*Joni Dammen's friend & roommate*)
Rodney Steggs & his mother Rita Johnson Cecelia Morrissey (*Debbie Diedrich's friend, breast*)
(*Hamptons' friends*) Paula Tveit (*multiple myeloma*)
Peggy Russell (*Eddie & Pat Garcia's friend*) Andy Catalano (*Clutterbucks' friend, lung cancer*)
Linda Kirkegaard Wendy (*Kim Evancho's friend*)

For those dealing with ongoing concerns:

John & Casey Howshar Paige Petrock (*Carol Einertson's granddaughter, CIDP*)
Delores Rasmussen & Dan Rasmussen Carol Einertson (*heart & kidney health*)
Eyes: Marvin Bohrer & Bonnie Frank Lisa Pruitt (*Andrea French's friend, congestive heart failure*)
Ray Johnson Danny Cowan Ron McBroom (*Dana's husband, heart surgery*)
Kaylee (*friend of Hamptons*) Gypsy (*esophagus health*) and the Hendricks (*friends*)
Bill Schmidt (*kidney health*) Ralph Westadt (*ankle surgery recovery*)
Gerald Kelley, (*Carol Smith's significant other, Alzheimer's*) Debbie Diedrich's mother (*knee replacement recovery*)
Frank Ruhs (*Ev Kelley's brother, heart health*) Harold Wilming (*Vicki Florer's brother-in-law, brain injury*)
Caroline Hailey-Kesler (*Linda Hailey's granddaughter rare kidney disease*) Andrea French (*migraines*)
Scott Crosby (*recovery from infection*) Scott Crosby (*infection recovery*) & wife Dawn
Donna Arntson (*Lynn Hampton's sister-in-law, stroke*) Matt Wentzel (*pneumonia recovery*)
Matthew Zenn (*Bob's grandson, heart health*) Jenny Piorer (*Patti Schoenfeld's sister, heart*)
Craig Mortenson (*Lynn Hampton's friend, health*) Sylvia Cowan (*leg infection, heart health*)
Mary Sellinger (*health*) and Michael (*her son, stroke recovery*)

Welcome!

We welcome all who gather for worship on this day and pray God's blessing on our time together!

Guests are invited to record their visit by signing the Guest Book located at the entrance to the worship space.

All worshippers are invited to sign the red attendance folder in the pew and pass it on to their neighbor to sign.

Upcoming Events

Pasta Luncheon – TODAY, March 8, after worship Thank you to chef Sean Gordon and the Fellowship Committee for this special yummy meal!

Choir – Choir rehearsals are nearly every Sunday (except 3/8) in Lent at 8 a.m.

Bible Study – We have multiple options for Bible Study groups that meet:

-Sundays after church,
-Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom
-Thursdays at 1 p.m. at the church .
We would love to have you join us.

Missions for Lent – We are collecting canned and boxed food and monetary donations for Aurora Interfaith as our Missions focus for Lent in March 2026. Please mark your checks as Missions in the note field.

Cards for Ministry – We are collecting CLEAN greeting cards of any kind (except holiday) WITH envelopes for New Beginnings Women's Prison Ministry. Please place them in the labeled bucket on the table in the entryway.

March CROP Walk Fundraiser, Thur., March 19 – see flyers on table outside sanctuary for Panda Express fundraiser

This Week at Bethel March 8–15, 2026

Sun	9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Pasta Lunch 3:00 p.m. Tongans
Mon	6:00 p.m. TOPS
Tue	6:30 p.m. Bible Study (<i>Zoom</i>)
Wed	6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. Lenten Wednesday service
Thu	11:00 a.m. Prayer Team 1:00 p.m. Bible Study (<i>in-person</i>) 7:00 p.m. Gamblers' Anon. 'Steps'
Fri	6:00 p.m. Tongans
Sat	9:00 a.m. Quilting Group (<i>in-person</i>) 10:00 a.m. Gamblers Anon. (<i>upstairs</i>) 4:00 p.m. Sisters Fellowship Int'l.
Sun	8:00 a.m. Choir Practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Bible Study 3 p.m. Tongans



Join us on Wednesdays in Lent meal at 6 p.m., worship at 7 p.m. Don't forget your passport!