

SONGS DURING COMMUNION:

“Lamb of God” ELW, p. 146  
“Be Thou My Vision” ELW, #793  
“Jesus the Very Thought of You” ELW, #754

POST COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” (vv. 1 & 2) ELW, #815

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:** Grace Flows Down

**Reader:** Laina Kelley Walker **Greeter:** **Usher:** Richard Richmond & Marv/Ev Kelley

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

**Youth Offering Asst.:** \_ **Youth Communion Asst.:** \_ **Acolyte:** \_

**Video FaceBook:** Ron Freund **YouTube:** Tom Lenahan

# Sunday Worship Service

# “Lord, I believe.”

John 9:38, NRSV



Image: Church Art Online

## *4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent*

March 15, 2026

Bethel Lutheran Church

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## SUNDAY WORSHIP

March 15, 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: “Morning Has Broken” ELW, #556

GREETING

KYRIE *chant these lyrics, using the tune of ELW #S 138, 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

SPECIAL MUSIC “I Must Tell Jesus *with* Blessed Assurance ” Choir

1<sup>ST</sup> READING: 1 Samuel 16:1–13

PSALM: Psalm 23

2<sup>ND</sup> READING: Ephesians 5:8–14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p. 142

GOSPEL: John 9:1–41

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Kathy Harrison

*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: “Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling” ELW, #608

SERMON “The Way Home, 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:**

Joni Dammen, Khaleb Heidi Davison, Kiera, Blake Bob & Deloris DeLapp

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: “Create in Me a Clean Heart” WOV, #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.**

# PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

## Recent hospitalizations, illnesses, and concerns:

Sugar Hilinski (*pancreatitis*)      John Beiler (*Debbie Diedrich's acquaintance, terminal bone cancer*)

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

## 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

**Choir** – Choir rehearsals are nearly every Sunday 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 event.

**Thrivent clients with membership** – Don't forget to direct 2025 Choice Dollars® by March 31 at [Thrivent.com/ThriventChoice](https://www.thrivent.com/ThriventChoice)

## This Week at Bethel March 15–22, 2026

<b>Sun</b>	8:00 a.m.	Choir Practice
	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	11 a.m.	Bible Study
	3:00 p.m.	Tongans
<b>Mon</b>	6:00 p.m.	TOPS
<b>Tue</b>	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study (Zoom)
<b>Wed</b>	11:30 a.m.	Senior Luncheon at Mama Alvino's
	6:00 p.m.	Soup Supper
	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Wednesday service
<b>Thu</b>	11:00 a.m.	Prayer Team
	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study ( <i>in-person</i> )
	7:00 p.m.	Gamblers' Anon. 'Steps'
<b>Fri</b>	6:00 p.m.	Tongans
<b>Sat</b>	9 a.m.–12	SLT Retreat
	9:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Group ( <i>in-person</i> )
	10:00 a.m.	Gamblers Anon. ( <i>upstairs</i> )
	4:00 p.m.	Sisters Fellowship Int'l.
<b>Sun</b>	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!*