

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

Welcome to Bethel! We're glad you're here!

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT • MARCH 17, 2024



All Are Welcome!

We mean it when we say “all are welcome” – no matter where you are on your faith journey or how you identify. Your presence is important to us – we are not complete without you. Our Worship & Music team is continually listening and adapting our worship practices to reflect our desire to welcome ALL of GOD’s children.

Hospitality Details

We firmly believe that there is no age limit in GOD’s house. Young or old, you are an essential part of our worship community. Families with young children are encouraged to sit near the front of the sanctuary so children can see what is happening. If a young child gets antsy during long periods of inaction like the sermon, they are welcome to quietly play in front of the sound table near the door.

Those participating in worship who find standing for long periods of time difficult are encouraged to take care of themselves and adapt the “Lutheran Aerobics” of frequent standing and sitting to meet their needs. Traditions of standing at certain times during the liturgy are not meant to cause pain or discomfort. Please sit or stand in ways that make your time with us comfortable.

If you need a restroom, you have options:

In the main building, one is located through the side door near the piano. It can also be accessed by going outside through the main door and re-entering the building using the door located under the bell tower. The restroom is to your left.

A larger, wheelchair accessible restroom with a baby changing table, is located in our back building. Go through the iron gate to the left of the sanctuary. As you enter the back building the restroom is immediately to your left. Feel free to ask the usher for directions as well.

Prayer Requests

Yellow paper is available as you enter for you to write prayer requests on. Return the paper to an usher no later than during the Hymn of the Day. The reader will include it during the Prayers of the People.

It is our hope that this will help all those worshipping in the sanctuary and on online to hear the prayers.

Calling all Ministry Team Leaders!

Thursday, March 21st at 6:00pm

Leadership Team Meeting

(Watch email for Zoom link)

Share what your team has been doing and get updates from the Servant Team.

Servant Team Meeting to follow at 7:00pm



Lenten Mid-Week Worship & Soup

Wednesday, March 21st

Worship @5:30

Soup Supper @6:15ish



Sunday School for All Ages

(following worship)

Our two “Lisas” will have the kids in Lentz Hall for Bible Stories and crafts.

Pastor Carolyn will meet with the adults in her office **AND** via Zoom. They will be using the book, *The Forty Parables of Jesus*, by Gerhard Lohfink.

The Zoom link will be open at 10:25, and the conversation will begin at 10:30.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89637655924?pwd=eTJ6OVIEMVZDcG53OG1KdW5hV2Eldz09>

Meeting ID: 896 3765 5924

Passcode: 295449

Introduction to the day

God promises Jeremiah that a "new covenant" will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God's heart through Christ and draws God's love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God's love with all the world.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the diverse people of God.

OPENING SONG/PRELUDE

Lead Me to the Cross

©Brooke Ligertwood

(sung by Wing & A Prayer only)

WELCOME

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit and turn to face the baptismal font.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

Amen.

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.
Holy God,

**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin
and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors
are hungry and cold.**

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.

We let hurts grow into hatred.

**For all these things and for sins only you know,
forgive us, Lord.**

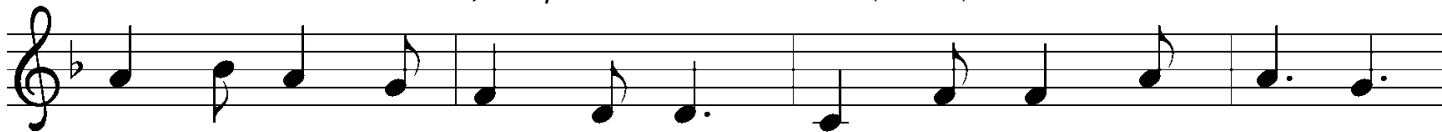
Amen.

Here is a flood of grace:
Out of love for the whole world,
God draws near to us,
breaks every snare of sin,
washes away our wrongs,
and restores the promise of life through ☩ Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Please turn and face the altar for the Gathering Song.

GATHERING SONG *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross* (ELW 335)



- 1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
- 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
- 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
- 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

GREETING (ELW p. 138)

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

KYRIE

Kyrie

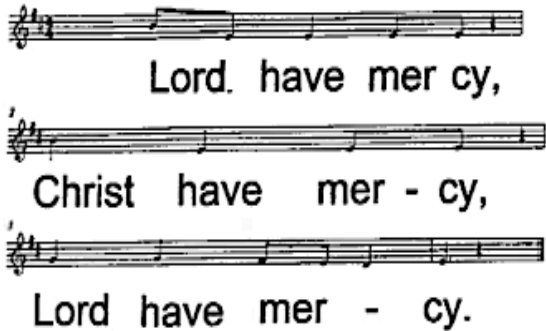
©Kent Alleluia Liturgy

Words and music on following page

Leader

In peace, let us pray
to the Lord

CONGREGATION



Leader

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

CONGREGATION

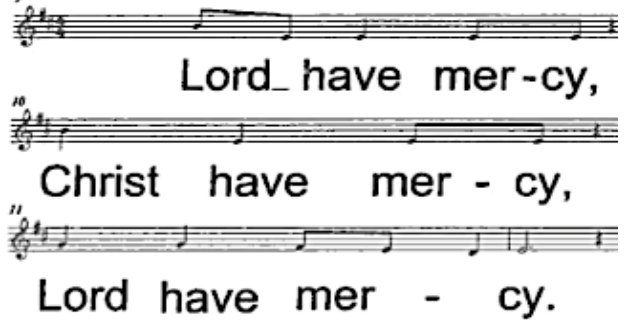


Leader

For peace in the world,
for the health of God's church,
and for all unity, let us pray
to the Lord



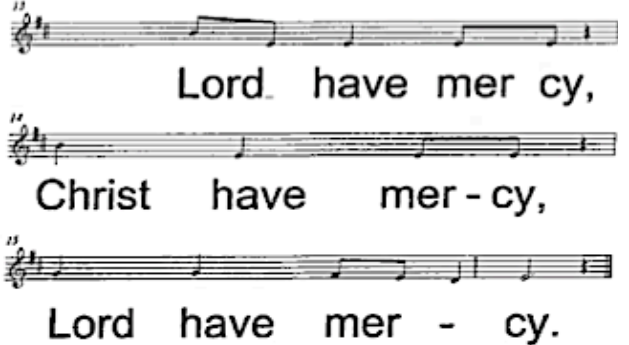
CONGREGATION



Leader

For this holy house,
and we who offer praise, let us pray
to the Lord

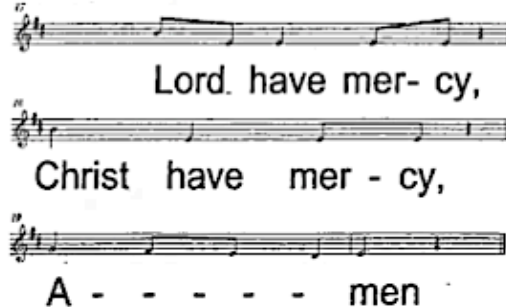
CONGREGATION



Leader

Help, save, comfort and defend us,
gracious Lord

CONGREGATION



PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers.
Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your
Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

(Lisa or Andrew Chan)

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 51:1-12 (Lisa or Andrew Chan)

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother’s womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:5-10

(Lisa or Andrew Chan)

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

A reading from Hebrews.

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the

one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.
⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

KIDS' MESSAGE

(Lisa Herlocker)

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit to welcome the Gospel

GOSPEL: John 12:20-33

(Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

(Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

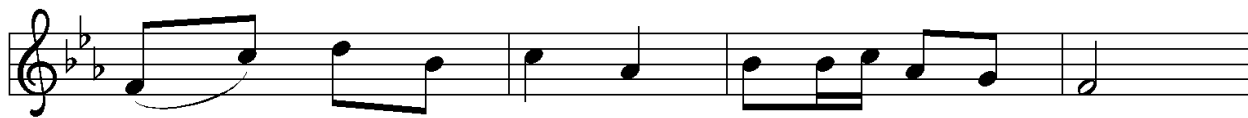
The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit for the Hymn of the Day.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Now the Green Blade Rises*

(ELW 379)



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

CREED

Let us join with Christians throughout the world in this Lenten season and confess our shared faith using the words of the 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.

Please be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Lisa or Andrew Chan)

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

God of the covenant, through the church you draw us into community. We give thanks for the means of grace around which we gather. Inspire writers, musicians, and artists whose creative gifts adorn our worship. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all that exists, you lavish the earth with extravagant beauty. Preserve the rich and complex diversity of living things. Support local, national, and international efforts to protect the environment for future generations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of the nations, you desire peace and plenty for all people. Defend those who challenge oppression and expose corruption. Support advocates for human rights, social justice, and the welfare of children, including Lutheran World Relief and the Lutheran Office of Public Policy. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of good will, you restore what is broken. We pray for any experiencing estrangement, conflict, or abuse in families and intimate relationships. Protect and comfort all who are vulnerable, especially those living in institutions. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of every time and place, you are with us. Support ministries of prayer and presence in this congregation, including our Prayer Chain and Community Action Team. Move us to reach out to any who are homebound, lonely, grieving, in treatment, or ill. Today we especially hold in prayer those adult children among us who are navigating their parents' illnesses and failing health.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of promise, we give thanks for the saints whose faith inspires us. Grant us faith to trust in your everlasting love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Prayer requests provided by congregation members to be added here by reader.

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 143)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God
and in gratefulness we return to God a portion of
the time, finances, and gifts that God has given us.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

As offerings are brought to altar, the congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit for the song

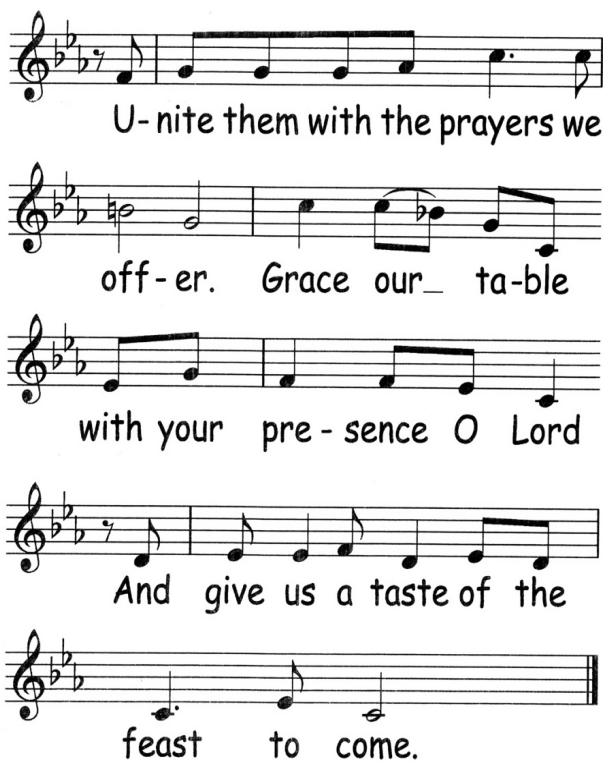
OFFERING SONG

Let the Vineyards be Fruitful

(ELW 184)



Let the vine - yards be
fruit - ful O Lord;
Fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing.
Ga - ther a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, That
we may be fed with the
bread of life. Ga - ther the
hopes and dreams of all;



U - nite them with the prayers we
off - er. Grace our ta - ble
with your pre - sence O Lord
And give us a taste of the
feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.
Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness.
Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace.
We pray this in your name.
Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us using the language of our hearts.
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

Bread for the journey.
A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

*All are welcome to join in our communion celebration.
Please have a seat and follow the directions of Pastor Carolyn and the usher.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God,
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
now make us one loaf to feed the world;
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Please rise in body and/or spirit for the Blessing.

BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG *The Old Rugged Cross*

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross
The emblem of suff'ring and shame
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain

Chorus So I'll cherish the old rugged cross
 Till my trophies at last I lay down
 I will cling to the old rugged cross
 And exchange it some day for a crown

O the old rugged cross so despised by the world
Has a wondrous attraction for me
For the dear lamb of God left his glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary *Chorus*

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*After **brief announcements** related to the ministry of Bethel are shared from the podium **microphone**, the congregation is invited to stand and face the font.*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God and we will.



Finance Update

To meet our 2024 Operating Expenses each month, Bethel needs **\$9995**. This is a combination of your generosity and our Montessori School tenant rent which averages about \$3000 each month.

Giving in March

3/3 = \$4088.06

3/10 = \$1630.06

3/17 = \$

3/24 = \$

3/31 = \$

Total for Month = \$5718.12

TOTAL for February = \$6719.22

Thanks for your ongoing support of
Bethel's Ministries!



Consider Online Giving

Sign up for Online Giving at our website, bethelroseville.org

If you prefer to give by traditional check, please mail it into the church office at 1050 Douglas Blvd., Roseville CA 95678 or drop it into the basket during worship.

Use the QR code below to access e-giving from your phone



Contact Pastor Carolyn

Contact Pr. Carolyn first to double-check her office hours. She is available Tuesday – Thursday most weeks.

pastor@bethelroseville.org
916-781-3333 (office)

Today's Worship Team

Usher: Cindi Roxworthy

Reader: Lisa & Andrew Chan

Sound: Rick Mendonsa

Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson

Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson

Kids Message: Lisa Herlocker

Musician: Wing and a Prayer

Next Week's Worship Team

Usher: Kelly Mendonsa

Readers: Lisa Herlocker, Barb Morris, Bruce Seiler, Patrick Gale, Jeff Dodge, Linda Dunn, Hadley Gale, Nancy Garman, Allen Dunn

Sound: Rick Mendonsa

Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson

Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson

Kids Message: Lisa Herlocker

Musician: Audrey Gale

Upcoming Scripture Readings

Next Sunday, March 24th

Palm/Passion Sunday

- Processional Gospel: Mark 11:1-11
- Isaiah 50:4-9a
- Psalm 31:9-16
- Philippians 2:5-11
- Mark 14:1 – 15:47



MARCH
BIRTHDAYS

March 3 – Dani Pfennig

March 5 – Trevor Linn

March 8 – Paul Larson

March 10 – John Morris

March 18 – Jeri Wartena

Blessings to all of our March Birthdays, please let us know if we accidentally left you off this list!



As you may have heard, this year we will NOT be collecting items for Easter baskets for the children staying at the St. John's Program for Real Change Shelter. Instead, we will be creating bags of candy for the women staying there.

Please bring bags of individually wrapped candies and drop them in the basket at the back of the sanctuary. Cindi Roxworthy & Cheryle Sorensen will be organizing the candy bags and Cindi & Emily will deliver them on Good Friday.

Looking for ways to pitch in? Here are upcoming opportunities.

Feed the Hungry – TODAY, March 17th – make and serve lunch for the clients of St. Vincent de Paul just a few blocks away. For details, see Scott Larson after worship today.

Make Palm Crosses – Saturday, March 23rd at 10:00am. Meet up with Pastor Carolyn at the Fig Tree Coffee House in downtown Roseville.

Set up for Easter Breakfast – Saturday, March 30th, time to be determined, but in the morning. Help Terri and the Congregational Life Team get ready for Easter morning's pancake breakfast.

Clean up Easter Breakfast – Easter Sunday morning starting around 9:00am. Help Terri & her crew breakdown tables, wash dishes, and put Lentz Hall back in order. *(Some dish washing help would be appreciated during the breakfast as well.)*

Donate Flowers – bring cut flowers Easter morning for our Floral Cross, decorated during Sunrise worship and finished up at the 9:00am worship gathering.



Plan Ahead for Holy Week & Easter!

Palm/Passion Sunday
March 24th at 9:00am

Maundy Thursday worship
March 28th at 5:30pm

Good Friday worship
March 29th at 5:30pm

Easter Sunday, March 31st
7:00am Sunrise Worship on Patio
8:00am Pancake Breakfast
8:30ish Little Lutherans Egg Hunt
9:00am Traditional Worship

Called to Work for Justice

Through Baptism, we are called to be agents of peace and justice in this world. The work of the ELCA in our time includes that of being a Publicly Engaged Church.

In California, this is done through involvement with the **Lutheran Office of Public Policy (LOPP-CA)** which hosts live advocacy briefings on

Wednesdays at noon. During the half-hour Zoom meeting, listeners get an update on state and federal legislative priorities and direct a quick advocacy activity. Follow this link:

<https://lutheranpublicpolicyca.org/advocacy-info-questions> to check out *Advocacy, Info, and Questions*.

Want to do more??

Sign up for Lutheran Lobby Day! Alongside other ELCA members, engage directly with members of our state legislature at the state capitol in Sacramento on May 15th!

Learn more here:

<https://lutheranpublicpolicyca.org/lutheran-lobby-day-2024>

Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church

We have entered the season of the church year known as Lent. During the 40 days of Lent, we journey with Jesus into the wilderness. It is a journey that begins with Ash Wednesday and the facing of our mortality and ends with the joy of Easter morning. As we journey to the cross with Jesus, we are given a chance to let go of our excuses and failings and to embrace the undeserved grace of God's forgiveness and love.

No matter where you are on your faith journey, we invite you to explore a life of faith with us. You are invited to come as you are to worship a God who meets us where we are and journeys with us in love and grace. We have committed to creating a safe and welcoming place for all people no matter how they identify as individuals and are continually working to live out that commitment in worship, fellowship, and service to our siblings locally and throughout the world. We welcome all because GOD welcomes all, knowing that GOD's love is all-inclusive and stronger than any pressure to conform to the labels this world gives us.

Worship Gathering at 9:00am each Sunday
Sunday School for All Ages at 10:15am (Sept - May)



Bethel
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Carolyn Brodt, Pastor
1050 Douglas Blvd • Roseville, CA • 916-781-3333
Pastor@bethelroseville.org



Bethel is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Nisenan people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

