

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal Lord, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your Word and obey it, so that we become instruments of your redeeming love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me. ⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. ⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. ²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

PSALM: Psalm 19

¹The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

²Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

³There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

⁴yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

⁵which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

⁶Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.

⁷The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

⁸the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

⁹the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

¹¹Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

¹³Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

SECOND READING: 1Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ

crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

GOSPEL: John 2:13-22, (23-25)

¹²After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother, his brothers, and his disciples; and they remained there a few days. ¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. ²³When he was in Jerusalem during the Passover festival, many believed in his name because they saw the signs that he was doing. ²⁴But Jesus on his part would not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people ²⁵and needed no one to testify about anyone; for he himself knew what was in everyone.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

<p>Today: March 3rd Third Sunday in Lent 9:15 – Adult SS 9:30 – Youth SS 9:30-Coffee Fellowship 10:30 – Worship /w Communion 4:00-Laurens Care Center Svc 5:00-6:30-Youth Group @ UMC Monday: March 4th 4:00-W/M Mtg Tuesday: March 5th 8:30AM – Prayer Group 9:30AM – Tuesday coffee at BLC Wednesday: 6th 11:30-Lenten Luncheon @ 5:00-7:00-UMC Men’s Soup & Dessert Supper 6:30-Lenten Evening Service</p>	<p>Sunday: March 10th Fourth Sunday in Lent 9:15-Adult 9:30 – Youth SS 9:30-Coffee Fellowship 10:30-Worship Growth & Sharing Mtg following Worship Daylight Savings time begins</p>
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Prayer Concerns: Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, Iowa storm victims, those battling COVID-19, Pete Runneberg, Myra Walstead, Elizabeth Dunbar, Bob Winkelmann, Linda Booth, Monica Isom, Don Ehlers, Lisa Anderson, Rodolfo Rezarin, Ely Kleszczelski, Bill Alexander, Eli Honer, Dorothy Sandvig, Helen Dodge, Pastor James Puotyual, Carol Schmidt, Gloria Bell, Cenon Zarzoso, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries. The Family of Di Hawley

Lectors: Kelly Gordon
Ushers: March 3rd -Tom & Elaine Anderson
 March 10th -Shirley Kruse & Julie Dawson
Acolytes: Bethany Youth

Weekly Budget Needs \$2817.00
 Faith Promise \$732.00 Worship 24
 Sunday School \$ 7.50 Youth SS 5 Adult SS 0
 Lent \$148.00 Lent Soup Supper \$11.00 Lent Evening Service 21

Birthdays: March 4-Deena Hudson; 6-Jerry Runneberg, Kelly Van Sickle; 8-Shane Sindergard

*Please note that the blue CH (Celebration Hymnal) is located under the pew in front of you.

Altar Flowers:

An asterisk () indicates when to stand (for those who are able)*

ORDER OF THE SERVICE

PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL
 WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP OF PRAYER & MEDITATION

*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS P.56
 *HYMN *Open Now thy Gates of Beauty* **LBW 250**
 *GREETING P.57
 *KYRIE P.57
 *Glory to God in the Highest..... **58/59**
 *PRAYER OF THE DAY (bulletin-in unison)

MEDITATION ON GOD’S WORD

Lenten Reading CANDLES
Light of the World Pastor Klappenbach/Kelly Gordon
FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm: Psalm 19 (bulletin -responsively)
SECOND READING: 1Corinthians 1:18-31
 *Lenten Sentence P.63
 *THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 2:13-22, (23-25)
 *GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63
 CHILDREN’S SERMON
 SERMON Pastor David Klappenbach
 HYMN *Built on a Rock* **LBW 365**
 NICENE CREED P.64
 *PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
Leader: “...Lord, in your mercy.”
Response: “hear our prayer.”
 *THE PEACE

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

OFFERING / *OFFERTORY P.66
 *OFFERTORY *For the Bread Which You Have Broken* **LBW 200**
 *THE GREAT THANKSGIVING P.67
 *WORDS OF INSTITUTION P.69
 *THE LORD’S PRAYER P.71
 *LAMB OF GOD P.72
 DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION
 *BLESSING P.72
 *POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *Lord, Now let your...* P.73

OUR SENDING

*BENEDICTION P.76
 *HYMN *When I Survey the Wonderous Cross* **CH 324**
 *DISMISSAL



March 3, 2024
Third Sunday in Lent

**WORSHIP, LOVE, ACCEPT
 TOGETHER IN CHRIST’S NAME**

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To our visitors! Welcome to our Sunday Service. We are happy to have you sharing in our worship service and ask for the opportunity to meet you. We invite you to complete the visitor card in front of you. Please come again!

Welcome to our Communion Sunday Service.
All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. We are happy to have you sharing in our worship service and ask for the opportunity to meet you. We invite you to complete the Communion/Visitor card in front of you. Please come again!