

MARCH: Altar Guild = Rich & Marilyn Ehlers
Fellowship = March 31 – EASTER ~ Coffee Only ~ Have a Blessed Easter!

APRIL: Altar Guild = Myles & Shirley Pedersen
Fellowship = April 7 – Jean Swanson, Tammy Oxenreider
= April 14 – Jan Hersom, Linda Galbraith
= April 21 – Jean Swanson, Tammy Oxenreider, Vicki Fontenot
= April 28 – Jim & Denise Hodgell, Doug & Becky Baker

Lilies for Easter: The Worship & Music Committee is doing the lilies the same as last year. Our committee will not be purchasing any, but letting individuals donate their own. In other words, you may purchase a lily from where-ever you would like and bring to the church by March 31st to share for the Easter season. If you would like your lily to be in memory or in honor of someone, please let Dean Armstrong know. We would appreciate all lilies to be taken home after the Easter service. *Thank you*

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE ~ Bethany Lutheran Church

March 28~7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship Service w/Communion
March 29~7:00 p.m. Ecumenical Good Friday Worship Service at UMC
March 31~7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service & Easter Breakfast at UMC

NO Sunday School at Bethany

9:30 a.m. Easter Celebration Worship w/Communion

(Note change in worship time for service.)**

Make your Easter be even more special this year by joining us for worship. Everyone is welcome! Amen, come Lord Jesus.

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

North American Lutheran Church

Worship, Love, Accept – Together in Christ’s Name

213 S. Harrison, PO Box 151

Laurens, IA 50554

Pastor David Klappenbach

www.bethanylutheran-laurens.org

Ph. 712-841-2181

Shirley McKiernan, Organist

Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024

To our visitors! 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!

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

ORDER OF THE SERVICE

PRELUDE / RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL / WELCOME

PROCESSION WITH PALMS

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna to the Son of David.

P: The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Let us pray...Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Amen.

Processional Gospel: John 12:12-19

¹²The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!" ¹⁴Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: ¹⁵"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" ¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when

Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. ¹⁷ So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. ¹⁸ It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. ¹⁹ The Pharisees then said to one another, "You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!"

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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

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

P: We praise and thank you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path. We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King and follow him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. Amen.

P. Let us go forth in peace,

C. in the name of the Lord.

***Processional Hymn: "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"**

LBW 108

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (in unison)**

Almighty God, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take our flesh upon him and to suffer death on the cross. Grant that we may share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection: through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Today: March 24th

Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday

9:15 – Adult SS

9:30 – Youth SS & Coffee Fellowship

10:30 – Worship w/Communion &

Procession of Palms

Monday: March 25th

7:00PM – Hand Bell Rehearsal

Tuesday: March 26th

8:30AM – Prayer Group

9:30AM – Tuesday coffee @ BLC

Thursday: March 28th

7:00 – Maundy Thursday Service w/Communion

Friday: March 29th

7:00PM – Ecumenical Good Friday Service at UMC

Sunday: March 31st

Resurrection of Our Lord / Easter Day

7:00 – Youth Easter Sunrise Service &

Breakfast at UMC

NO Adult SS & Youth SS

9:30 – Worship w/Communion (*****Note change in worship time for service*****)

Monday: April 1st

4:00PM – W/M Mtg.

Prayer Concerns: Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, Iowa storm victims, those battling COVID-19, Gina Ehlers, 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.

Lectors: Julian Johnsen

Ushers: March 24 – Kelly & Dawn Gordon

March 31 – Easter - Volunteers

Acolytes: Bethany Youth

Weekly Budget Needs: \$2817.00

Faith Promise \$ 601.00 Lent \$140.50 Potluck \$34.00 Soup supper \$58.00

Sunday School \$ 10.00 Worship 34 SS 10 Adult SS 4 Lenten service 28

Birthday: March 24 – Jason Langan

Anniversary: March 31 – Tom & Elaine Anderson

Emergency contact information:

In the case of an emergency or are in need of a visit/call, please contact Pastor David Klappenbach at 419-603-8350 (cell), 712-841-2181 (church), 712-841-2532 (parsonage).

Laurens Chamber & Community Boosters are sponsoring an **Easter Egg**

Hunt ~ Saturday, March 30 ~ 10:00 AM at Sportsman's Park ~

Age Groups are: 3 & under | 4, 5, & 6 | 7, 8, & 9

**Thank You's: The Worship & Music Committee would like to thank the following people who so willingly participated in the Lenten Readings w/candle extinguishing:*

Shirley Kruse, Pat Boughey, Kelly Gordon, Becky Baker, Pat Alexander, Julian Johnsen, Pastor Klappenbach.

Thank you to all who furnished food, worked and/or helped with clean-up for our Lenten Soup Suppers. We also would like to THANK ALL who attended these services.

Thank you to our Sunday School students & staff for their wonderful participation in our Palm Sunday worship service today.

Thank you to Pastor David Klappenbach for his helpful guidance during this Lenten season on the six parts of Luther's Small Catechism.

STEWARDSHIP 2024

February giving goal: \$11,268.00

February giving: \$4,094.00

Year-to-date goal: \$22,536.00

Year-to-date giving: \$20,143.10

SHORT: -\$2392.90

\$3,000.00 Funds taken from Farm Account for general expenses

Thrivent Choice Dollars: The Thrivent Choice program is a charitable grant program and a benefit of membership that encourages members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to help direct a portion of Thrivent Financial's charitable funding to causes important to them. The funds that Bethany receives from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans this year are called Thrivent Choice Dollars. The amount Bethany receives is determined by individual members of Thrivent who direct the dollars credited to them to Bethany. These funds were formerly called the supplemental funds.

eGiving

eGiving is an automated giving program from Vanco Payment Solutions that Bethany is already a part of. It's designed to help you conveniently, consistently, and joyfully give financial gifts to our congregation's ministry. By participating in **eGiving**, you can use electronic funds transfer to give your weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly offering to our congregation. To learn how you can participate in **eGiving**, contact: Rich Ehlers - 712-358-1928. Let **eGiving** help you build better stewardship by turning a simple choice into a generous response.

MEDITATION ON GOD'S WORD

LENTEN READING: The Lenten Candles "A Royal Reception"

(Please join in reading responsively the Lenten Reading.)

NARRATOR: Today is Palm Sunday. The crowds cheered and shouted:

C: Hosanna in the highest, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

NARRATOR: They waved palm branches and spread their garments out on the road as Jesus entered Jerusalem.

C: The whole city joined in to give Jesus a hero's welcome, a ticker-tape parade, a royal reception, and a city-wide party.

NARRATOR: But the cheers were shallow and the celebration was short-lived, for in the background, the chief priests, the scribes and Pharisees, the Saducees and Herodians were green with envy and red with anger and they set their traps with tricky words.

C: And bought their spy with thirty coins, and prepared to kill the Son of God.

NARRATOR: Today is Palm Sunday, a day of paradox. The King rode to the capital on a lowly colt, he cried at his royal reception. Today the cheers briefly held back the drumbeats of doom. Today only the Christ candle burns through the service.

FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰ He^[a] will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

PSALM 118:19-29 (responsively)

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

20 This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.^[a]

25 Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.^[b] We bless you from the house of the LORD.

27 The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.^[c]

28 You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

29 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was^[a] in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*LENTEN SENTENCE P. 63

***THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 14:1---15:47**

Pastor Klappenbach is reading **Mark 15:31-39**

³¹ In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³² Let the Messiah,^[s] the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

³³ When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land^[t] until three in the afternoon. ³⁴ At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"^[u] ³⁵ When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." ³⁶ And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." ³⁷ Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸ And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹ Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he^[v] breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"^[w]

*GOSPEL RESPONSES P. 63

SERMON **Pastor David Klappenbach**

HYMN **"Were You There" vs 1-3 LBW 92**

*NICENE CREED P. 64

*THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Leader: "...Lord, in your mercy," Response: "hear our prayer."

*THE PEACE

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

OFFERING / **"Near the Cross" CH 319**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER P. 67

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING P. 68

*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 you let your servant go in peace...P. 73**

OUR SENDING

*BENEDICTION P. 74

*HYMN **"Ride On, Ride On In Majesty" INSERT**

*DISMISSAL