

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

**O Lord God, you led your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide now the people of your Church, that, following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the holy Spirit, one God Now and forever.**

### **First Reading: Genesis 3:1-21**

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” <sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup>but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; <sup>5</sup>for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. <sup>8</sup>They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup>He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.” <sup>11</sup>He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” <sup>12</sup>The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.” <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.” <sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. <sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you

will strike his heel.” <sup>16</sup>To the woman he said, “I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.” <sup>17</sup>And to the man he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; <sup>18</sup>thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. <sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” <sup>20</sup>The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living. <sup>21</sup>And the LORD God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

### **Psalm: Psalm 32:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**<sup>2</sup>Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

<sup>3</sup>While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**<sup>4</sup>For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**<sup>6</sup>Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

### **Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19**

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have

sinned— <sup>13</sup>sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. <sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of the one man’s trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup>For just as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.

### **Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11**

<sup>4</sup>Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” <sup>4</sup>But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” <sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” <sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

## THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

### Today: February 22nd

#### First Sunday in Lent

9:15- Adult SS/Youth SS

9:30-Coffee Fellowship

10:30-Worship, SS Sing

11:45Bethany Prayer Group

4:00-Laurens Care Center Svc

### Monday: February 23<sup>rd</sup>

7:00PM-Hand Bell rehearsal

### Tuesday: February 24<sup>th</sup>

8:30-Prayer Group

9:30-Morning Coffee @ BLC

7:00-Confirmation Class

### Wednesday: February 25<sup>th</sup>

11:30-Lenten Luncheon @ LCC

5:30-Lenten Soup Supper @ Bethany

6:30-Lenten Evening Service

### Sunday: March 1<sup>st</sup>

#### Second Sunday in Lent

9:15- Adult SS/Youth SS -

9:30-Coffee Fellowship

10:30-Worship w/Communion

11:45Bethany Prayer Group

### Monday: March 2<sup>nd</sup>

4:00-W/M Mtg

**Prayer Concerns:** Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, storm/flood/fire victims, those suffering any illness, Linda Galbraith, Shannon Hersom, Pat Boughey, Mary Roat, Todd & Elizabeth Wood, Myles Pedersen, Pastor John Mayer, Monica Isom, Eli Honer, Dorothy Sandvig, Gloria Bell, Helen Dodge, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries.

**Lectors:** Rich Ehlers

**Ushers:** February 22<sup>nd</sup> -Jean Swanson & Tammy Oxenreider  
March 1<sup>st</sup> -Tom & Elaine Anderson

**Acolytes:** Bethany Youth

#### Weekly Budget Needs:

Faith Promise \$ 827.00

Worship 31

Sunday School \$

Youth SS 0

Adult SS 6

Matins & a Meal \$45.00 Potluck \$15.00 Noisy Offering \$71.00

Ash Wednesday \$267.00

Ash Wednesday Svc 27

**Birthdays:** Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> Niels Johnsen;

\*\*\*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 (as able)*

## ORDER OF THE SERVICE

PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CONFESSION P.56

\*HYMN *A Mighty Fortress is Our God* LBW 229

\*GREETING P.57

\*KYRIE P.57

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY *(bulletin-in unison)*

*Lenten Reading* Rich Ehlers

FIRST READING: Genesis 3:1-21

Psalm: Psalm 32:1-7 *(bulletin – responsively)*

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

LENTEN SENTENCE P.63

\*THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

\*GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63

CHILDREN'S SERMON SS Sing

SERMON Pastor David Klappenbach

HYMN *O Lord, throughout These Forty Days* LBW 99

APOSTLES' CREED P.65

OFFERING / \*OFFERTORY P.66

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER P.75

\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Leader: ...Lord in your mercy

Response: Hear our prayer.

\*THE LORD'S PRAYER CH 631

\*BENEDICTION

\*HYMN *Jesus, Still Lead On* LBW 341

\*DISMISSAL



February 22, 2026  
First 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 and give to an usher. Please come again!

*We are a  
Christ-Centered  
Mission-Driven  
Traditionally-Grounded  
Congregationally-Focused  
Church.*