

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Heavenly Father, it is your glory always to have mercy. Bring back all who have erred and strayed from your ways; lead them again to embrace in faith the truth of your Word and to hold it fast; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-9

12Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother’s son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan,⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

Psalm: Psalm 121

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come?

²**My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**

³He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴**He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

⁵The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

⁶**The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

⁷The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

⁸**The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.**

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

⁴What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. ⁶So also David speaks of the blessedness of those to whom God reckons righteousness apart from works: ⁷“Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; ⁸blessed is the one against whom the Lord will not reckon sin.” ¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us,¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Gospel: John 3:1-17

³Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’ ³Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’ ⁴Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’ ⁵Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.” ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’ ⁹Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’ ¹⁰Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹‘Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

WEEK AT BETHANY

Today: March 1st	Sunday: March 8th
Second Sunday in Lent	Third Sunday in Lent
9:15-Adult SS/Youth SS	9:15-Adult SS/Youth SS
9:30-Coffee Fellowship	9:30-Coffee Fellowship
10:30-Worship w/Communion	10:30-Worship
11:45-Bethany Prayer Group	11:45-Bethany Prayer Group
Monday: March 2nd	Daylight Savings Time Begins
4:00-W/M Mtg	
Tuesday: March 3rd	
8:30-Prayer Group	
9:30-Morning Coffee @ BLC	
7:00-Confirmation Class	
Wednesday: March 4th	
8:30-Matins & a Meal	
11:30-Lenten Luncheon @ BLC	
5:00-7:00-Methodist Men's Soup Supper	
6:30-Lenten Service @BLC	
Saturday: March 7th	
8:00-Men's Group	

Prayer Concerns: Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, storm/flood/fire victims, those suffering any illness, Linda Galbraith, Marie Rogers, Jeanette Jardee, Shannon Hersom, Pat Boughey, Mary Roat, Todd & Elizabeth Wood, Jerry Runneberg, 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: Tom Anderson
Ushers: March 1st -Tom & Elaine Anderson
 March 8th -Shirley Kruse & Jan Hersom
Acolytes: Bethany Youth

Weekly Budget Needs: \$2817.00
 Faith Promise \$586 Worship 31 Youth SS 7 Adult SS 5
 Sunday School \$3.00 Lent Soup \$43.00 Lent \$85.00 Lent Svc 16

Birthdays: March 2-Doug Baker; Deena Hudson; 6-Jerry Runneberg, Kelly Van Sickle

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

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

ORDER OF THE SERVICE

- PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL
- WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS
- *CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS P.56
- *HYMN *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer* **LBW 343**
- *GREETING P.57
- *KYRIE P.57
- *PRAYER OF THE DAY (bulletin-in unison)
- Lenten Reading Tom Anderson**
- FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-9**
- Psalm: Psalm 121 (bulletin – Responsively)**
- SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-8, 13-17**
- *ALLELUIA VERSE P.62
- ***THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**
- *GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63
- CHILDREN'S SERMON
- SERMON **Pastor David Klappenbach**
- HYMN *Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me* **LBW 333**
- NICENE CREED P64
- *PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
- Leader: "...Lord, in your mercy."**
- Response: "hear our prayer."**
- *THE PEACE
- OFFERING / *OFFERTORY P.75
- *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 P.72
- *BENEDICTION P.76
- *HYMN *Day by Day* **CH 718**
- *DISMISSAL



March 1, 2026
Second Sunday in Lent

WORSHIP, LOVE, ACCEPT
TOGETHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

213 S. Harrison, PO Box 151
 Laurens, IA 50554
 Ph. 712-841-2181

Email: bethanylnal@laurens-ia.com
 Pastor David Klappenbach
 Cell 419-603-8350 Home 712-841-2532

Shirley McKiernan, Organist
 Website: www.bethanylutheran-laurens.org

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!