



*Lent
Midweek
March 21
2018*

*The One
Decisive Service
We Can
Provide to
Another Person*

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday of the month

Becky Lanzito & Karen Leicht - Organists, Ann Souza - Music Director,

Mandi Diver – Choir/New Music Accompanist

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We are pleased you chose to be with us in worship today, and pray the Lord blesses you as he has blessed us with your presence. Our goal is to help people find the right place for them to hear God's word and serve His mission. We'd love to support you in that spiritual journey. Please take a moment to complete an attendance card and place it in the Offering plate or give to an usher. This card will help us connect with you.

NURSERY

We have two rooms available for your use. When the service is in the sanctuary, the nursery is down the hall just past the restrooms. If the service is held in the gym, the nursery is in the youth room at the far end of the gym.

SERVING TODAY

Elder: Randy Gifford

Acolyte: Jake Herstowski

Asst Elder: OPEN

Greeter: The Swanson Family

Ushers: Dave Hoffmeister, Tony Young

Lay Readers: Dave Hoffmeister, Tony Young

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945) was executed in a Nazi prison on April 9, 1945, for his role in a conspiracy to assassinate Adolf Hitler and bring the Second World War to an end. His involvement in the conspiracy was grounded in his conviction that discipleship to Jesus Christ required Christians to stand in solidarity with the oppressed by standing for and with the oppressed against the oppressor.



Life Together puts into words a description of what Bonhoeffer and others set to create in their Confessing Church illegal seminary at Finkenwalde. The retreat-like atmosphere at the seminary built upon an appreciation for the best of the monastic practices. The outcome is a book that raises up the vision of what it means to be the Church, to be disciples of Jesus who are drawn together in Community around God's Word.

EVENING PRAYER

Adapted from the Lutheran Service Book Evening Prayer, this liturgy recalls the Old Testament rhythm of prayer in the morning and the evening:

“When you lie down and when you arise” (Deuteronomy 6:7).

The liturgy of Evening Prayer, which grows out of the daily devotion of the home, has a simple, four-part outline: Service of Light, Psalmody, Readings and Responses, and Prayers.

The Service of Light began as a daily lamp-lighting service at the setting of the sun in the early centuries before gas or electric lights. The image of light in the midst of darkness is easily associated with Christ who is our light (John 1:9). We look forward to the day when we will no longer need lamp nor sun, for the Lord God will be our light (Revelation 22:5).



Opening Hymn

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

LSB 425



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Opening Words

P: The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

C: **Amen.**

P: It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C: **to sing praise to Your Name, O Most High;**

P: to herald Your love in the morning,

C: **Your truth at the close of the day.**

Confession and Forgiveness

(Silence for reflection on the sins that trouble us).

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

C: **Holy and gracious God, I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deed of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**

P: By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise in the morning to serve Him.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn of Response

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

LSB 702 sts. 2, 4



2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream



My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



love to Thee Pure, warm, and change-less be, A liv - ing fire!
trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran-somed soul!

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: O Lord, we remember that life alone is nothing without life together, and life together is nothing without life in you. O Lord Christ, we thirst, not always knowing what we need. Yet you are the living water that makes us whole. O Lord, we lift up the world, thirsting for righteousness. You are the light of the world. O Lord, we lift up the church, your people everywhere, and this congregation, thirsting for grace. You are the vine and we are the branches. We lift up all who are thirsting for wholeness and healing. You are the resurrection and the life. O Lord, we thirst, and you quench us with everything good, to live according to the Spirit. You are the way, the truth, and the life. This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Psalm Reading (Responsive): 119:9-16; Antiphon (repeated verse): Ps. 119:10 (ESV)

P: How can a young person keep a pure way?

By guarding it according to your Word.

**C: With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not wander from your Scriptures!
I have stored up your word in my heart.**

P: Blessèd are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!

With my lips I declare all the just decrees of your mouth.

In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.

I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.

I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your Word.

**C: With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not wander from your Scriptures!
I have stored up your word in my heart.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Psalm Prayer

P: Beloved Father in heaven, You are blessèd for granting us the Word of Your grace, in which You have revealed to us Your will concerning our salvation. Teach us to love Your Word, diligently to hear and willingly to learn it, that guided by this lamp our feet may walk in the way everlasting.

C: Amen.

Holy Gospel

Luke 23:13–31 (ESV)

¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. ¹⁶I will therefore punish and release him.”

¹⁸But they all cried out together, “Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas”— ¹⁹a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. ²⁰Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, ²¹but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify him!” ²²A third time he said to them, “Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him.” ²³But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. ²⁴So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. ²⁵He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

²⁶And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. ²⁸But turning to them Jesus said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ ³¹For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Series Reading from 1 Peter

1 Peter 4:1–6 (ESV)

¹Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ²so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. ³The time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. ⁴With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; ⁵but they will give account to him who is ready to

judge the living and the dead. ⁶For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn of the Day

Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

LSB 844; tune: 571



1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace To love all
2 Break down the wall that would di - vide Thy chil - dren,
3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred By love - less
4 Give me Thy cour - age, Lord, to speak When - ev - er



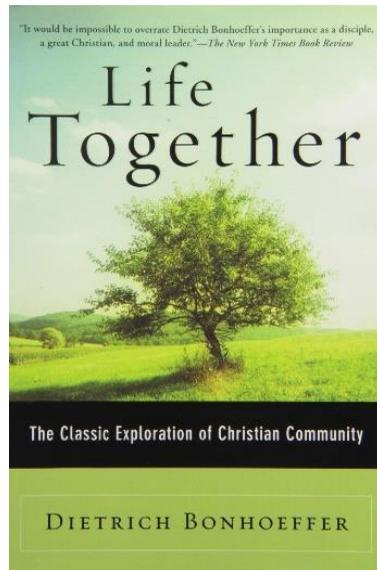
peo - ple, ev - 'ry race; And in each per - son
Lord, on ev - 'ry side. My neigh - bor's good let
act and thought - less word. Make me to see the
strong op - press the weak. Should I my - self the



may I see My kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by Thee.
me pur - sue; Let Chris - tian love bind warm and true.
wrong I do Will grieve my wound - ed Lord a - new.
vic - tim be, Help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring Thee.

Sermon **“The Once Decisive Service We Can Provide to Another Person”**
1 Peter 4:1-6

“Where Christians live together the time must inevitably come when in some crisis one person will have to declare God’s Word and will to another. It is inconceivable that the things that are of utmost importance to each individual should not be spoken by one to another. It is unchristian consciously to deprive another of the one decisive service we can render to him [or her]....No matter how old or highly placed or distinguished [she] may be, [she] is still a [person] like us, a sinner in crying need of God’s grace. [She] has the same great necessities that we have, and needs help, encouragement, and forgiveness as we do” (p. 105).



Congregational Goal: **Spiritual Conversations**

talking about spiritual things that are the source and foundation for life, values, identity and actions; build relationships and friendships that include these conversations.

Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.—And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. —And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

Offering

Offertory On My Heart Imprint Your Image

LSB 422

(we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-rase;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Prayers of the Church

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord;

C: *Listen to my cry.*

P: Keep me as the apple of Your eye;

C: *Hide me in the shadow of Your wings.*

P: In righteousness I shall see You;

C: *When I awake, Your presence will give me joy.*

P: Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may find our rest in You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: *Amen.*

P: Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and drive from them all the snares of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let Your blessing be on us always; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: *Amen.*

P: Gracious Lord, we give You thanks for the day, especially for the good we were permitted to give and to receive; the day is now past and we commit it to You. We entrust to You the night; we rest in surety, for You are our help, and You neither slumber nor sleep. **C: *Amen.***

(Silence for meditation)

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Benediction

P: Guide us waking, O Lord,

C: *and guard us sleeping,*

P: That awake we may watch with Christ

C: *and asleep we may rest in peace.*

P: The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.

C: *Amen.*

Closing Hymn

Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go

LSB 920; tune: 616



1 Forth in the peace of Christ we go; Christ to the
2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings; King - ship with
3 Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth This world of
4 Christ's are our lips, His Word we speak; Proph - ets are



world with joy we bring; Christ in our minds, Christ
Him His ser - vants gain; With Christ the Ser - vant
time to con - se - crate, This world of sin by
we whose deeds pro - claim Christ's truth in love that



on our lips, Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.
Lord of all, Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.
grace to heal, Christ's world in Christ to re - cre - ate.
we may be Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.

- 5 We are the Church; Christ bids us show
That in His Church all nations find
Their hearth and home where Christ restores
True peace, true love to all mankind.

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Announcements

Acknowledgments

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Holy Week

Bethel Lutheran Church, Gurnee

March 25—Palm Sunday—8 & 10:45AM

March 29—Maundy Thursday—6:30PM

March 30—Good Friday—1 & 6:30PM

April 1

Easter Sunday

6, 8 & 10:45AM

*with breakfast
between worship services*