

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY—YEAR 1—WEEK 24 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT



“THE WORK STILL NEEDED TO BE DONE”

MATTHEW 20:1-16
PARABLE OF THE LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD
SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

DAWN WERFELMANN TO THE GLORY OF GOD



Entrance Words and Invocation

based on Joel 2:12-13,15-17

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

P: Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly;
gather the people. Consecrate the congregation;
assemble the elders; gather the children.

C: **We are gathered.
Where is our God?**

P: The LORD declares to you,
“Yet even now, return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

C: **Will He spare us?**

P: Return to the LORD, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

C: **He has sent this blessing upon us. Amen.**

Opening Hymn

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

LSB 528 sts. 1-3, 5



1	Oh,	for	a	thou - sand	tongues	to	sing	My
2	My	gra - cious	Mas - ter	and	my	God,	As -	
3	Je - sus!	The	name	that	charms	our	fears,	That
5	Look	un - to	Him,	ye	na - tions;	own	Your	



great	Re - deem - er's	praise,	The	glo - ries	of	my		
sist	me	to	pro - claim,	To	spread	through	all	the
bids	our	sor - rows	cease;	'Tis	mu - sic	in	the	
God,	ye	fall - en	race.	Look	and	be	saved	through



God	and	King,	The	tri - umphs	of	His	grace!
earth	a - broad,	The	hon - ors	of	Thy	name.	
sin - ner's	ears,	'Tis	life	and	health	and	peace.
faith	a - lone,	Be	jus - ti - fied	by	grace.		

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt., Tune: Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829

Confession of Sin and Absolution

based on Ezekiel 33:7,10-11,14,16 and Isaiah 12:1-2

P: The LORD said to His servant Ezekiel,

“I have made a watchman for the house of Israel.

Whenever you hear a word from my mouth,
you shall give them warning from me.”

Hear now today, you people of God,
His word of warning that still comes to us:

“I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die.’”

**C: Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us,
and we rot away because of them.**

How then can we live?

P: It is true what you have said, but the Lord GOD declares to you:

“As I live, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked,
but that the wicked turn from his way and live.”

Turn back, repent, return to the Lord your God,
for with Him there is forgiveness and mercy and grace evermore.

**C: We turn back to You, O Lord;
we repent; we have returned to You, Our God. Amen.**

P: And the LORD declares,

“None of the sins that you have committed shall be remembered against you.
You have done what is just and right; you shall surely live.”

For the Lord grants you His righteousness; His new life is yours.

Therefore, as His called and ordained servant in Jesus Christ,
I forgive you all your sin

in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

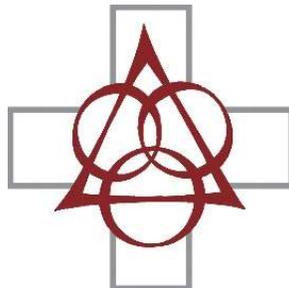
I give thanks to You, O LORD,

because even though You were angry with me,

Your anger turned away, so that You might comfort me.

Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid;

for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.



Song of Praise**There Is a Redeemer**

1 There is a Re - deem - er— Je - sus, God's own Son;
 2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all names;
 3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see His face;



Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Ho - ly One.
 Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Hope for sin - ners slain.
 There I'll serve my King for-ev - er In that ho - ly place.

Refrain

Thank You, O my Fa - ther, For giv-ing us Your Son,



And leav - ing Your Spir-it Till the work on earth is done.

Text and tune: Melody Green, 1946, alt.

Text and tune: © 1982 Birdwing Music, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001267

Today's Narrative Lectionary Reading**Matthew 20:1-16 (VOICE)**

Jesus: The kingdom of heaven is like a wealthy landowner who got up early in the morning and went out, first thing, to hire workers to tend his vineyard. ² He agreed to pay them a day's wage for the day's work. The workers headed to the vineyard *while the landowner headed home to deal with some paperwork.* ³ About three hours later, he went back to the marketplace. He saw some unemployed men standing around with nothing to do.

Landowner: ⁴ *Do you need some work? Go over to my vineyard and join the crew there. I'll pay you well.*

Jesus (as Narrator): So off they went to *join the crew at the vineyard.* ⁵ About three hours later, and then three hours after that, *the landowner went back to the market and saw another crew of men and hired them, too, sending them off to his vineyard and promising to pay them well.* ⁶ Then finally late in the afternoon, *at the cusp of night,* the landowner walked again through *the marketplace,* and he saw other workers still standing around.

Landowner: Why have you been standing here all day, doing nothing?

Workers: ⁷ Because no one has hired us.

Landowner: Well, you should go over to my vineyard *and work*.

Jesus (as Narrator): *And off the workers went.* ⁸ When quitting time arrived, the landowner called to his foreman.

Landowner: Pay the workers their day's wages, beginning with the workers I hired most recently and ending with the workers who have been here all day.

Jesus (as Narrator): ⁹ So the workers who had been hired just a short while before came to the foreman, and he paid them each a day's wage. ¹⁰ *Then other workers who had arrived during the day were paid, each of them a day's wage.* Finally, the workers who'd been toiling since early morning came thinking they'd be paid more, but the foreman paid each of them a day's wage. ¹¹ As they received their pay, this last group of workers began to protest.

First Workers: ¹² *We've been here since the crack of dawn!* And you're paying us the exact same wage you paid the crew that just showed up. *We deserve more than they do.* We've been slogging in the heat of the sun all day—*these others haven't worked nearly as long as we have!*

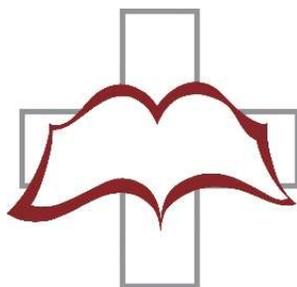
Jesus (as Narrator): ¹³ *The landowner heard these protests.*

Landowner (to a worker): Friend, no one has been wronged here today. *This isn't about what you deserve.* You agreed to work for a day's wage, did you not? ¹⁴ So take your money and go home. *I can give my money to whomever I please, and it pleases me to pay everyone the same amount of money.* ¹⁵ Do you think I don't have the right to dispose of my money as I wish? Or does my generosity somehow prick at you?

Jesus (as Narrator): ¹⁶ *And that is your picture:*
The last will be first and the first will be last.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



Anthem

Jesus Paid It All

Adult Choir

- Use the anthem’s music and words to help you to meditate on God’s Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

I hear the Savior say, “Thy strength indeed is small;
Child of weakness watch and pray, Find in Me thine all in all.”

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

For nothing good have I, Whereby Thy grace to claim;
I’ll wash my garments white, In the blood of Calvary’s Lamb.

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

And when before the throne, I stand in Him complete;
“Jesus died my soul to save,” My lips shall still repeat.

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Generous God, you have promised to open your kingdom to all people, no matter their circumstances, no matter when in their lives they show up to be part of your Kingdom. Bring us close to you, and help us to proclaim the goodness of your generosity. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

C: **Amen.**

Church Imitating Christ

P: Bethel as a congregation seeks to be a

C: **Church imitating Christ.**

P: We devote ourselves to living winsomely in Jesus,

C: **reflecting His love, grace, and hope.**

P: We will enjoy the good will of the community

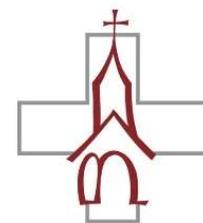
C: **because of the winsomeness of God at work through us.**

P: When we devote ourselves to winsomeness, we are a

C: **Church imitating Christ. Amen.**

Based on Acts 2:42-47 (ESV)

Church Imitating Christ



- Scripture
- Fellowship
- Sacraments
- Prayer
- Mercy
- Generosity
- WINSOMENESS**



1 Hark, the voice of Je - sus call - ing, "Who will go and work to - day?
 2 Some take up His task in morn - ing, To their Lord re - spond - ing soon;
 3 For as rain and snow from heav - en Wa - ter seeds in dust - y soil,
 4 Hear - ken to the Lord whose com - ing Marks the time when grace shall end,



Fields are white and har - vests wait - ing— Who will bear the sheaves a - way?"
 Some are called in heat of mid - day, Oth - ers late in af - ter - noon;
 Caus - ing them to bud and flow - er, Giv - ing bread to those who toil;
 When with His an - gel - ic reap - ers He in glo - ry shall de - scend.



Loud and long the Mas - ter call - eth; Rich re - ward He of - fers thee.
 E - ven as the sun is set - ting, Some are sent in - to the fields,
 So the Lord sends forth His prom - ise, Words of life and joy and peace—
 Soon the night, the fi - nal har - vest; Soon the time for work shall cease.



Who will an - swer, glad - ly say - ing, "Here am I, send me, send me"?
 There to gath - er in the boun - ty That God's Word so rich - ly yields.
 Nev - er void to Him re - turn - ing, Bear - ing fruit with great in - crease.
 Then the souls His grace has gar - nered Shall en - joy His Sab - bath peace.

Text (st. 1): Daniel March, 1816–1909, alt.; (sts. 2–4): Stephen P. Starke, 1955, Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–96
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Sermon

"The Work Still Needed to Be Done"

Matthew 20:1-16

"THE WORK STILL NEEDED TO BE DONE"
MATTHEW 20:1-16
PARABLE OF THE LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD

Confession of Faith

based on the Apostles' Creed and Ezekiel 33:12-14

P: In the 3rd Article of the Apostles' Creed, we declare:

C: ***I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.***

P: Hear this promise from the Lord:

“Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people.

And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live.

Then you shall know that I am the LORD;

I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

C: ***Amen, amen. Yes, yes, it shall be so.***

Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

Offertory

Create in Me

LSB 159

(Sung as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)

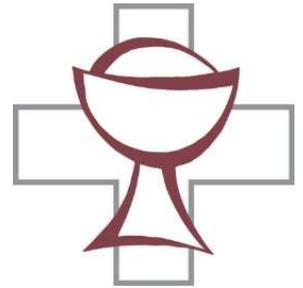
Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Prayers

The Lord's Supper: What We Believe

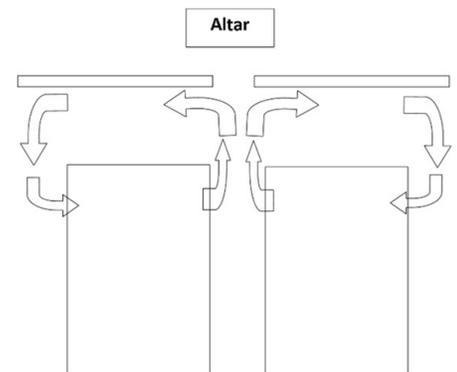
All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed are invited to receive Communion with us if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ, and the wine is the blood of Christ, truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe, we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite those who are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.



Communion Distribution

- Pastor distributes the bread, and the Elders distribute the wine—with individual cups or common cup. The individual trays also contain alcohol-removed wine in the center of each tray in the purple cups.
- Each side will be ushered from the center aisle to the communion rail, row by row, starting with the front.
- Go to the rail on your side of the sanctuary, filling in starting with the outside wall towards the center.
- Once you have received the elements, you may remain at the rail for prayer and leave at your own pace.
- Return to your seat using the outside aisle.
- Use the distribution time to prepare yourself for communion, sing the hymns as prayers to God, and maintain this as meditative time.



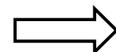
Preparation for the Lord's Supper

Preface

Jeremiah 26:11,14-15

P: The prophet Jeremiah, around 600 years before Christ, heard the same condemnation which our Lord Himself would face. The priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, “This man [Jeremiah] deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city.”

C: **Just as they condemned Jeremiah,
So they condemned Jesus Christ our Lord.
But we are the ones deserving the sentence of death.**



P: Jeremiah said to them, “Behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves.”

C: **Just as Jeremiah gave himself into their hands,
So Jesus let Himself be arrested and put to death.
But Jesus is the innocent One—
And He covers us with His innocent blood.**

P: So that you have received His innocence and righteousness,
Granting you eternal life, and welcoming you into His throne room,
Where we will sing with the prophet Isaiah:

Sanctus (“Holy, Holy Holy”) God Himself Is Present LSB 907 st. 2 based on Isaiah 6:1-7



2 God Him - self is pres - ent: Hear the harps re - sound - ing;
See the hosts the throne sur - round - ing. “Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly!” Hear the hymn as - cend - ing, Songs of saints and
an - gels blend - ing. Bow Your ear To us here:
Hear, O Christ, the prais - es That Your Church now rais - es.

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.

Words of Institution

Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

(We greet one another in peace saying “God’s peace” or “The Lord be with you.”)

First Distribution Hymn Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

LSB 423



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



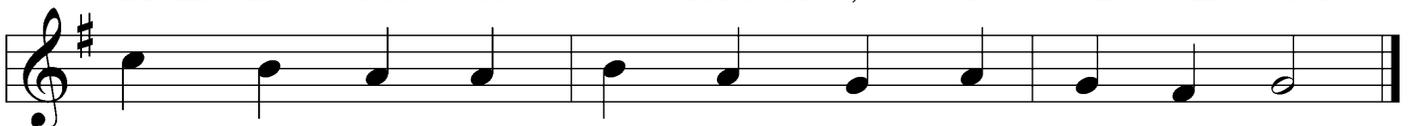
whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452–98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826–96, alt.
Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, 1745, Basel

2nd Distribution Hymn In the Cross of Christ I Glory

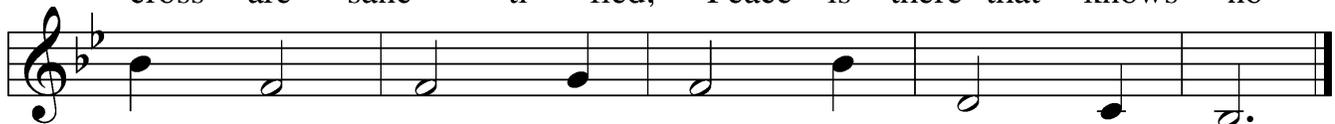
LSB 427



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing Light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure By the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred
ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -
love up - on my way, From the cross the ra - diance
cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no



sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.
mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bid.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872, Tune: Ithamar Conkey, 1815-67

Common Dismissal

P: Now may this true body and true blood of our Lord... **C: Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 1115

P: Most High God, we owe You great thanks that in the sacred mystery of the Supper You feed us with the body and blood of Your Son. May we recall this heavenly meal with true faith, firmly convinced that this body we have received is the one given into death for us and that the blood we received is the blood shed for our sins; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Benedicamus Domino ("Let us bless, the Lord") & Benediction (Blessing)

based on Isaiah 12:3-6

P: With joy you have drawn water from the wells of salvation, so say:

**C: Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name be exalted.**

**Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.**

Shout, and sing for joy, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

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

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Christ, the Life of All the Living

LSB 420 sts. 1-2, 7



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of
 2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast tak - en on Thee Bonds and stripes, a
 7 Then, for all that wrought my par - don, For Thy sor - rows



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing
 cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on Thee,
 deep and sore, For Thine an - guish in the Gar - den,



To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'rings,
 O Thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst Thou my
 I will thank Thee ev - er - more, Thank Thee for Thy



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.
 soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er.
 groan - ing, sigh - ing, For Thy bleed - ing and Thy dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
 For that last tri - um - phant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605-81; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.

Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt

Announcements

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM W/COMMUNION) – 9AM

FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM

EDUCATION HOUR 10:30AM-11:30AM

LENT MIDWEEK SERVICE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

SOUP & SALAD SUPPER - 5:00PM

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 6:30PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM) – 9AM

FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM

EDUCATION HOUR 10:30AM-11:30AM

LENT MIDWEEK SERVICE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

SOUP & SALAD SUPPER - 5:00PM

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 6:30PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM W/COMMUNION) – 9AM

FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM

EDUCATION HOUR 10:30AM-11:30AM

LENT MIDWEEK SERVICE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

SOUP & SALAD SUPPER - 5:00PM

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 6:30PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM) – 9AM

FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM

EDUCATION HOUR 10:30AM-11:30AM

CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHEDULE. USHERS, READERS, AND VARIOUS OTHER VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP AND COMMUNION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR ONE OF THOSE ROLES, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE AT OFFICE@BETHELGURNEE.ORG.



EASTER LILIES

**Order Deadline:
Friday, March 24**

As a donation to Bethel Lutheran Church I would like _____ Easter lily plant(s) at \$12.00 each to be placed in our worship areas for Easter services on **April 9**.

Name and telephone number [please print]

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Checks can be written to “Bethel Lutheran Church” and place check (or cash) with the form in an envelope, marked “Easter lilies” and place in the offering plate or turn in at the church office. *****Please include your donation when you submit your form.**

**Remember to take your lily plant(s)
Easter Sunday after the service
or later in the week if you would like to keep it.**

Acknowledgments

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